



# Pallottine Family (UAC)

## NEWSLETTER

### June 2020

## *Fr Joseph Aloysius Kearney*

Fr. “Joe” was born on 30 August, 1921, in Moonee Ponds, a suburb of Melbourne, younger brother of Patricia (later Sr. Joseph OCMD) , older brother of Kevin—the children of Joseph and Letitia Kearney. Joe started school at Moonee Ponds, but in 1928, the family became the proprietors of a guest house, Locarno, in Hepburn Springs ( near Daylesford) and Joe continued school at Daylesford, before going to St. Patrick’s College, Ballarat, where, in 1937, he, very significantly, heard Bishop Raible of Broome speak about the work of the Pallottines in the North West.

With two other Australian students,—John Hennessey and Roger McGinley, Joe entered the novitiate at Kew on 11th February, 1940. His first profession was 11th February, 1942, followed by final profession on the same date in 1945. After theology studies at St. Paschal’s Box Hill, he was ordained at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Melbourne on 28th July, 1946.



He headed to the “West”—Beagle Bay in March, 1948, and he served at many places in the Kimberleys thereafter—Broome, Balgo ( mid 1951-mid 1953) —during which time he was voted on to the regional Council as a consultor. Then, to Broome until early 1956 when he became parish priest of Derby, during this time studying at UWA. June 1960 saw him parish priest of Wyndham until his transfer to Beagle Bay as superintendent in April 1961, acquiring during that time a BA ( Econ.1962) and Dip. Ed (1968). When he was elected Provincial Leader in 1969, he returned to Victoria, Kew where his Pallottine journey had begun. He filled that role for six years, followed by six more years as a consultor. During that time, from February 1975 – December 1978 he was a part of the formation team at Box Hill.

In 1981, Fr. Joe moved ‘west’ again, to be Rector at Rossmoyne, still an active centre caring for Aboriginal students who were studying in Perth and in 1987, he became chaplain to the Aboriginal community in Geraldton and continued that ministry until he ‘retired’ to Rossmoyne in 1996. Some retirement! He ‘put pen to paper’ and in 2001, *Growing in Faith* was published and he had time to enjoy his art, also. He supplied for parishes far and wide in WA—Innaloo, Dampier Peninsula, Wickham, Bateman ( x2) Derby, Kwinana. When he realised he was ‘aging’, he moved to Joseph Cooke House, then to Margaret Hubery and he died at Fiona Stanley Hospital.

Alas, the restrictions of the time meant that many people who would have wanted to be at his funeral were not able to be present in person but, the new technology given a new usefulness by Covid 19 , meant that people, in Perth, elsewhere in WA and interstate were connected in a way never experienced before. Joe had certainly moved with the times. He would have approved. May he now rest in peace.

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*In this magazine, we share news, views and reflections of the way the UAC (Union of Catholic Apostolate) lives the vision of St. Vincent Pallotti here in Australia.*

# Child Safety

Child Safety is of vital concern. The UAC has a child safety team working to ensure safety for all who have contact with our apostolates. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of children within our UAC/Pallottine Family, please contact our UAC Designated Persons for the protection of minors - Denise Carl at [dcarl@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dcarl@bigpond.net.au) or David Carl at [merriwa2000@gmail.com](mailto:merriwa2000@gmail.com)

## Good news from Mary McKillop College, West Busselton

During 2019, some students and teachers were trying to fund their participation in the Australian Catholic Youth Festival to be held in Perth in December 2019. It was suggested that they take a 'leap' of faith and apply to the St. Vincent Pallotti Scholarship trust for some help. Great excitement when that was successful and two teachers and seven students were heading for Perth, having, en route, joined with 90 Bunbury Diocesan young people. That 'getting to know' the Bunbury contingent meant that the Mary McKillop students took part in the Bunbury Diocesan Summer Camp in January 2000.

Inspired by the theme: "Listen to what the Spirit is saying", 6000 delegates (aged 14-30 ) plus some nuns, priests and bishops gathered in the Perth Convention Centre on 8-10 December and took part in non-stop days of learning. It was a challenge to choose which to take part in: dancing, praying, singing, talking, listening to speakers, watching clips, learning about our faith, being encouraged to get involved and be a voice in the church. They were uplifted to know that the Church has a place and a heart for young people and heard interesting people who live their lives as Catholics, impacting on the nation. The celebrations of the Eucharist with so much participation were memorable, as was Eucharistic adoration, a new experience for many of them. They enjoyed again meeting Fr. Rob Galea who had visited Bunbury and loved singing under his guidance 'No Greater Love than this. The final Mass—outdoors at sunset where they were joined by Bishop Gerard Holohan – was the very best part of the whole time.

As editor, I had to shorten their interesting letter but it is so important to quote them here.

***"We found ACYF 19 to be Life-changing, Joyous, Faith-filled. We need to say thank you very much to the St. Vincent Pallotti Scholarship trust for helping send us on this amazing ACYF journey. You know this is a great***

***positive in our lives and we pray this prayer together for the ongoing success of future catholic Youth events,***

***Holy Spirit, Breath of God, you come to us I the stillness and silence of this Great South Land.***

***Give us the courage to open our hearts and ears, to listen to listen to your voice as we seek to foster the growth of your Church in Australia.***

***Grant us the desire to know Jesus and say 'yes; to his invitation to spread the joy of the Gospel.***

***We ask for the gift of hope as you guide us in our search for purpose and meaning in our lives.***

***We pray together as young people that we may love and care for all creation.***

***We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord, our Brother and our companion who lives with you and the Father forever and ever. Amen.***



## ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care

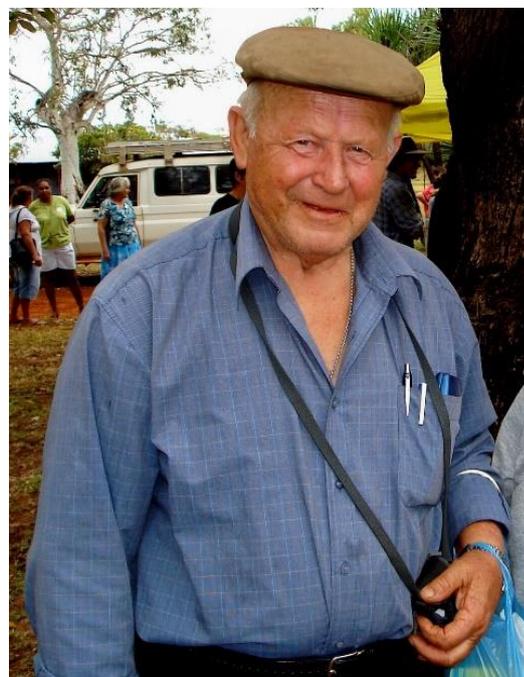
**More information and Applications Forms are available on our website**

<https://pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

**Closing Date 31 July 2020**

## Brother Ludwig Günther

Ludwig Günther was born August 24, 1936 in Schweinfurt Germany to Maximilian and Aloisia Günther. The family was also graced with a daughter, Anna. Ludwig attended school in Rheinbach before he began working as an apprentice farmer at Limburg in 1951. He entered postulancy in April 1951 and was rewarded by being accepted into the novitiate in Limburg in November 1954. Brother Günther made his first profession in Limburg on November 28 1956. In the months Oct.-Mar. of 1956 to 1958 Br. Günther completed his farming certificate. In June 1961 he moved to Albrechtschof (Bendorf). This was followed by his final profession on November 28 1961 and a move back to Limburg in January 1962 where he was to prepare himself for the Australian mission.



Brother Günther boarded the *SS Aurelia* in Bremerhaven, Germany on October 11 1962 accompanied by Fr Heinrich Rohr. Their passage was assisted by the Australian Government via the displaced persons as a result of war. Brother Günther arrived in Fremantle Nov 11 1962 and travelled to Tardun where he worked on the farm and in the workshop. In June 1968 he was transferred north to Beagle Bay Mission to work mostly in the workshop. During that year he travelled to Perth for short TAFE courses, Br. Günther gained his Trades Certificate for Motor Mechanics Nov 2 1968. Br Günther remained in the Kimberley until late 1980 when

he was transferred in November, to Pallotti College, Millgrove Victoria as a mechanic for the farm.

In March 1987 Br Günther travelled back to Germany on home holiday and also accompanied Br Josef Schungel as he transferred from the Australian region back to Limburg. On returning to Australia Br Günther once again returned to the Australian community he had first known, Tardun. He remained at Tardun in the workshop from 1988 to 2003 when the community was closed, although he did keep a personal caretaking interest in the property until it was sold. The three brothers who had remained at Tardun until 2003, Günther, van Veen and Phillis set up a community at Dongara. In 2008 Br. Günther was a delegate to the General Assembly in Rome. In 2014 Br Phillis passed way. A decision was made to close Dongara. In 2017 Br Günther requested to transfer from the Australian Region to Limburg and the transfer was completed on October 24 2017. For many of us in Australia this was a sad loss, many of us left with lovingly made pearl-shell clocks.



In April 2020 he died in Limburg after a short illness.

# *Covid-19 In Keshero (Rwanda)*

When we were first introduced to the needs of the children in the Flame of Love Orphanage in Keshero about four years ago, we were greatly so taken by their needs and so enthusiastic about helping them. Thank you to all who have helped along the way by their contributions. If any motivation was needed to continue, to give even more, here it is it is as they face the Covid 19 challenge without the abundant resources we are so blessed to have.

Pallottine Father, Fr. Niyonzima Eugene , Provincial Superior writes’ .



## **Facts of the illness in Rwanda**

Corona virus has spread all over the world. It has reached also Rwanda. Officially, Rwanda has registered **up-to-date 143 positive cases of Covid-19, 65 have recovered and none has died.** But in order to prevent further spreads **confinement** is the ruling measure like elsewhere. It started on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2020, and it has been extended until 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. And probably the worst is yet to come!** People have to **stay home**, except for buying food, going for health treatment or bank services for than one month.

## **Confinement, Joblessness, hunger and impressive pictures**

The aim of “staying home measures” is to reduce the chances of covid-19 to be transmitted to many people, and so kill many. But there was a big number of people who used to eat after daily work for daily wage. Others were beggars and depending on the generosity of neighbors. All these people are cut from the channel of life. They keep calling for help and assistance. The confreres are trying to help with the Caritas reserves of the Parish. But they have started running out of capacity because there is no mass, no offertory, no donations, and no business.

## **Impact on children**

This situation will have negative impact on people especially on children.

- ***Physical and psychological fitness:*** without eating they will not feel good, no energy, no smile, the immune system will be weak. They will get sick easily.
- ***Social and Moral stability:*** without eating the interaction will be low, living together will be hard, disobedience will follow. Even they can be tempted to theft.
- ***Intellectual capacity:*** without eating, the brain will have no motivation to work and boost. There will be no need of studying or exercising mental effort.
- ***Spiritual growth:*** without eating how will they pray thanking God? How will they read the Word of God and recite the Rosary or develop other types of devotion. They will be weak in all aspects.

## **HOW CAN WE HELP?**

**LET US PRAY BUT LET US ALSO CONTRIBUTE WHAT OUR RESOURCES ALLOW !!**

**BANKING DETAILS: UAC KESHERO PROJECT  
CDF 1125432#9103 083-347 439 222523**

# NEWS FROM PALLOTTI COLLEGE

## “THE MINISTRY CONTINUES . . .

Despite his increased workload as recently elected Regional Leader of the Pallottines in Australia, Dean faithfully continues his ministry as Chaplain to Mount Lilydale Mercy College.



*The photo shows Dean Livestreaming the Term 2 Opening Mass from Pallotti College. The regular Friday morning Mass for the College will also be celebrated regularly via this technology”..*

**WE THOUGHT  
YOU WOULD  
LIKE TO SEE THE  
LOVELY NEW  
DINING ROOM.**



# COVID 19

*At the beginning of the year, it was just a word scientists used to describe a minute organism—like many others. **What does it mean for us?***

## JUSTIN SAYS . . .

This question was discussed at the recent LCC meeting. I remember it because I was thinking the same thing, which is that now that we have been 'forced' to use teleconferencing platforms like Zoom and have educated ourselves on its efficient use, the benefits for UAC pan Australia meetings is immediately obvious. We can save a lot of time commuting between east and west if we hold important meetings via Zoom. This also applies to Cenacle nights and Gather and Share.

Such events can either be Zoomed out (and be interactive) or livestreamed to enable remote participation from those who have difficulties with travel, or to just save the travelling time. At the same time, there is a need to promote actual, physical meetings as the norm, or we may end up losing the human connection for our events. So the use of Zoom or live streaming should be a support for those who cannot physically turn up, rather than as just another equal alternative to physical meet ups.

## NOW, ANNE . . .

Covid19 - my experience. This has been a time for isolation by myself, with prayer and meditation being paramount. It has been a time for reflecting on my life - and on my death. I found it helpful to be able to choose between online Masses and Holy Week ceremonies, but also found that this highlighted how clerical and patriarchal the Church is as very few, if any, women were seen, and none were in a leadership role. I found I could not watch beyond the Liturgy of the Word as I could not participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

I was delighted that Fr Joe Kearney's funeral Mass was streamed. If it were allowed, I still wouldn't have been able to fly there for it. On the screen I, I could watch this great celebration of the life of a gentle, thoughtful member of the UAC family and feel connected. Streaming of important events is a learning for the future. Zoom has also enabled face to face meetings without the travel time. This has been a boon for me, living in Glenroy and often having to battle with traffic and distance to get to meetings and activities. Our technological age has made communication possible where in the past it would not have been.

I have also spent a lot more time on the phone which has helped me to get to know some people better. I have also spent quite a bit of time listening to those who needed some one to talk to. This has been a privilege. I have sometimes been the one who needed a listener. An ongoing mission could be to stay in touch with the lonely whose numbers are increasing. My landline number is no longer working so if you would like to contact me, please do so, on 0429 869 457 preferably after 11.00 a. m. and before evening.

Reading has kept me in touch with some amazing things going on in the Church while the social media posts by untheologically educated conservatives who often decry the Pope have moved me to pray that their hearts be opened and they seek good adult formation in Scripture and Pastoral Theology at least.

Something else that I have found helpful has been being able to continue my group (small) sessions with my exercise physiologist who is an allied health professional. Keeping fit is good for both the body and spirit.

## AND DEAN . . .

Firstly it was good to take stock of what is important in my life and to treasure the relationships that I have. As the song goes, "you don't know what you've got till its gone". We too often take for granted the freedoms we enjoy in Australia and also how isolating such a situation can be for many – particularly in hospital or aged care. As apostles in the world today we need to embrace the technologies that we have to hand in creative ways to help keep a sense of connection.

We often speak of the "tyranny of distance" in Australia and my use of platforms such as "Zoom" (for meetings within "the family", "dinners" with friends, as well as with leaders of other religious groups), "Google meet" (for Mass and other activities at Mount Lilydale where I am Chaplain) and "Livestream" (Joe Kearney's funeral) and "Whatsapp" (to participate in the Easter week Paschal Candle chain – Germany – and supporting the Seminary in Warsaw – Poland - have enabled myself and others to overcome this to a great degree. Meetings could carry on, people could 'attend' Mass and I was able to 'present' for Joe Kearney's funeral. Whilst not a substitute for the real thing, this technology has enabled me to have a fuller experience than a mere phone hook-up. As the Celebrant it has been somewhat strange to not have full participation from the "congregation" but with Readings and prayers done by people remotely it did make it more like a communal activity. The feedback I have received has been very positive and I believe that we may very well be able to use these various services in the future. The world has changed and we must change to engage it.

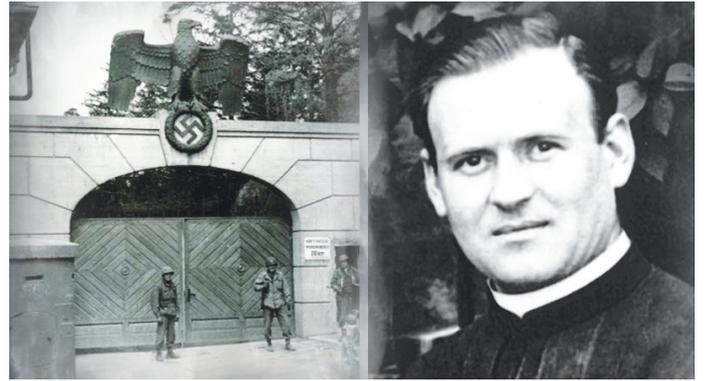
# BLESSED RICHARD HENKES SAC.

Did you remember that it is 75 years since the guns fell silent and Victory in Europe –VE Day 8th June 1945 was greeted with relief after five years of war? Perhaps you watched some of the relevant TV programmes which have been screened, making very much alive the horrors, the evil and the suffering of that awful war. .

When this article was given to me some time ago, I was looking for a time when it would 'fit' and I believe it does at this time, telling as it does the story of a Pallottine priest who resisted the totalitarian regime bringing oppression and misery to many people and is now Blessed Richard Henkes..

Fr. Richard Henkes, a fiery Hessian priest was born in a small village in Ruppach in Germany's Westerwald region, one of eight children of a typical Catholic family. He had a vigorous and a sturdy disposition and after meeting Pallottine priests from visiting from Cameroon, he was inspired to be a missionary. He wrote—"All I want is to be a self-sacrificing priest who hers crosses for others." Alas, he became severely ill with tuberculosis and was unable to be a missionary but he was still committed to the priesthood.

Ordained in 1925, he was sent to Silesia to be a school teacher. That area was rife with tensions as Nazism gained ground in the early 1930s. Henkes, in his blunt and straight forward way, opposed Nazism strongly. He was arrested by the Gestapo after declaring aloud at a dinner that, if Hitler had been blown up in the 1937 Hindenburg airbus explosion, all of Germany's problems would have been solved. He was put on trial in 1938 but was released by an amnesty as the Nazi celebrated the Anschluss, the annexation of Austria. Walking free, he continued to challenge the Third Reich, broadcasting his dissent loudly from the pulpit during sermons. Fellow priests, concerned that his defiance would incur punishments from the Nazi authorities, had him moved to a distant village but, since that was a tourist village, he met many people whom he could tell that Nazism was in no way compatible with the Christian image of the human person. In 1941 he was assigned to a Czech village where he tried to mediate



between Czechs and Germans but, continuing his anti-Nazi statements, he was arrested and sent to Dachau, a concentration camp. There he worked as a forced labourer and cared for the other inmates, celebrating Mass for all, including the Czech prisoners. When typhus broke out, the SS guards abandoned much of the camp, leaving the people to die. Fr. Henkes brought them water and food and prayed with them until he himself succumbed on Feb 22, 1945 Fellow prisoners smuggled his remains out of the crematorium and he is now buried in Pallottine Cemetery outside the Limburg Cathedral.

The beatification, the first one at the beautiful Limburg Cathedral, took place on 15th September 2019. Cardinal Kurt Koch represented the Holy Father at the ceremony and said in his sermon: "Due to Fr. Henkes' selfless abandonment of his life for other people, even unto death, Pope Francis has recognized him as a martyr, a martyr of charity who sacrificed his life for Christ and therefore holds a share of Christ's cross." A very large crowd gathered for the ceremony and for the outdoor 'fest' which followed. The Mass was broadcast on several German Radio programmes and livestreamed also. Quoting Cardinal Koch again: "The beatified and the saints are God's answers to the questions of us humans. They have not only read and interpreted the word of God but they witnessed it for everyone with their own lives. This especially true of Blessed Fr. Richard Henkes."

## REST IN PEACE CHARLES WILLEMSSEN.

Charles and his first wife, Patricia came from their New South Wales home to be members of the Pallotti College 'team' some years ago. After their return home, Patricia died, and Charles came back on his own. It was then that he met Catharina whom he married and they remained on the team together until they needed to 'slow down a bit'. After some time in NSW, they returned to Victoria to be nearer to family and it was Mt. Martha that Charles died. Our thanks to them for all they did. Rest in peace, Charles.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THIS NEWSLETTER.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT, FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, WE HAVE CHANGED THE BANKING ARRANGEMENTS.

IT IS NOW WITH NAB (NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK)

BSB 083 ACCOUNT NO. 569130037

## VICTORIA UAC CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

Day	Date	Time	Event	Venue	Notes
Mon	22/06	7.30 p.m.	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer	Kew	85 Studley Park Rd Bring something for light supper
Wed	22/07	7.30 p.m.	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer	Fr Leenus' Place	St Patrick's Murrumbeena probably Cnr. Murrumbeena & Dalny Roads
Sat	22/08	1.30 p.m.	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer		85 St udley Park Rd Bring something light for afternoon tea.
Tue	22/09	7.30 p.m.	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer	Syndal	St Christopher's, 5 Doon Avenue Bring something for light supper
Sat	24/10	10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.	Retreat Day with Renewal of Act of Apostolic Commitment	Clayton South	<b>All members of the Pallottine Family throughout the world are expected to renew their Act of Apostolic Commitment about this time. Please mark on your calendar or in your diary now!</b>
Sun	22/11	7.30 p.m.	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer	Millgrove	Pallotti College Remember in November

**Phone: Anne D. 0429 869 457 Merle G. 0409 964 899**

### Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture 2020

Uncertainty about Covid 19 regulations re numbers who can be safely admitted to the Lecture Theatre mean that the 2020 Lecture has been cancelled and the Committee is now focusing on the 2021 Lecture.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA UAC CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

June 25 (Thurs)	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Rossmoyne
July 30 (Thurs)	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Rossmoyne
August 27 (Thurs)	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Rossmoyne
September 24 (Thurs)	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Rossmoyne
October 29 (Thurs)	Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at Rossmoyne

## Pallottine Family UAC Newsletter

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