



Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre e-News

Anchored in God

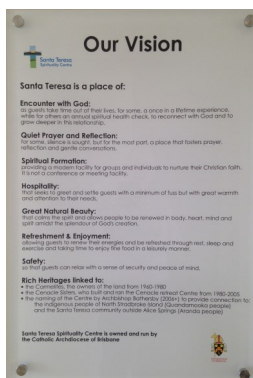
A spiritual life is simply a life in which all that we do comes from the centre, where we are all anchored in God; a life soaked through and through by a sense of God's reality and claim, and self-given to the great movement of God's will. (Evelyn Underhill)

A Prayer of Anchoring (by Joyce Rupp)

I turn to you, Holy One, in this time of turmoil amid the waters of life and I pray:
 Anchor my mind in your unswerving serenity that lies beneath the wild waves of my discontent.
 Anchor every heartbeat and breath of mine in the wide ocean of your endless compassion.
 Anchor ongoing longings for world peace in the stream of your eternal harmony.
 Anchor a respect for every human being in the clear waters of your non-judgment.
 Anchor in the steady undercurrent of your justice each choice to end unbearable injustice.
 Anchor deeply in your merciful forgiveness any inner surges toward retaliation and revenge.
 Anchor the best of my talents and abilities to serve generously in the reservoir of your grace.
 Anchor in the depths of your divine wisdom my questions and concerns about the future.
 Anchor every storm that riles my heart in the gracious tranquility of your abiding love.



Our Vision and Our Inspiration



Newly installed on the entrance foyer wall are two acrylic boards that articulate the Santa Teresa Vision Statement and our Patron, St Therese of Lisieux.

Visitors can now readily identify the purpose of the Centre as a place of: encounter with God; prayer and reflection; spiritual formation; hospitality; natural beauty; refreshment and enjoyment; safety and possessing a rich heritage. These values guide us in our operational policies and decisions as a ministry of the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

So too, the wisdom, story and example of St Therese is a rich source of blessing for our staff and visitors, whose words remind us that:

“What matters in life...is not great deeds, but great love.”

Parish Reflection Days 2017

Many of the 507 Year of Mercy pilgrims visiting Santa Teresa for the first time last year, asked whether there would be similar opportunities in 2017. In response, 3 reflection days and an overnight retreat are being offered by Evangelisation Brisbane staff. Details are below.

Reflection Days:

- Wednesday 15 March 9am-4pm with a focus on **Lent** (cost\$30)
- Saturday 6 May 9am-4pm with a focus on **Easter** (cost \$30)
- Saturday 2 December 9am-4pm with a focus on **Advent** (cost \$30)

Overnight Retreat Friday-Saturday 7-8 July 4pm Fri-3pm Sat (cost \$150)

For enquiries and registration contact Mary-Anne Cullen cullenm@bne.catholic.net.au or ph 3324 3443 (booking and payment essential 10 days prior to the day)



Couderc Cottage Formation Space



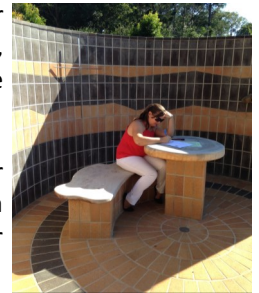
With its idyllic views across Moreton Bay across to Stradbroke Island, the Cottage is another popular formation space for groups of 10-20 people. Newly installed audio visual equipment ensures that groups have access to modern technology for formation needs. The kitchen, new chairs and immediate access to the grounds makes this a versatile space that accommodates a wide range of activities.

Named after the founder (St Therese Couderc canonised in 1970) of the Cenacle Sisters who built and ran the Centre from 1980-2006, the cottage was their residence. Currently, it provides accommodation for the overnight caretakers and visitors in the 3 bedrooms as well as a comfortable formation/lounge area.

Donations for Future Projects

Great efforts have been expended in enhancing the natural beauty of the setting through major landscape works to create such beautiful prayer spaces as the labyrinth, Quandamooka prayer pathway, Cana (Mary) space and the Hermitage area (pictured right) and prayer fence as well as cultivating the entrance, chapel and hillside gardens and the swales at the front and rear of the property.

The generosity of donors is vital so that other projects (eg history boards in the main corridor, a roof for the hermitage, and an outside meeting circle) can be undertaken. If you are able to assist with a donation please contact myself (details below) or our Supervisors Colleen and Karren Ph 3286 4011 for information about ways your contributions can further develop the Centre.



Improvements: Watering System



A fully automated sprinkler system was installed in December to ensure that our beautiful gardens and plants have adequate water during the hot summer months. Drawing on our underground water supplies, the irrigation system has 6 different sprinkler sections covering most of the gardens. It is activated in the early hours of the morning to maximise effectiveness of this watering by avoiding evaporation during the hotter periods of the day. An inbuilt sensor element shuts down the system during rainy periods to conserve our precious water supplies.

The Centre seeks to be a place of great natural beauty by creating and maintaining gardens that show forth the splendour of creation ablaze with the glory of God.

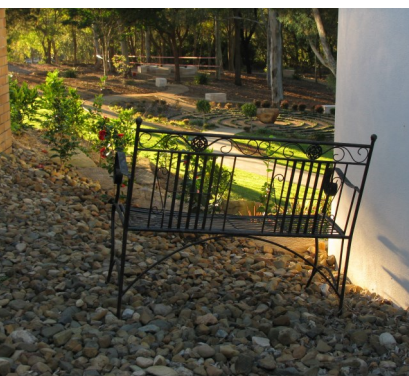
2017 Fees – no increases

Despite ongoing cost pressures, particularly increased staffing, 2017 prices have not changed. This means that overnight accommodation and all meals remain at \$150 per person per day and the day visitor costs are \$40 (package 1) and \$50 (package 2) respectively.

All costs are generously subsidised by the Archdiocese of Brisbane to provide access to as many people as possible. Full details are available on the Santa Teresa website at: <http://santateresa.org.au/fees>



Making Time in 2017



Santa Teresa welcomed nearly 4,000 guests in 2016. Of these, 2294 were day guests (59%) and 1618 were overnight guests (41%). Our guests include clergy, parishioners, church agency staff, teachers, religious, Catholic groups and other Christian church groups. Each person made time in their busy lives to come aside to spend time with God, engage in a rich variety of spiritual formation activities and seek to be renewed.

2017 is already in full swing, but unless we plan ahead and make a booking for a day or overnight experience (see the Parish Reflection Days) or organise a group or individual booking then the year can soon pass by.

Make the time to come - you will be richly blessed by God.

Mike Humphrys - Coordinator