





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 / Fx: 07-55 333 617 Email: marianvalley@bigpond.com Website: www.marianvalley.org Rector: Fr Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE

o l u m e Number March

# News from Marian Valley

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Marian Valley is a Marian Shrine and the Order, to which I belong, The Order of St Paul the First Hermit (Pauline Fathers and Brothers) is a Marian Order. A major charism of Marian Shrines and Orders is to promote Consecration to Mary. In others words, to go to Jesus through Mary.

St Louis Marie De Montfort said that total consecration "to Jesus through Mary is the surest, easiest, shortest and most perfect means to becoming a saint".

So what is Consecration and how does it work? I will try to explain it a little for you.

Our Lord Jesus Christ wants to include all of us in His work of Salvation. Every Baptised person has a vocation and a part to play in the Salvation story.

Not everyone has the same role or vocation, as St Paul said to the Corinthians "....there are varieties of service and.....there are varieties of working......first Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators....." ICor 12:28ff

eensland - 20 ye Mary's role or vocation in Christ's work of Salvation is spiritual motherhood. A mother nurtures her baby in her womb. She protects it and nourishes it. When the baby is born its mother forms it, as best she can, into a good responsible member of society. She does this by teaching, encouraging, correcting and instilling moral values and attitudes by her wise words and example.

Mary, our spiritual Mother, has the vocation of forming us to be saints. Mary is the Spouse of the Holy Spirit by virtue of her Immaculate Conception and her 'Yes' to the Angel Gabriel which allowed the Holy Spirit to overshadow her and be united to her. The Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, acts through Mary and Mary acts on us, if we let her.

We are invited to rest in Mary's womb and be transformed

there, by the power of the Holy Spirit, more perfectly into Christ's image.

Marian Consecration means giving Mary our full permission (as much as we can) to complete her motherly task in forming us. Permission for Her to nurture our souls by protecting,

encouraging, correcting and instilling spiritual values by Her words, example and love.

> Consecration to Mary can be summed up in the following simple prayer:

> > Mary, I want to be a saint. I know that you also want me to be a saint and that it's your God-given mission to form me into one. So Mary, at this moment, on this day, I freely choose to give you my full permission to do your work in me, with your Spouse, the Holy Spirit.

The Pauline Fathers and Brothers have been encouraging people to allow Mary into their lives through Consecration, especially through Consecration to Her Immaculate Heart as requested in the message of Fatima.

This year marks the 25th year of the Order doing this work in Queensland. During that time we have been assisted by many volunteers and a powerful Marian

prayer network. I hope and pray that we may continue our work in Queensland of bringing people to Jesus through Mary.

You will always remain in our prayers.

#### Fr. Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE

"Consecration to the Mother of God, is a total gift of self, for the whole of life and for all eternity; and a gift which is not a mere formality or sentimentality, but effectual, comprising the full intensity of the Christian life - Marian life." This consecration, the Pope explained, "tends essentially to union with Jesus, under the guidance of Mary." Pope Pius XII

## **RETREAT CENTRE**

**Farewell** On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013, Sheila Daley said her farewells to the Marian Valley volunteers before leaving the Retreat Centre to retire and to spend more time with her family at Beerwah on the Sunshine Coast. Sheila has been one of the caretakers of the Retreat Centre since 2005. For the past 8 years, one of her greatest passions was her desire to spend a lot of time in prayer at the Adoration Chapel.

Thank you Sheila and all the best in retirement.

**History** On 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2001, Bishop Gerry blessed the Retreat Centre and Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel. With the completion of the Retreat Centre, Pauline Nugent and Maree Baker

shifted into the main premises of the Retreat Centre to administer the Retreat Centre and spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

On 8th June 2004, Pauline Nugent retired, to live with her sister Patricia at South Coogee, Sydney. Around 12 months later, Sheila Daley moved in to assist Maree with the work of the Retreat Centre.

Then on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011, Maree retired to Nazareth House in Wynnum North, Brisbane and at around the same time, Robyn Maciejewski moved in to assist with the Caretakers role. Since then, Narelle King came to assist in June 2011and then Kevin and Gail Shorthouse in July 2012. We now have another new arrival Sandra Jefferies on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013.



Sheila Daley

The Retreat Centre is becoming very popular with pilgrims looking for a quiet and prayerful time in the serene picturesque surroundings of Marian Valley. A big thank you to all the Caretakers for their wonderful work and looking after the pilgrims to bring them closer to Jesus and Mary.

The cost is \$25 per night and each cabin has two single beds and is self-contained.

#### **Contact details for all Retreat Centre enquires:**

Ph/fax: 07 5533 3378 or Email: marianretreat@bigpond.com



Pauline Nugent (on right) with her sister Patricia We contacted Pauline recently and she said to say "Hello' to everyone and commented that 'Marian Valley was a very special place for me'

#### 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, PO Box 757, Merrylands NSW 2160

## **Crucifix Installed in Adoration Chapel**

On Saturday 21st December 2013, a magnificent crucifix was installed in the Adoration Chapel at Marian Valley. The 6 foot high crucifix was generously donated by members of the Georgeson family on behalf of their father, the late Dr Laurie Georgeson from Rockhampton. The crucifix is thought to have come from the St Francis Xavier Church, South Rockhampton before the church was demolished some 30 years ago.

However, as usual, there is always a story to tell at Marian Valley.....

One of the Marian Valley volunteers, Narelle King suggested to Fr Columba that it would be good to have a crucifix hung in the Adoration Chapel. Fr Columba agreed and organized to have the crucifix beautifully restored and hung above the altar in the Adoration Chapel. Many Adorers have commented on "how lifelike" it is.

A couple of months later, we decided to try and make contact with someone to find out the story behind the donation of the magnificent crucifix. We were given a contact name of a Rockhampton parishioner, who was able to tell us in some detail the story.

Dr Georgeson was a prominent doctor in the Rockhampton district. He also served in Local Government for 36 years, some as Deputy Mayor, and on various community facilities Boards. He was awarded an Order of Australia (OAM) for "Service to the Community, particularly through the Australian Red Cross". As reported in a local paper, he founded the biggest provincial Blood Bank in Australia. He was a strong family man, married to Joan and had 8 children. He lived according to strong Catholic and prolife views. He loved the Catholic Church.

In 2002, his parish priest Fr John Burns SM (now deceased) asked Dr Georgeson to help him start up Thursday, 24 hour Adoration in the St Mary's Church, North Rockhampton. With Fr Burns as the main driver, Dr Georgeson organized the lighting and assisted in the setting up of the Adorer's roster. There is still adoration in St Mary's Church each Thursday, even though the hours have been reduced.

Because of his love of Adoration, we therefore like to think that the late Dr Georgeson had some say in having the crucifix hung in the Adoration Chapel at Marian Valley. Dr Georgeson was born on  $27^{\text{th}}$  July 1927 and passed away on  $16^{\text{th}}$  September 2011 aged 84.

Truly a remarkable man. Dr Laurie Georgeson R.I.P.

Adoration Each day from 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration and all are welcome. If anyone is interested in becoming a regular Adorer, you may like to join the Adoration Roster. If interested, please contact Fr Columba to discuss.

Newly installed Crucifix in Adoration Chapel



#### 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

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

#### The Chronicles by Fr Anthony David OSPPE

On Sunday 22nd September, it was the annual pilgrimage of the Italian community with their Chaplain Fr Angelo Cagna C.S. from the Scalabrinian Community. Over 400 pilgrims attended the mass in honour of St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina followed by lunch and a family programme.

On Saturday 28th September, the Filipino Chaplain Fr Marce Singson celebrated mass with his community for their annual pilgrimage. Over 700 pilgrims attended the mass followed by a procession to the Chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Help with several Filipinos carrying the statue of St Lorenzo Ruiz along the way.

An all night vigil was held in the Adoration Chapel on 12th October in solidarity with worldwide prayers to prepare for Pope Francis' consecration of the world to Mary's Immaculate Heart. In Rome, the original statue of Our Lady of Fatima was brought to St Peter's Square.

At Marian Valley the next day, Sunday 13th October, over 400 pilgrims attended mass on the 96th anniversary of Fatima and Fr Columba prayed The Act of Entrustment to Mary.

On 16th October, Fr Gabriel arrived at Marian Valley for 2 weeks, to relieve Fr Anthony while he was on holidays. Fr Gabriel enjoyed the annual pilgrimage of the Indonesian community. Around 200 pilgrims attended mass with Fr Nestor as the main celebrant, and with two Capuchin Friars and Fr Gabriel concelebrating. After Mass, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch of Indonesian food and cool fruit juice prepared by the Indonesians.

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (Tuesday 11th Feb) is an annual pilgrimage for the sick and elderly. Fr Columba celebrated the mass with over 400 pilgrims attending. Fr Nicholas Maurice from Lismore cathedral and Fr Lift from Melbourne concelebrated. The choir, led by Robyn Maciejewski and Mick Kent as organist, sung beautifully. After lunch, the guest speaker was Luke McCormack from the Australian Family Association and Qld President of National Civic Council. The talk was followed by a Eucharistic procession to the Lourdes Grotto, then returned to the Church for Benediction and Individual Blessing of each person present with the Blessed Sacrament and Lourdes holy water. As one pilgrim said, "today was a very moving and emotional day".



Pilgrims receiving Individual Blessing with the Blessed Sacrament and Lourdes holy water on Lourdes Day

## First Saturdays at Marian Valley

... by Robyn Maciejewski

One of the main themes of the Fatima Message is the establishment of peace throughout the world. At Fatima, the Mother of God presented to the world the conditions necessary for peace. They are the widespread practice of the devotion of the First Saturdays of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart by the Pope together with all of the Catholic bishops.

Our Lady told the three shepherd children at Fatima, "If My requests are heeded, Russia will be converted and there will be peace. If not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions against the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated."

This message is more important now than ever before. The devotion of first Saturdays, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima, carries with it the assurance of salvation. However to derive profit from such a great promise of Our lady, the devotion must be properly understood and duly performed.

The requirements, as stipulated by Our Lady, are as follows: I. Confession, 2. Communion, 3. Five decades of the rosary, 4. Meditation on one or more of the Rosary mysteries for fifteen minutes, 5.To do all these things in the spirit of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and 6.To observe all these practices on the first Saturday of the month.

In accordance with Our Lady's request, the Ist Saturday devotions at Marian Valley began many years ago, commencing on Mt. Tamborine even before the establishment of the Shrine. It is here that the message of Our Lady strives to be put into practice.

As one who has had the privilege of leading these devotions each month, I feel a certain sense of duty and charity to remind and recommend to our good patrons and visitors that this devotion is calling for your continued support. The message of Fatima should not be relegated to the past, it is ongoing, the fulfilment of the messages yet to be realised.

One of the enhancements for our Shrine has been the

beautiful travelling statue of Our Lady of Fatima, donated by a generous benefactor. On First Saturdays she is transported to the Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima where the afternoon devotions take place.

Our morning devotions commence at 10am with a Rosary of Reparation, followed by Holy mass at 11am. Sister Lucy took this "lovable devotion" so much to heart that she constantly returns to it in her correspondence.

Unquestionably there is nothing more capable of touching our hearts than this insistence of Our Lady's messenger. Here is one of these beautiful texts:

"I never feel so happy as when First Saturday arrives ..."



Our Lady of Fatima in procession to the Fatima Grotto

## First Holy Communion

It was a joyous occasion on Sunday  $27^{\text{th}}$  October, when Gabriella Robinson, Adam Moodley and Cecilia Perez celebrated their First Holy Communion.

After Mass, the three families organized a shared lunch with the Marian Valley community, where everyone enjoyed lots of curries, lasagnes and salads. Adam's sister, Angelica, made a lovely chocolate cake for the First Holy Communion Cake

It was very much a family affair, with the siblings as altar servers for the mass - Michael Robinson, Jerome Moodley and Eddie Perez, as well as a parent from each family reading at Mass: Craig Robinson 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Maggie Moodley 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Sophia Perez for the Prayers of the Faithful.



## **Amenities Building Approved**

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2014, Fr Columba announced the good news that the plans for the much needed toilet block at Marian Valley had been approved by Scenic Rim Council. The building will include 20 ladies toilets, 9 men toilets and 2 toilets for the incapacitated.

Fr Columba said that the progress of the building will depend on how much money we have in the building fund. "We will progress to each stage of the building as we receive donations" he said, "we have factored in future requirements, and therefore, when complete, the building and facilities should suit our needs for many years to come".



Builders Lachlan and Anthony Grange discussing the Amenities Block plan with Fr Columba, Br Luke & Fr Anthony

## **Blessing of Columarium**

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Fr Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE blessed the Columbarium which has been constructed at the end of the Stations of the Cross Road near the Resurrection statue at Marian Valley.

A statue of St Francis of Assisi has been placed on a 1.5 metre pillar with the Prayer of St Francis. Beautiful landscaping has been completed with a hedge lining the pathway.

Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with the construction, including the gardeners and handymen, especially Therese Connolly, Brother Luke, Tony Ryan and Robert Murphy, and to Martin and Maria Vezic for their kindness in supplying and tiling of the site.

All enquiries for a niche in the columbarium should be directed to the Marian Valley office – Mrs Narelle King, ph 07-55 333 617 or via email to marianvalley@bigpond.com



Fr Columba blessing the columbarium with Br Luke, Maria & Martin Vezic, Narelle King, Basil Lukan, Tony Ryan & Robert Murphy

## Report from Universal Rosary Bouquet ... by Gail Shorthouse

It has been a very busy time for me since taking over the role as co-ordinator of the Universal Rosary Bouquet on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

I have received numerous requests for rosaries and scapulars from many different countries. So far we have supplied Africa, India, Nth Italy, South America, Samoa, and we are hoping to send a supply to the newest church in Mongolia. Within Queensland, we have supplied many Primary schools who are starting to teach the children to say the Rosary, as well as distributing rosaries in the prisons.

At present we have 8 very keen helpers making the rosaries and scapulars. One couple, Douglas and Tess Keenan, said they set aside I hour each day to make the rosaries together. This way they have time to chat with each other, and with their busy daily schedule, it is a great way to spend time together. Douglas and Tess have so far made over 100 Rosaries.

A big thank you to all who have donated money and to all who are helping to spread the Rosary throughout many countries. Help is always needed so if anyone is interested in being a Rosary or Scapular Maker, or may wish to make a donation, please contact Gail on ph. 07-55 333 378 or write to PO Box 104, Canungra Qld 4275 or email: rosarybouquet@bigpond.com



Pat Ashton,
Max Chong,
Gail Shorthouse
(Instructor) & Colleen
McColloch learning
how to make rosaries

#### **Religious Instruction Session for Marian Valley Pilgrims**

Each Sunday, after the I I am mass and when everyone has had their cuppa, Fr Columba gathers the Marian Valley pilgrims together in the meeting room to watch a DVD followed by a 'Question and Answer' session.

The most recent DVD that was shown was the series by Fr Robert E. Barron on 'CATHOLICISM The Journey of a Lifetime' which ran over a 20 week period. This series was very popular.

One of the parishioners who regularly attends the hourly session each Sunday, Ros Jorno, said "Every time I go to the talks I learn so much. I do wish more people would attend and listen to Fr Columba's wealth of knowledge".

The next DVD series will be Fr Robert Barron's New Evangelization. The talk starts at 12.45pm and is held on most Sundays. All are welcome to attend and to learn more about their rich Catholic faith.



Fr Columba with pilgrims at the Religious Instrcution talk

UPCOMING EVENTS The main celebrant for Our Lady Help of Christians –Patroness of Australia –on Saturday 24th May 2014 is Fr David Nugent from the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist. Seminarian Barry Braun from this Order will also be accompanying Fr Nugent. The day begins at 10am with Holy Hour, 11am Mass, Lunch, 1.30pm Eucharistic Procession to the Chapel of Our Lady Help of Christians, Divine Mercy and finishing around 3pm. It is important to pray for our country so we encourage everyone to attend.

For further details on Fr Nugent's 2014 visit please go to website - <a href="https://www.adorationqld.org">www.adorationqld.org</a> or phone Kate Hobbs 0414 258 996

On Saturday 6th September 2014 we will be celebrating the Feast of the Birthday of the Virgin Mary. The day begins at 10am with Holy Hour, I Iam Holy Mass celebrated by the Pauline Fathers, Lunch, then at 1.30pm Eucharistic procession to the Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima, Devotions and Benediction, and finishing with Divine Mercy Chaplet. This year it will be a special year for all, with the Pauline Fathers celebrating 25years in Queensland and 20years at Marian Valley. Twenty-five (25) years ago, on 8th September 1989, Fr Augustine Lazur & Fr Janusz concelebrated the first Mass for Our Lady's Birthday on Tamborine Mtn.