

## Ta' Pinu Shrine

# Our Lady, Queen of the Family

## A CALL TO PRAYER

*“Let us live this Jubilee Year as One Big Pilgrimage”*

From the Vatican City: Pope Francis' address those engaged in pilgrimage work and Rectors of Sanctuaries at Paul VI Hall:

“Pilgrims who go to the Shrines is one of the most eloquent expressions of the faith of God's people, and manifest piety of generations of people, who simply have believed and have entrusted themselves to the intercession of the Virgin Mary and the saints”... Pope Francis said as he explains **“THE IMPORTANCE OF COMING ON PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE AND HOW PILGRIMS ARE EXPECTED TO BE TREATED DURING THEIR VISITS”**

**PILGRIMAGE** is a genuine form of evangelization, which needs to be increasingly promoted and valued, not minimize its importance. And strangely enough: Blessed Paul VI, in *Evangellii nuntiandi*, speaking of popular religiosity says, it is better to call it **“POPULAR PIETY”**; and then, the Latin American Episcopate in Aparecida goes one step further and speaks of **“POPULAR SPIRITUALITY.”** All three concepts are valid, but together. **AT SHRINES, IN FACT, OUR PEOPLE LIVE HIS PROFOUND SPIRITUALITY, THAT PIETY WHICH FOR CENTURIES HAS SHAPED THE FAITH WITH DEVOTIONS SIMPLE, BUT VERY SIGNIFICANT. THINK OF HOW INTENSE YOU FEEL ,IN SOME OF THESE PLACES, DURING A PRAYER TO CHRIST CRUCIFIED, OR THAT OF THE ROSARY, OR THE WAY OF THE CROSS...**

It would be a mistake to assume that those who go on a group pilgrimage do not live a personal spiritual experience. In fact, **THE PILGRIM CARRIES WITH HIM, HIS OWN HISTORY, HIS OWN FAITH, LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF HIS LIFE. EACH BRINGS A SPECIAL WISH IN THE HEART AND A SPECIAL PRAYER. WHOEVER ENTERS THE SANCTUARY IMMEDIATELY FEEL OF BEING AT HOME, WELCOMED, UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED.** I really like the biblical figure of Anna, the mother of the prophet Samuel who, in the temple of Shiloh, poured her heart full of sadness out and prayed to the Lord to have a child. Eli, the priest instead thought she was drunk and wanted to kick her out (cf. 1 Sam 1, 12-14). Anna is a good example of so many individuals you can meet in our sanctuaries:- Eyes fixed on the Crucifix or the image of the Virgin Mary, a prayer said with tears in his/her eyes, full of confidence. The sanctuary is really a special place to meet the Lord and be touched by his mercy.

**CONFESSING IN A SANCTUARY, IT IS TO EXPERIENCE FIRST-HAND THE MERCY OF GOD.**

This is why the key word that I wish to emphasize today with you is *“welcome: welcome pilgrims.”*

*Welcome the Pilgrims like guests during this year of mercy as they come with a heart that seeks God.”* With the ‘welcome’, so to speak, we play it all. A warm, loving, festive, friendly Welcome. It also takes patience!!! The Gospels present Jesus always welcoming to those who approach him, especially the sick, the sinners, the marginalized. And remember that expression: *“He who receives you receives me, and whoever receives me, receives him who sent me”* (Mt 10: 40). Jesus spoke of the welcome, but mostly he practiced it. When we are told that sinners - such as Matthew and Zacchaeus - welcomed Jesus into their home and at their table, it is first of all because they had felt welcomed by Jesus, and that had changed their lives. It's interesting that the Book of Acts ends with the scene of St Paul who, here in Rome, “welcomed all who came to him” (Acts 28,30). His home, where he lived as a prisoner, was the place where he announced the Gospel.

**THE “WELCOME” IS REALLY DECISIVE FOR EVANGELIZATION.**

**SOMETIMES, YOU NEED JUST A WORD, A SMILE, TO MAKE A PERSON FEEL ACCEPTED AND WELL-LIKED.**

The pilgrim who comes to the sanctuary is often tired, hungry, thirsty ... And many times this physical condition also reflects the interior. Therefore, this person needs to be well received both in terms of both material and spiritual way. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE PILGRIM WHO CROSSES THE THRESHOLD OF THE SANCTUARY NOT ONLY FEEL TREATED LIKE A GUEST BUT ALSO AS PART OF AS THE FAMILY.** The Pilgrim should feel at home, waited on, loved and looked upon with eyes of mercy. Anyone, young or old, rich or poor, sick or troubled and even curious tourists, can find the ‘Welcome’ they deserve, because in each one , there is a heart that seeks God, sometimes without being fully

aware. We must ensure that every pilgrim has the joy of “finally” feel understood and loved.

In this way, going back home, the pilgrim will feel nostalgic about what he has experienced and will have a desire to return, but also wants to continue the journey of faith in his ordinary life

Continued on page 4...





## From the Catechism of the Catholic Church "I BELIEVE IN THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS" ...

The Apostle's Creed associates faith in the forgiveness of sins not only with faith in the Holy Spirit, but also with faith in the Church and in the communion of saints. It was when he gave the Holy Spirit to his apostles that the risen Christ conferred on them his own divine power to forgive sins: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." *Jn 20:22-23*

**ONE BAPTISM FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS** : "Our Lord tied the forgiveness of sins to faith and Baptism: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He who believes and is baptized will be saved." *Mk 16:15-16*. Baptism is the first and chief sacrament of forgiveness of sins because it unites us with Christ, who died for our sins and rose for our justification, so that "we too might walk in newness of life." *Rom 6:4; Cf. 4:25*.

"When we made our first profession of faith while receiving the holy Baptism that cleansed us, the forgiveness we received then was so full and complete that there remained in us absolutely nothing left to efface, neither original sin nor offenses committed by our own will, nor was there left any penalty to suffer in order to expiate them. . . .

Yet the grace of Baptism delivers no one from all the weakness of nature.

On the contrary, we must still combat the movements of concupiscence that never cease leading us into evil.

In this battle against our inclination towards evil, who could be brave and watchful enough to escape every wound of sin? "If the Church has the power to forgive sins, then Baptism cannot be her only means of using the keys of the Kingdom of heaven received from Jesus Christ. The Church must be able to forgive all penitents their offenses, even if they should sin until the last moment of their lives."

It is through the sacrament of Penance that the baptized can be reconciled with God and with the Church. Penance has rightly been called by the holy Fathers "a laborious kind of baptism." This sacrament of Penance is necessary for salvation for those who have fallen after Baptism, just as Baptism is necessary for salvation for those who have not yet been reborn.

**Quote:** "Help me, O Lord, to show more during my quest in furthering Your love than others display in spreading chaos" ( Rev. James Keller MM)



**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

We usually dedicate this corner of our newsletter to reflect on the Gospel... As we are about to start our journey on the Lenten Pilgrimage, it is far more important for me to share with you the highlights of His Grace, Archbishop Denis J Hart's Lenten Pastoral message to the "Missionaries of Mercy" of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

**Msgr Benedict Camilleri**

### Lenten Pastoral Letter for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Dear Friends,

*This Lent, 2016, we are in the midst of a special Jubilee Year of Mercy. Pope Francis is calling each of us to deepen our baptismal vocation. We are being sent forth to be 'missionaries of mercy' in a world which desperately needs the Good News of the Gospel. As we enter into this special Jubilee, let us first ponder the Word of God, so as to become credible and joyful witnesses. Two parables are especially worthy of our reflection - **The Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan.***

#### 1. Let us repent and change our hearts!

*"But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him" Luke 15:28*

*As we ponder the Word of God we cannot avoid examining our own hearts. If we honestly face our sins and limitations and confess them, we will open ourselves to the grace of God. If it is just up to us then we are in real trouble!*

*Think of the parable of the Prodigal Son.*

*Jesus uses the image of a father's love to illustrate God's mercy. The human bond between a father and son is one that reaches deep into the heart. It is a love that is often beyond words. In this image, the son who was 'lost' has begun to turn his life around. From deepest darkness and shame, he returns to the embrace of his father's love. The parable has so many meanings for us but it firstly calls each of us to confess that we are in need of God's mercy. We are all sinners. A deep acceptance of this is the critical first step. We begin our Jubilee Year of Mercy by honestly examining ourselves before God and, like the Prodigal Son, repenting of our sins.*

*An extraordinary blessing of our Catholic tradition is that forgiveness, healing and mercy are readily accessible in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In his recent book, **His Name is Mercy**, our Holy Father reminds us precisely why this Sacrament is so vital for our souls.*

*"If you are not capable of talking to your brother about your mistakes, you can be sure that you can't talk about them with God, either," and therefore you end up confessing into the mirror, to yourself. We are social beings; forgiveness has social implications; my sins wound mankind, my brothers and sisters, and society as a whole. Confessing to a priest is a way of putting my life into the hands and hearts of someone who in that moment acts in the name of Jesus. (21-22)*

*No wonder the Holy Father is constantly reminding us of the need for the Sacrament of Penance as a regular feature of our own faith journey. Pope Francis gives the lead through personal witness!*

**So pray and confess for mercy**

#### 2. Boldly take risks to act for mercy now!

*"But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. Luke 10:33*

*Renewed and refreshed by the experience of honestly placing our own lives before the Lord's mercy, we are called to spread mercy, especially to the needy and to those who 'lose out' in our society.*

*The 'door' the parable of the Good Samaritan takes us through is one of direct action and concrete acts of mercy. In this parable Jesus uses the image of a foreigner to illustrate what mercy truly means. The neighbours we are commanded to love and show*



# Liturgical Celebrations for February 2016



Date

February Celebrations

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Feast of Presentation of Our Lord

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> February

**FIRST SATURDAY -Immaculate Heart of Mary Devotion**  
Rosary, Holy Mass & Eucharistic Benediction **at 2.00p.m**  
**MASS OF MARY- MOTHER OF RECONCILIATION**

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Day of fasting and abstinence

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
11.00a.m **Mass of the Sick**  
Anointing of the sick & contemplative prayers during Adoration

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Feb

**1.45 p.m. Our Lady of Good Health , Vailankanni**  
Confession, Way of the Cross and Holy Mass

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> February

10.00 a.m. **Hispanic & Portuguese Community Group**  
11.00 a.m. **Filipino Community Group**  
Confession, Way of the Cross followed by Holy Mass  
And Walking through "the Door of Mercy"

Saturday  
23<sup>rd</sup> February

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LANKA**

**10.00 a.m. Rosary Procession, Holy Mass, Benediction then fellowship**

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> February

Mother and Child Oratory Wednesday Novenas at 8.00p.m.

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Feb

10.00 a.m. **Vietnamese Catholic Community Group**  
Confession, Holy Mass, Way of the Cross

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Tamil Indian Community**  
**10.30a.m** Confession, Way of the Cross followed by Holy Mass

**SAVE THE DATES!!!**

**Major events in March 2016**

FRI 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
ENDS SAT 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

**24 HRS FOR THE LORD (OVERNIGHT ADORATION**  
**VIGIL STARTS AFTER 5 P.M. MASS )**  
**A LENTEN PILGRIMAGE WITH MARY**

SAT 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

**Rosary Procession, Holy MASS of OUR LADY OF SORROWS**  
**followed by Eucharistic Liturgy 2.00p.m**

FRI 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

**From 2.30p.m Liturgy of The Passion of Our Lord led by**  
**His Lordship Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv DD.**  
**Adoration of the Cross followed by the Bacchus Marsh**  
**Good Friday Pageant**

## 2016 LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

**IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME ON A LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO OUR ALL NATIONS MARIAN CENTRE THIS YEAR, AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU CONTACT US ON ANY OF THE NUMBERS LISTED ON PAGE 4 SO THAT WE MAY HELP IN MAKING YOUR VISIT A SPIRITUALLY ENRICHED EXPERIENCE .**



## Mass of the Sick

All are invited to participate in a Charismatic Mass  
To be celebrated by **Monsignor Benedict Camilleri**  
**Our Lady Ta Pinu Shrine**

All Nations Marian Centre  
15 Flanagans Drive Bacchus Marsh 3340

**Thursday: 11th February 2016**

**Time: 11.00 a.m.**

**Holy Mass, Blessing of the Sick & Benediction**  
**Contemplative prayers during Adoration**

Our ailing brothers and sisters who are unfit to attend, may wish to mail/send their special petitions and we will keep them with us in our prayers

"As a way of entering into this Year of Mercy, we invite you to come and walk through the "Door of Mercy" then join us to reflect on four themes from Pope Francis' papal bull - Misericordiae vultus:

1. Jesus: the Face of the Father's Mercy
2. The Church: the Face of Jesus' Mercy
3. Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy
4. Forgiveness, Mercy and Healing in our Life.

**Contacts:** office 53677006 or infotapinu@optusnet.com.au

Jolette Salomon 0412360231 or Maria Cordina 93827490  
Exodus 23:25 'You shall serve the Lord your God, & he will bless your bread and your water, & I will take sickness away from among you'. **GOD IS THE ONE WHO HEALS**

## A Lenten Pilgrimage with Mary

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Our Lady Ta Pinu Shrine**

All Nations Marian Centre  
15 Flanagans Drive Bacchus Marsh 3340

**Start Time: Fri 4<sup>th</sup> March at 5.00 p.m**

**Holy Mass and Benediction**

**Hourly Contemplative prayers during Adoration**

**Walking the Rosary**

Guided Meditation Event : An interactive initiative of the Archdiocese's office of Evangelization.

**Live broadcast of Pope Francis' Penitential Liturgy from St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City**  
**3.00 a.m. (AUST time)**

**Concludes: Sat 5<sup>th</sup> March from 2.00 p.m**

## Mass of Our Lady of Sorrows

**Rosary procession and Benediction**

**Contacts:** office 53677006 or infotapinu@optusnet.com.au  
Jolette Salomon 0412360231 or Maria Cordina 93827490

## Quote of the Month:

A rich man will exploit you if you can be of use to him, but if you are in need , he will forsake you (Sirach 13:4)

mercy towards include those who are not of our own faith or nationality, and gives first preference to those on the margins of our Church and society. In Melbourne there are many people showing us the way forward to undertake this action.

**Let us imitate and join with these witnesses of mercy. Blessed are they who 'walk' with others rather than 'talk' at them. If anything is going to evangelise others, it is such witness!**

## So pray and act for mercy

**A final reminder:** The Jubilee Year of Mercy is a moment of Grace for Melbourne Catholics.

Let us take up these two simple challenges of this Lenten Pastoral Letter:

1. **Repent and change our hearts!**
2. **Boldly take risks to act for mercy now!**

Mercy and tenderness are not optional extras in Catholicism but its very soul.

Thank God, Pope Francis is continually calling all of us - as disciples - **to reach out and show mercy, especially to those on the peripheries of our lives and our culture.!!!**

**A FINAL THOUGHT:** Are we as Melbourne Catholics merciful and tender enough with each other in our communities and parishes?

During Lent, may we continue to encourage our wonderful parishes and people who minister and witness daily to the tender mercy of our God. Let us walk together and 'walk faster' on a grace-filled pilgrimage in the Holy Year of Mercy.

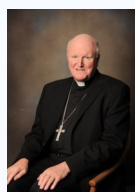
**We are sent by Jesus to be missionaries of mercy to all our sisters and brothers.**

I wish you the blessing that Lent will speak to us - Jesus in our heart, mind and deeds.

**Yours sincerely in Christ,**

+ *David J. Ross*

**ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE**





## ‘AUNT JO AND JESUS’ *An Inspirational story of the Eucharist*

My informal visits to Jesus in the Eucharist began on Sunday afternoons long before I was even in parochial school. It was with my Aunt Josephine, at a time when my cousin Joe and I would much rather enjoy lay time, not pray time. Aunt Jo would call us from her backyard to the house, and quickly wash our hands and wipe our faces clean for an afternoon visit to church. As we walked, she'd remember to check our necks where, to her dismay, she'd usually find beads of sweat and dirt which she efficiently wiped off with one of her fancy handkerchiefs. We had to look presentable when we went to see Jesus and His Blessed Mother!

My aunt had different ideas for us at that time, and we disliked her disruption to our lives. There are so many times now-some forty years later-that I very gratefully remember her as I seek the solace and peace, I can only find in church with the Blessed Mother and Jesus in the Eucharist at adoration.

I was also fortunate to have a mom and many teachers throughout my school years who encouraged us to go to daily Mass whenever we could attend. I have found that these non-Sunday encounters with Christ have been more beautiful and renewing than I could imagine. Recently, times have been unusually hard, and more and more I find myself drawn to morning Mass and Eucharistic adoration, seeking answers and peace. Early before Mass one morning, I knelt alone in church asking God to speak to me, to give me some answers. My head was so filled with worry that I couldn't hear anything. My mind wouldn't stop running. Then, as I prayed, silently begging for peace, Father Shelley came into church. For some reason, he came over to me, and I didn't even hear him approach. He quietly excused himself for interrupting me, and asked if he could pray with me. I don't remember the entire prayer he said as he laid his hand on my head, but his last phrase lingers with me still: three times he repeated, "Lord Jesus, give me peace." At that time, I truly felt a peace wash over me that completely eased my mind and heart I know God answered me that day, and many times since, sometimes in similarly unusual ways. We know that His love and presence are both with us and within us at all times, but He is very specially there for us in church through the Eucharist. As I travel life's road, I pray I will never forget the lessons Aunt Jo taught me on those Sundays so long ago when we wanted to play, and instead we learned to pray.

Jeannie Paslawsky

Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, US

### Contd from page 1: From the Vatican City: Pope Francis welcomes those engaged in pilgrimage work and Rectors of Sanctuaries at Paul VI Hall

The 'Welcome' offered by the ministers of God's forgiveness is to be very special. The sanctuary is the home of forgiveness, where everyone meets with the tenderness of the Father who has mercy on everyone, without exception. When the pilgrim approaches the confessional, he does so because he is repentant of his sin. He feels the need to approach there, with the clear perception that God does not condemn, but welcomes him and hugs him, as the father of the prodigal son, to restore his filial dignity (cf. Lk 15.20 to 24). Priests who carry out a ministry in sanctuaries must have impregnated the heart of mercy; their attitude must be that of a father!!!

**Dear brothers and sisters, Let us we live this Jubilee with faith and joy!**

**LET US LIVE IT AS ONE BIG PILGRIMAGE.!!!**

May you, especially you, live your service as a corporal work of mercy and spirituality. I assure you of my prayers for this, through the intercession of Mary our Mother. And may you, please, with your prayers, also accompany me in my pilgrimage. **THANK YOU. (POPE FRANCIS)**

## Our Lady Ta' Pinu Shrine

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