

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved. Forever!



JUBILEE
OF MERCY

Ametur

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Newsletter of the Associates of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

OLSH Convent, 2 Kensington Rd, Kensington, NSW 2033. Tel: (02) 9662 1777 .Email: associates@olshaustralia.org.au
(Please note the new email address) www.olshaustralia.org; www.olshoverseasaid.org; www.laymsc.org

Dear Associates,

Have you ever wondered how Jesus prayed?

His Apostles also wondered

They had seen Him at prayer and knew that He often got up early, before dawn, and went to lonely places and prayed. For Jesus this was what His Heart longed for – intimate and silent encounters with His Father.

The Apostles were prayerful men also, but they could see that when Jesus prayed there was something different from, something more than the kind of prayer they were in the habit of praying. They wanted this "something" and so they asked: "Lord, teach us to pray..." And their question had the implication: "What exactly is real prayer? Can you possibly teach us to pray as you have been praying?" And Jesus replied:

"When you pray, say Father!" (Luke 11:2)

Throughout His life Jesus opened His Heart in prayer to hear God's voice as He travelled His personal pilgrim path, the path that led to our salvation. One of the first decisive events that we read about in the Gospels tells of Jesus' experience at His baptism by John the Baptist in the river Jordan. Jesus never forgot the words of his Father as He came out of the water:

***"You are my Son, the Beloved;
with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11)***

One author elaborates on these words:

***"God does not reveal himself as ineffable Mystery
but as a Father close by who speaks to Jesus
to reveal Jesus' mystery as a Son.
God is saying 'You are mine, you are my son.
Your whole being springs from me. I am your Father'.
The narrative shows the intimate, joyful nature of this revelation.
Jesus responds with one word: Abba [Father]."***

***From now on that is the name he will use
when he communicates with God."***

(J A Pagola, Jesus, Convivium Press, 2011, p 298).

Throughout his life Jesus experienced God as his Father. It was to the Father that he prayed and entrusted his life. The Father was the centre of his life and Jesus was enthralled by his Father's goodness. And so, when his disciples asked: "Lord, teach us to pray..." Jesus gave them, and us, the prayer that holds his most intimate experiences and reflections of God, the Our Father. It begins with this most beautiful name for God, "Father". Reading about Jesus' prayers in the Gospels you will find that most of them begin with "Father". Jesus wants to teach us to pray as he prays, always with a deep trust in the goodness of God and of our close relationship as God's sons and daughters, brothers and sisters to each other.

At noon, every Sunday, Pope Francis gives a short talk to the pilgrims gathered in St Peter's Square. Then he prays the Angelus with them and imparts his blessing. He usually ends the short 15-20 minute period with words to this effect: "Have a good lunch and pray for me". On Sunday 24th July the Pope offered some words on the prayer of Jesus:

***"This word [Father] is the secret of Jesus' prayer.
It is the key that he himself gives us so that we can also enter
into this relationship of trusting dialogue with the Father."***

Having called on His Father Jesus continues His prayer by telling Him of the great passions and desires in His life:

- * *Hallowed/blessed/sanctified be Your Name*- that You, dear Father will always and everywhere be known and loved
- * *Your Kingdom come* – Father, that injustice and suffering will give way to Your Good News of salvation, and all your creation will live in harmony, peace and freedom.
- * *Your will be done on earth* – Father, as you want only what is good for us may your will be done and not the will of the world's powerful, greedy and oppressing ones.

Then follows three petitions concerning the basic needs of God's sons and daughters:

- **Give us today our daily bread* – Father, we do not ask for wealth but for food for everyone, every day. "Let those who are hungry eat; let your poor people stop weeping and begin to laugh; let us see them living with dignity. Give us all a foretaste of the bread that one day we will all eat together, seated at your table: (J.A Pagola, *ibid*, p 315)
- * ***Forgive us our debts as we forgive those who are in debt to us*** - Father, forgive us when we do not respond to your love. We want your forgiveness to so change our hearts that we, in turn, may forgive others.
- * ***Do not let us fall into temptation, and deliver us from evil*** – Father, keep us in your loving care and help us to trust always in Your powerful help.

The great Saint, Teresa of Avila, reminded us that we should never say this powerful prayer except in the company of Jesus. So let us pray it always with Him, and, like the Apostles learn that the secret of Jesus' prayer was complete love of and trust in His Father.

I'll finish with a thought from Pope Francis to those assembled at the World Youth Rally where he picked up on the theme of memory. He urged the young computer-savvy pilgrims to "trust the memory of God. His memory is not a 'hard disk' that 'saves' and 'archives' all our data, but a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in 'erasing' in us every trace of evil." As he finished his homily by leading some minutes of silent prayer, a great stillness fell on the vast assembly.

Blessings and love in the Heart of Jesus with Mary

Sr Ancilla Osh



SPIRITUALITY OF THE HEART

in accordance with FR. JULES CHEVALIER'S CHARISM.
An on-line program for members of the Chevalier Family
and for everyone interested in a Spirituality of the Heart.

Section 7:

THE CHARISM OF FR. CHEVALIER

The following sections deal with Fr. Chevalier's charism - that means with the special Gift of the Spirit that inspired him to realize his dream of spreading the Devotion to the Sacred Heart everywhere, as a remedy for the ills of society. His ideal was to bring together in one Society, religious, diocesan priests and lay people, who all in their own way would practise the Devotion to the Sacred Heart, today called a Spirituality of the Heart, by giving witness to it by their way of life, of service and teaching.

We may distinguish the following aspects of Chevalier's charism which kept him going during his whole life, notwithstanding setbacks and opposition:

1. A passion for Jesus Christ.
2. A developing vision of the Devotion to the Sacred Heart.
3. A Mission of the Heart.
4. A Social Mission.
5. A Shared Mission.
6. A Mission Everywhere.
7. A Mission together with Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

In the following sections, we will present the different aspects of Chevalier's multi-faceted charism, one by one. As gifts of the same Spirit, these seven aspects are closely interconnected. Together they will give a deeper insight into Chevalier's charism as the Founder of the Chevalier Family, and consequently, into the charism and identity of the Chevalier Family.

A Reflective Moment

***"The charism of Chevalier should become the charism of the Chevalier Family,
and the source of its identity.***

***It is the unifying force that creates coherence and integration
in the variety of ministries and services
performed by members of the Chevalier Family.***

***Our spirituality is what we do with Chevalier's charism;
the way we channel and express it through our life and ministries."***

Section 8

A PASSION FOR JESUS CHRIST

What was it that inspired Fr. Chevalier to devote his whole life and work to the Sacred Heart? What empowered him to perform his mission till the end of his life, with unflagging energy, day by day, notwithstanding many setbacks? During his whole life, he remained inspired and empowered by a special Gift of the Spirit poured out in his heart. While he humbly received this gift with an open heart, and remained faithful to it during his whole life, this gift or Charism became a permanent source of inspiration for him personally, and a light that gave direction to all his undertakings. This Gift of the Holy Spirit was as a fire that set his heart aflame and ignited him to do ordinary things in an extra-ordinary way.

What did this special Gift of the Spirit to Fr. Chevalier include? Above all, a great passion for Jesus Christ. For Chevalier, Jesus Christ was the Son of God who became human and lived among us in Palestine, as well as the living Lord, still present on earth, in today's world, more specifically in the Eucharist. The Devotion to the Sacred Heart inspired him to read the Gospels with new eyes. By doing so, he encountered Jesus in a new way: he met Jesus who loves with a human heart and with unconditional love. The same Jesus, he met as the living Lord in his personal prayer and in the Eucharist in which Jesus remains with us, till the end of time. For Chevalier, the Eucharist was the greatest gift of the Sacred Heart.

Driven by this passion for Jesus Christ, Chevalier urged people to read and re-read the Gospel in order to get to know Jesus better. When Jesus is better known, he said, he will also be more deeply loved. He himself had discovered - and he wanted others to discover the same - that the essence of the Christian religion is not found in theological doctrine and moral laws, but in a personal relationship with a living person, Jesus Christ, God's Word Incarnate. For Fr. Chevalier "the Sacred Heart" was just another name for Jesus Christ, indicating the whole person of Jesus, the Son of God becoming human and loving with a human Heart.

A Reflective Moment

Fr. Chevalier's belief in Jesus Christ, God's Word Incarnate and the Risen Lord present in the midst of humanity and society was intensely strengthened by Jesus' words to Margaret Mary Alacoque, which he so often quoted, "Behold the Heart that has loved humankind so much that it has spared nothing."

**Can you recall a time when the Gospels, or some part of a Gospel
came alive for you, and you saw Jesus in a new light,
"with new eyes" ?**



GROUP MEETING REPORTS

BENTLEIGH: We had a very special meeting to welcome two new members – Amanda Nugent and Margaret Abourezk – who made their formal Commitment as OLSH Associates. We were thrilled to have with us Sr Elizabeth Little, our Provincial, and Sr Ancilla, our Director. Sr Ancilla reminded us of our Charism: to show the Heart of Jesus to all we meet. We must also have a strong devotion to Jesus especially in the Blessed Sacrament and to Mary, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. We then moved into the Chapel and after quiet prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, Margaret and Amanda were led through their Commitment ceremony by Sr Elizabeth. Medals were presented and then we proceeded to the Dining Room to celebrate with family and friends at afternoon tea.

Patricia Mirabile

BOWRAL: There were only a few Associates attending the July meeting at Hartzler Park but there was a beautiful and deep sharing in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We pondered the *Ametur* article on the *Ten Commandments of Mercy*, pausing for reflection and then sharing. Then I shared something of my vocation and we closed with praying the *Memorare* and the song *Woman of the Sacred Heart*. As usual there was pleasant conversation at morning tea with the Sisters.

Sr Annabella Muller

There were 5 Associates at our August meeting. We began with the song: "*God's Circle of Friends*" and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament we read and reflected on the story of Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42). We then read and discussed Sessions 5, 6 of "*Spirituality of the Heart*", from the *Ametur*. There was beautiful and meaningful sharing on Father Chevalier and his love and deep personal relationship with the Heart of Jesus. We finished with the *Memorare* to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the hymn, "*The Fullness of God*". We then enjoyed morning tea with the Sisters.

Sr Annabella Muller

CALLALA: We had our July meeting at Anna Zanin's home and gave thanks for her good health. The "*Ten Commandments of Mercy*" were read and discussed and all agreed that each commandment was relevant to our own lives and gave us a deeper understanding of God's mercy, as well as making us more aware of how we should show mercy to others. Our thanks to Sr Ancilla for the inspiring articles in the *Ametur* each month which give our meetings direction.

Ann Collier

We began our August meeting praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We then read Sessions 5 and 6 of our formation programme, *Spirituality of the Heart*, and we discussed how we can live our lives according to the Heart of Jesus.

Ann Collier

CANBERRA: At our July meeting we discussed the very inspiring and challenging thoughts about mercy written by Fr R Rolhieser. We concentrated on the first five points and discussed how we could

deepen compassion and mercy in our lives and in the broader community. It was with sadness that we prayed for and remembered our dear friend and Associate, Adrienne Hemsley, who died on 27th June. We shall miss her warmth and friendship and will keep her dedicated and loving husband, Paul and the family in our prayers.

Christine Casey

We met as usual at St John's Kippax for our August meeting. Sr Mary Ruth gave a meditation on "*Hidden With the World, Living with the Sacred*". Living with the sacred faces us God-ward, and opens us up to the source of love. Living with the sacred may lead to deep trust and faith, but not to uninterrupted peace of mind. It opens us in love, to the suffering and brokenness of the world as much as to its joy and beauty. Living with the sacred increases our consciousness of the divine reality in our daily life, of the many ways that God comes to us. It is not finding something new but uncovering something that has been there all along, something that can make everything new. Living with the sacred invites us to wonder and awe at the divine ambushes, as God continually seeks to surprise us in the ordinary. Living with the sacred requires us to practise daily openness, mindfulness, awareness and reverence. "Any moment can be a sacred moment that knocks us onto our knees in adoration and wonder. But if we never stop to consider that, or say 'yes' to its possibility, we're in danger of missing it. To nourish such attentiveness we have to slow down; we have to set aside time; we have to practise stillness and quiet."

Christine Casey

HARTZER PARK: For our reflection for the June meeting we looked at and prayed with one of the prayers and some writings of Gertrude of Helfta – an early mystic and "woman of the Church" who was known for her great devotion to the Sacred Heart. Lively discussion, questions and comments covering "faith and spirituality of today" permeated the content of the material in Sections 3 and 4 of Spirituality of the Heart.

Jan Clark

At our July meeting our reflection was on "Compassion" – remembering we are just over half way through the year of Mercy. This consisted of a true story entitled "*Forgiveness*", from the book by Mary Lou Kownacki OCB, "*A Monk in the Inner City*", and a hymn, "*Pour Out Compassion and Mercy*" (Briege O'Hare). We ended with the prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee year of Mercy. In our Formation segment there was discussion and reflection on the material in Sections 3, 5 and 6 using the writing or comments of Joyce Rupp, Jean Vanier and Jules Chevalier, as they appear in the *Reflective Moments* for each of these sections.

Jan Clark

NOTRE DAME: We commenced our July meeting with the hymn "God is Love" – within each of us is a seed of love which is God's own life. Sr Marilyn led the group in a beautiful meditation on Mercy. We pondered that love and mercy are really one; if we act with mercy we are loving. Violence is not God's plan and it is only when we practise mercy that God's Kingdom comes. We need to look at our attitude towards those marginalised people living in our society: maybe God is calling us to change our thinking and acting towards these people. From our Founder thoughts we reflected that he saw a new world emerging from the pierced side of Christ – how am I bringing about this new world in my own life? We concluded with the hymn, *Creation Waits*, which contained a very beautiful chorus: *Creation waits ... creation waits ... or you and me to be revealed: to see at last on every face the life of God. Creation waits!*

At our August Meeting we reflected on the life of Mary from her birth to the Assumption. Mary's response to God's graces in her life are a wonderful example for us in our lives. Do we use the graces God gives us to the full? We found our reflection very beneficial as preparation for the coming feast of the Assumption. We could also see in the lives of our own wonderful mothers an image of Mary. In conclusion we listened to a beautiful rendition of *Ave Maria*, sung by a Celtic singer.

Maureen Maher

RANDWICK: At our June meeting we prayerfully reflected on the Gospel about the cost of Discipleship. This led to a discussion on the costs involved but also opened up the role of disciples today, and emphasised Jesus' promise to be with us always and not leave us orphans. One response was that Jesus would not ask for more than we can give. Trust Him. Discipleship presupposes our desire to be like Jesus – have His motives and His way of acting. Pope Francis reminds us often of how MERCY characterised Jesus' life. He also has urged us to consider acting out/ living the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Copies of these were distributed as well as an article on how the laity of today are "Living Writers of the Gospel" in our world. As Associates we are endeavouring to be on earth the heart of Jesus.

Sr Theresa Coleman

At our July meeting we meditated on the Sunday Gospel which included the Our Father. From this followed a very fruitful discussion on being forgiven to the extent that we forgive, and the ideal of mercy as "compassionate love". Flowing for this was a sharing from Session 5 in the *Ametur – "Chevalier's Way of Living out Spirituality of the Heart"*. It comprised all aspects of faith, religion and daily life – social as well as personal. It was easy to link this with Pope Francis' appeal to all to live out the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. We concluded, realising that we are "Living Writers of the Gospel" in our time and place. **Sr Theresa Coleman**



FOR YOUR DIARY

ASSOCIATES ANNUAL RETREAT WEEKEND.

St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park.

Friday 6pm, 11th Nov – Sunday 2.30 pm,
13th Nov 2016. Booking Forms available
from

Sr Ancilla 0296621777



CONGRATULATIONS

to our two new Associates,

Margaret Abourezk and Amanda Nugent

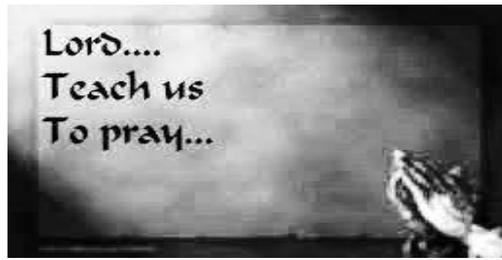
who made their Commitment on

25th June in the Chapel at OLSH Convent, Bentleigh Victoria.

May you be richly blessed as you live out our Charism .

GRATITUDE

Sincere gratitude from
for all the prayers and
following the death of
Michael. May he rest in



Therese Poulton
support she has received
her dear husband,
peace.

We Remember Our Beloved Deceased

Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

Sr Elaine North, Sr Mary Lenaghan, Sr Marie Cecile Sykes (St Joseph's)
Sr Eugenie Kennedy (Kensington) Sr Marion Whelan (St Joseph's)
Sr Paula Warjinah (Indonesia)

MSC

Fr Brian Rosser, Fr Michael Cantwell, Fr Peter Robinson (St Joseph's)

OLSH Associates

Adrienne Hemsley (Canberra), Gwen Gabel (Coolum Beach)

Relatives and Friends

Michael Poulton, Deborah Hunter, David Richards, Martin McFadden, Laurie Funnell, Cheryl Bellamy,
Anne Tucker, Phyllis Clancy, Father Dominic, Fr Kevin Spillane.

We Remember Our Sick and Those in Need of Our Prayers

Sr Marion Whelan, Sr Marilyn Knolder, Fr John Shallvey msc, Fr Terry Naughton msc, Fr Maurice
McNamara, Maree Hinton, Madeleine Kendall, Ruth Kelly, Sam and Megan Hunter, Margaret Cherry,
Sandra O'Brien, Angie Cunningham, Richard Swords, Helen McFadden, Maria de Marchi, Paul Hemsley,
Therese Poulton, Eric Carew, Peter Reardon, Betty Gibbons, Charlie Faruggia, Richards Family,
Rebecca Sexton, Therese & Dominic McMahan, Kathleen Webster, Politch Family, Michael Jarvis, Lyn
Small, Grace Corbitt, Ben Fitzgerald, Frances Lloyd, Ewan Hazell, Margaret & John Keen, Billy Schmich,
Stan Marks, Fr Mark Croker, Andy Galea, Fr Peter McGrath, Sheila Sheehan, Kim, Brian Butler,
Margaret Tate, Joan Long, Anne Jarman, Baby Kristian Hill, Joanna Madrid, Baby Ellie, Heather Hardy,
Elly Karaganis, Desley Stenhouse, Kenna Family, Dot Gimataris, Eileen Linegar,
Jenny Bentancourt, Greg Baker, Charlie, Laura Hinds, Maureen Maher, Lucy
Saladar Pamela Tipanan.



We pray in Thanksgiving For:

Vonnie and Ross Meyer – 65 Happy Years of Marriage.

Safe Return from an overseas trip.

Margaret Abourezk and Amanda Nugent our new Associates