

Ta' Pinu Shrine

Our Lady, Queen of the Family

A CALL TO PRAYER

“Let us celebrate with joy, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for from her arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.”

The origin of this Feast is sought in Palestine. It goes back to the consecration of a church in Jerusalem, which tradition identifies as that of the present basilica of St. Ann.

At Rome the Feast began to be kept toward the end of the 7th century, brought there by Eastern monks. Gradually and in varied ways it spread to the other parts of the West in the centuries that followed. The birth of Mary is recounted by the Protevangelium of James (5:2), an apocryphal document from the end of the 2nd century– which obviously presents an important historical event: **the birth of the Mother of the Lord.**

The present Calendar characterizes the Birth of Mary as a "Feast," placing it on the same plane as the Visitation. The birth of Mary is ordained in particular toward her mission as Mother of the Savior. Her existence is indissolubly connected with that of Christ: it partakes of a unique plan of predestination and grace. God's mysterious plan regarding the incarnation of the Word embraces also the Virgin who is His Mother.

Therefore, the Birth of Mary is inserted at the very heart of the History of Salvation.

"Let us celebrate with joy the birth of the Virgin Mary, of whom was born the Sun of Justice... Her birth constitutes the hope and the light of salvation for the whole world. Her image is light for the whole Christian people" ... (From the Liturgy).

JOY pervades the whole of this Feast's liturgy as it is a Feast that serves as a prelude to the "joy to all people" brought about by the Birth of the Son of God at Christmas and expressed by the singing of hymns and carols.

LIGHT is also added to this theme of joy on this Marian Feast because with Mary's birth, the darkness is dispersed and there rises in the world the dawn that announces the Sun of Justice, Christ the Lord.

Holy Mary, Mother of God

We address Our Lady as **Mother of God** every time we recite the Hail Mary, and say, "Holy Mary, Mother of God." This title is at once the most fundamental Marian profession of our Catholic faith, and the most endearing in Catholic piety.

Unless Mary is, indeed, the Mother of God, no other title, certainly no superlative title of the Blessed Virgin would have any meaning; and because she is God's Mother, every title we might give her as the noblest of God's creatures pales by contrast with this one, - **Mater Dei.**

The highest form of prayer we can offer to Our Lady is **the prayer of veneration.** By our veneration, we praise and honour her, we pay our respect and reverence towards her, we acknowledge her greatness and extol her dignity.

But **there is no higher title** by which we can venerate Mary than to address her as the Mother of God. Every other mark of honour depends on this one, as every other form of excellence in Mary flows from the fact that she, who is God's creature, became in His mysterious designs the Creator's Mother.

by Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. Mariology



From the Catholic Catechism

Jesus conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.

From among the descendants of Eve, God chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of his Son. “**Full of grace**”, Mary is “the most excellent fruit of redemption” (SC 103) from the first instant of her conception, she was totally preserved from the stain original sin and she remained pure from all personal sin throughout her life.

Mary is truly “**Mother of God**” since she is the mother of the eternal Son of God made man, who is God himself.

Mary “remained a virgin in conceiving her Son, virgin in giving birth to him, a virgin in carrying him, a virgin nursing him at her breast, always a virgin” (St Augustine (Serm. 186: PL 38): with her whole being she is “**the handmaid of the Lord**”.

The Virgin Mary “cooperated through her free faith and obedience in human salvation.” (LG 56) She uttered her YES “in the name of all human nature” (St. Thomas Aquinas. III 30.1). By her obedience, she became “**the new Eve, mother of the living.**”

QUOTE: “*A Good example*” *Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)*

Gospel Reading

O THAT TODAY YOU WOULD LISTEN TO HIS VOICE!

HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS!! (Psalm 94)

When Jesus was preparing his disciple for their future mission he gave them this instruction, “If your brother does something wrong, go and have him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother...if he doesn’t listen to you, nor two another with you, nor to the

community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector”.

Similar words were pronounced by Ezekiel 33:7-9 hundreds of years before the coming of Jesus.

Ezekiel, interpreting God’s message said, “I have appointed you as a sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to the wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die in his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you warn the wicked man...and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin and you have saved your life.

Ezekiel’s and as well as Jesus’ words have a double warning, first a warning to the sentry (God’s messenger or preacher) second the listener. Woe to me if I do not correct the sinner and woe to you sinner, if you do not listen to the correction.

O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your heart.

On the same occasion Jesus went on, “I tell you solemnly, what-ever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be considered loosed in heaven”. By these words Jesus announced the power that he would give to the Apostles and their descendants in the Sacrament of Confession. Dear friend, if you are in sin why don’t you go and reconcile yourself with God by a good confession?

And at Peter’s question, “How often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times”? Jesus replied, “Not seven I tell you, but seventy-seven times”. God is always ready to forgive us as long as we repent from the wrong we do.

God is merciful and is always ready to receive us and forgive us even if we return to him at the late hour and is pleased to receive us and give us the same reward like those who go to him at the early hour. This is what he promised and God never goes back on his word. This is what he said to the complaining workers received the same reward like those who joined them in the evening? “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go”. God

expects us to love him and love our neighbour, right from the beginning of our life; but if we go astray he waits for our conversion until the end of our life.

Jesus warned also those who pretend to be holier than others, who have moral rules for themselves, like the Pharisees who didn’t accept John’s and Jesus’ teachings. Jesus praised the tax collectors, and the prostitutes, not because they were sinners, but because when they heard John preaching they believed him and many changed their life.



Liturgical Celebrations for Sept– Oct 2014

Date	September Celebrations
Sat 6th Sept 2014	FIRST SATURDAY—Immaculate Heart of Mary Devotion Rosary, Holy Mass & Eucharistic Benediction at 2.00p.m
Sun 7th Sept 2014	Feast of Our Lady of Good Health-Vailankanni
Sat 13th Sept 2014	Feast of Our Lady of La Vang Holy Mass followed by procession at 11.00.a.m
Sun 14th Sept 2014	Our Lady of Lanka Oratory: Private Family prayer day
Sun 21st Sept 2014	Feast of Our Lady of Grace, Madonna of San Pio Rosary, Holy Mass & Benediction at 2.00 p.m followed by procession to the oratory
	Special Events for October
Sat 11th Oct 2014	Feast of Our Lady of Fatima Rosary -procession at 8.00p.m.followed by Holy Mass
Sat 12th Oct 2014	Feast of Our Lady of Fatima Rosary-Procession At 10.00a.m. followed by Holy Mass

Good judgement

Grant me the grace, O Lord, of never fooling myself in distinguishing the big difference between what is right and wrong.

WE STILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT

We would like to thank those who already donated and who have agreed to help us in our fundraising campaign for our portable amplifier, Please spread the word among your family and friends to give us a helping hand so that we can continue to improve our **Eucharistic Processions**, an important part of our profession of our FAITH

[Towards a better world: towards a better way](#) (Extract from *Hartbeat—words from Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv*)

In Australia this week, we celebrate the 100th World Day of Migrants & Refugees . This year's theme as chosen by Pope Francis, is 'Towards a Better World'. This day is observed to focus on the pastoral responsibilities that all of the faithful have towards migrants and refugees in our midst.

A better world, the Pope maintains, will come about only if attention is first paid to individuals; *if no one is neglected, including the poor, the sick, prisoners, the needy and the stranger; if we can prove capable of leaving behind a throwaway culture and embracing a culture of encounter and acceptance.* These words are particularly challenging to us Australian Catholics as we live in a time where contemporary attitudes towards asylum seekers are often marked by fear, suspicion and vilification.

While Australia prides itself on being a diverse, multicultural, inclusive and generous nation, it has increasingly displayed symptoms of what Pope Francis calls a throwaway culture in respect of those who come to seek protection within its shores . These symptoms are attitudes of defensiveness and fear, indifference and marginalisation. They are also shown in punitive and harsh policies and conditions to which people seeking asylum are being subjected.

As disciples of Jesus, we are committed to building a better society and a better world by fostering a culture of encounter and acceptance. As Christians, we cannot remain content with the status quo, especially when the status quo is less than what God wants for us as individuals and as a community. Australia is a wonderful country, but where it is in terms of its treatment of asylum seekers should galvanise us into action. We cannot be his disciples if we ignore the plight of the marginalised and the vulnerable. We cannot be salt and leaven if we allow our Christian conscience to be desensitised by the inequality, injustice and inhumanity in our society and in the world.

'As a former refugee, I remember with pride the Australia that rose to the challenge in the wake of the fall of Saigon. It accepted an unprecedented number of Asian refugees for the first time in its history, though not without controversy. And it has not done too badly since. On the contrary, Australia changed for the better, as it always has with each successive wave of new arrivals. Australia is what it is today because of its love of freedom and fundamental human values.

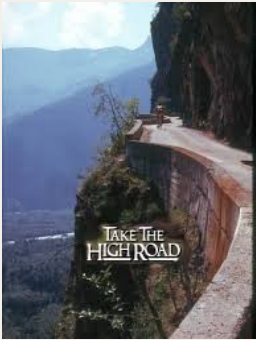
Australia is what it is today because of its determination and drive for a better future. We honour the legacy of this great nation not by excessive protectionism, isolation and defence of our privilege at all costs. Rather, we make it greater by our concern and care for asylum seekers in the spirit of compassion and solidarity that has marked the history of our country from its beginning.

With the men and women of goodwill, let us build a better Australia and a better world.' May our endeavour to replace the culture of fear and indifference with that of encounter and acceptance be brought to fulfilment in accordance with God's vision of the fullness of life for all humanity

You can read more on <http://www.cam.org.au/Archbishop/Hartbeat/Article/17532/Towards-a-better-world>

HIGH-ROADS TO REPENTANCE WHICH LEAD ULTIMATELY TO HEAVEN.

A CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE



1) The first high-road to repentance is the acknowledgment of your sins. **'First acknowledge your sins that you may be justified'**. *Acknowledge your sins then and God will forgive you:* to acknowledge sins helps us to stop committing them. Keep your conscience busy at home accusing you. Then you will have to face a far different accuser in another place before the Lord's tribunal. This is the royal road to repentance .

2) The second one is not whit, inferior, namely **forgetting wrongs, controlling one's temper, forgiving the trespasses of our fellow**

slaves so that the Lord may forgive us our trespasses. This is the next way to expiate our sins. " As the Lord says, : **"IF YOU FORGIVE MEN THEIR TRESPASSES, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER ALSO WILL FORGIVE YOURS "**

3) Would you learn the third way? **Prayer,**

FERVENT AND DILIGENT PRAYER, PRAYER FROM THE HEART.

4) The fourth way is **almsgiving** and a very effective way it is too.

THOSE WHO REGULARLY GIVE ALMS SHALL ENJOY A FULL LIFE" (TOB 12:8-9).

5) Next comes **modest and humble behaviour** which annihilates sin as drastically as the other methods. The Publican bears witness to this. He had no good deeds to list but instead he offered humility and the burden of his sins dropped off him.

Here again then, are the five high-roads to repentance :

- 1.acknowledging one's sins,
- 2.forgiving the sins of others,
- 3.prayer,
- 4.almsgiving,
- 5.humility.

Do not be idle then, but day by day—set out along these roads. The going is not difficult and poverty is no excuse for stopping at home. Even if you are very poor, you can still lay aside anger, carry yourself humbly, persevere in prayer and acknowledge your sins. Poverty is no obstacle to all this not even when you are travelling along the penitential road (I mean almsgiving) where you have to give away your money. Even there poverty is no obstacle. Did the widow not prove that when she contributed her mite?

We have learned how our wounds are to be healed – we must now apply these remedies, so that we may recover our health and enjoy the blessings of the holy Table with confidence. Then we may go in a cloud of glory to meet Christ the King of glory, and attain the happiness of everlasting life through the grace and mercy and the loving kindness of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Heavenly Father, by Your Holy Spirit make me always ready to acknowledge my sins, be quick in forgiving the sins of others against myself, be faithful in communicating with You in prayers, be generous in almsgiving to the needy, and be humble all the time in front of You and my neighbours.

Thank You, Father.

I make this prayer in the most precious name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord and my Saviour.

AMEN.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE



Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into

implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarrelling into forgiveness.

Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!" "With war everything is lost".

Our Lady Ta' Pinu Shrine

All Nations Marian Centre
15 Flanagans Drive
P.O Box 800
Merrimu (Bacchus Marsh)
VICTORIA 3340
Telephone: (03) 5367 7006

Melway 334 H8

Email: infotapinu@optusnet.com.au

Mobile : 0437 261 517

