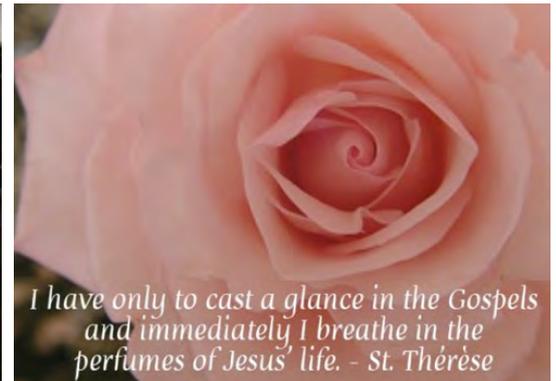




Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre e-News

Wisdom from our Patron



Who would have imagined that the words of a young Carmelite nun from an enclosed monastery in Lisieux, France at the end of the nineteenth century, could speak to us today. One of only four female Doctors of the Church for her teachings on 'Love' St Therese 's wisdom has touched the hearts of millions of people, captivated by the simplicity and directness of her message.

Thérèse came to see that love had little to do with feelings of affection and attraction, and much to do with consciously letting go of any hostile thought or natural feeling of antagonism. She took to heart Jesus' injunction to love one's enemy, realising that the most unlovable of her sisters was the one with the greatest need for the greatest love. Thérèse's advice is simple but requires real courage. Acknowledge the hurtful feelings, even befriend them, but don't brood over the feelings or the injury that triggered them. "Charity," she said, "consists in bearing with those who are unbearable... not being surprised at their weakness, [but] being edified by the smallest acts of virtue we see them practise."

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a drone.



Filming of the Centre is taking place on Friday 2 June in order to capture new imagery for an update of the Santa Teresa website. Adrian Dyer from Catholic Communications makes use of a drone to take aerial photos to promote events and places on the Archdiocese website.

Adrian will capture video and photography of Santa Teresa from the air. These images will showcase Santa Teresa's beautiful locale as well as its modern facilities on our website and promotional literature. This new technology gives us access to unique perspectives of the Centre.

Staff: Our Cleaning Team

Our cleaning team are absolutely vital to the efficient running of the Centre to ensure that guest rooms are clean and tidy and all Centre facilities are kept neat and fresh. Often they have very little time to change bedding, vacuum floors, sterilise bathrooms and empty rubbish bins in all 30 rooms when one large group follows quickly after the other.

Their attention to detail and pride in their work ensures that guests enjoy their time at Santa Teresa comfortable in the knowledge that the facilities are hygienic and clean. The Holy Cross Laundry provides an excellent service in supplying our linen and towels.



Blessed Sacrament Chapel –a place for quiet contemplation



The Blessed Sacrament chapel is available 24 hours a day for guests wanting to spend quiet time in prayer. With its large glass view of Moreton Bay, its vertical wooden tabernacle holding the Eucharistic presence of Jesus, its icons of the *Last Supper* and the *Road to Emmaus* (pictured right) and its intimate cave like environment, it is a special place to spend time with God.



Fire Systems – Workplace Health and Safety

A schedule of equipment testing of our fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, alarm systems, fire hydrant pumps and water backflow is conducted regularly to ensure that our fire systems are ready for any emergency. A recent alarm, triggered by an accidental use of a manual call point demonstrated that staff and guests were compliant with evacuation procedures.

Our supervisors and caretakers take their fire training seriously to ensure that staff and guests are kept safe in the event of a fire or other emergency.



Catering– fresh herbs



The flourishing herbs growing in pots at the front entrance of the Centre underlie Mary-Clair and the catering team's commitment to producing fresh food that is both tasty and nutritious. The pots of basil, thyme, rosemary and parsley are picked regularly and used to season the meals served to guests.

Many of our guests admire our herbs and are tempted to take a leaf to smell the rich aroma that they produce. Visitor comments attest to the quality and deliciousness of the meals served at Santa Teresa by our catering team.

Endowment Fund, Donations & Bequests

The Centre is generously funded by the Archdiocese for both its recurrent and capital expenditure so that fees are kept at a moderate level. Archbishop Bathersby created an Endowment Fund so that benefactors could secure the long term operations of the Centre through fund dividends once it holds a significant balance earning interest.



Donors can support the growth and ongoing development of the Centre through their donations or bequests for specific items or by funding those unable to afford the fees. Please consider how you might assist the Centre to become self-funded to secure the ongoing ministry of providing a place for people to pray and encounter God.

Promotion –Inviting others to experience the beauty of Santa Teresa

It amazes me that Santa Teresa remains unknown to many people after more than 7 years of operation. Most of the 500 Year of Mercy pilgrims from 23 of our Catholic parishes had not been to the Centre previously. Despite our efforts to promote the Centre through our Archdiocesan media outlets, the Santa Teresa website and advertisement features in Catholic papers and magazines (eg The Catholic Weekly Retreats supplement 21 May pictured right) we depend on the Centre's 4,000 visitors each year to share their experiences with others.

Forwarding this newsletter on to others, encouraging others to take the time out for a day, weekend or longer for a retreat; or giving a Santa Teresa gift voucher to a friend or family member are ways that you can open the door for others to discover the beauty of this place.

Blessings, Mike Humphrys - Coordinator

