



SISTERS OF NAZARETH **AUSTRALASIA** **VOCATION** **PROGRAMME** **MINISTRY** *Bimonthly Newsletter*

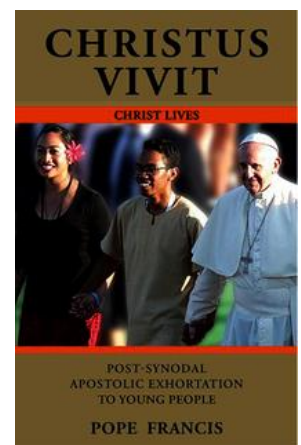
“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

“Vocations aren’t the result of planning, but an encounter with God that changes your life” Pope Francis.

AT THE SERVICE OF GOD AND HUMANITY: “The consecrated life will not be limited to reading the signs of the times but will also contribute to elaboration and putting into effect new initiatives of evangelization for present-day situations... It promotes the value of fraternal life, provides a privileged experience of dialogue. It can therefore contribute to creating a climate of mutual acceptance... come together in ecclesial communion and ready to undertake the great universal mission” (Vita Consecrata #73,74).

Welcome to the Vocation Programme Ministry Newsletter!

The purpose of the Vocation Ministry Newsletter is to inspire and assist members of the Sisters of Nazareth in fulfilling their mission of fostering vocations, raising awareness and updating you all about vocation activities, and in particular, encouraging young women to consider religious life as a path to live the Gospel in our world. *“Are you looking for passion? Fall in love!” (or “let yourself be loved!”), because “nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way... This love for God, that can approach everything in life with passion, is possible thanks to the Spirit, for God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom 5:5). Christus Vivit 132.*



OUR MINISTRY: *Social Media Focus:*



1. *Year of St Joseph*

A working father: 'Patris Corde' by Pope Francis.

Work is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion. It becomes an opportunity for the fulfilment not only of oneself but also of that primary cell of society which is the family. A family without work is particularly vulnerable to difficulties, tensions, estrangement and even break-up. How can we speak of human dignity without working to ensure that everyone is able to earn a decent living? Working persons, whatever their job may be, are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us.

2. *Consecrated Life*

Vita Consecrata (Consecrated Life) by St. John Paul II

The Church entrusts to communities of consecrated life the particular task of spreading the spirituality of communion, first of all in their internal life and then in the ecclesial community, and even beyond its boundaries, by opening or continuing dialogue in charity... They are sent forth to proclaim, by the witness of their lives, the value of Christian fraternity and the transforming power of the Good News, which makes it possible to see all people as children of God, and inspires a self-giving love towards everyone, especially the least of our brothers and sisters. Such communities are places of hope and of the discovery of the Beatitudes, where love, drawing strength from prayer, the wellspring of communion, is called to become a pattern of life and source of joy. (#51)

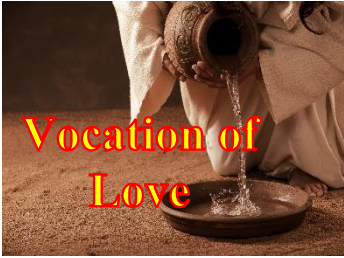


3. *Interculturality*

Living Mission Interculturally by Anthony J. Gittins, CSSp

"In becoming intercultural we rise above the hidden grips of culture and discover that there are many ways to be good, true, and beautiful. In this process, we acquire a greater capacity to overcome cultural parochialism and develop a wider circle of identification. In a way, becoming intercultural is a process of liberating ourselves from a limited perspective on life... or becoming more fully human with a greater awareness of and sensitivity to self, others, and the relationship between them." (Pg 214)

We All Have A Vocation by Jean Vanier

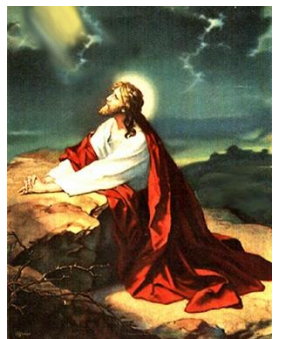


“We know that this world is a painful place. Jesus came into the world to bring peace. After his death, he asked us to follow him so that you and I would-be peacemakers. We all have a vocation. Our vulnerable Jesus is calling us to grow in love and be a sign of tenderness in the world.” We are all familiar with the event at the last supper; Jesus washed the feet of the apostles. He then said to the apostles, ‘you must wash one another’s feet. I have done this as an example for you.

“Before the Resurrection and Pentecost, he viewed humanity like a social pyramid which at the top are the powerful ones, and at the bottom are the weak ones, those who have little value. This is the entrenched vision that Jesus came to change. Society is not a pyramid but a body, and in that body each part is important. There are no parts that are the best or better than others. No! We are all together in that one body, which is the body of Christ... Jesus loves us so much that he kneels in front of us so that we may begin to trust ourselves. As Jesus washes our feet, he is saying, ‘I trust you and I love you. You are precious, you are important, and I want you to trust yourself because you can do beautiful things for the kingdom. You can give life; you can bring peace’. Jesus is calling us to build a body that works together in love and friendship. The washing of feet is a symbol that says, ‘I simply want to be at your service’.” Jesus keeps calling us consecrated religious to imitate his life through authentic discipleship for the kingdom. With the grace of God, together we can build heaven on earth for all people of goodwill. (“...” extracted from ‘We Need One Another’ by Jean Vanier)

The Silence of Contemplation by Brother Roger of Taizé

Prayer, descending into the depths of God, is not there to make us better inside. Praying, not with an eye on some kind of usefulness, but to create with Christ a communion of human beings who are totally free. When we strive to give expression in words to this communion, we have conscious prayers. Yet our understanding can express only the outer surface of ourselves. Very soon it comes up short... and silence takes over, to the point of seeming to mean that God is not there. Instead of getting stuck on the barrenness of silence, remember that it opens out into unheard-of possibilities of creativity. In the world that underlies the human personality, Christ is praying, more than we can imagine. Compared with the vastness of this secret prayer of Christ within us, the prayer we express in words seems very little.



The silence of contemplation! In every one of us, there lie unknown depths of doubt, of violence, of secret distress ... and also chasms of guilt, of things unacknowledged, to the point that we sense an immense void gaping beneath our feet. We do not know where the impulses seething within us come from; perhaps from some ancestral or genetic memory. So, trusting like a child, let Christ pray within us, and one day these depths will be inhabited. With time out of contemplation, there arises happiness. And this happiness is a wellspring of our struggle for and with the human family. It is courage. It is energy for taking risks. It is overflowing gladness. (His Love is a Fire)

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

25
— YEARS —

RELIGIOUS LIFE VOCATION!



SR. ANASTASIA

CONGRATULATIONS!



**SR. TERESA
CLARE**



*Give thanks with a
grateful heart.*

Ongoing Vocation Activities:

- ❖ Communities around the region are contributing to the Vocation Ministry by praying a prayer of their choice for vocations.
- ❖ The Sisters continue to be visible in their parishes through their presence and joining different events in the local area.
- ❖ Facebook, Messenger, Viber and WhatsApp are the main means of communication to connect with young women during the pandemic.

ENQUIRIES: JESUS SAID, "COME AND SEE"

EVERY VOCATION to consecrated life is born in contemplation, from moments of intense communion and a deep relationship of friendship with Christ, from the beauty and light which were seen shining on his face.

CICLSAL, Starting Afresh from Christ: A Renewed Commitment to Consecrated Life in the Third Millennium, no. 9

Special Requests:



If safe to do so, the Sisters will be represented at the Ignite Conference Brisbane from 22-25 September 2021 at Muller College Rothwell. This encompasses the Vocation expo, varieties of keynote speakers on different topics, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a mixture of activities to entertain

the youth and all who will embrace and enjoy this opportunity as part of their faith journey. Your prayers will be very much appreciated for the safety and protection, and success of this beautiful event. It will be a sign of hope for the Church in Australia and beyond.

We have 10 young women who are still connecting with us as they discern their vocation to the Religious Life. Facebook and messenger are the main and constant means of communication during this challenging time. As mentioned in the last Newsletter some have expressed their desire to try the 'Come and See' program, however, the uncertainties caused by the pandemic throughout the world and Australia in particular regarding international travel implicates any plans the Vocation Ministry Team has to proceed any process. Please, let us all join together in prayer for the healing of our world from this pandemic.





Acknowledgements:

We, the Vocation Team, appreciate your support through prayers and participation in vocation activities throughout the last two months. Looking forward to what you can offer to keep the Vocation ministry alive and active in the Region.

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VOCATION LINK SISTERS

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CAMBERWELL: SR. PAULINE HELU
CHRISTCHURCH: SR. REGINA TOVI'O
GERALDTON: SR. TELESIA TAAVAO
TAMWORTH: SR. MADONNA FIDO
WYNNUM: SR. FAUSTINA SUA

@AUGUST2021

Your Vocation Team

“IT IS OUR VOCATION TO STAND BEFORE GOD FOR ALL”. (ST. TERESA BENEDICTA)