



# PALLOTTINE FAMILY (UAC) NEWSLETTER

## March 2012

1963 -2013



Canonisation

Designed by: Paolo Russo, Regina Apostolorum (Queen of Apostles) Parish, Rome "The cross between the world and Saint Vincent represents Christ present in the midst of humanity and his holiness which became incarnate when he became human. The cross is at an angle to give a sense of movement, since the love of God is not static.

Within the number five is the world, which represents the Pallottine apostolate. Within the number zero is Saint Vincent, priest. The background is yellow as a sign of the light which holiness radiates".

**Pallottine Family Newsletter**  
Quarterly Circular for members of the  
Australian Pallottine Family

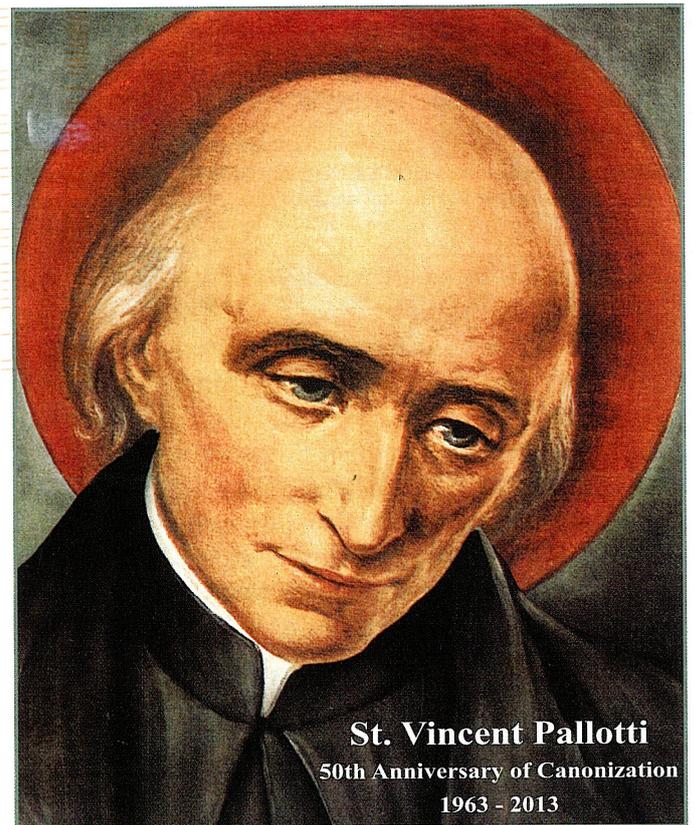
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## ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI: MAN OF THE MOMENT

In this year of jubilation as we head towards the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the canonization of St. Vincent on 20th January 2013, he has become for many of us the man of the moment. In recognizing him as such, we would like to present a brief item about him in each of the issues of our Newsletter this year, and the following is the first of these.



*The Human Face of St. Vincent*

I wish to emphasise Pallotti's humanity so that we may become better acquainted with him. This is not to deny or belittle his great sanctity or the depths of his mystical union with the infinitely loving, wonderfully powerful Holy Trinity. My aim is to present him in a light which might be more easily recognizable to most of us, as the human face of an unstoppable apostolic ministry born out of and sustained by that union with the holy Godhead.

I've been reading about mysticism in order to understand Pallotti a bit more and what has struck me is the insistence by writers that mysticism involves not just a deeply private indescribable union with God, but also an outflow of loving service to others. This helps me to relate more easily to our Saint and his work in Rome at his time in his practical care for those for whom he was responsible. As well there were many for whom he assumed responsibility, like the overseas missionaries, the young orphans, the soldiers stationed in the Roman barracks, the prisoners in goal, the sick and hospitalized. For all this work he drew on the depths and inner strength of his spiritual greatness, the possession of his being by the Spirit of Infinite Love.

Union with Christ and his decision to act like Jesus as the apostle of the Eternal Father put a compelling human face on Pallotti, as he worked for others, as a man among men. He coped easily as a friend of the desperate and least loved in his society; he

was a team player both by nature and by grace; he was always gender inclusive, being assisted by and serving the needs of both men and women; and in that small area of his work in Rome, he was very recognizable and dearly loved and respected.

When news of Pallotti's death reached them, the people of Rome lamented his passing, calling out, "The Saint is dead. The Saint is dead". They knew his sanctity in practical terms, in the reflection of the living God in all his actions of service and kindness. Pallotti exemplified in his daily life the truth that the first commandment to love God utterly is necessarily accompanied by the second, new commandment to love others even as God loves them. What he did for all his brethren he did for the Christ alive in them.

Pallotti's human face was and is the radiance of the divine.

Pat Heywood

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## THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANONIZATION OF ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI.

The 50th anniversary of the canonization of St. Vincent Pallotti is a chance to celebrate the vision and the charism which have enriched the Church and the World in many ways. During this year, individuals, communities, parishes, schools, institutes –throughout the world--will be united in a great prayer of praise and thanks and will celebrate in ways which are meaningful and appropriate for them. Here in Australia, the celebrations will last for a year....from the feast (birthday) of St. Vincent in April 2012 to the feast day in April 2013, beginning with:

**IN THE WEST** - on Friday, 20th, April , 7pm concelebrated Mass at Queen of Apostles Church, Riverton, followed by Supper and, as always on the patronal feast of the parish, Mary, Queen of Apostles—25th May, a similar programme.

**IN THE EAST** - On Saturday, 21st April at Kew a chance to 'Gather and Share'.

The day will begin with afternoon tea at 3.30pm, followed by prayer and a 'share' session', from 4-6pm. The day will conclude with a shared 'birthday' meal. This day is actually St. Vincent's birthday.

The 'Share' session will focus on the papers presented in Rome during the recent Assembly. These papers are mentioned in the report on that Assembly in this newsletter. Please feel free to invite family members, friends, etc.

For more information, contact Cheryl Sullivan (9416 7138) or just come on the day.

**On Saturday, 16th June, 85 Studley Park Rd, Kew will remember its 75 years as a Pallottine House** .....housing, hosting, welcoming people of all ages and backgrounds and ways of life—and still doing it. So an OPEN HOUSE is most appropriate.

The most important task is to make this event known. Some groups and individuals can be contacted but we know it will take much more than that. We want to gather names of everyone and anyone who would like to receive further information. And, above all, 'word of mouth' is a THE way to pass on news

Your name..... Phone.....

E mail.....

Address.....

Pat Heywood: patron2@dodo.com.au, Merle Gilbo: merlegilbo@hotmail.net.au ,  
Mark Brolly: markbrolly@aapt.net.au, Fr. Pat Jackson: frpjackson@syndalcatholic.org.au  
Or write to: 16th June celebration c/o Fr. John Winson .85 Studley Park Rd. Kew Vic 3101

**REPORT FROM THE THIRD  
ORDINARY GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY OF THE UAC  
ASSEMBLY THEME:  
“AUTHENTIC APOSTLES OF  
CHRIST IN THE CHURCH AND  
IN THE WORLD TODAY”**

Father Ray Hevern and I joined UAC Presidents, members of the General Coordination Council and other invited representatives at Saint Vincent Pallotti Spirituality Centre, Grottaferrata, Italy for the third ordinary General Assembly of the UAC from January 14-17, 2012. This meeting was a wonderful opportunity to hear of the works of UAC from around the world through both the reports presented and the conversation which flowed.

One task of the General Assembly is to elect the General Coordination Council (GCC) for the forthcoming three years. I had been a member of this body for the previous six years which was a wonderful opportunity to work with and meet many skilled and committed UAC members and to experience the UAC from a global perspective. At this assembly, Tricia Wisolith was elected onto the GCC. Tricia is the President of the LCC in Western Australia.

As a wife, mother, hardworking member of the Riverton Parish staff team and the UAC, we know that Trish will bring a great UAC (and Australian) perspective to the GCC.

The General Assembly closely coincided with the beginning of the Jubilee Celebrations to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Canonisation of St Vincent, thus a good time to focus and reflect on Vincent's charism and our role in bringing that charism to fullness in the world of today. This theme was picked up by many of the speakers – being Authentic Apostles of Christ today.

Fr Jacob Nampudakam, the General of the SAC, at the opening liturgy, challenged those present –

and indeed the whole UAC – asking whether we dared, like Jesus, to be different as far as Christian life is concerned. Are we able to take the “path less travelled?” he noted that “The charism remains vibrant and relevant only when it is a fitting response to the signs of the times. Otherwise it remains stagnant or will eventually die. Donna Orsutto (a past speaker at one of the Walter Silvester Memorial Lectures) and Fr Edward Fröhling SAC from Germany spoke on “The New Evangelisation” Donna noted that “we can't go back, we can't use methods of the past we must forge new methods - What is God calling us to today, in our country” further Donna urged us, using the biblical symbol of a tent to “open our tents” for our communities and homes to have a tent like quality where we invite others in, and be alert and look out for the stranger.” Edward followed Donna speaking specifically of UAC and the “New Evangelisation” he noted that God's church is in motion always and that we are called to stay in motion and move forward, we are not called to conserve or perpetuate the institutional form of the church, we are not here to complain about the church, we are not here to sit down frustrated – we are called to stay in motion and move forward!



Each of these presentations certainly challenged me to look forward with an “open tent” mentality and reflect on where God is calling us as UAC today in Australia.

Cheryl Sullivan

## **PATRICIA WISOLITH MEMBER OF UAC GENERAL COUNCIL**



Patricia, a long time member of our Riverton parish, was born in Imer, Italy [Patrizia Giuseppina Loss]. Her parents settled initially in Pemberton WA and produced in all 5 brothers and 4 sisters – all currently living in Australia. Three of her uncles are Salesians, 3 aunts

Dominicans! Tricia attended Catholic schools at Pemberton, Busselton, Kellerberin and New Norcia.

She worked in various office positions, including Murdoch University library, before moving to Riverton in 1975 and meeting Joe – himself a son of Hungarian refugees – through their involvement with the parish music ministry. They are married with 3 grown up children. Together they were part of the Schoenstatt Family [the Sisters were then in the Parish]. Tricia became heavily involved in the Parish liturgy committee – extending as far as the

role of committee member of the Parish Liturgical Musicians Network for the Archdiocese for several years. She currently works as the parish secretary.

Tricia has been involved with the UAC since it was formed in WA, has attended several Assemblies, and has recently succeeded John Nagle as President of the local Council. Most recently she accompanied the Australian group who travelled to India for the

3rd Asia Oceania conference, participating while there in the International Theological Congress on our charism.

As the result of the January 2012 UAC General Council election process she is now our representative on that body, together with 12 others worldwide. They meet in Rome annually. In this she succeeds Cheryl Sullivan. We congratulate Tricia, assure her of our prayers, and look forward to her continued input and stimulus in the Australian scene. The Melbourne meetings will provide her an opportunity to visit her daughter Linda who recently joined the Benedictine Sisters Abbey in Jamberoo, NSW.

( Fr. ) Ray Hevern

## **THE PALLOTTINE FAMILY PAYS TRIBUTE TO ONE OF THEIR LONG SERVING PRIESTS: 'JAPALU' FR. KEVIN BARTHOLOMEW MCKELSON.**

Thanks to Fr. Kevin's sister, nieces and nephews for supplying this information

Fr. Kevin;

- \* was born at Moonee Ponds on 29th May 1926 , died at Parkville on 28th November 2011.
- \* ordained in Rome on 2nd July 1950, with his good friend the late Archbishop Frank Little
- \* awarded an Order of Australia medal ( OAM) in 1995
- \* Chaplain to Notre Dame University, Broome, where he taught Divinity.
- \* was grateful to be able to celebrate 50 years of ordination and then 60.years



\* saw the celebration of 105 years of the Pallottine service in the Kimberley.

\* in 2003, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Notre Dame for service to aboriginal language and culture.

\* in2010, was inducted into the Hall of Fame of

St. Bernard's College, Essendon.

Fr. Kevin's requiem Mass was celebrated on 6th December 2011 at St. Brendan's, Flemington where his parents—Ollie and Mary, were married. Among the 13 concelebrants, Fr. Eugene San SAC was the main celebrant and Fr. Matt Digges, Parish priest of Broome, the homilist. Fr. Matt spoke about Kevin's arrival in Broome to assist the legendary Fr. Ernst Worms—Pallottine missionary anthropologist --who taught him to 'tread gently on the Kimberley earth because it belonged to another people, many of

whom had had their spirit broken'. Kevin listened and was able to learn, live and teach the art of reconciliation. In Broome, he implemented the tried and true pastoral strategies of his youth, building a faith community with social activities and sport.

Among people who had travelled from Western Australia were Madeleine, Rosie and Sr. Johanna Klept from Bidyadanga. (La Grange) where Fr. Kevin had ministered from 1961 to 1991. During this time, he studied the five languages spoken there. It was appropriate that the Bidyadana people led the singing of the aboriginal Our Father and the Blessing song.

Kevin's niece, Mary Malone remembered a man

of the people: the priest whose love of God called him to mission work; the man whose gift for linguistics made a way for the people to relate to Gospel teachings; a man who loved his family and kept contact in many ways; a man who had special bonds with many people, some of whom were pleased to pay their own tribute to him over the years.

After Mass, the celebration continued at St. Bernard's College Pavilion where connections were made, memories and stories shared –all recalling how this great, gentle man had influenced their lives and the lives of many in the communities where Fr. Kevin had ministered.



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## **FEAST OF ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI: ON THE 'EAST' SIDE OF THE COUNTRY**

Every year as many of us as possible gather at Kew for prayer and praise on St. Vincent's feast day in January. This year was special as it coincided with world-wide functions to mark the commencement of a year of celebration leading up to 20th January next year, the date of the 50th anniversary of St. Vincent's canonization.

On Sunday 22nd January here in the east, Father John Winson led Evening Prayer at 5pm. Pat Heywood spoke about the human face of Pallotti; Mark Brolly described the upcoming events for our year of celebration and Merle Gilbo reminded everyone to keep an eye on the Newsletter for further information and details. Following the recitation of the Jubilee Prayer we enjoyed catch-up time over refreshments.

It was a pleasure to welcome five parishioners from Dallas accompanying Fr. Leenus and a Syndal parishioner with Fr. Pat. We hope that members of our Pallottine parishes can join us more and more, as we participate in the over-arching jubilee of Pallotti's canonization as well as the three other jubilees of Pallotti College (50 years since foundation stone), Casa Pallotti and youth ministry (50 years) and establishment of Kew community house (75 years).

As usual the Kew community members offered us their gracious and kind hospitality, for which we thank them indeed.

Pat Heywood

## ON THE 'WEST' SIDE OF THE COUNTRY

Our yearlong celebration leading up to the 50th anniversary of the canonisation of our founder ST. Vincent Pallotti began here at Our Lady Queen of Apostles parish on Saturday January 20th. The day commenced with a concelebrated Mass with seven of our Pallottine priests. Newly arrived Fr Thaddee' Mbock from Cameroon was Principal celebrant. Our parish priest Fr Paul was absent on holidays in India.

More than 70 parishoners were able to attend Mass and 53 were able to stay for the most enjoyable breakfast which followed in the parish house. John Nagle



*Photo shoot following Mass which was our regular 7.30am Saturday morning Mass.*



*Kelvin and Ashley at the barbeque*

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## THE VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP FOR LAY MINISTRY

We'd like to introduce two of our Vincent Pallotti Scholarship winners and tell you a little bit about their ministry to newly married couples.

To quote the Bolands: "At the request of a newly married couple, we introduced Ministry to the Newly Married (MNM) to Canberra 20 years ago. This is a mentoring program for couples in their first 5 years of marriage, written by Fr. Joseph Hayden in America for couples who have been married in the Catholic Church. We have adjusted the American program to suit the Australian scene and currently there are 50 couples involved in the Canberra program.

In 2010 we passed on leadership of the Canberra group in order to give our time in response to many requests for the program and since then we have started it in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth, with Melbourne starting the program as well. The Melbourne initiative occurred in 2010 as a result of the Family Life Conference which we were asked to attend in order to initiate the program."

Bernice and Maurie conducted an information night about the program at the Knox Centre on Wednesday 23rd November under the auspices of the Archdiocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office. This was followed up by the first workshop and get-to-know-you dinner on Thursday 23rd February.

We wish them well in their important work and are honoured to have been part of it through the Vincent Pallotti scholarship.

Pat Heywood, on behalf of the scholarship trust committee.



*Maurie and Bernice Boland*

## A MOST WELCOME VISITOR INTRODUCES HIMSELF.

My name is Thadee MBOCK. I arrived in Australia two months ago from Cameroon, Central Africa. There is an interesting link between the Pallottine Community and Cameroon. The first Pallottine missionaries left Germany for Cameroon in 1890. On December 8th, 1890, they celebrated the first Mass at Marienberg, a small village near Douala. They consecrated the new mission to Mary, Queen of Apostles and worked in Cameroon for 25 years. When Germany lost the First World War, all German people were expelled from the colony, going in different directions. Some went to South Africa. Others, for example, Fr. Georg Walter came to Australia.

In 1964, the Pallottine family came back to Cameroon. After 30 years of hard work and prayer, God gave them their first Cameroonian Pallottine fruit—a priest who was ordained on July 2nd, 1994----myself. I feel humble that my community appointed me to come to Australia to share my experience of the love of God as a Pallottine and as a priest and to add my input to the wonderful work of the Pallottine family in this country.

I first met the Pallottines in 1982 at the St. Vincent Pallotti parish in Yaounde, Cameroon where I was a choir member and Youth Group Leader. I saw Pallottines working, sharing their joy and helping many people. I become interested in their lifestyle and joined their community. Later I went to Houses of Formation at first in Rwanda and then in Cameroon. Since my ordination, I have served as assistant and as parish priest. I also spent some

time as formator in both houses. Here, in Australia, I have assisted in our Pallottine family at the Queen of Apostles Parish. Riverton since December 2011..

I ask your prayers and support while my English is improving and I am getting to know other communities in Australia so that I can contribute positively to the mission of our Church.

**PS.** When I read what Fr. Thadee sent in reply to my request, I remembered several afternoons at Kew—in the 50s—when we were called on to entertain Bishop Raible, then Bishop of Broome. He also had spent time in Cameroon before 1914 and spoke with so much love and enthusiasm for that mission that, whenever I hear of Cameroon, I think of him. In mentioning this to a friend recently, he told me that another who followed the journey from Germany to Cameroon to Kimberley was Br. Joseph Schungel—‘little’ brother Joseph. There were probably others.

Merle Gilbo



*John Luemmen (left) Fr. Thadee (right)*

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## NEWS ABOUT GOOD PEOPLE!!

### **Helping the Indian Pallottines to help the children of the Philippines!**

A few months ago, we told about simple ways in which we could contribute by supplying what are basics to us-----pens, pencils, art and craft materials etc.Fr. Eugene was delighted with the response and, as we go to press, is arranging to send them to where they are needed so badly. A goodly sum of money was donated also, including \$1570 raised by the children at Holy Spirit school, Nth Ringwood. Sincere thanks.

### **A story about the McDonagh family.**

Maureen and Joe McDonagh have been members of the Pallottine family for many years—back to the days of the apostolic groups in Kew. They have always kept in touch while living a full family and parish and community life.

They are delighted to tell us of a ‘challenge’ being taken up by their youngest son, Andrew, his wife Laura and their small children: Hamish (4 and a half), Isla (3) and another little girl Lou (18 months). Andrew has accepted an offer from the Coltarf foundation to work with Aboriginal youth to encourage them to stay at school until year 12 so they can get a decent job or go on to further studies. The scheme is based around football and is evidently very successful. As Andrew is a secondary school Physical Education teacher and loves football, it is his ‘cup of tea’. This year, they will be finding their feet and next year Andrew will take over the running of the scheme at Kununurra. They appear to be well suited to the challenge—Laura is also a secondary school teacher--and are looking forward to this new venture.

We wish them all the best. Ed.

# JUBILEE PRAYER

God, the Father of mercies  
always attentive to the needs of  
your sons and daughters,  
we thank you for the gift of this  
Jubilee year  
which you have willed to grant  
to all of us  
members and collaborators of the  
Union of Catholic Apostolate  
as a sign of your infinite love.

Grant that we might live this  
time of joy  
in a spirit of gratitude, humility  
and prayer,  
so that our hearts may be filled  
with your grace  
which is rich in mercy and  
blessings.

Allow us to imitate Jesus the  
Apostle  
after the example of Saint  
Vincent Pallotti:  
reviving in us Faith,  
strengthening in us Hope,

rekindling in us charity,  
in order to spread them  
throughout the world.

In this time of spiritual and  
apostolic renewal  
we wish to have a profound  
experience of God,  
in which your Word will be a  
light and guide for our steps,  
the Eucharist will be food to  
nourish our spirit,  
so that we may be authentic  
missionaries of Christ.

Grant that our communities and  
our families  
may be transformed into  
cenacles  
open to welcome the gifts of the  
Holy Spirit  
together with Mary, Queen of  
Apostles,  
and the entire pilgrim church, for  
the growth of the kingdom.

Saint Vincent Pallotti, please  
help us to live faithful to the  
charism and mission entrusted to  
us;  
make us persevering on the road  
to sanctity, support us in living  
with compassion, fraternal  
charity and in a spirit of  
communion  
at this time, in the service of the  
Church and the world. Amen



**A MATTER OF MONEY.** In fact, a gentle reminder that there are considerable costs involved in bringing this newsletter to life. \$10 per year from all recipients would help a great deal.

*Thanks to the people who send contributions, they are greatly appreciated.*

## Pallottine Family UAC Newsletter

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