

## Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre e-News

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) Closure of Centre on 23 March



In the interests of guests and staff, the decision was taken to close Santa Teresa from Monday 23 March until Saturday 1 August (date of reopening will be revised in the light of Government, Health and Archdiocesan directions) in response to the danger of infection by the Coronavirus pandemic.

As a people of faith, preparing to celebrate the Easter mysteries, let us place our faith and trust in Jesus.

"Today, in the tragedy of a pandemic, in the face of the many false securities that have now crumbled, in the face of so many hopes betrayed, in the sense of abandonment that weighs upon our hearts, Jesus says to each one of us: 'Courage, open your heart to my love,'" (Pope Francis—Palm Sunday Mass).

May each of us open our hearts to the love and healing of Jesus.

#### Prayer for A World In Need

God ever faithful, giver and sustainer of life,  
you know the depths of our pain  
as we journey through this time of unknowing.

Hear our voices and the cry of our hearts.  
Guide us to the most life-giving ways open to us.

St. Joseph, man of courage,  
you protected Mary and Jesus when they were in danger.  
Cradle us now safely in this same protecting embrace.

May we, like you,  
extend this care to our world in need.

St Mary of the Cross,  
you faced difficult times with a heart filled with trust,  
always believing in the watchful presence of God.  
Walk with us now in this difficult time,  
and may we be for others,  
examples of confident hope and trust.

St. Joseph and St. Mary of the Cross  
pray with us in this time of need. Amen.

*Novena for A World In Need* (Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart)

### Vision and Legacy of Archbishop John Bathersby 1936—2020



Opening of Santa Teresa 2009

Archbishop John, known fondly as 'Batts' or 'ABJB' served the Archdiocese of Brisbane for twenty years from 1991 till his retirement in 2011. His zeal for evangelisation led to the acclaimed *'Hearts on Fire'* Conference at the University of Queensland in 1999, while his passion for prayer and spirituality resulted in the *'Pray 2010'* Conference in 2010.

The Synod in 2003 inspired the Archdiocesan vision 'Jesus, Communion and Mission' which he enthusiastically deepened by bringing speakers such as Bishop Tom Wright and Msg Paul McPartland to expand upon his own thoughts and writings.

'Come Holy Spirit' prayer campaign was another initiative by which he sought to encourage people to embrace the power of prayer for our world and the mission of the Church. It was however, his resolve to purchase the Cenacle Retreat Centre in 2006, that led to the opening of the Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre in October 2009, after extensive planning and renovation works.

At the blessing of the site on 19 March 2009, Archbishop John said, 'With God's blessing, the Centre will continue to be a powerhouse of prayer and wisdom for the life and mission of the Archdiocese.'

As an Archdiocese, we are deeply grateful for the vision and commitment of Archbishop John to make Jesus known and loved. May he rest in peace. Amen.



Pray 2010 Conference Eucharist

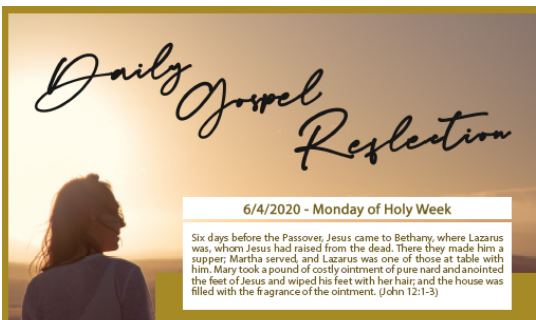


A local Brisbane Spiritual Director has combined her photographic talents with her own reflections on the spiritual journey to create a series of seven prayer booklets. Based on Scripture passages, the personal poetic reflections coupled with stunning photos and imagery invite you to consider the bible verses in a fresh and imaginative way. Each booklet is \$15 and can be purchased by emailing Kathryn Robbie (email above).

#### Titles of the Booklets

- ◆ Divine Brushstrokes
- ◆ Heart Song
- ◆ Moments of Mercy
- ◆ Whispers of Winter
- ◆ Intimate Insights
- ◆ Reaching the Fringes
- ◆ Portals of Grace

## Daily Gospel Reflections and Novena for A World in Need (by Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart)



Evangelisation Brisbane is producing a daily Gospel Reflection (Mon-Fri) that you can access via the EB website. You can subscribe to receive it as an email at: <http://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections/>

The Josephite Sisters have produced a 9 day Novena, **Novena For A World In Need**, using the inspiration of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop. One of the prayers is on the front page of this newsletter. It is suggested that people pause at midday for a few minutes to pray the novena asking for God's healing in our world. To download, go to the front page of this e-News.

## Wisdoms of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Patron Saint, Founder of the Josephites and Educator



## Easter Blessings—People of the Resurrection

### Sacred Immersion



Kathryn Robbie  
November 2019

Swept into a warm filial embrace  
Cradled in Divine mystery,  
Infused with restful completeness  
A sacred mutual indwelling.

Passionate desire penetrates deeply  
All is holy, everything belongs  
Inexhaustible depths of Pure Love  
Permeate every facet of existence

Laughter and tears harmonize  
A song of humility and reverence  
Drawn into the Paschal dance  
Neglect and heartache transformed

Carried on a cascade of Grace  
A wondrous vista unfolds  
Breath-taking captivating  
Adventure bathed in brilliance

Invigorated, renewed, freshly  
imbued  
Standing on Holy Ground  
Accepting the invitation  
Easter Living begins



This Easter poem by Kathryn Robbie offers us the hope of heartache transformed by the Paschal dance as we journey this week to Calvary and to the empty tomb of Easter.  
*Blessings, Mike Humphrys*