



# Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre e-News

## Wattle invite us to join in Spring Praise



As Winter gives way to Spring, we experience the vibrancy, energy and beauty of a floral cascade of colours in our gardens and Australian bush. Our national floral emblem, the wattle bush produces a spray of golden glory that invites us to join in a Song of Cosmic Praise \*

Lift up a song to our Cosmic God! Voice a new melody of praise!

Praise and shout to God Most High. A brand new song is on our lips. Mystery and splendour are yours, O Radiant Giver of Life.

With beauty that amazes all, no one can match your art.

All creatures listen to our God whose Word goes forth shaping waves of energizing life.

You breathed, we all came to be. Your voice allures us all.

We praise you, God of Creation.

Our hearts rejoice in God Most High. Give witness to God's glory.

Throughout the cosmos let praise resound in joy.

*\*Song of Cosmic Praise from Wildflower Journey Prayers by Jacinta Shailer sgs p.41*

## Our Story – History Boards

Late last year, two acrylic boards with *Our Vision* and *Our Inspiration* were installed in the main entrance corridor. Recently, outside the Cenacle dining room, four acrylic boards telling the story of the Centre have been added. Each one covers a different part of the chronology of the Centre, namely:

- 1) *Quandamooka Country* (beginning more than 25,000 years ago)
- 2) *From Sugar Farm to Field of St Joseph* (1850-1980)
- 3) *Cenacle Retreat Centre* (1980-2006)
- 4) *Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre* (2006-present)



These impressive boards created by Griffiths Graphics provide a visual and written account of the Centre's history while seeking to honour those who have played a role in its story. The story boards have generated much interest from our guests.

## Parish Reflection Days – Overnight and Day options

**An overnight retreat** (4pm Fri-3pm Sat) **15/16 September** will focus on the season of Ordinary Time helping us to see the action of God in our lives. The cost is \$150 and will include some input, prayer, personal reflection time and sharing.



**A day retreat** (9am-4pm) **Saturday 2 December** will provide a space to explore the wonder of the Advent season. The cost is \$30 and includes morning tea and lunch.

For enquires and bookings contact Mary-Anne at: [cullenm@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cullenm@bne.catholic.net.au) or Ph. 3324 3443. Payment and booking essential 10 days prior to each retreat.



## St Therese surrounded by a new garden



The image of our patron St Therese of Lisieux has been captured by artist Gregory Gilmour in this stunning stainless steel art work positioned in Lisieux Place at the end of the main pathway. The original plantings around this feature had grown woody and unkempt, often obscuring Therese's face.

Toni Sokolov (Figtree Landscapes) has recently replanted this garden with dwarf lillypillies, camellias and other rockery plants to create a fitting canopy for this art work. Discover the face of St Therese amidst this garden, that for her, was a wondrous way that God is revealed in the beauty of our world.

## New air-conditioning unit in the Main Chapel

For many years, the air-con unit in the main chapel has been problematic due to poor design. It has been noisy in its operation as well as limited in its capacity to regulate the chapel temperature. A new unit that utilises the existing ducting has been installed. It is whisper quiet in its operation and delivers cool / warm air more efficiently and consistently. We are grateful for the capital funding that allows us to undertake these improvements. This year we have replaced a hot water system and an air-con unit in the cottage.



## Welcome back Fr Chris Gleeson



It was wonderful to welcome back Fr Chris Gleeson SJ as part of the Companions of St Ignatius gathering recently held at Santa Teresa. Fr. Chris was the inaugural Director of the Centre from 2006 till 2010 until his appointment promoting the Ignatian charism in Jesuit education. He was the founder of the Faber Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, based initially at the ACU Banyo campus before its relocation to Bardon. With the late Fr John Reilly SJ, he was resident in the cottage during his ministry here in Brisbane. Known for his many stories, books and editorship of the Madonna magazine, Fr Chris continues to play an important role in breaking open the spiritual genius of St. Ignatius.

## New showerheads work wonders

Yes, we do take note of what our visitors say in their evaluation forms. One area of concern for our overnight guests has been the inability to direct the flow of water in the showers due to the modern fixed showerhead installed at the time of the Centre's major renovation in 2009.

Recently, flexible hose showerheads have replaced the fixed ones and this has prompted a number of visitors to make comments such as: 'Loved the new showerhead, it makes it so easy to wash oneself' or 'What a blessing, it is now so easy to direct the flow of water, especially for washing one's hair- well done Santa Teresa'



## Who has visited lately ?

Here are some of the groups who have been with us over the last few busy months:

- ◆ Vietnamese Catholic Community (weekend)
- ◆ Mercy Partners (overnight)
- ◆ Anglican Oratory of the Good Shepherd (6 nights)
- ◆ Carmel College Leadership Team (day)
- ◆ Marriage Encounter (weekend) pictured right
- ◆ Community for a Better World (5 nights)
- ◆ Society of the Sacred Heart (weekend)
- ◆ Uniting Church Broadwater Road (day)
- ◆ Archdiocesan Clergy retreat (5nights)
- ◆ Korean Catholic Community (overnight)



Contact us soon to organise your stay with us.

Blessings, Mike Humphrys (Coordinator)