

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved. Forever!

Ametur

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Newsletter of the Associates of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

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Dear Associates,

With the Liturgical Season of Easter some months behind us we are now celebrating, what the Church calls, the Ordinary Time of the Year. We find ourselves, however, in no ordinary time as the Covid 19 pandemic ravages our world, and much that was comfortable, familiar and seemingly secure is now out of our control.

So much has already been spoken and written about this unforgettable period in the history of our world. Pope Francis sees this pandemic, not as God's judgement on humanity, but as a call from our loving Father to judge what is most important to us and to resolve to act accordingly from now on. In his memorable *Urbi et Orbi Blessing* on 27th March this year, in St Peter's deserted Square, he addressed these words to God:

It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and others

During Holy Week and Easter we celebrated, albeit in a much different way than usual, the Paschal Mystery, that central Christian fact of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, the ultimate event of dying and rising, of death and new life. We learn from Jesus that new life can come from death, that we can find meaning in difficult times and that light can come through the darkness. We see this process of living and dying all around us in nature. Jesus spoke of it when he said: *Unless the grain of wheat goes into the ground and dies, it remains alone, but if it dies it yields much fruit" (John 12:24).*



Paschal is a Greek word which in English we translate as *Passover*. The people of the Exodus gave up their old life of slavery (death) and took hold of a new life as the Covenanted people of God (resurrection). It is in the pattern of the Paschal Mystery that we live out our lives here on earth.

As we reflect upon Jesus' Passover we will come to understand and appreciate how this mystery is played out in the large and small events of our own lives.

Fr Ronald Rolheiser OMI in his book, *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*, describes how the pattern of the Paschal Mystery is present in our lives.

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>the loss of life - real death, or it may be the loss of job, break down of a relationship, anything that negatively effects one's present life.</i>
<i>Three Days</i>	<i>an adjustment period which may include numbness, grief, anger, disbelief.</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>the reception of new life – a new way of seeing things, a new relationship, a new interest.</i>
<i>The 40 days</i>	<i>a time for re-adjustment and acceptance of the new and grieving of the old.</i>
<i>The Ascension</i>	<i>letting go of the old and letting it bless you, learning not to cling</i>
<i>Pentecost</i>	<i>the reception of the new spirit for the new life that one is already living</i>



He writes: *This is a daily cycle, which we experience in every aspect of our lives. The Paschal Mystery is the secret to life. Ultimately, our happiness depends upon properly undergoing it.*

And again: *Examples of deaths that need to be named: the death of our youth, the death of our wholeness, the death of our dreams, the death of our honeymoons, the death of a certain idea of God and Church. Will they be "paschal" deaths or terminal deaths? (cf Pages 147-148)*

And while there is a pattern to all this, we know that it is not a simple 3 or 43- or 53-days process. It takes as long as it takes! And that can sometimes be a lifetime. However, recognising that Jesus is calling us to closer union with Him through these events, and that he has been through the mystery before us and for us, can help us to make sense of life.

- *Does this explanation of the paschal mystery in daily life touch your experience? In what way?*
- *Reflect on your experiences of the Paschal Mystery in your life – large and small, past and present.*
- *Share your reflections with a friend.*

St Paul in his letter to the Philippians 3: 10 wrote:

All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his suffering by reproducing the pattern of his death.

What a brave statement and especially the last part! But that is what living the paschal mystery is all about. When in faith we can view our lives in the context of this mystery we are able to make sense of what often appear to be senseless happenings.

So where does the Covid 19 pandemic fit into all of this? Fr Diamuid O'Murcha msc has written an article, *The Death and Resurrection of St Corona (virus)*. You can find this challenging and sobering article on the internet. Here is an extract:

*However, so many people now suspect that there is more to this crisis than just a rational scientific explanation. A few fundamentalist religionists have their own version of rationalization: this is God punishing us for our sins. Most religions however, striving to be politically correct, are just trying to be nicely reassuring to everybody. Nobody has even hinted at the fact that what we have been enduring in the health crisis of 2020 is one of the most vivid articulations of the **Paschal Journey (Death-cum-Resurrection) that we have seen in a long time.***

Pope Francis encourages us with a similar view of the present frightening situation and proposes a plan for a post Covid-19 resurrection, *A Plan to Rise Again*, which was published on April 17th, 2020 as the editorial in *Vida Nueva* - the official monthly Spanish-language publication of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In it the Pope challenges us:

We cannot afford to write present and future history with our backs turned to the suffering of so many. The Lord will ask us again, "Where is your brother?" (Gen 4:9) and, in our capacity to answer that, hopefully the soul of our peoples will be revealed, that reservoir of hope, faith and charity in which we were begotten and which, for so long, we have anesthetised or silenced. If we act as one people, even in the face of the other epidemics that lie in wait for us, we can have a real impact.

And he poses these questions for us to ponder:

- *Will we be able to act responsibly against the hunger that so many suffer, even as we know that there is food for everyone?*
- *Will we continue to look the other way with complicit silence in the face of those wars fuelled by desires for dominance and power?*
- *Will we be willing to change the lifestyles that plunge so many into poverty, encouraging ourselves and others to lead a more austere and humane life that enables an equitable distribution of resources?*
- *Will we, as the international community, take the necessary steps to stem the devastation of the environment, or will we continue to deny the evidence?*

Concluding his reflection Pope Francis said:

The globalisation of indifference will continue to threaten and tempt our journey ... Hopefully it will find us, for our part, with the necessary antibodies of justice, charity and solidarity. Let us not be afraid to live the alternative civilization of love. ... a civilisation of hope: against anguish and fear, sadness and discouragement, passivity and fatigue. The civilisation of love is built daily, without interruption. It involves the committed effort of everyone. Therefore, it involves a committed community of brothers and sisters. Dean of Divinity Christopher Brittain, Trinity College in the University of Toronto, wrote in similar vein, posing the following questions for our reflection and action:

When our present lockdown existence begins to loosen, this will be the choice confronting each of us:

- *Will we seek to patch over the ruptures in our former collective way of life, or will we seek to reach towards the horizon that lies beyond ourselves?*
- *Will we learn to embrace our vulnerability and interdependence, commit ourselves more deeply to our fellow citizens — both domestic and global — and pursue substantial change in the ways our societies have come to function?*

Whether one calls this new horizon that we are called upon to dare to hope for, “God” or a renewed “humanism,” let us collectively seek after it in the name of our wounded neighbours, but also out of a collective realisation that their wounds are also our own.

As Christians, we know that we “dare to hope for God” and that, as Pope Francis reminds us, *now is the propitious time to encourage ourselves to a new imagining of the possible with the realism that only the Gospel can provide us.*

One thing that we can all do no matter our age, or health or life situation is to pray for each other and for our world. John O’Donohue wrote a beautiful description of the power of prayer which I heard once on a tape called, *The Wildness of God*:

We should pray every day for those suffering and in pain in our world. In spiritual terms, prayer is a way of bringing the Diving Presence to rooms of desolation and people’s forsaken lives. If we could see visually what we do when we pray, we’d do an awful lot more of it. I think, when you pray, some sort of path of light reaches out from you, regardless of the distance - in spiritual space there is no distance. That’s one of the stewardships we have in the world: we are all stewards of each other’s brokenness and with the liniment of prayer we are all meant to heal, mind and protect each other.

Rabbi Marc Gellman wrote a special creation story for children in his book, *Does God have a Big Toe? Stories About Stories in the Bible* (Harper Junior Books, New York, 1989, pp1,3) It’s what is called a “midrash” which is a story about a story in the Bible. He calls this story, *Partners*. I think it has a special message for us, all children at heart, and our personal and communal responsibility for each other and our world as we face the present pandemic and its aftermath.

Before there was anything there was God, a few angels, and a huge swirling glob of rocks and water with no place to go. The angels asked God, "Why don't you clean up this mess?" So, God collected rocks from the huge swirling glob and put them together in clumps and said, "Some of these clumps of rocks will be planets and some will be stars, and some of these rocks will be ... just rocks."

Then God collected water from the huge swirling glob and put it together in pools of water and said, "Some of these pools of water will be oceans, and some will be clouds, and some of this water will be ...just water." Then the angels said, "Well God, it's neater now, but is it finished?" and God answered, "NOPE!"

On some of the rocks God placed growing things, and creeping things, and things that only God knows what they are, and when God had done all this the angels asked God, "Is it finished now?" And God answered, "NOPE!"

God made man and woman from some of the water and dust and said to them, "I'm tired now. Please finish up the world for me. Really, it's almost done." But the man and woman said, "We can't finish the world alone! You have the plans and we are too little.

"You are big enough," God answered them, "But I agree to this. If you keep trying to finish the world, I will be your partner."

The man and the woman asked, "What's a partner?", and God answered, "A partner is someone you work with on a big thing that neither of you can do alone. If you have a partner it means that you can never give up, because your partner is depending on you. On the days you think I am not doing enough, and on the days I think you are not doing enough, even on those days we are still partners and we must not stop trying to finish the world. That's the deal." And they all agreed to that deal.

Then the angels asked God, "Is the world finished yet?" and God answered, "I don't know. Go ask my partners."

Our precious Charism and Spirituality of the Heart call us always to new relationships of love with our God, our sisters and brothers and all of God's creation. As we gaze on the image of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart we see this relationship so perfectly expressed – Mary holds the Heart of her Son, Jesus points to His Heart and then to His Mother inviting us to go to Her to find the treasures of love in His Heart, and to learn from her how to be His Heart on earth.

May God continue to bless each one of you, all those you love and cherish, and all our sisters and brothers throughout the world as together we live through this paschal mystery of death into new life -new life in the Heart of Jesus and in the Kingdom of our loving Father, a civilization of love and hope.

(Sr) Ancilla White Olsz



SOME OLSH NEWS

Jubilees of Religious Profession ~

Here is a recent letter from Sr Philippa Murphy, our Provincial Leader, which she is happy to share it with all our Associates and friends.

7th July 2020

Dear Sisters,

In Australia, 70 years ago when Robert Menzies was Prime Minister, the book, 'Power and Glory' was published by Frank Hardy – Essendon defeated North Melbourne and South Sydney defeated Western Suburbs. This same year, two young women, Patricia Mawn and Eileen van der Lee, full of faith and vigour said an enthusiastic 'Yes' to God, vowing to live their lives as a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Last week we remembered these two valiant women who over seventy years ago began a journey which has taken them to places and situations that they possibly never dreamed of on their Profession Day. Seventy years ago - amazing! It would be difficult for many people in our society today to imagine this type of selfless love to God and his people. Their lives of dedication and long-term commitment as a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart are an inspiration to all of us. Warmest congratulations, heartfelt gratitude and every blessing dear Eileen and Patty on this momentous occasion.

As members of the Chevalier family we have many examples of men and women who have lived and continue to live heroic lives of service, dedication and love. Today we celebrate the feast of Blessed Peter to Rot, a renowned layman who has a special place in the hearts of many of our sisters who have lived and worked in PNG. Pope John Paul 11 in his homily at the beatification of Blessed Peter to Rot remarked: 'You rejoice because the Universal Church recognises that your fellow countryman, Peter To Rot, shared Christ's sufferings to the point of martyrdom and has been found worthy of being numbered among the Blessed.' If you would like to know more about Peter to Rot, perhaps one of our sisters who have lived and worked in PNG will share with you, their insights about him.

As we remember Blessed Peter To Rot, I am reminded of the many lay women and men in our Chevalier Family who live our charism of God's love, some even in the face of opposition and danger. How fortunate we are that Fr. Chevalier's vision and mission, his 'heart movement' included all people. The spirit that inspired us to answer the call: 'to be on Earth the Heart of God,' is the same spirit inspiring the men and women who are united with us today as our Associates and Partners in Mission.

Sisters, no doubt you are concerned and saddened by the recent spike in Covid 19 cases in Victoria. It seems like in so many instances the most vulnerable, the elderly, sick, lonely, new arrivals, are being severely impacted by the latest lockdowns. Let us remember in prayer our Sisters in Victoria and all those suffering from this latest outbreak of the coronavirus.

Philippa Murphy olsh

And here is another communication from Sr Philippa.

Dear Sisters, Associates and Partners in Mission,

Please find attached a Statement of acknowledgment and support for our First Nations People, as we conclude Reconciliation Week .

With a wish for God's peace,

Philippa



Any Catholic who claims “to defend the sacredness of every human life” must combat racism and exclusion in all its forms. Pope Francis

‘In This Together 2020’

For over 100 years we, Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, have stood respectfully with our Indigenous brothers and sisters in their suffering and struggle for justice. We have shared their life and land, worked with them, talked, laughed, cried and worshipped with them. We recognise with sadness that we have been insensitive at times and have made mistakes, but it is our privilege and joy to have always known and loved them and to recognise them as Australia’s First Nation People.

We, with the rest of the world, have watched in horror and have listened to George Floyd's dying words, 'I can't breathe'. Let us not forget our nation's own history and the lessons we must learn as we join our Indigenous sisters and brothers in their struggle for justice, change and reform.

May the love of God breathe afresh in us as we stand in solidarity with our First Nations People. May we continue to have the integrity to walk together in the ways of love, reverence, deep listening, respect, healing, reconciliation.

Philippa Murphy fdnsc
on behalf of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
June 5th, 2020





ENCOUNTER OF HEARTS

A Newsletter that features articles on justice, peace and ecology and reports from the Laity of the Chevalier Family on initiatives in their countries.

It is a joy to have received the second copy of this special Newsletter of the Laity of the Chevalier Family. The International Committee decided that there would be an annual issue coming out in time for the feast of the Sacred Heart. I have emailed it to those who have given me their email address and there will also be copies printed in the very near future for those who would like their own copy. Please let me know on associates@olshaustralia.org.au if you would like a hard copy or one emailed to you.

The Newsletter has 39 pages of interesting, inspiring and challenging content. Below you will find the Editorial and a letter from the International Council as well as some News from the International Council.

Editorial

When in 1854, Jules Chevalier was appointed assistant priest in Issoudun, he met Emile Maugenest as his colleague. Chevalier had known Maugenest from the Major Seminary in Bourges. There, they had shared their dreams for the future with one another. Even before their ordination, the two priest students were worried about the increasing inequality in society between rich and poor. In Issoudun they continued their conversations and they shared the conviction that, *"two evils are destroying our unhappy world – indifference and selfishness – an effective remedy is needed and such remedy lies in the Sacred Heart of Jesus who is all love and charity"* (Personal Notes p. 107).

In 1857 Chevalier wrote Rules for the new congregation. There, he stated as an objective of this new foundation: *"to make known the treasures of the Heart of Jesus, to spread everywhere the sacred fire of his love and to combat selfishness and indifference"* (Daily Readings December 20). To achieve this goal, he wanted to bring together as many people as possible - religious, priests and lay people - in, what he called, *"the movement of the heart"*.

Remarkably, we find a similar vision in the writings of Pope Francis. He, too, speaks of indifference, indeed of a *"globalization of indifference"* (Evangeliium Gaudium n. 54), and of selfishness, which, he says, takes the form of *"collective selfishness"* (Laudato Si. n. 204), rooted in an ever-increasing social inequality. *"Inequality is the root of social ills,"* he writes (EG n. 202). Only *"social or pastoral practices"* that are inspired by *"a spirituality which can change hearts"* (EG 262) are capable of healing these social illnesses.

The promotion of justice, peace, and care for the integrity of creation belongs therefore to the core of a Spirituality of the Heart, as promoted by Father Chevalier and Pope Francis and

practised by the Chevalier Family. For Pope Francis, justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation are closely linked to one another. He writes: *"Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society."* (LS n. 91).

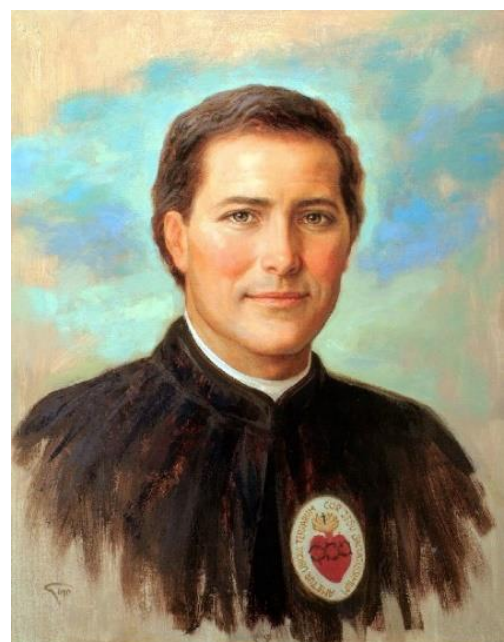
Justice is about promoting solidarity in society with a clear aim of overcoming the inequalities between rich and poor, as far as possible. We are called to do justice to every human being, especially to those whose rights are violated. Justice creates peace between people and nations. But justice and peace can only come about when every human being has access to the natural resources the Creator has abundantly given us. We are urged to deal sparingly with water, energy and the fruits of the land, while showing respect for the flora and fauna in their environment. We have to be prudent with nature. After all, we are not possessors, but guardians of nature and are called to share the treasures of nature with one another.

Both Father Chevalier and Pope Francis remind us that we can only heal the ills of society if we begin by healing our own hearts. Pope Francis writes, *"The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume"* (LS 204). An empty heart puts people at risk of becoming self-centred, he states. Father Chevalier writes: *"It is the heart that gives value to our thoughts, actions, intentions. Good comes from the good treasure of our hearts"* (Le Sacré Coeur de Jésus p. 105; DR June 25).

I'm writing this at a time when we're all facing the impact of the corona-virus pandemic. Perhaps we ourselves have been affected by the virus; we may have lost loved ones, or we are still being hit by the socio-economic consequences of the crisis. This pandemic reminds us that we are all vulnerable people. In that respect, we are all equal. We thank the Lord for living out His solidarity with us through Jesus Christ, in this time, too.

The Spirit that comes forth from the Heart of Jesus also lives in our hearts, filling our hearts with His gifts; such as the gifts of heartfelt attention and practical solidarity. We see heroic examples of doctors, nurses and other caregivers, along with the staff of nursing homes, risking their lives in caring for some of our most vulnerable neighbours. Let us also, in the words of Father Chevalier, *"not close our hearts to pity, when along life's road we come across a person wounded by sorrow or a poor person lacking everything"* (Meditations, DR September 7).

Hans Kwakman msc
Spiritual Counsellor International Lay Council.



Letter from the International Council

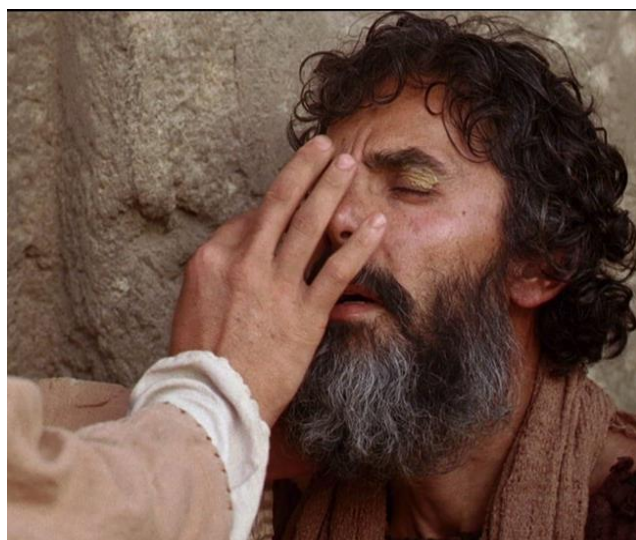
Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus developed out of devotion to the sacred wounds, in particular the sacred wound on Jesus' side. It is from this devotion that our Founder starts to express and trust that the Sacred Heart is the remedy for the evils of his time and evidently of our time. Unfortunately, humanity has lived full of wounds, since the time that our Founder lived and until today. Wounds such as abandonment, indifference, poverty, violence, lack of access to health, lack of access to education and others that hurt us so much.

From this perception and trust in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Father Jules Chevalier placed all his security in the Merciful Heart of Jesus and from there our Chevalier Family was born. This family is willing, in various places of the Common House, to witness the Love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

It is this love, which with all its fortress should transform the various realities that have already been mentioned at the beginning of this text. The big question is: are we really witnessing this Love of the Sacred Heart in practice or just theorizing?

I think that we often do not allow our human hearts and souls to soak with a deep conviction of God's wonderful, tender and compassionate love towards us. And if we do not soak deeply, we will be superficial, we will live in theory and we will not truly experience this transforming Love.

May we have in our hands the perfume that enveloped Jesus to be placed in the tomb, as this represents the great love of his followers towards him. Great love for his testimony, for what he did for the excluded. Jesus was always on the side of the needy. It was not anywhere. He knew exactly who needed to be defended and it is this message that He leaves us very clearly. According to the Gospel of Mark 2,17: "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners".



This is the Love of the Sacred Heart, which defends the excluded in all circumstances. Who is with them: on the street, having lunch together, lowering themselves in the eyes of the sinner, curing the blind, the paralysed, and other situations more than humanity claims. And we Lay People of the Chevalier Family where and how are we witnessing this Love?

Doris Machado dos Santos – International Council of the LCF

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere
News from the International Council of the Laity of the
Chevalier Family

Welcome to groups
we have made contact with
or recently heard about:

Namibia
South Africa
Canada
Marshall Islands

The next International Gathering of
the Laity of the Chevalier Family
will be hosted by Philippines in
Cebu. 22-29th Jan 2023

Congratulations to
Australia
for the development of
their Guiding
Principles and Statutes
2019/20

Meetings of the International
Council 2019

Conference Calls:

- 6th October 2019
- 9th May 2020

Face-to-face meetings:

- Rome with the Trigenalate
16th-21st December 2019

Thank you for financial contributions to the
International Council:

National Council: Australian Chevalier Family Laity

European Council: Chevalier Family Laity

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Many thanks to Lita, our Associate in America, who sent this delightful article.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart



May 30: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Mexico (1966) *

When Hitler's armies defeated the French and entered the city of Paris during the latter part of 1939, a young woman, Maria Hendizabal, fled from France to live in Mexico. Arriving at Vera Cruz, she went to the Mexican capital to make a new home. Among her few possessions she had a large picture of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart which she wished to give to some church for safekeeping, since she would be obliged to live in a small town and expected to have nothing more than a small room for herself. Padre Juan Gomez of the Church of San Jose (Saint Joseph) allowed her to place the image on the wall of the vestibule on February 2, 1940.

That very same evening a nine year old boy, who was afflicted with infantile paralysis, was immediately cured after praying before the lovely image of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. The youth left his crutches on the floor of the vestibule and hurried home to tell his mother. The news of his cure spread rapidly and the next day hundreds of the faithful visited the church, where before, there was never an attendance of more than a hundred at Sunday Mass. This cure was followed by others, and day by day the crowds grew larger.

After a week the pastor had to take the picture down from the wall of the vestibule and place it in the front of the church where it could be more easily viewed by the crowds clamouring to see it. Since Mexico abounds in silver, the usual way of acknowledging favours is to make a gift of precious silver. At present the entire left wall of the church is covered with silver remembrances donated by the recipients of favours received from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Even though the shrine of Our Lady has existed for only 27 years (as of 1966), there have been thousands of cures performed through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. These cures have been verified by affidavits signed by reliable physicians in the presence of notaries; the documents may still be seen in the present day at the shrine. One father, in gratitude for the cure of his daughter, had a silversmith make a new frame for the picture. The picture frame is a fitting gift and is indescribably beautiful.

*from The Woman in Orbit, roman-catholic-saints.com, Marian Calendar

MEETING REPORTS

ALICE SPRINGS: When Sr Kathleen left Alice Springs in February for her overseas study, we did not expect to see her until mid-July. We discussed our meetings and the feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and were prepared to “do our own thing”! As COVID-19 spread Sr Kathleen returned home and went into quarantine. We were very pleased to have her back to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart with Mass followed by lunch at the Convent. Sister had prepared a Reflection and Prayers. We also discussed how the pandemic has affected us and how it has impacted on our town and community. We acknowledged the many hardships we have experienced, but also spoke of the times where we have been connected with others because of our isolation. During the afternoon we received a phone call from Sr Margaret Reis from Corinda, and she was able to speak with each of the Associates. This was our first get-together since February, so we enjoyed the opportunity to attend Mass and socialise. **Paula Thompson**

CANBERRA: We met at St Matthew’s, Page, on 4th July. It was a welcome back after not meeting for 3 months; even then we were only a small group with the cold weather setting in in Canberra, as well as the virus scare. Reading the *Ametur* together again was a rewarding experience and one we value. The Prayer for the Pandemic struck everyone and much discussion followed with all deciding to use it as a meditation. Everyone has found that our forced lockdown has awoken our senses to the need to pull together in this time of crisis, look out for one another and hand our fears over to our loving God. Our world has changed. Hopefully, by learning from this, we will make it a better place. **Christine Casey**

DARWIN: We had our first meeting for 2020 at The Ranch (MSC Residence in Darwin) in February and it was lovely for us as we had not met since November. Then we did not meet again until May when we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart at The Ranch (in the breezeway overlooking the Arafura sea, as we cannot use the Chapel whilst social distancing is in force), with Mass celebrated by Fr Bartha Panayadima MSC, followed by lunch and a sort of social distancing catch up with everyone. Fifteen Associates were in attendance. Father Peter Hendricks MSC joined us for lunch and socialising. Sr Mary Stevens had prepared two reflections for us to take home – one of Our Lady and another on Pentecost. During the past months we have been able to access on-line Masses which are greatly appreciated. Life has certainly changed since our meeting in February. During the intervening time we have lost dear Br Ted Merritt MSC (he is surely in the arms of Our Lord, and Mick Fox, both of whom did heaps and heaps of work within the general community up here and will be greatly missed.

On our Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart our dear friend and Associate, Doris Ford, died. She has been wanting to join Jesus since last year and she turned 99 on 19th March. Celebrations, of course, were out of the question because of the Aged Care Lockdown. **Anne Davey**

HARTZER PARK: We “met” again on-line for May’s meeting which commenced with a reflection that drew us to consider, *Trust vs Fear, Having a Compassionate Heart*, and incorporated the *Serenity Prayer*. This was based on Joyce Rupp’s current newsletter reflection, *Where Do You Find peace?* Our Formation was taken directly from the *Ametur* where we were able to

1. further our understanding of the “new” International Committee and its Vision for the Chevalier Family, and
2. deepen our spiritual insight and awareness of the Mother of Jesus reflecting on Sr Theresa’s description of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. **Jan Clark**

Our on-line meeting for June looked to the *Ametur* for our reflection and formation. We reflected on Sr Ancilla's opening letter which inspired us to consider *Changing Hearts in a Changing World*. Fr Abzalón Alvarado's words *To be a Remedy for the Ills that Humanity must Suffer Today*, and his article, provided much to ponder on and "discuss" in forming our spirituality within the Chevalier Family. **Jan Clark**

Our on-line Meeting on 19th July took a different form as we responded to the invitation of the local branch of *Rural Australians for Refugees* to join with all churches in the Southern Highlands for a time of prayer and reflection for refugees and Asylum seekers in onshore and offshore detention, thereby acknowledging 7 years of Australia's indefinite Detention policy, and the terrible plight of those who suffer under this policy. We used the account of the "Flight into Egypt" as our Scripture passage and a reflection on how being a refugee would have impacted on Mary and Joseph and their infant Son, Jesus. We then prayed the shared prayers that were prepared for this occasion. **Jan Clark**

WADEYE (Port Keats): On Sorry day, 26th May, the Associates and I gathered for prayer and meeting. Our prayer centred around our trust in God and His Mother. It was, of course, all in Murrinhpatha, including the opening hymn, *Woman, this is Your Son*, written by Fr Tom Luby MSC. Sr Beatrice Demkadath and I had translated it many years ago. We used the Gospel for the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, had some silent prayer, then a meditation and shared prayer. Our intercessions included prayer for all our Sisters, Associates and Partners in Mission around the world, for those indigenous people who suffered through the forced removal of children from families, and for all people suffering because of the Corona Virus pandemic. Our prayer concluded with a hymn written by one of our Associates nine years ago. After our prayer we had a meeting which was mainly talking about what we wanted to do for the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.



Because we are fortunate now to be able to use the Church for Mass, keeping our social distancing and using the sanitiser as we enter the Church, they planned the hymns they wished to sing and also that they would make an effort to visit the Associates who are sick and infirm and confined to their homes. First among the hymns they chose was the *Ametur*. After the rest of the hymn planning the Associates reminisced with much gratitude expressed for the Sisters who had worked amongst them. After our

meeting we had Mass outside as we normally do each Tuesday, at the end of which we prayed the Memorare in English.

On the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart we gathered at the Church for Mass. There were a number of people who came. Many of the Associates were there but some had gone out bush and so were not with us, and others too unwell to attend, although two of the older Associates made an effort to get into Wadeye from the bush for the feast and for Pentecost. They asked me to send their wishes to our Sisters, the MSC Father and Brothers and Missionaries and Associates around the world. At the end of Mass we relaxed the social distancing for a few minutes to gather for a photo. **Sr Tess Ward.**

Thank you for this lovely photo of the Associates from Wadeye. Perhaps some of the other groups might like to send in photos when meetings resume. Editor.

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CANCELLATION OF ANNUAL ASSOCIATES' RETREAT AT HARTZER PARK

In the light of the present situation with the Covid 19, we have decided that it would not be wise to have our retreat this year. Hopefully we can have one in 2021.



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And on a lighter note!

An article in a recent issue of The Tablet (The International Catholic Weekly, London, 4th July 2020) was entitled:

Humming could be New Sound of praise.

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CHEVALIER FAMILY JUSTICE, PEACE AND THE INTEGRITY OF CREATION INTENTION FOR AUGUST

Bringing to our awareness the prevalence and consequences of domestic violence.

Praying (the rosary) for all those who suffer from domestic violence. That God may guide us in vigilance so that we may recognize those who need our assistance.

Acting: we suggest you discuss the following question:

Around the world, at least 119 countries have passed laws on domestic violence.

125 have laws on sexual harassment and 52 have laws on marital rape.

Do you think the law does enough to protect victims?

What protections exist where you live?



Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Amen.



We Remember Our Beloved Deceased

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

Bishop Desmond Moore (St Joseph's)

Father Neville Dunne (St Josephs)

Jose Dore Chicas Marques (45 years old, Guatemala) – Covid 19.

OLSH Associates

Beverley Readon (Callala), Doris Ford (Darwin), Dorothy Dobie (Elmore);

Melva O'Dwyer (Elmore); Nell Hollitt (Kilburn)

Relatives and Friends

John Toye, Fr Arthur Hackett, Linda, Imelda Palmer, Ted Nihill, Margaret Twohill, Jenny Leahy, Peter Gallagher, Kevin Chaplin, Graham Stephens, Glen Greenwood, Michael Fox, All who have died as a result of Covid 19, especially Norma Galang (Philippines)

We Remember Our Sick and Those in Need of Our Prayers

Toye Family, Readon Family, Stephens Family, Greenwood Family, Fiona, Sr Helen Warman, Sr Brenda Nash, Sr Helen Armstrong, Tim Stubenrauch, Gloria Gallagher, Br Rey Flapper msc, Mary Olivari, Bill Henschke, Allana Vedder, Joseph Burford, Vonnie Meyer, Lawson, Charlie Seal, Monique Weston and her unborn babe, Tony Staniforth. Misa (3 years old, leukaemia) and her family, Kate Bird, Paul Scholtens, Lewis Schmid, Margaret Keen, Grant Hanrahan, Mary Nappa Patrick Cheeseman, Fabian, Dr Hargreaves, Samantha and Thomas Sutton-Walsh and their two little ones Adilyn Carmel, aged two and a half who has lung cancer, and Willo-Rose born 16 weeks early. All our sisters and brothers throughout the world who have been affected by the Covid 19, especially those who are sick, isolated, anxious, in poorer countries, and those who have lost employment and are experiencing financial hardship. We pray also that a vaccine will soon be found.

Thanksgiving

For our Jubilarians, Sr Pat Mawn and St Eileen van de Lee

For Sisters Loretha Pirbeh & Ludwina Bibir on their First profession In PNG

For Sr Taarike Tarawa on her Final profession in Kiribati

For Theresa and Michael Beech on their 25th Wedding Anniversary

For our dedicated health professionals, volunteers and medical researchers.