



# Pallottine Family (UAC)

## NEWSLETTER

June 2017



## PENTECOST THOUGHTS

*Pentecost was a season of worship well known to the Jews at the time of Christ. Jerusalem was packed with people from everywhere at the time for the celebration of that feast. I don't know if the little group of Christians who gathered in the small cenacle were expecting anything unusual, but I feel sure they were surprised at what occurred and how much it changed their lives.*

*There was the sound of a strange wind blowing and a tongue of fire settled on each person there. They felt deeply moved in their inner beings and they came away wanting eagerly to share the faith with anyone who would listen. Some may have said they were ready to suffer and die if asked by the Lord. But how was the message being given to them? It was by means of symbols.*

**1. The wind:** Jesus had explained to Nicodemus, beforehand: "The wind blows where it wills" And it is unpredictable. It comes as a gift.

**2. The tongues of fire:** Everyone has a tongue that enables them to speak and communicate. It was also like human tongues which give us a taste to distinguish different foods. We sing of the Holy Spirit: "Your promise teaching little ones to speak and understand."

Hence they had the gift of tongues and could be understood by foreigners, as Peter found out. And prophecy, for the prophet had said: "Your sons and daughters shall prophecy."

However, as scripture points out, our tongues can also betray us---into boasting, deceiving, lying.

**3. Candles:** The humble candle is widely used in religious rites. At Easter time, the church gives us the Paschal candle that signifies Christ in our midst and we welcome him especially at the Easter Vigil. The people come into a darkened church and see the difference the candle can make. Light generated by the Easter fire. That was the experience of the community gathered in the Cenacle. This should have reminded them that Jesus had said: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with them." And he is still in our midst NOW

At the end of the second Vatican Council, Pope John, 23rd prayed: "May the Holy Spirit today renew our Church as happened at the time of the first Pentecost".

And haven't we seen so many things that have changed in our church since 1965! Are we still open to change right now? That is the challenge of Pentecost today!!

Fr. John Winson SAC.

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!!

Yes, our heartfelt congratulations to the Mariana community as they celebrate their **Diamond Jubilee ---60 years**. We give thanks for the many ways they live the vision of St. Vincent Pallotti and how generously they participate in the life of the Pallottine Family, here and further afield.

Congratulations also to **Fr. Leenus Neetany SAC** who became an Australian citizen recently. Fr. Leenus, originally from Kerala in India is the parish priest of Holy Child parish, Dallas. The wider Pallottine family in Melbourne has often gathered at Dallas, for example for Cenacle prayer on the 22nd of the month and for 'Gather and share' and we have always come away uplifted by this opportunity to get to know the parishioners and share their generous hospitality.

# The UAC General Coordination Council (GCC) Meeting.

Between 19th and 23rd May 2017, the annual GCC meeting was held in a retreat facility about 4kms from the Vatican. Gathered were the Superiors General of the three foundation communities, the UAC General Secretary and Bursar, our amazing canonist Fr Hubert Socha SAC and the ten elected members of the GCC.

Following individual reports where we heard of the ongoing development and understanding of the UAC in the various communities and countries, we were privileged to hear Father Sergio La Pegna, from the Congregation of Christian Doctrine speak on The contribution of the Union to evangelisation today in the co-responsibility of the different vocations. He spoke of the great gift such charisms/charismatic families bring to the church and the focus Pope Francis has on recognising the role of the laity in living the charism of the founder. The charism is meant to be always moving a developing, lived and given for the service of others – always to the advantage of the community. Each of us must live our particular vocation, recognising and honouring the specific vocation we are called to. Together, we are co-responsible to ensure we bring the fullness of the charism to the world. In our case the charism of Saint Vincent Pallotti who called each of us to live lives as active apostles in the world, recognising that our apostolate continues throughout our lives, whether we are physically active or an apostle in prayer.

In January 2018 a General Assembly will be held. These assemblies are held tri-annually and bring together all of the Presidents of the various National Coordination Councils (there are a total of 22 functioning NCC's at this time), the members of the GCC and three invited guests. The assembly is called to set the agenda for the focus in the next three years and it includes the election of the council members. The theme for the forthcoming assembly is Co-responsibility and Communion. There are three sub-themes: Family, Youth and Mission. The three invited guests will be asked to present on these areas as we deepen our understanding of how we are being called to respond today.

Also in 2018, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the ordination of Saint Vincent (16th May 2018). A jubilee year has commenced as we prepare for this celebration. The SAC are planning various initiatives for the year. It was seen that this time is an opportunity to reflect on the model/type of priest that Saint Vincent was, his breadth of thought and ideas - all called into the priesthood of Christ. Frank Donio (some would remember Frank as a past Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture presenter) advised that Saint Pope John XXIII, named Vincent as Principal Patron of the Pontifical Missionary Union of the Clergy, something that we are not necessarily aware of but could perhaps promote during the year.

**Keshero Project** *Fr Eugene Niyonzima, the current SAC Provincial of Rwanda Congo and our primary contact with the Keshero Orphanage in Congo is a member of the GCC, so there was an opportunity to ask Eugene about the orphanage. One thing he stressed was that our contribution makes a great difference to the orphanage, in Eugene's words "they are able to purchase rice" (makes one think!).*

Of course there was much more, ongoing work on the different commissions – Formation, Mission, Juridical, Family, etc. The above has simply highlighted a few of the areas discussed.

**Cheryl Sullivan**

Member of the GCC and Australian NCC President.

June 2017

## A Message from Mary Saunders



I would like to thank all who came to my Farewell Mass at Pallottine Community, Kew on St. Patrick's evening. It was a great night for us all to catch up with friends in the UAC and thank you all for taking the time to come and in particular for the beautiful spirit in which we gathered.

Thank you particularly to the main celebrant, Fr. Eugene, for his beautiful reflections on the scripture and related kind words and to Frs. Joe, John, Jose, Pat, and Shibu who con-celebrated. Thank you also to Fr. Joe for his kind words later in the evening. As I said on the night, I have been very blessed and well cared for by the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers during my time of work at Kew. They are a wonderful community.

I must say that Fr. Kelvin Kenny, Br. Kevin Clark, Fr. John Hennessy, along with Fr. Roger McGinley and Fr. Peter Murray were very much on my mind during the evening. As Fr. Joe would say – they are praying for us now!

With love and thanks, Mary xo



# REST IN PEACE, FATHER WENDELIN.



Thanks to Fr. Joe Butscher who spoke at the Vigil and Fr. Eugene San who was the homilist at the funeral Mass, we can bring a little about the life of Fr. (Johann) Wendelin Lorenz.

Fr. Joe tells us: Fr. Wendelin was born on January 30th, 1930 in Friesenheim (near Mainz), Germany. After his secondary schooling, he entered the Pallottine Novitiate in Olpe, followed by studies for the priesthood in Vallendar/Schoenstatt where he was ordained with 21 others, on the 20th July 1958. That group included Frs. Joe Butscher and Benno Rausch and Edmund Wehrmaker (RIP) who all were with him in Australia. He always wanted to go to the missions and so he came here—firstly to Kew, then to Wandering (south-west of Perth) and eventually to the Kimberley in 1964. That meant Balgo and Kununurra for short periods before he settled into Derby as parish priest on July 16th, 1969 and, where he served for the next 35 years. He became well known and well respected because he was so faithful to his pastoral work, visiting the local hospitals and outstations such as Koolan Island, Fitzroy Crossing, various cattle stations. When he reluctantly had to retire, he moved to the Pallottine Community in Rossmoyne where he continued to ‘look after’ people by his presence at a local Aged Care facility until his own increasing fragility meant he needed care himself.

Fr. Eugene reminded us of his sense of humour ---he was always trying to make people laugh. He would have appreciated the fact that he died on Easter Sunday, the day when God had the last laugh over the devil and Jesus overcame sin and death and rose from the tomb. Fr. Wendelin had lived his entire life with unwavering faith in the Risen Lord and in eternal life—the opening hymn of his funeral Mass was “In faith and hope and love”. He reflected that he had been sent to the missions without being adequately prepared for that work but with a true missionary spirit and a compassionate heart, he applied himself to what he was called to do. He had a great sense of community and very loyally kept in touch with fellow Pallottine priests in the Kimberley, especially when he heard that someone was a bit ‘flat’. He was remembered for bringing some bottles of special Lorenz wine ( from the family vineyards in Germany) to the clergy meetings in Broome and even he always said the best part of broome was the road out leading to Derby, he did enjoy those gatherings. As time went on, he accepted the restrictions, limitations, aches and pains of old age without complaint. He was greatly devoted to Our Lady and when he could no longer pray the Divine Office, he turned to the Rosary. So, with Mary in the Magnificat, let us glorify the Lord because the Almighty has done great things for Fr. Wendelin. Let us pray for him, for people significant to him, especially and for the people of the Kimberley.

## *A Wonderful Life Celebrated and Remembered*

Friday, April 28th, was a bitter sweet day for the Pallottine family and the people of the Valley. Pallotti College was privileged to host the funeral for Glenda Wolff and, in true Valley and Pallottine Community way, it was a celebration which had joy, memories, bravery, sadness and faith-filled moments. Aspects so true of Glenda herself and her life.

The community gathered in sorrow and thanks. Sorrow for the loss of such a vibrant, loving, accepting, positive and giving lady at the centre of our hearts. Thanks for the gift she was as wife, mother, grandmother, friend, sister, daughter, co-worker and generous giver to us all.

We were overwhelmed by the huge number of people who packed the Chapel and beyond - a real testament to Glenda - and the many who offered their talents in singing, music, cooking, directing traffic ..... but the ceremony, cuppa afterwards and gathering at Dee Rd gave us all time to reminisce, pray, give thanks and support each other in our sorrow.

We know that her spirit, so evident on that day, will live on in her memory and our lives.

**Vale Glenda!**



# "CAMINOS ARE IN THE AIR"

## Walking the Camino Portuguese

Some would know I recently spent six weeks on The Camino Portuguese. Merle has asked if I would write a short article on that experience. Where to begin? I will write of a few highlights.

- The experience of walking through a country. This was so different to train or car travel. Portugal in spring - wild flowers, the animals, the people planting by hand in the market gardens, the farmers planting their crops, the ancient towns and villages. Walking on my own I had the opportunity to thank God and take it all in.

- The people. I find it hard to clearly convey just how hospitable, welcoming and helpful the Portuguese people are. A couple of examples – one family have their home open every night to receive pilgrims. They provide food, accommodation and wine! The payment is a donation system, so if you have nothing, then you do not pay. On another occasion I saw a woman give a tip back to one of the pilgrims saying – “no you keep that, you could buy a coffee with it in the morning” (I have never witnessed that before). The helpfulness offered to ensure you are going in the right direction – farmers singing out if they think you are going the wrong way, people stopping to see if they could help when the notice you arduously studying the map, people taking time and having the patience to listen and try and understand when you do not speak their language. This is but a glimpse of the kindness I experienced.

- The pilgrims along the way, in that sort of environment people share on a different level and you certainly have the opportunity of reflecting and learning about yourself. There is a belief

that there are “pilgrim angels.” I certainly experienced that. Whenever there was a need there was someone there to assist. On one occasion when the blisters were a real bother, there was a young woman who walked with me during the day and arranged accommodation for the night. A true angel.

I found the time a wonderful growth filled occasion to spend time with and come to a greater understanding of our amazing creator God. And in Portugal, how could you not get to know Mary the woman. She was so alive there: the church bells ringing the “Ave Maria” on an hourly basis and the sound reverberating through the valleys; the tiles on the homes and statues in the garden; Fatima – and the lead up to the centenary celebrations. Yes Mary was certainly part of the way, pointing the direction to her Son.

There is much more but if anyone is thinking about doing such a walk I would suggest that you just go – start slowly and gradually build up to the distance that most suits you. Our bodies are magnificent gifts. And if not a walk in another country remember that every day of our life is a pilgrimage as we walk towards what our God desires for us.

**Cheryl Sullivan**  
June 2017



## THE LOCAL PALLOTTINE CAMINO

The Pallottine Camino took place from St. Christopher’s Parish Syndal to Pallotti College Millgrove. 39 people participated in this event. We walked through lush green Dandenong Creek trail, Warburton to Lilydale Rail Trail and the Aqueduct covering 65 kilometres.

It was a great time to encounter Oneself, Others, Nature and God. We spent the first two hours of each day in silent reflection. Holy Mass pre dinner drinks, supper, sharing, above all the hospitality of the Pallotti College made a great impact on each one of us. We carried along with us a symbol to surrender at the foot of the cross as our prayer intention. We appreciate Lorraine and her team for the meticulous planning of this Pilgrimage.

**Jose Joseph**



# Donatella Acerbi is coming!!!

Are you wondering who Donatella is? For those who don't know, she is the President of the General Coordination Council of the Union of Catholic Apostolate. The presidents before her were (then Fr.) Seamus Freeman SAC and Fr Derry Murphy SAC. That means that she is the first layperson and the first woman in this leadership role.



Donatella is coming to be this year's speaker at the Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture on 24th October at 6.30 p.m. at Christ Theatre at ACU. She will speak from her experience of being a lay female President, while also earning her living as an English Literature teacher in Rome. Donatella has visited members of the UAC in many varied parts of the world. While she is here she is keen to meet as many members of the Pallottine Family as possible.

There will be opportunities to meet her at the Retreat Day to be held at Syndal Parish on Saturday, 21st October from 10.00 till 4.00; at that evening's Vigil Mass at Syndal; at one of the morning Masses at Ringwood North and Park Orchards on Sunday, 22nd and later that evening at Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Pallotti College, Millgrove. Then come along and hear her speak at the Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture on the 24th.

On the 26th October Donatella will fly to Perth with members of the National Coordination Council who will be meeting there on the Friday and Saturday. Donatella looks forward to meeting the members of the Rivertown Parish and other members of the UAC while she is there.

## Pallottine Aboriginal Scholarship

Once again the Trustees of the Pallottine Aboriginal Scholarship have been able to allocate awards, this year to seven students.

A condition of this grant is that the applicant has to be both living and studying in WA, however this still leaves room for interstate students who move temporarily to the West. This year's crop included one who was born and grew up in Alice Springs, NT but now lives in Maylands, WA.

Ironically while the number of grantees for 2017 was down the Trust received an unprecedented rise in capital – a benefit that bodes well for the future:

- ❖ Of 24 applicants in total [and a few that arrived too late!] the available funds - \$46,200 – could only be shared amongst 7 students [10 students in each of the previous 2 years]. This was a factor of both static or reducing interest rates and increased fees. The withdrawal of the Commonwealth Government's deduction for early fees payment [10% in 2016] did not help.
- ❖ On the grants side we were blessed to receive several large contributions - \$7,000 and \$10,000 from an individual Pallottine and a Melbourne family respectively and then, very late in the year, a \$200,000 portion of an estate of a former lay missionary [Ms Joan Ewing]. We do not in fact know much about Joan,



other than she appears to have been working at La Grange [now Bidadanga] in the time of Fr Francis Huegel! If any of the readers can tell us more it would be much appreciated. The total capital now available, from which interest will continue to be generated into the future, is thus \$1,868,533. However, as you can see from the above, this still needs further significant increases to meet demand – especially now that we know how university students will so negatively affected by the current budget.

Our three aboriginal Trustees remain unchanged – Norman Brahim, Donella Brown and Shirley Quaresimin.

**Ray Hevern sac**  
18.05 17

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## PALLOTTINE FAMILY CALENDAR OF EVENTS July – September 2017

*All are welcome to join us on these occasions*

<b>July</b>	27 (Thurs)	7pm	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at St Vincent Pallotti Chapel, Rossmoyne.
<b>August</b>	31 (Thurs)	7pm	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at St Vincent Pallotti Chapel, Rossmoyne.
<b>September</b>	28 (Thurs)	7pm	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at St Vincent Pallotti Chapel, Rossmoyne.

# HAPPENINGS AT PALLOTTI COLLEGE

What a happening time there has been at Pallotti the last few months! Not only have we had many and varied groups of numbers 20 - 100 but we have been over- run with workmen, cranes, large drills and concrete trucks all working on the huge and very expensive job of installing a sprinkler system over the entire building. As you can imagine, it has taken a lot of organization around our guests bookings but, touch wood, it is going well with good will on all sides.

Lots of things are happening outside as well where Andrew did some wonderful work, including our new veggie patch. Anyone interested in gardening, we would love your help! Flynn has already planted garlic! Stocking up on winter feed as well! It is perfect weather for Highlands!

We have also said our usual hellos, au revoirs and good-byes. Hello to Fr Mark Godridge from the Sale Diocese who serves with us two days a week as a back up to Fr Dean. Mark has fitted in like a glove and, among other things, loves his time mixing with people on the Good Food lunch. Au Revoir to Karen from Tassie who was a great addition, has left us to volunteer in other areas but will be back later. Good-bye to Ronja and Sam as they travel on. As you will read in another place, we also were the venue for Glenda Wolff's funeral: a sad, fond and heartfelt farewell to someone who has been part of us, the Pallottine family and the local community.

On the Spiritual side, there is also happenings aplenty. Our Pallottine Camino, ably led by Lorraine McCarthy, was a huge success. Why not think about it for next year?

Looking ahead there is a **Prayer Weekend in August** and a **Rest, Pray, Recreate weekend in September**.

Why not take some time out and enjoy the Peace at Pallotti?

The ' Rest, Pray and Recreate' weekends are really informal and a chance to 'come away' to a prayerful, peaceful place to relax and enjoy the company of others.

You decide how you would like to spend your time. You may need some time to read or unwind or to walk through the awesome forests filled with streams and wild life.

Mass is available each day and there are optional times offered for spiritual conversation. Of course the accommodation and the meals are terrific and the views spectacular. Do consider our invitation to 'come away and rest awhile'.

September, 8-10, November, 10-12.

For details, contact Denis: 0427 449 434 or deo.gratias@bigpond.com



## IF YOU LIVE IN THE EAST, HERE'S A CHANCE TO UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR!!

Saturday	22nd July	Cenacle Prayer	Kew
Sunday	13th August	Gather and Share	Kew
Tuesday	22nd August	Cenacle Prayer	Park Orchards
Friday	22nd September	Cenacle Prayer	Nth Ringwood
Saturday	21st October	<b>UAC retreat day</b>	Syndal
Sunday	22nd October	Cenacle Prayer	Pallotti College
Tuesday	24th October	<b>Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture.</b>	

### KEEP THE DATES FREE for Pallottine Spirituality Formation & Reflection Days in Western Australia with Fr. Pat Jackson SAC

at  
Queen of Apostles Parish House,  
55 Tudor Ave, Riverton.

After 9am Parish Mass until 3pm Sundays  
Coffee, tea & light lunch provided



**Day 1** – 25th June  
Theme: Vincent Pallotti  
and the God we believe in.

**Day 2** – 13 August  
Theme: Mary who accompanies us and  
The Spirit who impels us.

**Day 3** – 19 November.  
Theme: The Christ we follow.  
Vincent Pallotti and the UAC.

Registration please contact Tricia 0413 017 484

# THE FIFTH GOSPEL

Some people call a trip to the Holy Land the Fifth Gospel. Being able to walk where Jesus and the disciples once walked: breathing the air, touching the soil, hearing the waves lapping the shore of the Sea of Galilee and understanding the distances between locations all bring an extra appreciation and understanding of our four wonderful Gospels. This also brings with it a heightened commitment from pilgrims to the Christian life.

So it was, with keen anticipation, that 25 excited pilgrims, mostly from the Queen of Apostles Parish in Riverton, ably led by Father Paul Manickathan and Farther Jude D'rozario departed Perth airport on May 5th with their eyes firmly fixed on the Holy Land.

We arrived first in Jordan where we toured the surrounds of Amman City, Ancient Petra, Wadi Rum desert, and The Dead Sea. This gave us our first taste of the food, culture and environment of the Holy Land. The vast expansive barren landscape, beautiful and imposing bare-rock mountains and the welcoming, friendly nature of the locals made many of us start to fall in love with the place almost immediately. In Jordan we also visited the Baptism site of Jesus on the Jordan River and Mount Nebo where Moses saw the Promised Land. This introduced us to the long and complex history of Christianity in the holy land and whetted our appetite for more to come in Israel.

While crossing the border to Israel we started to appreciate the strain and difficulties Palestinians and Israelis experience on a daily basis in this contested land. The atmosphere was tense and the temperature hot, but, we had a wonderful group of supportive pilgrims and a well organised tour operator so our spirits were not dampened.

Our experience of the Holy Land in Israel was truly wonderful and enlightening. It is impossible to effectively summarise it all here. Two parts were standouts for most of us.

Firstly, Magdala is a magnificent site on the banks of the Sea of Galilee where the ruins of the ancient village of Mary Magdalene is juxtaposed against a beautiful modern catholic church celebrating the involvement of women in Jesus' life. The thought that Jesus almost certainly walked along these streets, that are visible after excavation, is breathtaking. And the beautiful artwork in the nearby church is a fitting tribute to the work of women in the Church illustrated by the stunning painting above of the bleeding woman touching Jesus's clothes as he walks along the street.

Secondly Jerusalem. What can you say about this wonderful ancient city to do it justice? Full of vibrant life, tension, history and culture, the city kept all of the



pilgrims spell bound for the three days we were there. Our visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was, of course, a highlight for many of us and we made multiple trips back just to sit, pray and meditate in this holy space. But, we were also treated to contemporary life in this intriguing place. We were lucky to visit the Western on the day of bar mitzvah for may young Jews and witnessed the elaborate family rituals that mark this important celebration.

We arrived back in Perth feeling tired, but invigorated, heads still spinning after everything we had seen and still trying to come to terms with everything. We thank God for privilege he granted us and pray that we will walk closer to him now that we have experience the fifth gospel.

**Peter White**



*Your Help would be appreciated . . .*

The prayer below is in draft form. We would welcome your feedback, particularly any that contain improvements or new wordings. It seeks to be a prayer for all to pray in support of the Common Projects in Australia and of those engaged in them. It can be prayed as a personal or group prayer. It is intended to include it on a revised prayer card with Pallottine Family prayers.

Contact Anne on **9304 2926** or email: [avdowling@bigpond.com](mailto:avdowling@bigpond.com)

### **Mission Outreach Prayer**

God of Infinite Love, I/we pray that your Spirit inspire me/us and all members of the Union of Catholic Apostolate/UAC to reach out and assist the most vulnerable people in the world. Within Australia, move me/us to generously support the Keshero Orphanage Project and the SAC seminary initiative in the Philippines. St Vincent Pallotti saw the needs of those around him and took action to serve them. Bless me/us with gifts of courage, empathy and determination as I/we reach out to families in our neighbourhoods who are in need of support to be able to live life to the full. May the Holy Family which fled to Egypt for safety inspire me/us to use our gifts and skills to welcome and work for the well being of asylum seekers and refugees. **Amen.**

## **You Are Invited To A Sacred Retreat**

**Where:** Oak Maree at Millagrove

**When:** Friday *15th September* to Sunday *17th September*

**Cost:** \$50 per day

Contact **Cheryl Sullivan** on 9416 7138 / 0417 386 706

## *Money Matters*

Thank you for all who support this publication by giving contributions – whether by hand, by mail or directly into the bank. I've heard that some of you have experienced a difficulty when using the latter method.

***For others it has worked!!***



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### **Would you miss receiving this Pallottine Family Newsletter?**

It has been published for over 50 years and helps us all stay connected and in touch with UAC life in Australia.

Merle Gilbo, its editor, is an octogenarian and is mortal so at some stage we will need somebody/somebodies to continue the production of this newsletter. Would you be able to assist in any way?

If you could contact Anne on **9304 2926** or email: [avdowling@bigpond.com](mailto:avdowling@bigpond.com)

## **Pallottine Family UAC Newsletter**

85 Studley Park Road, Kew VIC 3101  
Print Post Approved 335169/00015

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