



Santa Teresa
Spirituality Centre



e-News

Grace of the everyday

Summer 2012/13 No.6

Brother Damian Price in a recent address at a parish in Brisbane reminded us that ‘we won’t find a big God “up there” if we can’t find the God of the everyday moment in the people and events around us.

‘Grace is that small inner energy, that trickles, the voice that won’t go away.....our lives are full of small moments of ‘courage’, ‘risk’, ‘trust’, ‘forgiveness’ and other crossroad times..... we must first be aware and then deliberately invite our God who is love to be in that moment with us.

Take some time each day to grow more aware and invite God into these crossroad moments that shape our daily lives.



Wisdom from Santa Teresa



Often just a word or a friendly smile is enough to take away the sadness in someone else’s heart.

Just as the sun shines on the cedars and on the tiniest flower, so God’s love shines on each person as if there were no one else in the world.

My way is all trust and love. I don’t understand those who fear so tender a friend.

We cannot have too much confidence in God, he is so mighty and merciful.

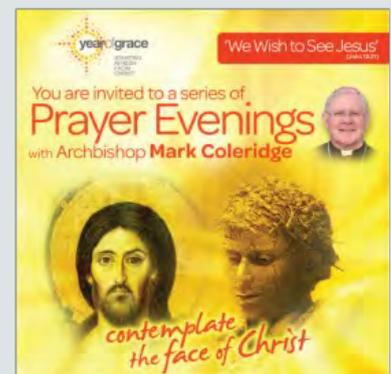
Prayer Styles booklet

A simple prayer resource that was prepared for the Year of Grace Prayer Evenings held last October/November outlines five different ways to pray. Prayer styles described are: Ignatian Examen, Prayer from Taize, Evening Prayer, Lectio Divina and Praying with Images. It also includes some references if you want to explore a particular prayer style in depth.

You can download a copy of the booklet from the Year of Grace website at:

<http://bne.catholic.net.au/asp/index.asp?pgid=12099>

You could also listen to the Meditation by the Archbishop on the Icon of Christ pictured on the Year of Grace prayer card.



Labyrinth – pray as you walk



The Reference Group has been pursuing the installation of a labyrinth for some time to provide an outdoor spiritual exercise. Modelled on the pattern set in the floor of the Chartres Cathedral since the 13th century, the labyrinth invites one to be a pilgrim and undergo a short physical prayer journey to discover anew the God who walks with us on our journey of life.

We are indebted to a generous landscape architect for drawing up the plans for free and for Tony Sokolov and his team for bringing the plans to reality. Tony carved the centre seat out of a block of camphor laurel. It is envisaged that over time, further landscape projects will be undertaken to provide a rich variety of prayer spaces within the natural beauty of the grounds.

Donations help us improve our facilities

The labyrinth was made possible by the generosity of several donors who provided the funds for its installation. It is hoped that the ongoing support of benefactors will allow further improvements to the Centre both inside and outside. This past year has seen all rooms now air conditioned.

You can contribute to a particular project (eg furnishings in the chapel or an outside prayer space) or make donations to the Centre on a one-off or a regular basis. For further information contact Patrick or Michelle on Ph. (07) 3286 4011.



Relic of St Francis Xavier among us



Santa Teresa chapel housed the relic of St Francis Xavier overnight during its visit to the Archdiocese of Brisbane in November.

Fr Richard Shortall SJ who accompanied the relic on its 'Pilgrimage of Grace' around Australia remarked how peaceful and beautiful the Centre was – a welcome rest in an otherwise very hectic schedule. It was a joy to have the relic, the right arm of this great Jesuit missionary in our midst overnight.

Centre Supervisors

Visitors to Santa Teresa have experienced the warmth, hospitality and ready assistance of Patrick Cremin, our Centre Supervisor for the past three years. Joining Patrick in this role is Michelle McEwan, who will now share these duties that include organising the bookings, accounts, maintenance and repairs, cleaning, liaising with the catering team and importantly making retreatants feel at home.

Michelle previously led the cleaning team before taking up this wider role of responsibility. Whether you need a toothbrush, emergency medical assistance or just want to know about the local walking tracks, our dynamic duo (Patrick & Michelle) will be every ready to be of service.



Have you booked a sacred space for 2013?



We have welcomed many groups and individuals to Santa Teresa during 2012. What has been wonderful to see is the joy and peace that fills people's hearts and lives as a result of their time at the Centre.

I look forward to welcoming you to Santa Teresa during the Year of Grace/Year of Faith to be spiritually charged through a deeper encounter with Christ.

Grace and Peace
Mike Humphrys

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