

Ta' Pinu Shrine

Our Lady, Queen of the Family A CALL TO PRAYER



“The Blessed Virgin Mary, Chosen Daughter of Israel”

In 1986, The Congregation of Divine Worship and the Disciplines of the Sacraments promulgated the **Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary** by decree of Saint Pope John Paul II, a rich supplement of the Roman Missal. In the Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, where the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary as Mother of God and Mother of the Church is given particular emphasis, there are three Masses intended for use during the Season of Advent.- **The Chosen Daughter of Israel, The Annunciation of the Lord and The Visitation** The Collection is, according to its General Introduction, intended for use in Marian shrines where pilgrims reasonably wish to celebrate a Mass of the Blessed Virgin even on days when the normal Liturgical rubrics would not permit it. It is also intended for those communities that celebrate a Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin during the Ordinary Time of the Year. During Advent, the Roman liturgy celebrates the plan of salvation by which the merciful God called the patriarchs, united them to himself in a covenant of love, established the Law through Moses, raised up the prophets, and chose David as the one from whose line the Savior of the world was to be born. The books of the Old Testament, in foretelling the coming of Christ, "gradually bring into clearer light the figure of a woman, the **Mother of the Redeemer**" (Lumen Gentium 55):



SHE IS THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, WHOM THE CHURCH PROCLAIMS AS THE JOY OF ISRAEL AND THE NOBLE DAUGHTER OF ZION.

In her sincere obedience to the Law and her wholehearted acceptance of God's will, she is ... *"exalted among the humble and poor of the Lord, who trustingly hope in him for salvation and from him receive it."* After the long period of waiting for the fulfillment of the promise, in her at last the fullness of time is reached, and a new order of providence is begun, when the Son of God takes from her a human nature in order to free the human family from sin through the mysteries of his earthly life" (LG, no. 55). The mass of *Our Lady, Chosen Daughter of Israel* recalls and celebrates the mystery of God's Mercy and our salvation; God's choosing Mary to fulfill His promise to Israel highlights the bond which Mary has with Christ and gives her greater attention as model of true Christian worship:-

-You chose the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Crown of Israel and the Beginning of the Church, to reveal to all peoples that salvation is born from Israel and that your new family springs from a chosen root.

- She is by nature the Daughter of Adam, who by her sinlessness undid the sin of Eve. She is by faith the True child of Abraham, who first believed and so conceived. She is by descent the Branch from the root of Jesse, bearing the flower that is Jesus Christ our Lord.

In celebrating the mystery of Christ, the Church also frequently and with deep reverence honours the Blessed Virgin Mary, because of her close bonds with her Son. She is revered by the Church as the new Eve, who, in view of the death of her Son, received at the moment of her conception a higher form of redemption. She is revered as mother, who through the power of the Holy Spirit gave virginal birth to her Son. She is revered as the disciple of Christ, who treasured in her heart the words of Christ the Master. She is revered as the faithful companion of the Redeemer, who, as God had planned, devoted herself with selfless generosity to her Son's mission. The Church also sees in the Blessed Virgin a preeminent and unique member, graced with all virtue.

The Church lovingly cherishes her and never ceases to ask for her protection, for she is the Mother entrusted to us by Christ on the altar of the Cross. The Church proclaims Mary as companion and sister in the journey of faith and in the adversities of life. ***IN MARY, ENTHRONED AT CHRIST'S SIDE IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, THE CHURCH JOYFULLY CONTEMPLATES THE IMAGE OF ITS OWN FUTURE GLORY***



Sat 12th Dec 2015
At 2.00 p.m.
MASS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN IN ADVENT
and
Opening the "Door of Mercy"
Eucharistic Celebrations
will be led by
His Grace Denis J Hart DD,
Archbishop of Melbourne &
concelebrated with Leaders of
the "All Nations Marian Family"
So Bring along your own
'Family & friends'

MARY - MOTHER OF CHRIST, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

I. MARY'S MOTHERHOOD WITH REGARD TO THE CHURCH :

... Wholly united with her Son

"Mary's role in the Church is inseparable from her union with Christ and flows directly from it. "This union of the mother with the Son in the work of salvation is made manifest from the time of Christ's virginal conception up to his death";⁵⁰⁴ it is made manifest above all at the hour of his Passion: "

Thus the Blessed Virgin advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross. There she stood, in keeping with the divine plan, enduring with her only begotten Son the intensity of his suffering, joining herself with his sacrifice in her mother's heart, and lovingly consenting to the immolation of this victim, born of her: to be given, by the same Christ Jesus dying on the cross, as a mother to his disciple, with these words: "Woman, behold your son. .

"After her Son's Ascension, Mary "aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers."⁵⁰⁶ In her association with the apostles and several women, "we also see Mary by her prayers imploring the gift of the Spirit, who had already overshadowed her in the Annunciation."

... also in her Assumption

"Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death."⁵⁰⁸ The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians "

*In giving birth you kept your virginity; in your Dormition you did not leave the world, O Mother of God, but were joined to the source of Life. You conceived the living God and, by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death.*⁵⁰⁹

... She is our Mother in the order of grace...

"By her complete adherence to the Father's will, to his Son's redemptive work, and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity. Thus she is a "preeminent and . . . wholly unique member of the Church"; indeed, she is the "exemplary realization" (*typus*)⁵¹⁰ of the Church. Her role in relation to the Church and to all humanity goes still further. "In a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope, and burning charity in the Savior's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a mother to us in the order of grace." "This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterrupted from the consent which she loyally gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvationTherefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix."

*"Mary's function as mother of men in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. But the Blessed Virgin's salutary influence on men . . . flows forth from the superabundance of the merits of Christ, rests on his mediation, depends entirely on it, and draws all its power from it."*⁵¹³

"No creature could ever be counted along with the Incarnate Word and Redeemer; but just as the priesthood of Christ is shared in various ways both by his ministers and the faithful, and as the one goodness of God is radiated in different ways among his creatures, so also the unique mediation of the Redeemer does not exclude but rather gives rise to a manifold cooperation which is but a sharing in this one source. .

Quote: *"Power is given by the Lord, and strength by the most High, Who will examine your works, and search out your thoughts.*

Gospel Reflection : **"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near"**



These encouraging words sent by St Paul, the Philippians could have been applied since the beginning of humanity. After Adam's fall, God immediately promised his help by announcing the war that had to take place between the serpent, (the devil and his followers) and the Woman and her Offspring, assuring him that she and her offspring will crush his head. This pledge was renewed several times by the prophetic words of his messengers, throughout the innumerable years preceding the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

These announcements filled humanity with courage and hope.

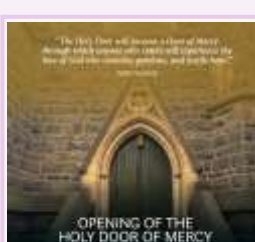
What Almighty God promised throughout the old centuries was continually renewed by our Holy Mother Church, since our redemption by our Lord Jesus Christ, and will be repeated until the end of time, when those of Good will be rewarded and the Bad will be rejected. The expectation of this big event is reminded to us by the Church each year by what we call, Advent.

In a particular way, in Advent, the Church invites us to "rejoice" because as St. Paul has said, "The Lord is very near". However it depends from us whether we see him or feel his presence among us or not. St Paul continues,

"The jar of meal shall not be spent, and the cruise of oil shall not be emptied". **"There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayers and thanksgivings, that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts."** (Phil.4:5-7)

God is merciful and his mercy is without limits. St. Matthew tells us that, large crowds went to Jesus, "bringing the lame, the crippled, the blind, the dumb and many others; these they put down at his feet, and he cured them" (Mat.15:29).

After that, Jesus, feeling sorry for those people, that, **"They may collapse on their way"** he fed that big crowd with seven loafs and a few fish. Jesus performed so many miracles to help suffering people, even raising from death to life. He also showed God's mercy by parables like that of the prodigal son, the lost sheep, the pardoned debtor. Apart from this, Jesus had particular love for the sinners, to help them reconcile themselves with the Father. When he was criticized by the Pharisees his reply was, **"It is not those who are well who need the physician, but those who are sick"** (Mat.9:12) Finally God's extraordinary and unbelievable love and mercy towards us was shown at his Last Supper with the Apostles before his passion and death on the Cross, by instituting **Priesthood and the Holy Eucharist** to keep his presence among us until



'WALKING INTO MERCY' PILGRIMAGE TO ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

On 13 December 2015, the faithfuls of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, have been invited to converge in Pilgrimage to St Patrick's Cathedral where like churches around the world, a holy door of mercy will be opened to officially mark the beginning of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. At 2.00 p.m., Archbishop Denis Hart will lead a prayer service followed by a picnic in the Cathedral grounds. Each 'pilgrim' is invited to bring a photo of someone who has been merciful to them or

someone they wish to pray for during the Year, and place it on a 'wall of mercy' along the outside of the Cathedral. The door will be open for pilgrims to pass through as a prayer for personal conversion and action. The afternoon festivities include live music, games, activities, food stalls and special mercy prayer flags.

Everyone is invited to make a special pilgrimage to the Cathedral from every region of the archdiocese – north, east, south or west. So ... GATHER YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, FELLOW PARISHIONERS AND MAKE A REAL DAY OF IT!

We also invite everyone to visit the Archdiocese YOM Newspaper Link to learn more about the Year of Mercy and activities within the archdiocese. <http://www.cam.org.au/Portals/52/yom-newspaper/yom-vol2/#8>.

Liturgical Celebrations for December 2015

Date	December Celebrations
Sat 5 th December	FIRST SATURDAY -Immaculate Heart of Mary Devotion Rosary, Holy Mass & Eucharistic Benediction at 2.00p.m MASS OF MARY– QUEEN AND MOTHER OF MERCY
Tues 8 th December	<u>SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</u>
Sat 12 th Dec Major Event NOT TO BE MISSED	OPENING OF "THE DOOR OF MERCY" 1.30P.M. MARIAN DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS AND HYMNS AT THE ENTRANCE AND VARIOUS ORATORIES 2.00 P.M ROSARY PROCESSION ALONG THE ROSARY WAY 2.30P.M HOLY MASS AT THE MAIN CHURCH FOLLOWED BY PROCESSION WITH THE BLESSED SACRAMENT OPENING OF THE DOOR OF MERCY AND BENEDICTION Celebrations Led by Archbishop Denis J Hart
Sun 13 th Dec	Third Sunday of Advent Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
Wed 16 th December	***Notice all devotees of Our Lady of Perpetual Help*** Mother and Child Oratory Wednesday Novenas have resumed and will be held at 7.30p.m
Sunday 21 st Dec	<u>WALK WITH BABY JESUS FOR PEACE</u> Rosary, Holy Mass & Eucharistic Benediction at 2.00p.m
27 th 28 th November	FEASTS OF THE HOLY FAMILY AND THE HOLY INNOCENTS
Friday 25 th Dec 2015 	<u>NATIVITY OF OUR LORD</u> <i>Let us prepare ourselves well for the commemoration of Jesus' first-coming into this world; then to keep Jesus present, day and night, in our mind and heart, and finally to stay awake, - that when he calls, he finds us with our lamps lit,(i.e. finds us in state of grace) .</i> "Come to me ...and I comfort you!" (Jesus said)



From the Vatican City:
Jubilee for Pilgrimage Workers and Supporters
This international meeting of parish priests, shrine/sanctuary rectors and personnel, and all involved in pilgrimages, is to be held in Rome on January 19-21, 2016.

The conferences are entitled:

"Pilgrims in the Footsteps of Jesus:-
The Shrine as an Experience of Mercy
and From the Shrine to the Parish:
The Pilgrimage as an Integral Part of
Pastoral Work in Parishes.

These conferences will be given in various churches of Rome according to language groups (Italian, Spanish, French, and English). There will also be catecheses given in those four languages on the theme of mercy.

On the final morning of the gathering, participants will make their pilgrimage through the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica and will then arrive at the Paul VI Hall, in the Vatican City State, for an audience with the Holy Father.

The selection of this international gathering as the first major event of the Holy Year will symbolically serve to highlight that this Jubilee of Mercy is a true pilgrimage and should be lived as such by all..

the end of time.

All this is a real proof that **God's Mercy** is without limits.

However, for all these benefits and love, God expects us to return it with love. What Jesus expects from us is clearly indicated by John the Baptist. Now what should be our response for heavenly Love? John the Baptist's message was, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand". The prophet Isaiah predicted John's preaching saying, **"A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight"**. God wants us to make his paths straight by changing ourselves, cleaning our souls from any kind of sin. God wants us to open the doors of our soul to him and to do this it is necessary that they will be shut to sin.

Let us pray our heavenly mother and mother of Mercy, Mary, to obtain for us the grace of understanding what this means and practice it. Then the ringing of the Christmas bells will bring happiness not only during the Christmas celebrations but also when we hear Jesus calling us to receive eternal happiness.



'I KNEW IN THAT INSTANT' *An Inspirational story of the Eucharist*

Another Mass, another Host, and another Sunday of wondering, "Am I the only one who receives Communion, but questions the Real Presence?" Then I felt the guilt. Oh, the guilt. I am one to embrace guilt. I felt guilty about being a good mother, guilty about being a good wife, and guilty about being a good Catholic.

My conversion to the Catholic faith, at the age of twenty-three, was a surprise to only one person-**me**. An ancestral history of Protestants came to a climatic end with my birth in a Catholic hospital run by the Benedictine sisters. After I was born, a loving priest made the sign of the cross over my mother's bulging tummy and declared, "She will be a wonderful Catholic!"

Attending Sunday morning Mass with a classmate and her family on sleepover weekends was a special event for me. No, I did not like the 5:00 a.m. wake up call, nor the absence of breakfast, nor the stern looks when I asked "Why do you pray to statues?" However, I loved the peaceful feeling during the Mass, and the unfamiliar language made me feel like I was in the presence of God. Later on, during my confirmation process to become Catholic, I did not question my Catholic lessons, but did wonder how a piece of man-made bread could become the body and blood of Christ. As a child, when my mother was avoiding an uncomfortable question from me, she would say "Just because I said so!" I decided that I could accept the Real Presence just because the priest said so.

My guilt about questioning the Real Presence continued at each Sunday Mass, each reception of the Eucharist and every time I said a special Thank You prayer. Then, one day a new friend suggested that I ask God to show me the truth of the Real Presence. Wow! Why didn't I think of that? I knew, though, that if God did not answer my prayer, I would absorb more guilt because I would think I didn't phrase my question to Him correctly.

Little did I know that when I prayed that special prayer the following Sunday, that God would choose that day to reveal Himself to me as the body and blood of Christ in that little round wafer. As it dissolved on my tongue, I knew in that instant that He is truly real in the Blessed Eucharist, and that He wants me to receive Him daily, whenever possible. I have been transformed since that Sunday; **THERE IS JOY, LOVE, AND PEACE IN MY HEART.**

I'm still working on the guilt part of my life, though, because, **HE SAID SO!**

Trudy L. Doramus

Fort Meyers, Florida

FUNDRAISING: Refurbishment of the old Committee Room into our Chapel of Mercy is well underway, thanks to all the volunteers who came forward to give us a hand over the last few weeks. Needless to say that we have reached over our projection in cost so far and with the enthusiastic help of Maria Cordina and a couple of generous benefactors from Sydney, we have so far collected about \$11300. We also wish to thank Liz for the wonderful cards she has created to help with our fundraising.

We wish to thank you for any monetary donation you might be able to make. Hopefully with your help and the help of many other devotees who frequently visit our Shrine and our dedicated volunteers, we would be able to raise some more, if not most, of the required funds to complete a decent and worthy place **FOR MERCY AND FOR THE ADORATION OF JESUS, KING OF THE UNIVERSE.**

Kindly contact myself, Maria Cordina or Josette, if you wish to know more about how you can help us. we deeply appreciate your generosity. **Msgr Benedict Camilleri**

"Deepen in me, O Holy Spirit, such a love of Divine truth that I always be alert and daring in spreading it.

Our Lady Ta' Pinu Shrine

All Nations Marian Centre

15 Flanagans Drive

P.O Box 800 Merrimu (Bacchus Marsh)

VICTORIA 3340

Melway 334 H8

Telephone: (03) 5367 7006

Email: infotapinu@optusnet.com.au

Mobile : 0437 261 517

www.tapinu-australia.gov.au

Follow us also on [Facebook](#)/TaPinuShrineAustralia & [Google+](#) /TapinushrineAust

