



PALLOTTINE FAMILY (UAC) NEWSLETTER

June 2011

Mary
Lightning rod of the Holy Spirit
Giving joy to the
World and the
Triune God Who
Humbly asked your yes
At first,
And again in the
Cenacle with all
Apostles.

Your Pentecost
And
Ours,
Be again desired
Channel of
Grace



ADVANCE NOTICE **WE GATHER AND SHARE.**

Fr. Leenus SAC and his community at Holy Child Parish, Dallas have invited us to meet at 'their' place next time. More details in the September newsletter but mark the date in your diaries NOW.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH.

Please remember Fr. Leenus and his family in your prayers. His mother died recently.

Pallottine Family Newsletter

Quarterly Circular for members of the
Australian Pallottine Family

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AND MEETING

The National Coordination Council of India is hosting an international congress in Mysore from June 24th to 28th 2011. At the end of those days of deliberation and discernment, another gathering entitled Asia Oceania Intercontinental Meeting, (AOIM) will be held.

The rather impressive title of the congress is “Theological Foundations and Pastoral Implications of Pallottine Charism”. The Australian representatives attending will be four from Western Australia: Frs. Eugene San and Ray Hevern, Trish Wisolith and John Nagle, and Anne Dowling from Victoria.

As you can imagine, the congress will be an in-depth study for all concerned, so much so that speakers have distributed their addresses already to help participants prepare for a great deal of solid exploration of each topic. Selected speakers are well known for their expertise and research: they include Bishop Seamus Freeman, Fr. Derry Murphy (President of the UAC), Fr. Frank Donio from the USA and member of the General Coordination Council, and several outstanding Pallottine theologians from India.

After the congress, the AOIM will meet for three days. On the first day lay people will join in discussion with SAC representatives, but days two and three will be set aside for SAC only. The first AOIM meeting was held at Millgrove three ago and now participants hope to build upon that foundation for more sharing and cross-fertilisation of ideas and practices.

Your prayers are asked for the success of both these important meetings. Apart from the inherent value of the congress and AOIM discussions, there is great value in exploring different cultures and lifestyles in our UAC.

Pat Heywood.

PALLOTTINE ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP TRUST - 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Always a joyous occasion, in Perth two months ago our annual awards to promising and hard working young aboriginal students were hosted. The 19th Mar saw the 2011 presentation at Rossmoyne of Pallottine Aboriginal Scholarship grants to 13 students from four WA Universities. Of these 7 were starting into the first year of their courses. The recipients included two graduates from Catholic

Secondary colleges – the 2010 Outstanding Aboriginal Student from ARANMORE COLLEGE, Leederville [Ms Taylah Conway], and the 2010 Head Girl from NAGLE COLLEGE, Geraldton [Ms Kelsi Forrest].

The range of subjects which these gifted young people have selected is quite amazing. Seven of them are tackling two degrees at once – 4 have combined Bachelor of Medicine + Bachelor of Surgery, 3 Bachelor of Laws + Bachelor of Arts! Other sole subject choices are Arts, Education, Health and Phys Ed, and Science.

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of this Scholarship Trust, and thus we attempted to make the ceremony special in small ways. The most significant initiative was to invite as guest speaker the Deputy Vice Chancellor of Notre Dame University, Broome Campus – Professor Lyn Henderson-Yates, an aboriginal woman from the Derby Shadforth family. Her academic specialty has been the education sector, specifically aboriginal education, in which she has worked for 31 years. In her address she elected to focus on the current hot topic of Globalisation, and stressed to the audience that secondary education is where the emphasis is – or should be – in the learning environment of today.

She was supported by two former scholarship recipients – the first ever West Australian aboriginal dentist [Dr David Plichta], and a second aspiring aboriginal dentist [Ms Chantel Thorn], now in her final year.

Looking back across the range of former grantees who have now finished their studies we can count [of those we know about] four Doctors of Medicine, and graduates in Law, Arts, Mining Engineering, Geology, Science, Landscape Architecture. Their occupations range from teachers in schools, to an SBS journalist, to a staff person in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in Canberra.

As well as acknowledging with gratitude their giftedness received from God this is an appropriate moment to also recognise the generous contributions of numerous personal donors which boosted the fund from the initial deposit gained through the sale of land [\$1.2m] to \$1.4m. Including the \$65,000 in HECS fee payments distributed this year the total funds dispersed from interest since 2001 amount to \$851,000. On behalf of the Trust – thank you!

Due to the ever increasing costs of tertiary education it is now our urgent aim to boost the fund to \$2m.

Enquiries to Father Ray Heaven, 45 Ionic Street, Shelley WA 6148

FOLLOWING PALLOTTI AND PERSONALISING OUR PRAYER

For all those engaged in Council and Committee work:



Not the emails but God
Not the minutes but God
Not the agenda but God
Not the action points but God
Not the discussions but God
Not the planning but God



Not the travelling but God
Not the reporting but God
Not the consensus but God
Not the frustrations but God
.....



For Pallotti College and Epiphany:



Not the bookings but God
Not the cooking but God
Not the cleaning but God
Not the weather but God
Not the bills but God
Not the

For parents and grandparents:



Not the shopping but God
Not the cleaning but God
Not the meals but God
Not ferrying children but God
Not the washing but God
Not the ironing but God
Not the

As Pallotti prayed: God in all and forever.



ONE WOMAN'S WORK

A friend told me recently that she was enjoying her work with the 4 Cs. I asked her what were the 4 Cs and she filled me in, as follows.

The 4Cs stands for Cardinia Combined Churches Caring, eight local churches working as a Christian outreach to the needy – whatever the need – in the Pakenham-outer Dandenong area. Until about 12 months ago, the Director and all staff were volunteers, but although the Director is still a volunteer, funds from the Shire, the participating churches, private sponsorship and donations, have made it possible to employ a social worker, an office manager and a part-time NILS (no interest loans) manager.

The work varies from providing emergency food relief, granting payments to help with electricity, gas, water bills, operating NILS, assisting with crisis accommodation, counseling, material aid, baby formula and nappies, and access to a Financial Advisor and Drug/Alcohol rehabilitation. The centre also runs education programs in cooking basic low cost meals supported by a free recipe booklet.

Food is accessed from The Vic Relief/Food Bank at Yarraville, Safeway, Aldi's throwaways, market gardeners and 'Can Drives' at the schools. Nonetheless many basic items have to be purchased from local supermarkets.

The Centre manages two Crisis Houses where families in crisis – homeless, domestic violence victims – can stay for three months at a nominal rent until they find something more permanent. Food and friendship are made available while people search for a home. Last Christmas the Centre gave out 800 Christmas hampers within the Shire.

My friend writes: "The needs in Pakenham are growing with the opening up of numerous subdivisions and the lack of affordable rental housing. The number of homeless and those suffering from broken marriages is astounding. It is the end of the Metro line and is possibly a safer spot for sleeping out than areas nearer to the city."

For both the 'staff' and clients, the good news of the Gospel is the basis of this outreach. Of the seventy five-odd volunteers, seven are Catholic, and about eighty per cent are aged under fifty. The work they undertake is inspiring and motivated by the desire to show Christ to others. Each day is commenced with half an hour of prayer - reading from the Bible, a

reflection of the reading and discussion about how to apply the Word of God to this day's work. Prayer of petition and thanks follows on from these reflections, before getting on with the job.

The conviction of this ecumenical group of the tangible love of God in prayer and action is the ongoing basis for all the giving and serving of those in need: everyone is respected and welcomed: the distressed and heart-broken find a home at first in the loving hearts of the carers.

My friend belongs to our Pallottine family, and now that her children are adults, she has time to belong to the Cardinia family in this special way, continuing to bring into reality all the desire for a God-given, love-filled world, so dear to our father, St. Vincent.

Let us share our prayer and support for one another, for all who daily reach out to others in tangible, often hidden ways, sharing the Christ they carry within, as Pallotti did and directed us to do in our apostolic Union.

The writer and her husband were both members of the apostolic groups in Kew in the 50s.

MARIANA COMMUNITY INVITE YOU TO A DAY TO PRAY, SHARE, REFLECT AND BE TOGETHER

WHERE: 85 STUDLEY PARK ROAD KEW

WHEN: SATURDAY 16TH JULY 10AM - 4PM

During the day Cheryl Sullivan will give an overview of the paper she presented at the UAC Congress held in Rome last year. The title of the paper is "The Person as Apostle in the Vision/Thinking of Vincent Pallotti."

All present will be given the opportunity for personal reflection on the questions raised in the paper and then have the opportunity to share on how we live our lives as the apostles of today in the vision of Vincent Pallotti – how do I live the Gospel message? how do I live in relationship with my God? what does the image of Mary Queen of Apostles say to me – and how do I live the reality of this image?

So put the date in your diary, come along and invite others to come with you.

Please bring something to share for lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided.

If you have any questions please ring Kath Curtain on 9882 8967 or Cheryl Sullivan on 9416 7138.

FORMATION IN AUSTRALIA

You might remember from the last issue that the UAC has established the position of Formation Coordinator for all member countries and that John Nagle from Western Australia has been appointed to coordinate the formation policies and practices in use in Australia.

To promote this work a committee comprising those involved in formation in the Australian UAC has been established. Together with John the committee members are Frs. Pat Jackson and Dean Bradbury, Cheryl Sullivan and Pat Heywood

The first committee meeting took place on 7th May at Kew. The initial tasks of the committee were to establish a formation protocol and to expound the job descriptions of both the Coordinator and the committee. The resulting documents will be presented for approval to the Australian National Council for the UAC, at its next meeting in mid-June this year.

At the second committee meeting, scheduled for September, work will centre on drafting a list of the common elements of all Pallottine formation, whether that formation is initial or on-going, communal or individual.

Pat Heywood.



WALTER SILVESTER MEMORIAL LECTURE

The lecture committee hopes you have put the date for this year's lecture in your diary: Tuesday 25th October at the Australian Catholic University, in the Mercy Theatre at 6.30 pm.

As we've mentioned in an earlier edition of the Newsletter, the speaker is Fr. Gerald O'Collins, SJ, a world renowned theologian, writer and speaker.

Fr. Gerald's address will combine both the strength of his scholarship and the depths of his pastoral vision. His topic will be: "Catholic Thinking, where is it going? Its future in Life and Liturgy".

We'll be able to give you more news in the next issue, but for now, don't forget to get those diaries out as remote preparation for attending.

Pat Heywood, for the committee.



Father Hennessy enjoying his 90th Birthday celebration

AN APOLOGY to the Tiernan and the Flynn families. When we mentioned the death of Kathleen Cruikshank in our last issue, I said she was the sister of Fr. Bryan Tiernan. Not so, Kathleen's brother is Fr. John Flynn. Fortunately, we can say: God knows! Merle

NEWS FROM THE WEST

QUEEN OF APOSTLES PARISH , RIVERTON WA - CELEBRATIONS

On the 6th of May ,2011, the Parish celebrated the Birthday of St Vincent Pallotti as the Queen of Apostls Church.

Our new Pallottine Regional leader Fr Eugene san SAC, ably assisted by Fr Joe Butscher SAC, Rossmoyne Chapel, Fr Pal Manickathan SAC Parish Priest of Riverton, Fr John Flynn SAC and the concelebrants were Fr Ray Hevern SAC, Fr John Flynn SAC, Fr John Luemmen SAC, Fr Bryan Tiernan SAC, Fr Joe Kearney SAC. The acolyte was Ernest John, the Readers were Denise Wilson (who was also celebrating her 50 years as a lay missionary) Marlene O'Connor (all members of the UAC) and Barry Williams of the Parish. The combined Parish Choir with Margaret de San Miguel on the organ accompanied by guitars and violins led the processional song "Vincent Friend of all the People" with full gusto.

The UAC, and SAC representation and participation was not only visible but commendable as well, not only at the sanctuary but also in the body of the church. There would be been about 150 of the faithful who came to honour the founder of the Pallottine Family. Fr Eugene in his humble and unique style preached the homily touching on the biography of St Vincent and reminding the congregation of the religious and political upheaval in Europe and in keeping with the times the desire of the Founder to work on the paradigm of a mindshift in the spiritual dimension of both the clergy and the laity. However some of his own confreres and even the laity could not fully comprehend the vision or the visionary. There, new, deep religious and philosophical changes were not readily received. Fr Eugene also emphasized the devotion St Vincent had to Our Lady Queen of Apostles. This devotion is re-affirmed at every wee-end Mass in the Parish "A Prayer to Our Lady Queen of Apostles" The choir and congregation sang the recessional with joie de vivre "We are made as God's own people, ... we are laity united... we are called to share the glory Catholic Apostolate."

Soon afterwards the young, the not so young, the old and the new made their way to the "Fr John Luemmen Hall" The organising Committee had worked very hard earlier in setting up the hall and delicious supper. A welcoming cuppa and a cabernet sauvignon / blanc did warm the cockles of the heart. The centre piece was the picturesque and delectable custard cake, which we did not want to even slice. Fr Joe Butscher did however cut it with a vote of thanks to "Regine's Patisserie" who gifted the cake. Thanks also went out to Gilda Dass who donated the flavours of India and to all who provided the various finger food. Fr Joe thanks the organising committee for their dedicated work. All in all it was a very holy and happy "St Vincent Pallotti's Birthday"

Another celebration held in Perth recently was one to acknowledge several Golden Jubilees.

Just after Easter about thirty-five UAC members, priests, brothers and lay people, attended a special dinner at the Esplanade in Fremantle to honour Frs. Ray and John Flynn's fifty years since first profession and Denise Wilson's fifty years as a lay missionary. We hear that everyone enjoyed this special occasion very much, and to quote one of the jubilarians, 'It was one of the best nights out we've had for ages!'

Congratulations to these three long serving folk, Denise, John and Ray. We wish you many more fruitful years ahead.

VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP/ GRANT FOR LAY MINISTRY

The Vincent Pallotti scholarship/grant to assist the development of lay ministry follows the pattern of outreach and assistance practised by Pallotti himself to promote the vocation of the laity in the Church.

Each year there are two rounds for applications for the scholarship the closing dates for which are 30th April and 31st October. In the round just completed, three grants were awarded to two young people and one older couple, to help them continue their volunteer work of Christian service.

A married couple from Canberra who have initiated a program called Ministry to the Newly Married applied for and were granted funds to pay the costs involved in establishing the program in Melbourne this year. They have already successfully introduced the program in Canberra, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

A post-graduate student from the Australian Catholic University in Melbourne received a grant to initiate a visual arts program for young single mothers, involving both a workshop and exhibition,

The third award was made to a young man working both as a Student Chaplaincy Assistant at the Catholic University campus in Sydney, and as a youth mentor in his parish. He plans to take a group of twenty-five students on a service trip to Bourke in outback N.S.W. to work with the Missionaries Sisters of Charity and indigenous people. The grant will assist with costs for that work.

The scholarship committee received a great number of applications, many of them very valuable and worthy of assistance. However our funds are limited and unfortunately we cannot assist a large number of the lay people spending themselves for the benefit of others.

We depend on donations, bequests and fund raising to supplement the base capital from which the scholarship funds are drawn. If you would like to help, donations can be sent to the Secretary, Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust, 85 Studley Park Road, Kew Vic 3101. Cheques should be made out to UAC Scholarship Trust.

OUR MAN IN CAMBODIA

Last year Lawrence Gigliotti, a young Melbourne man, was awarded a Vincent Pallotti scholarship for lay ministry to support him in his work for Cambodian orphans and homeless youth. Lawrence works in the Province of Battambang, in the village of Ta Hen where he is responsible for 36 local staff and 109 boarding students. He regularly travels to border areas, in spite of continuing warfare and conflict to discover the needs of Cambodian children preparatory to assisting them further their education.

While in Melbourne recently, Lawrence reported to the scholarship committee, giving a succinct outline of the history of Cambodian upheavals and describing his work at the Catholic centre at Ta Hen. Lawrence told us that with the Vincent Pallotti grant he was able to establish the first stage of a learning centre, by painting and decorating the large room made available, by having tables and chairs made by local craftsmen and by the purchase of 1000 books for study and a mobile library.

Lawrence would like to complete the second stage of the learning centre, aiming to continue to develop Cambodian crafts and culture, with an emphasis on helping young people to re-learn their own traditions. It is important to give the younger generation something to do, Lawrence says, as alcohol and gambling are too readily available.

This work is a very worthy cause and if you'd like to assist in making the second stage of the centre become reality, you can do a bit of fund-raising or write a cheque in Lawrence's name, and send any funds to the Secretary, Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust, 85 Studley Park Road, Kew. Vic 3101.

Pat Heywood.

PARISHES IN 'THE EAST' OF MELBOURNE. INTRODUCING FR. JUDE.

Some time ago, Fr. Allan Mithen put some thoughts on paper about several parishes with which he was connected and which are now under the care of Pallottine priests.

He goes on to say that, in 2007, when he was still parish priest of Holy Spirit, Nth. Ringwood, the parish of St. Gerard's Warrandyte/ St. Anne's, Park Orchards. was added to his pastoral responsibilities, so that he became P.P concurrently of that parish as well as Nth Ringwood. These two parishes, adjacent to one another, retain their individual communities but share a parish priest. When Fr. Allan retired from Holy Spirit, parish, Fr. Eugene SAC replaced him and then, recently, when Fr. Eugene became Regional Leader, Fr. Shibu Joseph SAC took on this role..

The parish of Our Lady of the Pines is adjacent to Holy Spirit, North Ringwood and St. Gerard's, Warrandyte/ St. Anne's Park Orchards. With the appointment of Fr. Jude D'Rozario as administrator of Our Lady of the Pines, it means that we have the unique situation of three Pallottine priests being pastorally responsible for one continuous geographical area, embracing all those parishes.

This information fits well with this opportunity to give our readers some information about Fr. Jude which reached us just too late for the March issue. Fr. Jude writes:

I was born in a southern state of India, called Kerala. Kera means coconut and therefore

the state could be called the land of coconuts. At one time the whole life and economy of this state was dependent on the coconut tree. The leaves were used to thatch the roofs of homes, and as brooms. The wood was used to build homes, as fuel for the fire and the husks were used as coir to make ropes, doormats, carpets etc. Even the shells were used as spoons for cooking.

Now, life has changed, The coconut trees are disappearing from the state due to neglect and disease.

The Apostle, St. Thomas and St. Francis Xavier preached in this area and converted hundreds to Catholicism. Long before Europe embraced Christianity, Kerala had a Christian footprint.

Kerala is one of the first states in India to be 100% literate and it is the only state where 40% of the population is Catholic. In fact, in all of the other states, the Christian population is only about 2%. Kerala has contributed to the church the highest number of priests and nuns also..

You will find them throughout India, working in all the well known schools and hospitals. .

Keralites see that working in the missions, disseminating the Word of God to the world is a key to the faith of the people.

I was born into a Catholic family. I have a married brother who has settled near to our parents. Two uncles, one from my mother's side and one from my father's side were priests in my home diocese and an aunt is a Carmelite nun. From the age of ten I was involved in many activities in my home parish. Every Saturday, I took part in cleaning the church in preparation and I was an altar boy until I was 15.

I had known the Pallottines from my school days and, on Saturdays, used to take part in Mass at the seminary. I joined the seminary when I was 17, was ordained in 1983 and came to Australia 20 years later, that is in 2003 on a ten-year contract. I have been at Our Lady of the Pines for about 18 months. God knows what will happen next.

A SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL COORDINATION COUNCIL MEETING OF THE UAC HELD AT GROTTERRATA OUTSIDE OF ROME - MAY 2011

During May the GCC gathered to address the primary issues relating to the UAC as a world body. The new member of the council was Father Jacob Nampudakam, the recently elected General of the Pallottine Priests and Brothers. Father Jacob spoke of the UAC as being the best expression of the charism of Vincent Pallotti and challenged us to see the UAC as “an instrument of service to the church”.

This theme of UAC being of service to the church was one taken up frequently during the meeting, noting we are called to identify and respond to the needs of the church in our local areas. This concept is well described in the letter of greeting sent from the meeting to members which states that we must work to ensure “that the Union of the Catholic Apostolate becomes an attractive and authentic concrete reality in the Church and in our world.”

Formation was a major issue discussed, particularly the role of the Formation Promoter. As noted in the UAC statutes, the fundamental responsibility of formation is with the individual members of the UAC and the communities. Taking up the words of Fr Hubert Socha, we spoke of the role of Formation Promoter being one of “dialogue, consultation, accompaniment, encouragement, and in supporting and inviting persons to collaboration”. (In Australia we have recently established a Formation

Committee, to look at how we best respond to the needs of formation, both from an initial and ongoing formation perspective. John Nagle as Formation Promoter for Australia is Chair of this committee.)

Fr Derry Murphy, who was for many years the secretary and more recently the President of the UAC, was appointed Provincial of the Mother of Divine Love Province earlier this year. Father Derry will continue in his role as UAC President, but now from his country of birth in Ireland, rather than in Rome.

Another Irishman, Fr Rory Hanly was appointed General Secretary during the meeting. Fr Rory will be moving to Rome within the next few weeks. Fr Rory is well known to many for his role as translator (and tin whistle player) at our past conferences and meetings.

The celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the canonisation of Vincent Pallotti will be held commencing on the 22nd January 2012 and concluding on the 22nd January 2013. (You will hear more of how we will celebrate this event in Australia in the coming months.) We discussed how these celebrations will also coincide with the opening of the Second Vatican Council, a council which confirmed Vincent’s way / understanding of an apostolate for all.

The opportunity of being and sharing “in communio” at these meetings is in itself a blessing. The group recognises the challenges and the opportunities we are all called to respond to, as we follow the charism of Vincent knowing that we always have “the love of Christ to urge us on.”

Cheryl Sullivan.



A MATTER OF MONEY. In fact, a gentle reminder that there are considerable costs involved in bringing this newsletter to life. \$10 per year from all recipients would help a great deal.

Thanks to the people who send contributions, they are greatly appreciated.

Pallottine Family UAC Newsletter

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**SURFACE
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**POSTAGE
PAID
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