



## Year of Mercy—Pilgrim Days

In his Papal Bull for the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis reminds us that we are all pilgrims on the journey of life. As we open our hearts to the gift of God's mercy, so too we are called 'to heal the wounds (of our world)' to assuage them with the oil of consolation, to bind them with mercy and cure them with solidarity and vigilant care.' *The Face of Mercy* n.15



7 Pilgrim Days (9 March, 13 March, 19 April, 21 May, 8 June, 9 August, 22 October) have been set for Catholics from across the Archdiocese to come and spend a day at Santa Teresa from 9.30am-3.30pm. This will include times for prayer, input, walks in the grounds, a visit to the Carmelite chapel and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance. A simple boxed lunch will be provided free. Each person will receive a pilgrim guidebook with suggestions for practical ways to live a pilgrim life of mercy.

Each of the pilgrim days is limited to 60 people, so bookings are essential, at least 7 days prior to your chosen pilgrim day. To secure your place, send an email to: [ebadmin@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:ebadmin@bne.catholic.net.au) Flyers can be downloaded from the website at: [www.santateresa.org.au](http://www.santateresa.org.au) Bring your friends, youth group, parish ministry group or family to one of these pilgrim days and allow your heart to be touched by God's mercy and love anew.

## New Kitchen

After many years in the planning, our new kitchen is now a reality. The existing working space has been redesigned to create a series of new work areas including a separate wash room with a commercial dishwasher, new stainless benches with heat lamps for food preparation and plating, and two large walk-in fridges that accommodate bulk food supplies plus specialist commercial catering equipment such as two new combo steam ovens and a food processor.

This reorientation of the kitchen means that the catering team no longer enjoy window views across the Moreton Bay, but they have a purposeful working environment to provide excellent quality meals for our guests. We are deeply grateful to Mary-Clair and her team for utilising a temporary kitchen in the Cottage and the challenge of catering amidst building works. Special thanks goes to David Friend from Archdiocesan Building Services, who did a superb job of supervising this major renovation project. Funding for this vital project was through the Archdiocese's capital works program and demonstrates the importance work of Santa Teresa within its life and mission.



## Sacred Ground—Celebration of Arts & Spirituality 1st—3rd April 2016



Santa Teresa Ormiston Arts Committee (STOAC) is organising a weekend to allow participants to share in the storytelling of artisans and to explore spirituality through a variety of creative mediums. It will include plenary sessions, workshops and a dinner Art Show on the Saturday evening. You can participate as a full live-in weekend, as two single days or as a one day/event. Further details will be posted on the website.

Bookings can be made via the Centre Supervisor on 3286 4011. Join us for what will be a unique experience of spirituality and the creative arts.

## Moongalba now a cool space for enjoying bay views

Now that Moongalba has been air-conditioned, this cool space can operate as a separate dining space; an overflow for large groups from the Cenacle dining room; a verandah space for a quiet coffee or another working formation space around tables.

Moongalba (aboriginal for 'sitting down place') with its glass walls provides the perfect spot for soaking in the beauty of the waters of Moreton Bay with the horizon of North Stradbroke Island while eating, relaxing, reading or sharing with others. This name was chosen by the Quandamooka elders as it captures the spirit of the conversations that flowed when the three Passionist priests met the local people on the shores of Straddie in 1843.



## St Joseph's accommodation wing



Naming the largest of our accommodation wings after St Joseph, harks back to the origins of the land on which the Centre is built. Ormiston House (pictured) and 27 acres of land was purchased by the Carmelite Sisters in 1965 when they moved from Auchenflower. The land on which Santa Teresa has been built was called St Joseph's fields by the Sisters. It was used for the cultivation of passionfruit. The Cenacle Sisters purchased 1.7 hectares and established the Cenacle retreat centre, which was opened and blessed by Archbishop Francis Rush in 1984.

This wing contains 12 bedrooms each with an ensuite, the laundry and some linen storage. Each room is well equipped and provides a haven for guests to relax, prayer, rest and reflect. Our prayer is that St Joseph will protect each and every visitor and staff member on their spiritual journey, just as he cared for Jesus and Mary.

## Vale Sr Pat Clouston

Sr Pat was the Coordinator of the Cenacle Retreat Centre (now Santa Teresa) from its opening in 1984 until its closure in 2004. Sr Pat and Fr John Reilly sj ran countless retreats over this 20 year period. She also attended to the many tasks needed to maintain and develop the Centre. Sr Pat was a member of the Cenacle Sisters, a religious order whose mission is:

*We companion people on their faith journey in the midst of life.  
Living justice and Gospel values, we draw from our experience of God,  
creating a place where people can encounter God.*

We are deeply grateful for her retreat ministry within the Archdiocese which touched the lives of thousands of people as she lived out the charism of her order's founder, St Therese Couderc. May she now enjoy the peace and love of God's loving embrace.



## Teacher Days 2016



After a shutdown over the December-January Christmas and holiday period, STSC opened its doors to hundreds of our teachers who spend a day or overnight stay as part of their professional development days and orientation to the 2016 school year.

Santa Teresa is stretched to its limits as school staffs come and spend time reflecting on their mission to form and educate the children in their care. We pray that the peace and wisdom they experience will remain with them throughout their year.

## Queensland Landscape Awards—Santa Teresa wins Commercial 1 Award

Figtree Landscapes entered its work on the front swale, the Cana prayer space and the Hermitage at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre into the 2015 Qld Landscapes Awards in the category: Commercial 1. These awards recognise excellence in construction and design across a range of categories.

Toni Sokolov is pictured with the top award for this category at the Qld Awards dinner held at the Hilton hotel on 14 November. The previous year, Figtree Landscapes won an award for the labyrinth and surrounds created at San Sisto College, Carina.



We are deeply grateful for the amazing work and close relationship that has developed with Toni and his team over the past three years as they have transformed our outdoor spaces into beautiful prayer spaces.

## Record number of visitors in 2015



What an amazing year we had in 2015! There was a record 4088 guests at the Centre with 2,101 day visitors and 1,987 people staying overnight. This was an increase of 755 extra guests (23% growth). August was our busiest month ever with 589 people.

Our STSC team of supervisors, admin support, caterers, cleaners and grounds staff are to be commended for their hard work and wonderful hospitality that creates such a welcoming place to encounter God.

Our new schedule of fees is listed on the website and applies from 1 February, 2016. Contact the Centre soon to make a booking if you intend to visit STSC in 2016 as our booking calendar is filling fast.

Blessings,

Mike Humphrys - Coordinator