

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

Ametur

No: 346

March 2022

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

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Dear Associates,

We surely began this year with the hope that things would be much better and that our world would soon return to “normal”. Over the past weeks our hopes have been dashed. There is nothing “normal”. Instead, our world seems to be spinning out of control – the pandemic, flooding in our own country and the desperate situation in Ukraine. Pope Francis lamented at the Angelus on 27 February:

*“Those who wage war, those who provoke war, forget humanity ...
They trust in the diabolical and perverse logic of weapons,
which is furthest from the will of God.*

*And they distance themselves from ordinary people, who want peace,
and who are the real victims in every conflict,
who pay for the follies of war with their own skin.*

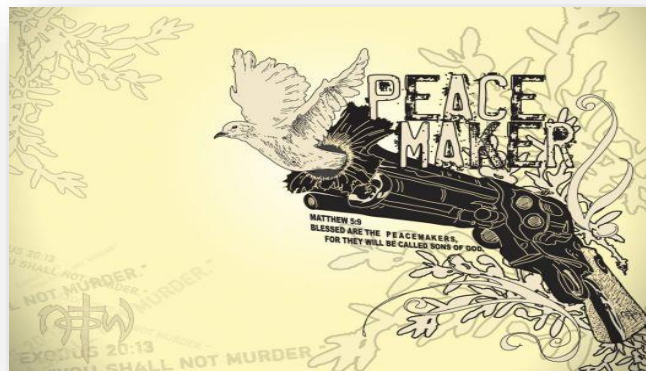
*I think of the elderly, of those who are seeking refuge in these hours,
of mothers fleeing with their children ...*

*They are brothers and sisters for
whom it is urgent to open humanitarian corridors,
and who should be welcomed.*

*With a heart broken by what is happening in Ukraine –
and let us not forget the wars in other parts of the world,
such as Yemen, in Syria, in Ethiopia ... -*

I repeat: Silence all weapons!

God is with the peacemakers, not with those who use violence.”



Walter Brueggemann, an eminent Professor of the Old Testament and prolific writer, reflected on the world following after the bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York in September 2001.

When the world spins crazy,

*spins wild and out of control
spins toward rage and hate and violence,
spins beyond our wisdom and nearly
beyond our faith,*

*When the world spins to chaos as it does now among us ...
We are glad for sobering roots that provide ballast in the
storm.*

*So we thank you for our rootage in communities of faith,
for many fathers and mothers
who have believed and trusted
as firm witnesses to us,
for their many stories of wonder, awe and healing.*



His prayer/poem continues to extol the gift of God's Word in Scripture and then concludes with these words of hope:

*And when we meet you hiddenly,
we find the spin not so unnerving,
because from you the world again has a chance
for life and sense and wholeness.*

*We pray midst the spinning, not yet unnerved,
but waiting and watching and listening,
for you are the truth that contains all our spin. Amen.*

(Awed to Heaven, Rooted to Earth, Fortress Press, Minneapolis, 2003, p 76)

The past seasons of Lent have been different for all of us with Churches closed, lack of social contact, fear of infection, shortages of various kinds and an overall dark uncertainty about the future because of Covid-19. Lent 2022 is being like none other. Now the Covid situation is slipping into the background while the fear and dread of a world war looms on the horizon. As I write I wonder what we will be experiencing when this ***Ametur*** reaches your letter boxes.

Our good Pope Francis on March 4, invited us this Lent as follows:

*“During Lent we are called to respond to God’s gift
by accepting his word, which is “living and active”.*

*Regular listening to the word of God makes us open and docile to his working
and bears fruit in our lives.*

This brings us great joy, yet even more, it summons us to become God’s co-workers.

By making good use of the present time, we too can sow seeds of goodness.

*This call to sow goodness should not be seen as a burden but a grace,
whereby the Creator wishes us to be actively united with his own bountiful goodness.”*

It is particularly in the Gospels that we find our reason for life and our way to respond to this God-given life. The Gospels show us the Jesus as he was remembered and dearly loved by his first friends.

*“Jesus, as revealed in the Gospels,
teaches us to live the faith,
not out of obligation but by attraction.
He makes us lead a Christian life, not as a duty,
but as disciples and followers captivated by him.
Under the influence of the Gospel, we learn his way of life
and discover more humane and evangelical ways of thinking,
living, celebrating and communicating our faith.
With **eyes fixed on Jesus**
we can journey towards a new level of Christian existence,
more inspired by him and better motivated
to serve his project of the kingdom of God.”*

*(José A. Pagola, **Exploring Faith with New Eyes**, Convivium Press, Miami, 2014, p 112)*

One of Father Chevalier’ favourite Scriptural quotes was

*“**Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus,**
on whom our faith depends from beginning to end.*

He did not give up because of the cross!

*On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him,
he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross,
and he is now seated at the right side of God's throne”*

(Hebrews 12:2.)



So, let us make this Lent a time of reflection on God’s Holy Word. Let us go to the Scriptures, particularly the Gospels, and find Jesus and keep our eyes fixed on him - He never takes his eyes off us.

On 19 March we celebrate the feast of St Joseph. This lovely prayer from our OLSH Community Prayer Book asks Joseph to help us in our reflections on God’s Holy Word:



*Saint Joseph, your prayerful reflection on Scripture
and your longing for the promised Messiah
numbered you among the “anawim”, the “poor of Yahweh.
May we ponder God’s word and so hold our hearts in readiness
for is coming, now and always. Amen.*

25 March brings us the beautiful feast of the Annunciation. Mary, always attentive to the Word in her heart, received the Word into her womb, and “the Word was made flesh.” Let Pope Francis challenge us this Lent to imitate Mary, in her generous “Yes”:

*Mary is the one who made possible the Incarnation of the Son of God,
“the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages” (Rom 16:25).
She made possible the Incarnation of the Word thanks to her humble and brave “yes”.
Mary teaches us to seize the right moment when Jesus comes into our life
and asks for a ready and generous answer.
He comes and knocks. Each of us is called to respond, like Mary, with a personal and
sincere “yes”,
placing oneself fully at the disposal of God and of his mercy, of his love.*

*How many times Jesus comes into our lives, and how many times he sends us an angel,
and how many times we don’t notice because we are so taken,
immersed in our own thoughts, in our own affairs ...
so as not to notice Him who comes and knocks at the door of our hearts,
asking for acceptance, asking for a “yes” like Mary’s.*

*A saint used to say: “I am afraid that the Lord
will come”.*

*Do you know what the fear was?
It was the fear of not noticing and letting Him
pass by.*

*When we feel in our hearts: “I would like to be a
better man, a better woman....*

*I regret what I have done..., that is the Lord
knocking.*

*He makes you feel this: the will to be better, the
will to be closer to others, to God.*

If you feel this, stop. That is the Lord!

*And go to prayer, and maybe to confession,
cleanse yourselves... this will be good.*

*But keep well in mind: if you feel this longing to be better,
He is knocking: don’t let Him pass by!*

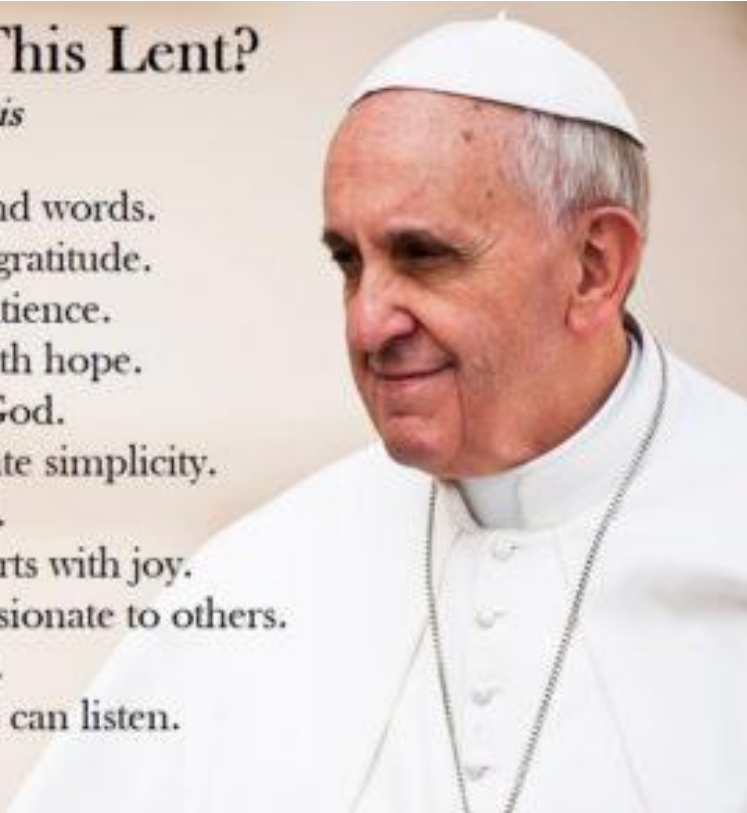


And finally, Pope Francis gives us some tips on “fasting” for Lent.

Do You Want to Fast This Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words - and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



Let us be very united in prayer this Lent as we pray for our suffering world, especially for our brothers and sisters in war-torn countries, and those seeking refuge for their families from the horrors of war; our own country men and women who have lost everything in the floods, and those still suffering from the pandemic, from famine and other natural disasters. We place them all in the compassionate Heart of Jesus and ask Our Lady of the Sacred Heart to enfold them in her loving embrace.

United with you In Jesus' dear Heart with Mary

(Sr) Ancilla White olsh



Our On-Going Formation

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.

Fr Hans Kwakman msc

Section 58 Spirituality of the Heart:

A Spirituality of Personal Depth



In chapter three of **Laudato Si'**, Pope Francis elaborates on the human causes of the climate crisis. One of the causes he identifies, is a growing technological mentality (see LS 101). We rightly rejoice at the many technical developments, which offer us so many new possibilities, for example in the fields of medicine and communication. *"Science and technology are wonderful products of a God-given human creativity"* (LS 102), he writes. So, we can only be grateful for the efforts of scientists and technicians, who constantly show us new ways to achieve a sustainable living environment (cf. LS 102).

However, these technical developments have also a downside. A mentality is growing, claiming that everything that people are technically able to develop, is also valuable and therefore must be developed, without asking whether this new development will benefit humankind (See LS 104). But we must bear in mind that:

*"... our immense technological development
has not been accompanied by a development in human responsibility,
values and conscience..."*

*We cannot claim to have a sound ethics,
a culture and spirituality genuinely capable of setting limits
and teaching clear-minded self-restraint" (LS 105).*

To make technology serve human wellbeing requires *"a distinctive way of thinking, policies, an educational program, a lifestyle and a spirituality"* (LS 111). *"Above all, we human beings need to change"* (LS 202), declares the Pope in chapter 6, in which he underlines the necessity of an *"ecological education and spirituality"*.

By this he means to say that we need education and spirituality that generate environmental responsibility. What he has in mind is an education in simple actions, which will lead to a personal spirituality that will give meaning and depth to our lives. In the following text for reflection the Pope describes it as follows:

REFLECTION

*"There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions,
and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle.*

*Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting
which significantly affect the world around us,
such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper,*

*reducing water consumption, separating refuse,
cooking only what can reasonably be consumed,
showing care for other living beings,
using public transport or car-pooling,
planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights,
or any number of other practices.*

*All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity,
which brings out the best in human beings.*



Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity.” (LS 211).

“Such actions can restore our sense of self-esteem; they enable us to live more fully and to feel that life on earth is worthwhile” (LS 212).

“Ecological education can take place in a variety of settings: at school, in families, in the media, in catechesis and elsewhere. In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life; we are taught the proper use of things, order and cleanliness, ... and care for all creatures.

These simple gestures of heartfelt courtesy help to create a culture of shared life and respect for our surroundings.”(LS 213).

(Pope Francis 'Laudato Si', Rome, Pentecost May 2015)

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Pope Francis on Prayer



Not long after Pope Francis' election there arrived in Italy, duly translated, via social media an Argentinian prayer with the signature of Bergoglio. It is a simple and beautiful way to remember all those who need and deserve our prayer. Perhaps you could teach it to your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as sharing it with your friends.

A Prayer for Every Finger of the Hand

Begin with the thumb as it is closest to you and pray for those closest to you. These are the ones we remember most easily and praying for our dear ones is a “pleasant duty.”

Then go to the index finger. Pray for those who teach, who educate, and who take care of others – teachers, doctors, priests. They need wisdom and support to show direction to others.

The third finger is the longest and highest. It reminds us to pray for those who govern us – our religious and civil leaders, our parliamentarians etc. – all those who manage the destiny of our country and who guide public opinion. They need the guidance of God.

The fourth finger is the ring finger. It is, surprisingly enough, our weakest finger. It is there to remind us to pray for those who are the weakest among us, those who have to face

challenges because of health, life situations, etc. It is also there to remind us to pray for married couples. We can never pray too much for them.

And finally, the little finger, the smallest of us, as we should feel small before God and before our neighbour. It reminds us to pray for ourselves – after you have prayed for everyone else. At that time, you will be able to see your own needs and in proper perspective.



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The OLSH Associate Movement

I would like to share with you some thoughts about the beginnings of the OLSH Associate Movement in Australia. Who better to take these thoughts from but Sr Francis Mary Walsh whose passionate love of the Charism and of Father Chevalier's dream of including the Laity in our mission resulted in the Associate Movement beginning in Australia. The following is a talk given in 1986 to our Sisters who were Leaders of Associate groups. At that time, when there were many more Sisters, each Associate Group had a Sister as its leader. Now adays we have fewer Sisters but we are so blessed in our Associate Leaders who, like yourselves, live out the charism, and they are able to facilitate group meetings so that they are times of on-going formation and companionship. I am sure that you will be interested in the following, remembering that it was given to our Sisters.

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Our Associate Apostolate An Outline of its Development

Back in the 70's something became very clear to me. Quite a number of applicants entered (our Late Vocation Centre), few decided to continue to profession. In most cases, it was quite evident that they loved our spirit and wanted to live it, but they just couldn't take the structure of religious life. All but three went back to live their Christian life in the world, still attached to us by strong spiritual bonds.

There were ex-students, too, some of whom has considered entering in their younger years but whose applications had not been accepted. This group, too, remained deeply attached to the Congregation with a warm love and a true understanding of its spirit.

A third group of people, especially parents of our Sisters, possessed our spirit in a wonderful measure; they lived it in their daily lives and through their daughters had a unique bond with our religious family.

I wondered if such persons as these could be joined to us in some special, specific way, so that feeling really part of our family they could live in deeper union with us, while leading their Christian lives and influencing others in the way of life to which God had called them.



I wondered what Father Chevalier would do for and with such people. His charism was enriched by an ardent and quite outstanding enthusiasm for groups. From his student days till his latest years, as you well know, he kept reaching out to group after group, firing them with his own love and zeal for the Heart of Our Lord, and leading them to see that for themselves and for others, devotion to the Sacred Heart was a sure means of close friendship with God and a sure means of re-Christianising the godlessness of the society of their day. From thinking of what Father Chevalier had done through sodalities, archconfraternities, groups of priests and the rest, arose the question:

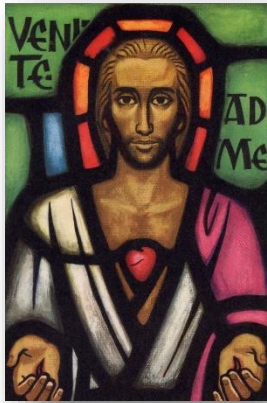
“What means would he adopt today to bring the Heart of Jesus to our money-centred, self-centred, rapidly becoming atheistic world? Beyond his priests and religious how would he form and use apostles to make a reality his motto: May the Sacred heart of Jesus be EVERYWHERE loved!”

It seemed to me that in our day he would make use of something resembling a Third Order, but not structured on the lines of earlier types such as the Dominicans, Carmelites and Franciscans, with vows and a number of detailed obligations. These people would be an extension of our religious family into a further area in the Church. They would be persons who knowingly or unknowingly were imbued with our charism. Formed by us and united with us, they would be instruments of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, carrying to today’s world the message of God’s love revealed in the Heart of her Son. They would be Associates, one with the Daughters in spirit and mission, vitalized by the same motto.

I wrapped up these ideas in a proposal sent to the General Chapter of 1975. Mother Benigna, then Superior General, wrote accepting the proposal presentation at the Chapter, because, she said, it was in the spirit and the original design of Father Founder. At this point, I must confess, I had not adverted to the fact that Father Chevalier had experimented with an M.S.C. Third Order. So, right now, it might be worth our while to turn back the page of history to look at what our Founder had done, and to learn from it what he would want us to learn.

It is quite certain that Father Chevalier saw **enormous potential in sharing his charism with the laity**. You can feel the pulsation of his great heart pounding with intense desire to make apostles extending beyond the immediate circle of his religious. Though the tide of the times, and particular persons too, were ever and anon against him, he reached out again and again to establish a Third Order and to keep it alive. From 1864 (only ten years after their being founded), several attempts were made to establish a definite MSC Third Order. Father Chevalier spoke of it as consisting (in his own words) of non-religious but devout laity, a third **Family** who share the life, merits and favours of the first two orders to which they are united (that's the MSC's and us).

When in 1874 Father Chevalier asked Rome for indulgences for the members of this Third Order, he could report that there were 300 members in France, Italy, Belgium, Austria and Canada. Both men and women were entitled to belong to this Third Order in which, as Father Chevalier saw it, there should reign



*“... a spirit of kindness and humility, of zeal and charity,
of detachment and obedience, of prayer and mortification,
which each will try to acquire,
**taking the Heart of Jesus as a model
and studying it with care ...**
It is a form of life,
which takes complete possession of the soul,
in order to unite it to the Heart of the Divine Master
while it **aspires to Christian perfection**
in the state of life in which providence has placed it.”*

This Third Order was structured with a Superior and Rule for Tertians. Some of the members had already had formation in other groups which now became allied with the MSC Third Order. This fusion brought its own problems. Father Chevalier had other problems, too. As Bishop Cuskelly notes in “A Man with a Mission”, Father Chevalier himself records:

*“The progress of the Third Order has been until recently rather slow.
On the one hand the new Third Order was not well known,
and many faithful, even many associates, were unaware of the spiritual favours
which the Holy See had granted.
On the other hand, the young Society [ten years old, remember!]
almost crushed beneath the weight of the important and numerous works
to which it had given its attention,
could not devote itself as it should have done to the propagation of a Third Order.
Today careful attention is being given to this Third and precious branch of the tree planted
at Issoudun on December 8, 1854.”
(Rule of the Third Order, 1887)*

Further development to all parts of the world was noted in 1904, when there were nearly 2000 members. But by now the third Order had been changed in name to the Sodality of the Devotees of the Sacred heart. This was the result of Norms issued by Rome in 1901.

So much for that page of history. **What can we learn from it?** We will just enumerate the points:

1. Father Chevalier saw the enormous potential in sharing his charism with the laity.
2. He thought of his Third Order as a *family* sharing with the religious to which they were united. ("Family", you would know, had the deepest depth of meaning with Jules Chevalier).
3. It embraced both men and women.
4. Its spirit was the spirit of the Heart of Jesus – kindness, humility, zeal, charity and the rest.
5. The Heart of Jesus was the Tertians' Model and they were counselled to "*study that Heart with care.*"
6. The Tertians "*aspired to Christian perfection* (i.e. to the universal call to holiness, in our terminology),
7. *in the state in which providence has placed them.*"

To return to the point from which we side-stepped to take a look at Father Chevalier's Third order, back to the General Chapter of 1975. The proposal approved by Mother Benigna was submitted to the Capitulants and was accepted by them. Since it had been put forward by the Australian Province, it was confided to us as an experiment. After a general Chapter, we usually pause to take breath before we take to the highway once more. So it was not until 1977, on the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred heart, that Sister Florine, then provincial, wrote to the Province, inaugurating the Associate Daughters (the name already proposed and already accepted by the Chapter and by our then new Mother General, Mother Gerarda). Sister's letter was accompanied by a statement setting out the idea as presented at the General Chapter by the Australian Province. What we call now our blue brochure contains all these ideas. In essence, Associate Daughters were to be seen as

"a dynamic movement outwards from the heart of the Congregation which would spiritually bind to our religious family those who, in their turn, would live and transmit to others the message of love confided by the Father to Christ, and of which His Heart is the symbol, i and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart the embodiment."

From that date, May 1977, Associate Daughters virtually became an Australian FDNCS apostolate.

THE AUSTRALIAN BEGINNING

This was very seed-like, indeed. It was deemed wise to keep the numbers small for a beginning, and to draw them (as was stated in the provincial letter) mainly from "*ex-students, mothers of our Sisters, and some Late Vocations who understand and desire to*

live our charism, but who, for health or other reasons, have been unable to continue in a life of full consecration as a Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart”.

The importance of individual formation was emphasised from the onset. This was a comparatively easy matter while numbers remained small. It became a more difficult and demanding task when numbers grew; and grow they did in an “Andrew -told- Peter” manner. What that means is one Associate told a friend about it, and the friend asked to join. Then the friend told a further friend ... from five originals it was soon twenty-five. About that stage, the Holy Spirit brought us a peerlessly Sacred-Heart-centred chaplain in the person of Father Norbert Earl MSC who continued to give lectures and week-end retreats until God called him home.

There is no need for me to give further details of Associate growth, the branching out from Sydney to Melbourne and to every state. You yourselves have made that a reality; you have made it Provincial history, and your reports will give some details of this. I will just make a few further points.

1. The Associates’ call from the beginning has been spoken of as a call to be the Heart of Christ in the world to our Heavenly Father and to all persons.
2. The formula of commitment and the badge of belonging have the approval of Mother Gerarda, who has always given complete encouragement to the Associate apostolate.
3. Permission was given to share some of our Australian province Community Prayers – Acts of Consecration and reparation etc.
4. The new Constitutions imply a general approval of Associates in No 12 in the Norms of Chapter 1:

*“We share the fruits of this study
[of the Sacred Heart, Scripture, Documents of the Church etc.]
with others, especially with who wish to associate themselves in a closer way
with our spirituality and mission.”*

Just one final point, Sisters. The Associate idea is very simple. It is wholly and entirely a matter of sharing with others what you already *know, love and live* – *our spirit and mission*. Each of you has a precious something to give, the fruit of your personal love of the Heart of Our Lord. I believe with Janet Stuart [an English Sacre Coeur Sister] that there are as many forms of devotion to the Sacred Heart as there are hearts that love Him. Give of the love that is uniquely yours. The Holy Spirit and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will be with you as, in love, you strive to give to others what you have already received from the Heart of Her son. You are not alone. With Them, in their hands and yours, the future of our OLSH Associate apostolate is assured.

Sr Frances Mary Walsh FDNCS
Associate Apostolate Meeting - Jan 13 and 14, 1986.

What a beautiful vocation OLSH Associates have! As Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart we cherish each one of you and pray often for you as you share in our charism, mission and Spirituality of the Heart. Each month we remember you in a special Mass offered for your intentions. We are so grateful for your prayers for us. Please keep them up. I would like to finish this section of the Ametur with a short summary of what your Commitment as an Associate of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart entails:

Associate Commitment

- A special promise to give oneself to the Heart of Jesus, to love and serve Him and others, helped in a special way by living closely with Mary.
- To radiate Christ's love in one's own particular circumstances by one's daily living, prayer and services of charity.
- Is not to a number of meetings or other such activities, but rather the loving desire to live according to one's situation, in the circumstances of each day, a life dedicated in love to the Heart of Jesus through Mary.

In these times when many of you are aged, frail, unwell and cannot attend meetings anymore, be assured that you are still able to live out your commitment to the full by the quality of your love for God, others and the whole of creation – love shown in actions where possible, but always in attitudes and prayer. Thank you, dear Associates, for so much love. You are certainly being on earth the Heart of God.

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Commitment Prayer

Father, in the Heart of Jesus, Your Son,
our Founder, Jules Chevalier,
came to know the revelation of the infinite tenderness
of Your love, and a sure way of helping others to
recognise that love.

May his charism live on in us today
that we may share more deeply
the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties
of all people of all time,
especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted.

Thus may we be on earth
the Heart of Christ
through the transforming power of His love.

Amen

Prayer for Peace in Our World



Invitation to all members of the Chevalier Family

Fr. Jules Chevalier, MSC was convinced that devotion to the Sacred Heart was the remedy for all the evils of his time. Today, we call this devotion Spirituality of the Heart. Spirituality of the Heart invites us to contemplate the compassionate Heart of Jesus that reveals God's unconditional love for every human being and all creation. We believe that belief in and experience of God's unconditional love is the remedy for the ills of society, it transforms our own hearts and enables us to participate in the healing of creation.

At this time of global crisis the International Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family invites all members to stop what they are doing at 4.00pm (16.00 hours) to stand in silence and solidarity with the world's pain and invite God's love and peace to come into the world bringing hope and healing.

You may like to pray this prayer from the Novena of the Open Hearts Movement in Belgium.

Come to me, all of you who are exhausted
and weighed down by burdens
and I will give you rest and relief.
Take my yoke upon your shoulders
and learn from me:
I am gentle and humble of heart,
and you will find rest for your soul,
for my yoke is soft and my burden is light. (Mt 11, 28-29)

Lord Jesus,
we entrust to you our sorrows,
our sufferings and all that is in our hearts.
That your Spirit always lead us
to your heart, the fountain of living water.
And let us find rest and peace.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place our trust in you.
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us.



Meeting Reports

BENTLEIGH: Twelve Associates met at the Convent on 26th February, and it was lovely to be able to gather without masks. We were very sad to hear of the loss of six of our Sisters since the start of the year. We discussed the meaning of Lent and the importance of prayer and fasting particularly in regard to the current Ukraine situation. Our prayers must be for everyone involved as it is hard to know the true situation from here. Sr Elaine encouraged us to take time over each Gospel reading during lent and to write down a prayer response to each week. We all are looking forward to Easter this year in our churches with a renewed hope.

Patricia Mirabile

ELMORE: We met on 8th December, the Feast of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception when Fr Caldwell celebrated the Mass and spoke beautifully about Our Lady. We were thrilled that some of our dear OLSH Sisters came from Melbourne to join us – Sisters Shirley, Lee, Lorraine and Elizabeth. After Mass we prayed the Rosary and our Associates' Prayer then proceeded to the Chevalier Centre to share luncheon. We were all interested to hear how our Sisters had managed the lockdowns and how they enjoyed "city living". They are sorely missed in Elmore. Although we are small in number, we will continue our Associates' meetings.

Irene Nihill

ENFIELD: A synopsis of our meetings in 2021

A long-awaited meeting after Covid restrictions lifted was in March at the Convent, Kilburn with ten Associates present. The evening commenced with an update of the work done by the International Council of the Lay Chevalier Family, meditative reflection on the readings and catchup over supper. In the presence of the Blessed Sacrament we honoured and spoke of the lives of recently deceased Associates, Roma Johnson, Nell Hollitt and Alan Cowell.

Meetings were held in July, September and November when we explored the readings about being open to God as an Associate with a charism of love and compassion that we endeavour to exercise in our ordinary daily lives. In September from the Chevalier Family we heard the message of our responsibility of heart to act for the welfare of the environment. At our November meeting we reflected on the poor widow in the Gospel who gave all she had, and the fact that the essence of discipleship is giving our ourselves in the service of others. We noted Pope Francis' message of care and moderation to protect our earth with the 10 Green Commandments.

We offered our prayers and condolences to our Associate Sophie Ozga on the death of her dear husband, Henry. RIP.

Carmel Cowell

HARTZER PARK: We met on 20th February and the highlight of this first meeting was to have Sr Rita Grunke talk to us about her work in South Sudan. As this meeting preceded the Anniversary of the death of Mother Marie Louise Hartzler, the "patron" of the Hartzler Park Associates, our Reflection incorporated selected quotes from Sr Juliette's book which was serialised in the 2021 editions of the *Ametur*. Each quote was followed by a prayer relevant to our lives and Commitment as Associates. We find the many thought-provoking and inspirational articles in the *Ametur* provide opportunity to widen and deepen our Formation, with the group contributing from their individual reading and reflecting. This month we used the December edition and also took the opportunity, as it was World Day of Social Justice, to pray and look more deeply at our response to Pope Francis' encouragement to care for others.

Jan Clark

We Remember Our Beloved Deceased

Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

Sr Lydia Dionisio (Manila)
Sr Maria Cawood, Sr Margaret Sullivan, Sr Pauline Pitman,
Sr Eileen van de Lee, Sr Margaret Jennings,
Sr Gertrude Mary Kennedy, Sr Yvonne Berecny
(St Joseph's)
Sr Nora Hanrahan (Kensington)
Sr M Stefania Spisso (Rome)
Sr Marie-Therese Boittin (Issoudun)
Sr Maria Sajuti (Indonesia)



Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

Fr Adrinanus Maria van Hest (Phipillines)

OLSH Associates

Bridie Roche (Ipswich)

Relatives and Friends

Clare Reilly, Kathleen Coleman, Carmel, Geomerine, Ana Gamulin, Christopher Watson, Lynette Allan, Mary, Patricia Wales, Elsbeth Gorrington-Baker, Brian McKernan, Miriam Dieudonne, those who have died in Ukraine and in the Australian floods.

We Remember Our Sick and Those in Need of Our Prayers

Evelyn Howarth, Lachlan Lim, Maureen Doherty, Mary Nappa, Margaret Wulf, Jenny Bentancort, Br Herman Kooyman MSC, Damien Mollard, Thelma Bowen, Peter McKee, Christine Bulters, Angela Walsh, Annette Thornton, Jean Large, Jethro Gilmore, Matthew O'Reilly, Beth McGrath, John and Elinor Higgins, Elaine McComb, Audrey, Jean McKernan and Family, Kim, those impacted by the flooding in Queensland and New South Wales, the people of Tonga and those affected by natural disasters, the people of Ukraine, Russia, Yemen, Syria, Afghanistan and all those suffering because of war.

Thanksgiving to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

* For Sisters Annette Henschke and Duchesne Lavin on 70 years of Religious Profession, Sisters Fiona McKee and Patricia Smith on 60 years of Religious Profession, and for Sisters Dain Inglis and Kathleen Leahy on 50 years of Religious Profession this January.

Loving Congratulations and gratitude, dear Sisters.

*For the easing of lockdowns