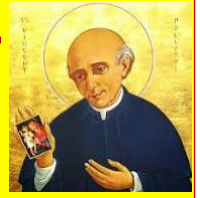




# Pallottine Family (UAC) Newsletter

Summer 2025-2026 Australia



*Epiphany – “the first manifestation our Lord Jesus Christ made of himself to the Gentiles, the first proclamation of the Catholic faith.” (St Vincent Pallotti)*

Wishing you a blessed Christmas

May the joy of Christ's birth fill our hearts anew with peace and love and enliven within us a spirit of hope for the world.

*Merry Christmas*

Epiphany was an especially important feast for St Vincent Pallotti. In 2026 in Australia it will be celebrated on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> January. In a way Christmas was seen as more of a domestic or family celebration. With the arrival of the visitors from the East the birth of Christ is seen as being for the whole world.

This is the time for adding the magi or kings to the crib, (not for packing it up) and for celebrating. We read that gold, frankincense, and myrrh were brought as gifts, but we are not told how many visitors there actually were. The important message is that God became one of us not just for the people of Bethlehem, Jerusalem or Galilee but for all the peoples of the world. Presumably from this arises St Vincent's missionary zeal for awakening faith and enkindling charity around the world.

*You are invited to ...  
St Vincent Pallotti's 2026  
Feast Day Celebration*

*St Joseph's Elsternwick*

*71 Orrong Road*

*Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January*

*11.30 a.m. Mass*

*Followed by Shared Lunch*

*Kindly bring food/drink to share*

*Sausage Sizzle provided*

*Update Report on*

*and Annual Collection for*

*Flame of Love Orphanage,*

*Keshero, DRC.*

*RSVP SMS 0429869457 by 20/01/2026*

**YOU ARE ALSO INVITED  
AND ENCOURAGED TO  
COME TO OUR  
PALLOTTINE FAMILY (UAC)  
ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING.**

**Thursday, 26 February**

**2.00 p.m.**

**Guest Speaker and  
opportunity to learn  
about all the work  
organised by or done by  
the National  
Coordination Council  
and ... to have your say.**

## ***Where I Was at Home: Millgrove Memories***

Recently, I received the newsletter with news from the Australian Pallottine family of the Regina Mundi Region — priests, lay men and women, vibrant communities like the Mariana Community, and the beloved Pallottine College in Millgrove. Ah, the photos and the stories... moving records of that moment when that “our” place became a broader “ours,” open to new people, new experiences, new encounters with God. A space so welcoming, now entrusted to another community for the continuity of its mission.

The Pallottine College in Millgrove was my home for a time, back in 2008, when I was in Australia. I was studying in Rome and preparing for the World Youth Day in Sydney — I had the grace of being a pilgrim at that event. And as I said, I “lived” in Millgrove, but also in Syndal/Melbourne and in Rossmoyne/Perth. I lived here, there, and there... because in every Pallottine house, I felt at home. They were my brothers — priests, lay men and women — and there, I was welcomed as family.

In Millgrove, I stayed longer, in two memorable moments. First, with young Pallottines from different countries, in a joyful fellowship that not even the varied English accents could disrupt. Yes, you laugh? Just imagine me — a beginner in English — sitting at the table with an Australian, a Canadian, an American, an Indian, a South African... and the three of us who weren’t native speakers: a young German, a Polish seminarian, and me, a young Brazilian priest! A true linguistic mess — if not for the unifying language of youth, of gestures, of music, and of dance.

After World Youth Day, I returned to Millgrove and stayed for nearly a month. I shared wine with Fr. Dean, tasted Indonesian food with Anne and Matthew, tried driving on the left side with “Blessed” Mary (Mary Ward), visited Fr. Benno... I had heartfelt conversations with Mary Anne and Bill, and I prayed in silence with Joseph in the dark chapel... I cleaned rooms, tidied the kitchen, served guests in the dining hall. So many vivid memories: shared moments, faces, aromas, experiences. I close my eyes and still walk those paths, hearing — despite the passing years — the enigmatic call of the Kookaburra and the noisy flutter of the cockatoos.

Millgrove continues its journey. The past is not erased in the transition to a new community — it is like a relay race: the baton is passed, but the mission goes on, with new protagonists.

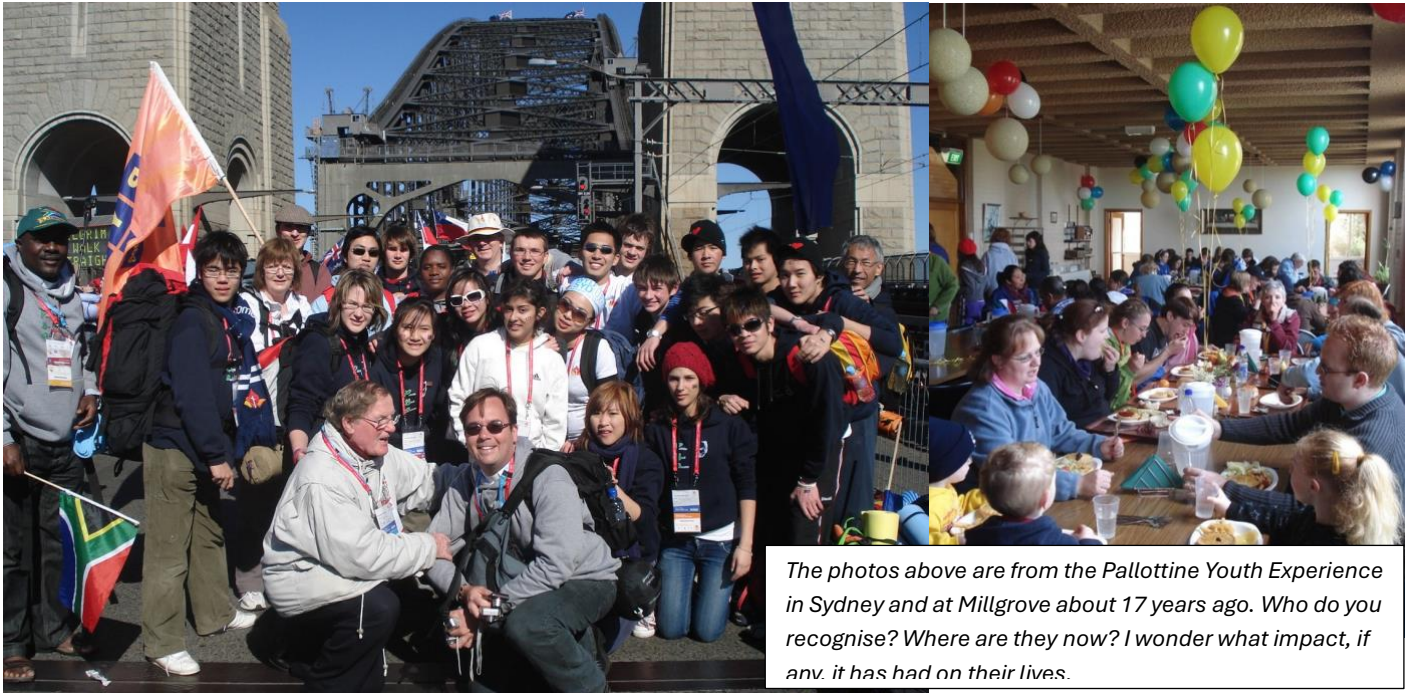
We give thanks to God, Infinite Love, for all that we lived there — *pallottinologically* speaking: testimonies of a Church where everyone has a place, a voice, and a responsibility. There, leaders were formed, missionaries emerged, and generations of Christians became aware of their baptismal vocation — mature people who build the Church and serve the Kingdom.

May the Pallottine College in Millgrove continue to be:

- a place of encounter with God, Infinite Love, and celebration of faith;
- a place of encounter with God, Infinite Love, and formation in faith;
- a place of encounter with God, Infinite Love, and service to the poor.

May all who pass through its doors be moved by the love of Christ — for the love of Christ impels us.





*The photos above are from the Pallottine Youth Experience in Sydney and at Millgrove about 17 years ago. Who do you recognise? Where are they now? I wonder what impact, if any, it has had on their lives.*

Fr Daniel completed his Doctorate in Missiology in Rome and returned to Brazil, where Cheryl and Anne caught up with him at the UAC Congress there about ten years ago. Then in 2024 we caught up again at last year's Congress in Rome. He is a consultor on the current SAC General Council with responsibility for the Church of San Salvador in Onda which is at the spiritual heart of the Pallottine Family. He carries joyful memories of his time in Australia and the people he met here.  
 – Anne Dowling

**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 Person for the protection of minors - Marita Dunphy via [maritadunphy@yahoo.com](mailto:maritadunphy@yahoo.com)



**UAC – ARM: Australians Reaching out on Mission. Kids for Kids Program. New Committee members needed!**

At present we have four active members of this committee: two based in Melbourne, one in country Victoria and one in Geraldton. All are well over 70. We need some new members to continue the important work of this group when the present ones can no longer continue. We meet 4 times a year via Zoom. Please contact us if you can help in any way.

For eleven years the Social Justice team of Year 6 students at **Queen of Apostles School at Riverton** has conducted a **Kids for Kids** program of fundraising for a term each year. The money the kids have raised is sent to help support the kids at the Flame of Love Orphanage at Keshero, a suburb of Goma in the DRC where there have been invaders and fighting this year. This has increased the number of orphans and the cost of feeding, educating and providing medical care for them.

At a school assembly at the end of October a cheque was presented to members of the National Coordination Council who were meeting in Perth. In 2025 the kids raised \$1936.15. A fantastic effort! Thanks to the kids, their parents, and the staff.

In 2026 we are hopeful that some schools in Melbourne could take up this initiative as well. Do you know a school that would be likely to do this if approached?

100% of donations for the orphanage go there via SAC contacts in Rwanda. We receive updates on how the money is spent and on what the needs are. Donations can be made by regular Direct Debit payments or one-off to ACCOUNT NAME: UAC Keshero Project, BSB: 083 347, ACCOUNT NUMBER: 439 222 523

### **This is for all members of the Union of Catholic Apostolate, the Pallottine Family.**

Since the Statutes of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate were approved *ad experitum* in October 2024 by the responsible Vatican Dicastery (Department), we have in Australia set up a National Coordination Council (NCC). We have also had a Local Coordination Council (LCC) in the East (Melbourne) and one in the West (Perth). With the aging and natural attrition of members we have been experiencing difficulties with things such as having a quorum, having people prepared to be office bearers and overloaded Parish Priests. This made it very difficult for the LCCs to operate as the animating groups they are meant to be and alternatives have been sought. Some countries have cells or groups that meet in an area without all the formalities of a LCC.

In Western Australia this is being tried with a group of UAC members from around the state meeting via Zoom. They will support and help each other as well as continue to organise things such as the Annual Retreat Day and Cenacle Nights. They will decide what they will be called and how they operate. They will have a member, Marnie Ryan, on the NCC. This hopefully will allow for people throughout the state to be actively involved.

In Victoria, all interested members are **invited** to a meeting on **Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 p.m. at Holy Cross** meeting room, 707 Glen Huntly Rd, South Caulfield to explore what could work for the eastern side of our country. If you are unable to attend please send your thoughts to [pfn@uacpallottines.au](mailto:pfn@uacpallottines.au) by 18/20/2026.



### **Feast of the Pallottine Family October 2025**

This year Maria Domke, who was visiting from Canada, joined us for our reflection Day with Mass and Renewal of Act of Apostolic Commitment. She also presented the Australian Pallottine Family with a dazzlingly beautiful icon of Our Lady of Canada that the Canadians had had written for us.

The day went well with talks, quiet time and sharing. Thanks to all who contributed and who take part. Thanks also to St Andrew's South Clayton for generously hosting the day.

Mark October 24<sup>th</sup> in your calendar for this event in 2026. Venue TBC. Also for your diary, mark in Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March for Pallotti's Birthday celebration and Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Mass for the Feast of Mary Queen of

Apostles Mass which will be incorporated into the Pentecost Vigil Mass.

**Pallottine Family (UAC) Newsletter**  
2/26 Ford St. Ivanhoe, Victoria, 3079