



# MARY'S ROSE NEWSLETTER

Pauline Fathers & Rosary Bouquet



Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians Marian Valley  
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## *News from 'Marian Valley'*

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

### **HAPPY EASTER DEAR PILGRIMS!**

The Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians has been so busy and full of life with our pilgrims this year. We have recently been celebrating with much solemnity the Sacred Triduum, The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Divine Mercy Sunday, and the continuation of the Pashal mysteries throughout the season of Easter. We invite all who can to come join us! No doubt Pentecost will be a joyful feast as will the continued celebrations of all the Saints. For those who at this time cannot join us physically, we ask to be joined in your prayers.

Our attention is now turned to the Celebration of Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God, Our Mother, under that treasured title which is so familiar to us: Help of Christians. But what does this title Help of Christians mean? Well, let history be our teacher always.

For centuries, the Ottoman Empire and forces of Islam terrorised the ports and cities of the Mediterranean. Piracy, Forced Slavery, Senseless Murder, and even worse atrocities were committed everyday against the People of God and his Saints. The Holy Father, Pope St. Pius V, put out a call to all the Princes of Christendom to form a final "last-ditch" effort to stop the pillaging mayhems and carnage running rampant against the faithful by the Turk. In all, only nine princes adhered to the call of Rome. This assemblage of nobles and men, under the command of a twenty-four-year-old Don Juan of Austria, were named The Holy League. The Pope begged all Christians, even Protestants, to entrust the endeavour by this Holy League to the protection and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary by praying the Rosary. More than seventy thousand men of the Spanish Empire, the various Italian Republics, Greek Rebels, Sovereign Military Orders, and the Papal States would clash with the far more superior, countless, and experienced ships and sailors of the Ottoman Navy stationed off a little rocky outcrop in modern day Greece known to us today as Lepanto.

At the dawning of the 7th of October 1571, the rough and worn hands of sailors and soldiers that had been praying the most Holy Rosary throughout night, now placed their holy beads down, and accepted the oars and sails of their galleys and, going forth, rowed into the din of battle. By dusk, the forces of Christendom had achieved a crushing victory. One remarkable outcome was that

twenty thousand Christian galley slaves were liberated from the Turk and restored to their homes. Because of this combined moral and military victory, the Holy Father inserted the title "Help of Christians" into the Litany of Our Lady, as he knew that the threat of invasion had been averted through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Our Lady again was invoked under the title of Help of Christians early in the 19th century. When Pope Pius VII ascended to the papacy in 1800, shortly after Napoleon rose to power in France, he resisted many attempts by Napoleon to diminish the authority and life of the Church. As a result, Napoleon confined him and prohibited the Cardinals and Prelates from meeting him. Around the world Catholics prayed to secure the Pope's freedom, chiefly to allow him to fulfill his Papal duties. 1814 saw his freedom, his liberty being attributed to Our Lady, Help of Christians, it was decided that the anniversary of his return to Rome, May 24th, would be chosen as a new feast day in her honour.

The invocation of Mary as Help of Christians is ancient with one of the oldest prayers directly addressed to her known as the Sub Tuum Praesidium (Under your Protection), which was found on a third century papyrus from Egypt. 1844 saw the BVM under the title of Our Lady Help of Christians as Major Patroness of Australia at the First Provincial Synod of Sydney, chosen by the Bishops in Australia. We continue to pray for all our needs, the needs of our pilgrims, the needs of our home Australia, but we never forget our brothers and sisters in the Faith being persecuted around the world for their fidelity to Our Lord Jesus Christ, his Blessed Mother, and all the Angels and Saints. Let us be ever thankful for the blessings which God bestows on us in this land of ours and let us, through the hand of his Most Holy Mother, continue to give him the Glory, AMEN!

God bless you all.

**Fr Zachary Lewis OSPPE**  
**Sub-Prior**  
**Marian Valley, Witheren**  
**Canungra**

## OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY

On 7 October 2023, the celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary at Marian Valley was extra special with the introduction of "24 Hours of the Holy Rosary for the Love of Christ, The Church, Mary and Australia."

The 24-hour Prayer Vigil started with Mass at 7pm on the First Friday of the month 6 October 2023, through to 7pm Saturday 7 October 2023. The Prayer Vigil also included Midnight Mass, as well as 11am Mass on Saturday.

It was amazing to see so many pilgrims attend every hour, even in the early hours of Saturday morning. Each hour the rosary was recited. Adoration was held in the Mary Help of Christians Chapel.

Fr Casimir Zielinski OSPPE from Smithfield Parish in Sydney was the main celebrant for the midnight mass. Fr Richard Green OSPPE, Rector and Prior of the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park NSW was the main celebrant for the 11am Mass on Saturday 7 October 2023, as well as for Sunday 8 October 2023.

Fr Jarek was very pleased with the outcome of the event. He said, "To see so many pilgrims attend was very encouraging."

For this year, we have included again in the 2024 Calendar of Events, starting with mass at 7pm on First Friday 4 October, and concluding at 7pm Saturday 5 October. There is no need to book in a time, just come along and join in the devotions.

Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us.



Rosary



Our Lady of the Rosary

### THE HOLY ROSARY

On 7 October, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the annual feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The feast day takes place in honour of the naval victory on 7 October 1571, which secured Europe against Turkish invasion, known as the battle of Lepanto. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Rosary is a powerful weapon against evil, vice, sin and heresies, and a protection against misfortune and death.

St Louis De Montfort said, "The word Rosary means 'Crown of Roses,' that is to say that every time people say the Rosary devoutly, they place a crown of one hundred and fifty-three red roses and sixteen white roses upon the heads of Jesus and Mary," and "Being heavenly flowers these roses will never fade or lose their exquisite beauty."

### Quotes on Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."  
~ Pope Bl. Pius IX

"The rosary is the scourge of the devil."  
~ Pope Adrian VI

"If there were one million families praying the Rosary every day, the entire world would be saved."  
~ Pope St. Pius X



**Sunday Mass 8 October: Br Bruno Kanamis, Fr Jaroslaw Zan, Fr Richard Green, Mark McHale, Xavier Hagan**

## ST DON BOSCO RELIC VISIT

On Sunday 22 October 2023, Marian Valley was privileged to host the relic of St Don Bosco. Around 450 pilgrims came to venerate the relic.

At 9am many pilgrims were present to greet the arrival of the St Don Bosco relic. At 10am there was Exposition, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. At the 11am mass Fr William Matthews, the Salesian Provincial, was the main celebrant. Another Salesian priest, Fr Elson Barretto concelebrated the mass, which was followed by Exposition and Divine Mercy devotions.

At 1pm, Br Stan Rosato, a Salesian Brother who, with Fr William, accompanied the relic on the tour of Australia, gave an interesting question & answer session. The relic was also present at the 4pm mass.

From 9am to the conclusion at 6pm, it was amazing to see so many pilgrims reverently venerating the St Don Bosco relic continuously all day.

### ST DON BOSCO RELIC

The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as St Don Bosco, toured Australia as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. The Salesians landed in Western Australia at Fremantle on 30 March 1923.



Fr Elson Barretto & Fr William Matthews

The wax replica of the saint is contained in a 450 kilogram glass casket and comes from the Salesian Province in Hong Kong, where it was made at the time of Don Bosco's beatification in 1929. A small piece of brain from the saint was removed and placed in this wax replica before being securely concealed in the large glass casket.



### St Don Bosco Relic of St Don Bosco

Don Bosco was born on 16 August 1815, in Becchi, Italy. He dedicated his life to helping young people to become "good Christians and upright citizens." He founded the Salesian Society, named after St Francis de Sales.

In one of his dreams, he heard it said to him, "Not with blows, but with charity and gentleness must you draw these friends to the path of virtue." He took this dream as his life's mission.

His most famous dream regards future troubles for the Church and is known as the Prophecy of the Two Columns. In St Don Bosco's words, "Only two things can save us in such a grave hour: devotion to Mary and frequent Communion."



St Don Bosco

At the time of Don Bosco's death, 31 January 1888, there were 250 homes for boys founded by the Salesian Society containing 130,000 children; of these, over 6,000 became priests. The Salesian Society is the 2nd largest religious order in the world.

St Don Bosco was canonized on Easter Sunday, 1 April 1934 by Pope Pius XI. His feast day is 31 January.

St Don Bosco, pray for us!

## STORM DAMAGE

On Sunday 24 December 2023, the 4th Sunday of Advent, Fr Zachary Lewis was celebrating the 1 I am mass. He had just begun his homily when there was a tremendous gush of wind. The power went off, and the rain pelted down.

Fr Zachary calmly continued on with the mass, and being the 4th Sunday of the month, still had Exposition, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction at the end of mass. The storm did not interrupt the usual Sunday mass program.

During all this time, it was terrifying to hear large trees cracking and falling in the hills, and it was impossible for anyone to venture outside the church for over an hour.

### RECOVERY TEAM

A couple of days later, once the weather had cleared, a group of volunteers came to clear the grounds and repair the damaged statues. Many large trees and bushes had twisted and fallen in the cyclonic-type winds. Around 20 tonnes of fallen trees and debris was collected.

It took 2 weeks for Energen to restore power in the local Canungra district, but fortunately Marian Valley had backup power from a diesel generator.

### THANKS

Fr Jaroslaw Zan (Prior) and the Pauline monks wish to express their gratitude to all the volunteers who assisted in the cleanup and particularly to those who brought along machinery and equipment. It was an amazing effort by all involved.



**Robert Murphy doing final touches to Angel statue**



**Some of the debris**



**Br Bruno Kanamis, Mark McHale, Robert Murphy**



**Volunteers – Patrick Dwyer, Nadia Lemiszczuk, Isaac Kanowski, Philip Kanowski, Mark McHale, Martin Dwyer, Robert Murphy, Jacob Kanowski, Thomas Dwyer, Br Bruno Kanamis (on truck)**

## 8TH DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS

On Friday 8 December 2023 it was a very special day at Marian Valley, starting with the receiving of the Message Stick, then hosting the Brisbane Archbishop for the Immaculate Conception mass & procession. In the afternoon, the first Advent Retreat began at Marian Valley.

### THE MESSAGE STICK

On Friday 8 December, Marian Valley received the Message Stick from Fr Janusz Pawlicha from the Nerang Parish. The Message Stick was travelling around the Archdiocese of Brisbane, and is part of St Stephen's Cathedral 150 years celebrations. The Cathedral was solemnly blessed and dedicated on Sunday 17 May 1874.



**Fr Zachary Lewis, Fr Janusz Pawlicha (Nerang Parish), Fr Jaroslaw Zan**

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

At the 1 I am mass on Friday 8 December 2023, Archbishop Mark Coleridge was the main celebrant for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. He was assisted by Fr Jaroslaw Zan, Fr Zachary Lewis, Fr Janusz Pawlicha, as well as the Beaudesert Parish Priest Fr Kevin Njoku and Fr Solomon Kulo who was visiting from PNG.

Around 200 pilgrims enjoyed a beautiful spiritual day, starting with Holy Hour at 10am, then Mass, followed by a Eucharistic Procession to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. During Mass, the Archbishop blessed hundreds of miraculous medals which were handed out to the pilgrims.



**Lukasz Bloczynski, Adam Bloczynski, Mark McHale, Archbishop Coleridge, Fr Anthony David, Abraham Mathew, Fr Jaroslaw Zan, Xavier Hagan, Fr Solomon Kulo, Adolfo Lay, Fr Janusz Pawlicha, Fr Zachary Lewis**

## Marian Valley Retreats

The Pauline Monks have initiated spiritual retreats at Marian Valley, to be conducted around the seasons of Advent and Lent.

The first retreat was held during Advent 2023 over a 3-day weekend from 8th-10th December. Fr Zachary Lewis gave 4 conference talks, as well as Adoration, Rosary and Devotions. There were 18 attendees at the first retreat, and the feedback was positive and all happy with the weekend.

Upcoming retreats have been reduced to one day. Fr Zachary Lewis said that he was flexible and was experimenting to see what participants want, and the best way to conduct future retreats.

The next Retreat was organised on Saturday 9 March 2024 during the Lenten season. This one-day Retreat was more compact and the participants said the talks provided good spiritual direction.

The Pauline monks will now consider providing future retreat programs which will be advertised on the Marian Valley Facebook.



**Fr Zachary Lewis  
OSPPE**

## VALE Pauline Nugent

On 18 September 2023, Pauline Mary Nugent passed away at Seaton Place Residential Care Home in Cleveland, Brisbane, aged 94 years



Pauline Nugent

Pauline was one of the original caretaker ladies at the Marian Valley Retreat Centre. When the construction of the Retreat Centre was completed in September 2001, Pauline and her friend Maree Baker moved into the caretaker's home on 29 September 2001. They were responsible for the administration of the Retreat Centre and spending time praying in the Adoration Chapel.

Pilgrims loved Pauline's gentle and caring manner, always greeting everyone with a beautiful smile. Her softly spoken voice was so comforting and her steadfast faith was loved by all pilgrims.

In 2003, after almost 3 years serving the pilgrims at Marian Valley, Pauline retired to Sydney. This was due to declining health, and to be close to her sister Patricia. Her family of 4 children, 12 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren were very important to her. In her later years, she returned to her family in Brisbane, which enabled her to visit 'her beloved Marian Valley' more often.

*Rest in Peace Pauline.*

## VALE Cecile Falvey

On 27 April 2023 one of our long-time volunteers, Cecile Falvey, passed away at the age of 92. She was the beloved sister of Peter, Rita and Mary, and Aunt of Mary Rose, Anthony, Josephine, Thomas and Matthew.



Cecile Falvey

Cecile was the founder of the Queensland Spinners, Weavers and Dyers group established more than 50 years ago. She used these skills to create many pieces for the church community, including altar cloths for Marian Valley. She was recognised in 2007 in the Queen's Birthday Honours with the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to the textile sector.

Cecile was a devoted Catholic and loved St Mary MacKillop. She was known for her sharp sense of humour and keen intellect.

*Rest in Peace Cecile.*

## DIVINE MERCY CHAPEL

We are pleased to report that the Divine Mercy Chapel is progressing well. The sanctuary, side altars and furniture are complete, as well as the exterior. Currently work is underway on the tiling, plumbing and cabinet making.



Divine Mercy Chapel

## OUR LADY OF LOURDES

On Sunday 11 February 2024, around 320 pilgrims attended mass at Marian Valley to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the annual pilgrimage for the sick and elderly. The main celebrant was Fr Zachary Lewis, whilst Fr Anthony David was busy hearing confession.

The day began with 10am Holy Hour, then 11am Mass which included the anointing of the sick. This was then followed by a Eucharistic procession to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes for prayers and devotions. Pilgrims then processed back into the church to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This was then followed by Fr Zachary blessing each person with the Blessed Sacrament, whilst pilgrims blessed themselves with Lourdes holy water, and the choir singing many beautiful hymns.



Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us!

**Fr Zachary blessing the pilgrims, and Robert Murphy following with the Lourdes Water**

## ERITREAN BISHOP VISIT

On Sunday 11 February 2024, Bishop Kidanemariam Yebio from the Eritrean Catholic Eparchy of Keren, visited Marian Valley to celebrate mass with his Eritrean community. A group of around 70 pilgrims from the Eritrean Community attended the mass using the ancient Ge'ez liturgical rite. The Eritrean Eastern Catholic Church is in full communion with the Holy See.



**Nahom M Gebremichael, Melake Ukubatinsae, Bishop Kidanemariam Yebio, Kiseri Rufael**

**VOCATION** enquiries for The Order of St Paul the First Hermit should be directed to: Vocations Director, Pauline Fathers, 120 Hanging Rock Road, Berrima NSW 2577



**St Joseph's Hermitage Retreat Centre, Marian Valley** has hermitage-style 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 \$50 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, daily mass, shrines and Adoration chapel, makes the Centre ideal for retreats. Contact details for all Retreat Centre enquiries: Ph 07-55 333 378 or email: [marianretreat@bigpond.com](mailto:marianretreat@bigpond.com)

## REMEMBER MARIAN VALLEY IN YOUR WILL

If you wish to remember Marian Valley in your will, the correct wording is:

Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians  
– Marian Valley – Pauline Fathers – ABN 24 195 762 439 –  
2541 Beechmont Road, Witheren, Canungra Qld 4275

## MAY MASS INTENTIONS

It is a custom of the Catholics to dedicate the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you would like to have masses offered for someone special during the Novena prior to the Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians, your special intention will be placed on the altar. Please fill in the form and return the form to **Marian Valley, PO Box 104, Canungra Qld 4275.**

**Cash & Cheque donations are accepted, as well as donations online through Paypal – logon to [www.marianvalley.org.au/donate/](http://www.marianvalley.org.au/donate/)**