



Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre e-News

Uluru — a symbol of a deeper reality— a sacred place to encounter God’s activity and presence



A recent visit to Uluru gave me a renewed sense of wonder and awe at the beauty and immensity of creation. The dimensions of this massive monolith formed over 500 million years are amazing with its deepest point 2.5 kms below the surface, its circumference 9.4 kms and its height 348 metres above the desert.

Uluru is more than just a rock, it is a living cultural landscape which is considered sacred to the Yankunytjatjara and Pitjantjatjara people. ... The spirits of the ancestral beings continue to reside in these sacred places making the land an important part of Aboriginal cultural identity.



Sacred places provide a strong connection to a deeper reality, namely the presence and activity of the Creator or a link to the wisdom of a holy person. Santa Teresa has created some touchstones (labyrinth, Cana, Blessed Sacrament chapel, yarning circle etc.) to help visitors connect with the mysteries and wisdoms of our faith tradition.

Hospitality — a key element of the Santa Teresa vision

Jesus’ ministry often took place around the meal table: where he told stories about the Kingdom; healed the sick; welcomed outcasts and forgave sinners. Conversations over meals can enrich peoples lives as they experience: joy and laughter, personal stories and new insights as well as banter about sports, politics and the weather.

Catering is a vital part of the retreat experience and the Centre is very appreciative of the professionalism, care and generosity of Mary-Clair and her team in providing wholesome, appealing and nutritious meals for our guests.

Recently, the outdoor furniture that has been a feature of the Moongalba verandah for the past 10 years has been replaced by café style tables and chairs to enhance the dining experience of our guests. May all who visit Santa Teresa be refreshed by the warmth of table hospitality and be nourished by fine food, enjoyed at leisure.



Parish Reflection Days 2019 ‘Call to Holiness’

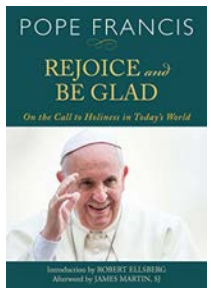
Taking Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation: ‘Rejoice and Be Glad’ as our inspiration, there are two remaining reflection days focused on our ‘Call to Holiness’ in 2019.

- ◆ Saturday 31 August 9am-3pm
- ◆ Saturday 30 November 9am-3pm

Costs are \$30 per person (includes lunch box and morning tea)

Please register at: <http://ebab.weebly.com> (booking and payment essential 7 days prior)

‘Everything can be accepted and integrated into our life in this world and become a part of our path to holiness. We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action.’ Rejoice and Be Glad n.26



Koalas 'at home among the gum trees' at Santa Teresa



The Redlands region is well known as a home for koalas, though with increasing development, their safety and food habitats are increasingly under threat. Santa Teresa is regularly visited by koalas who enjoy the gum trees, particularly, the tallwoods near the cottage and in the area below the chapels.

The koala figure located in the Centre foyer was painted by artists from the Santa Teresa Community outside Alice Springs.

Santa Teresa seeks to protect the beauty of God's creation by preserving a safe habitat for local fauna, especially, our beloved koalas, whose presence delights our visitors.



Painting and Roofing repairs about to commence



As part of our capital works maintenance program, the exterior of the Centre together with key internal areas will be painted to refresh its appearance and protect the structures from the effects of coastal weathering.

Ongoing storm water damage requires the chapel roof be replaced. Both these major works will be undertaken in the coming months.



Wisdoms from St. Francis of Assisi: poet, mystic, preacher, religious founder, lover of nature



"Remember that when you leave
this earth, you can take
with you nothing that you
have received - only what you
have given: a full heart
enriched by honest service,
love, sacrifice and
courage."
Saint Francis of Assisi

LORD
MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT
OF YOUR PEACE +
WHERE THERE IS HATRED -
LET ME SOW LOVE,
WHERE THERE IS INJURY - PARDON
WHERE THERE IS DOUBT - FAITH
WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR - HOPE
WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS - LIGHT
WHERE THERE IS SADNESS - JOY
DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY
NOT SO MUCH SEEK TO BE CONSOLED
AS TO CONSOLE, TO BE
UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND
TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE,
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE,
IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE
PARDONED, IT IS IN DYING THAT
WE ARE BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE +

Recent visit to Santa Teresa Community, Alice Springs



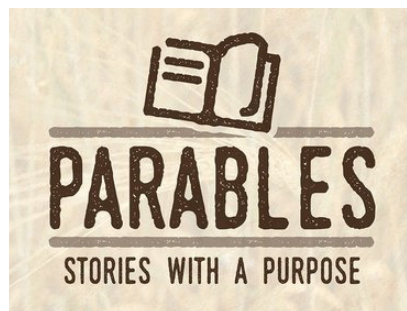
It was a great joy for me to meet Sr Liz and the indigenous women, who paint the crosses and scarves, at the Santa Teresa community located 80 kms outside of Alice Springs.



New Spiritual Resource - Parable podcasts by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

An excellent resource for spiritual reflection is the new series of podcasts on the Gospel parables. Archbishop Mark's biblical scholarship opens up the purpose and meaning of these well known stories.

They can be downloaded from the Archdiocesan website at: <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/archbishop/homilies/>



Contact us soon to organise your 2019 stay with us.

Whether it is a day, an overnight, a weekend or an extended stay, come and experience the beauty and peace of this special place.

Blessings,
Mike Humphrys (Coordinator)