

Mary's Month of May!
In this issue...
Marian Devotions in 21 Countries

Introducing Melbourne's Youth · Ukraine's Scouts · St. Rita's Feast

Love Mary. That's holiness!





04UKRAINE'S SCOUTS



08
MARIAN DEVOTIONS



46 ST. RITA OF CASCIA



25
MEET MELBOURNE!

This issue is in memory of Fr. Noel O'Connor

Don Hiuseppe Colantonio

Who went home to Mary's Mantle this month.

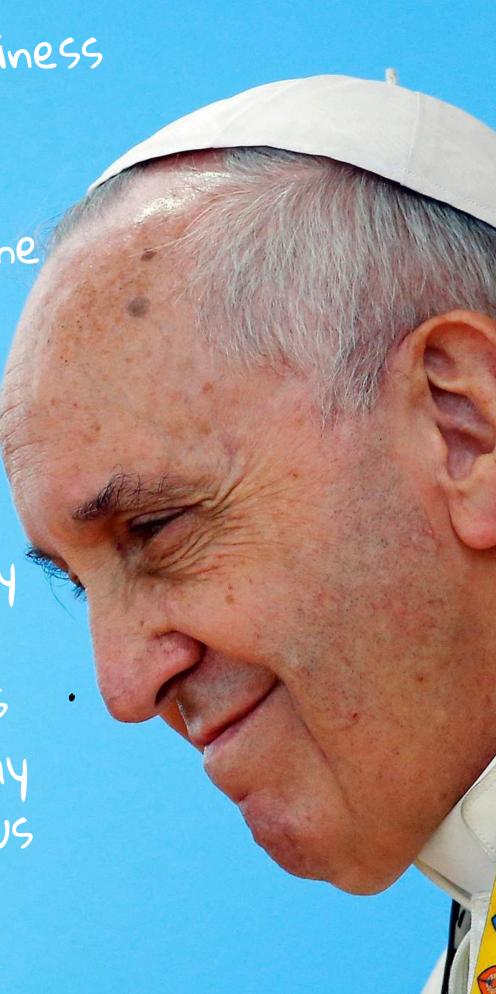


In short, holiness or nothing!

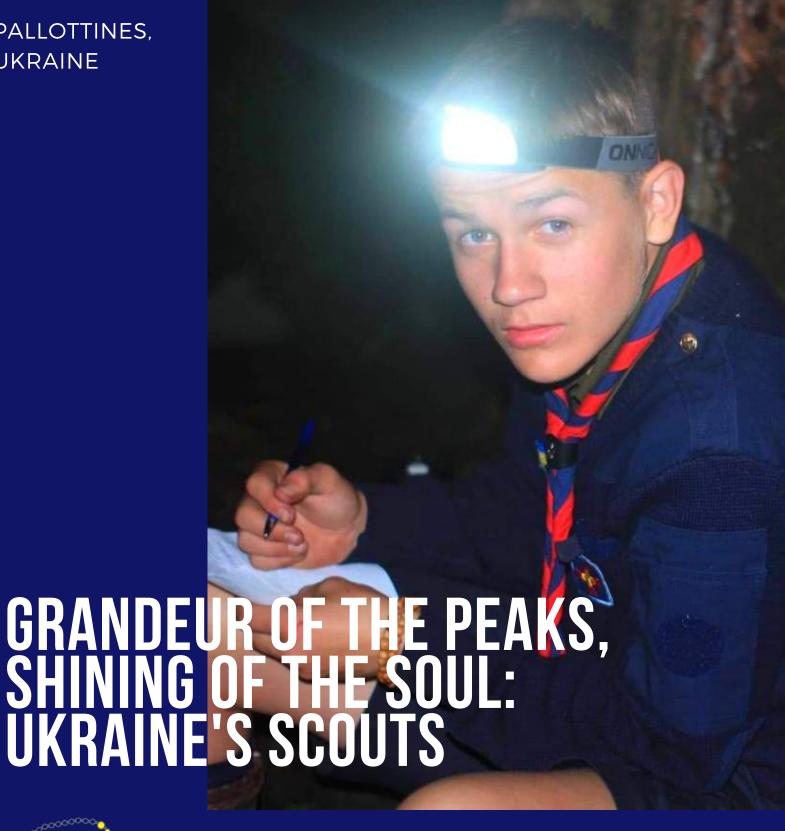
Undertake the Beatitudes.

It's not about doing extraordinary things, but following this way every day that takes us home.

Pope Francis



PALLOTTINES. **UKRAINE**





OVER THE WEEKEND, PALLOTTI'S YOUNG SCOUTS SET OUT TO "THINK WELL, FEEL WELL, DO WELL!" (POPE FRANCIS)

THE SILENCE OF GOD'S MARVELS

PHOTOS & GRATITUDE: FR. VALERIY DUBYNA. SAC

As Pope Pius XII so readily said, be "docile to the lessons of the mountain....it is a lesson in spiritual elevation, of an energy which is more moral than physical."

The young Pallottine scouts of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Ukraine set out on a 4 day journey through the country's mountains, learning skills of the outdoors through teamwork and faith. As they followed the trails, so, too, did they follow in the actions of some of our Church's most beloved saints.

To all of those raised to the altar, they

understood the importance of seeking interior solitude; understanding it was peace alone that would increase their sanctification. For many, this was found through contemplating in the silence of God's marvels. One of the most notable of all was the universal pope from across the Ukrainian border.





St. John Paul II cherished the outdoors, a gift from God and entrance to a state of grace during his years shepherding the Church. For

"IN CONTACT WITH THE BEAUTIES OF THE MOUNTAINS, IN THE FACE OF THE SPECTACULAR GRANDEUR OF THE PEAKS, THE FIELDS OF SNOW AND THE IMMENSE LANDSCAPES, MAN ENTERS INTO HIMSELF, AND DISCOVERS THAT THE BEAUTY OF THE UNIVERSE SHINES NOT ONLY IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EXTERIOR HEAVENS, BUT ALSO OF THE SOUL,

that allows itself to be enlightened, and seeks to give meaning to life. From the things that it contemplates, in fact, the spirit is lifting up to God on the breath of prayer and gratitude toward the Creator."

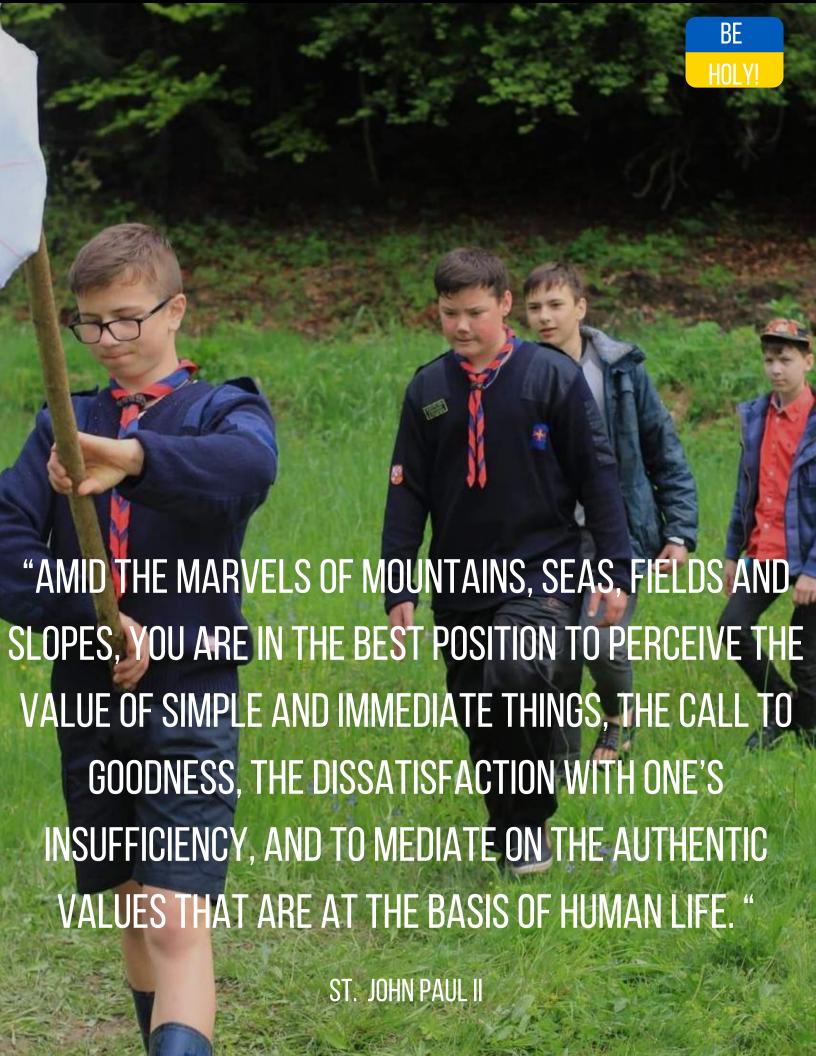
St. John Paul II





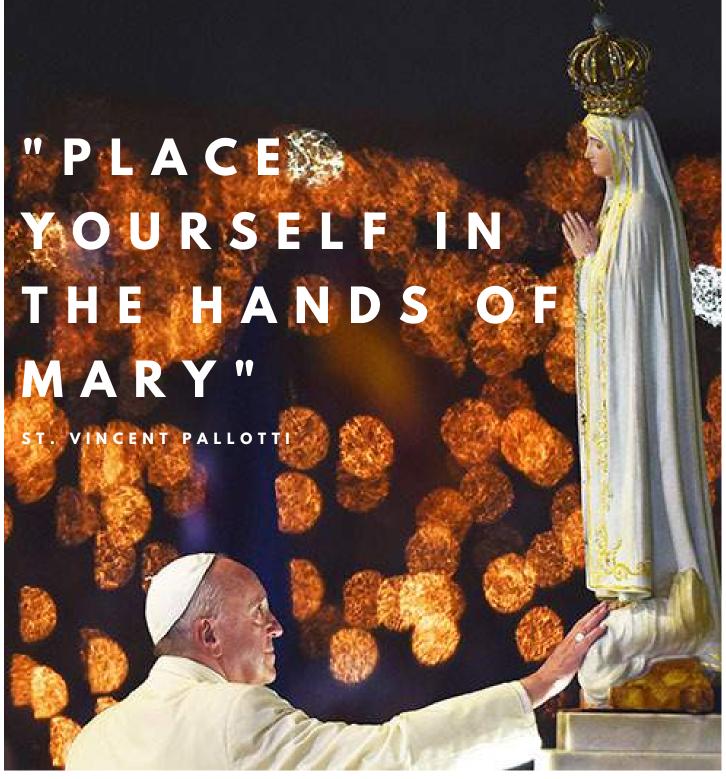






Marian Devotions

ACROSS THE PALLOTTINE WORLD



OUOTES BY ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI





PORTUGAL, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, PERU, RUSSIA, UKRAINE, POLAND. USA

On May 13 1917, Our Lady appeared to Saints Francisco and Jacinta, and Servant of God Lucia, in the farming town of Fatima, Portugal.

It was the first of three apparitions, in which she told them, "recite the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war." On the third apparition, she also added to the children that- at the end of each decade- they must recite, "oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy."

All around the world, our Pallottine family honored Our Lady of Fatima through processions and Masses, and- above all-through the beads that carry our gaze Heavenward.

In places such as Russia, Ukraine, and Brazil,. she is the namesake of our parishes; thus the devotion between our Heavenly Mother & St. Vincent runs ever deep in a special way.

Here's how we honored she who made God's dream flesh, and appeared to the little ones.













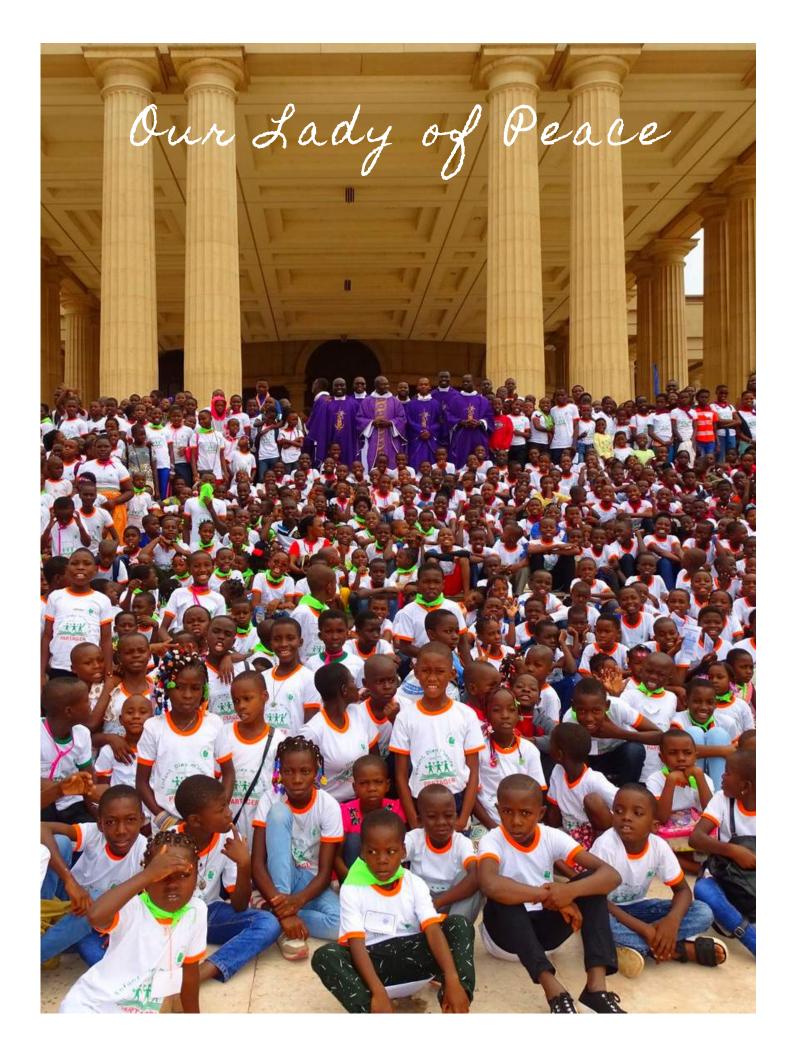














IVORY COAST, PHILIPPINES

The title of Our Lady of Peace is not too well defined, though her intercession by way of this devotion dates back to the 1500s. Tradition reads that Jean de Joyeuse presented this statue to his new bride, anda precious family heirloom- was taken by his grandson who joined the Capuchin Franciscans in Paris; where it remained for 200 years.

When- in 1657- the Capuchins built a larger chapel, the statue was taken and blessed by the Papal Nuncio before King Louie XIV on July 9; the day Pope Alexander VII later designated for the Capuchins to celebrate Our Lady of Peace.

During the French Revolution in 1798, the Capuchins- forced to flee the Monastery-

took it with them for protection and so not to be destroyed. When they finally returned, so, too, did Notre Dame de Paix.

This cherished history is also a part of our own Pallottine history, as it is the namesake of the Basilica, and Church, our Fathers administer to.

In the Ivory Coast, the Polish Pallottines shepherd the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace; the largest Church in the world.

In the Philippines, Our Lady of Peace is entrusted to the Society's Bangalore Province. Between this Church & its other Church it administers to, our Community in the Philippines pastorally guides 700 families.















RWANDA

November 28, 1981: Our Lady made her first visitation to a group of young girls at Kibeho College, under the name "Nyina wa Jambo"; or "Mother of the Word." In August of 1982, the visionaries reported that Mary seeked all to pray to prevent a terrible war; the Genocide that would ensue 13 years later.

Since 2003, the Shrine has been entrusted to the Pallottine Fathers. In October 2018, Fr. General Jacob and the Society's major superiors celebrated Mass and met Alphonsine Mumureke; who received the first vision in 1981, as well as the last in 1989.









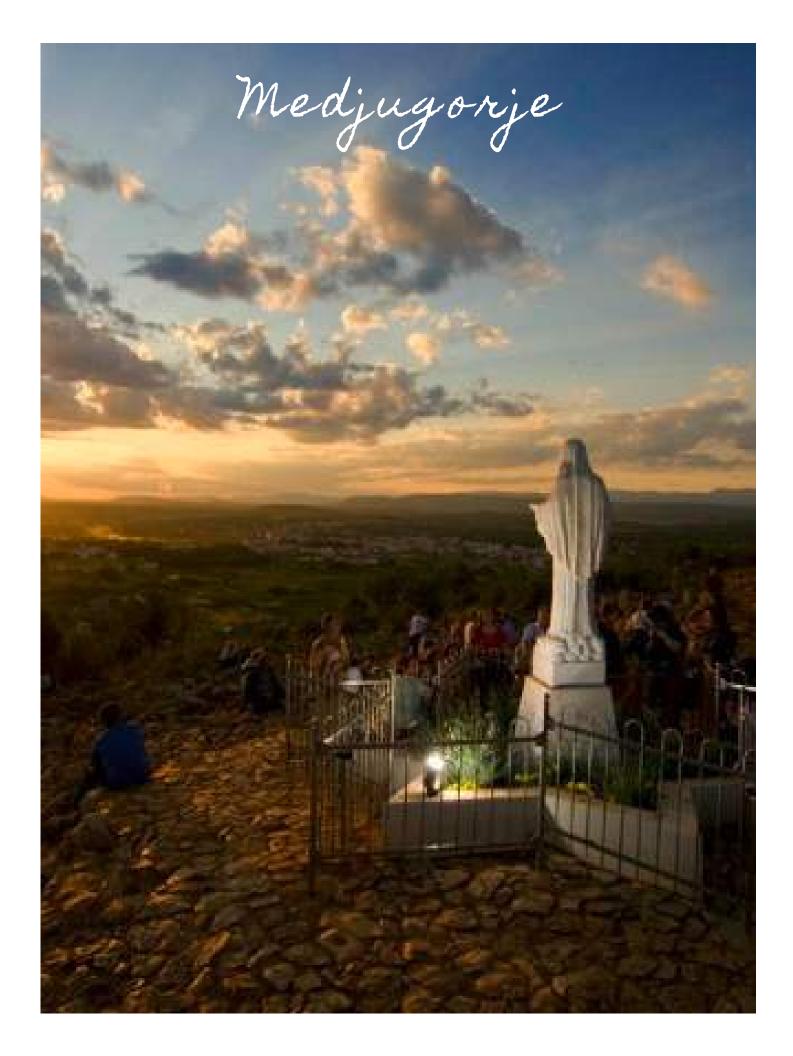
VIETNAM

492 steps lead to the Grotto of the Virgin Mary in Tà Pao, located in Ho Chi Minh, South Vietnam.

In June 2018, Fr. General Jacob Nampudakam visited this shrine alongside missionary Fr. Adam Galazka SAC. Since its construction in 1959, it has showered graces upon its pilgrims.









BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

On June 24, 1981, the Blessed Mother appeared to six young children in the small town of Medjugorje, where these apparitions are still appearing today. Her message is that of peace,

Since the 80s, over 40 million Catholics have set forth on this Marian pilgrimage; and since 2017, Pallottine Father Mons. Henryk Hoser was appointed as the Holy See's Special Envoy.







POLAND

"If Czestochowa is at the heart of Poland, it means that Poland has a maternal heart; it means that every beat of life happens together with the Mother of God," Pope Francis said in a video message to the Queen of Poland.

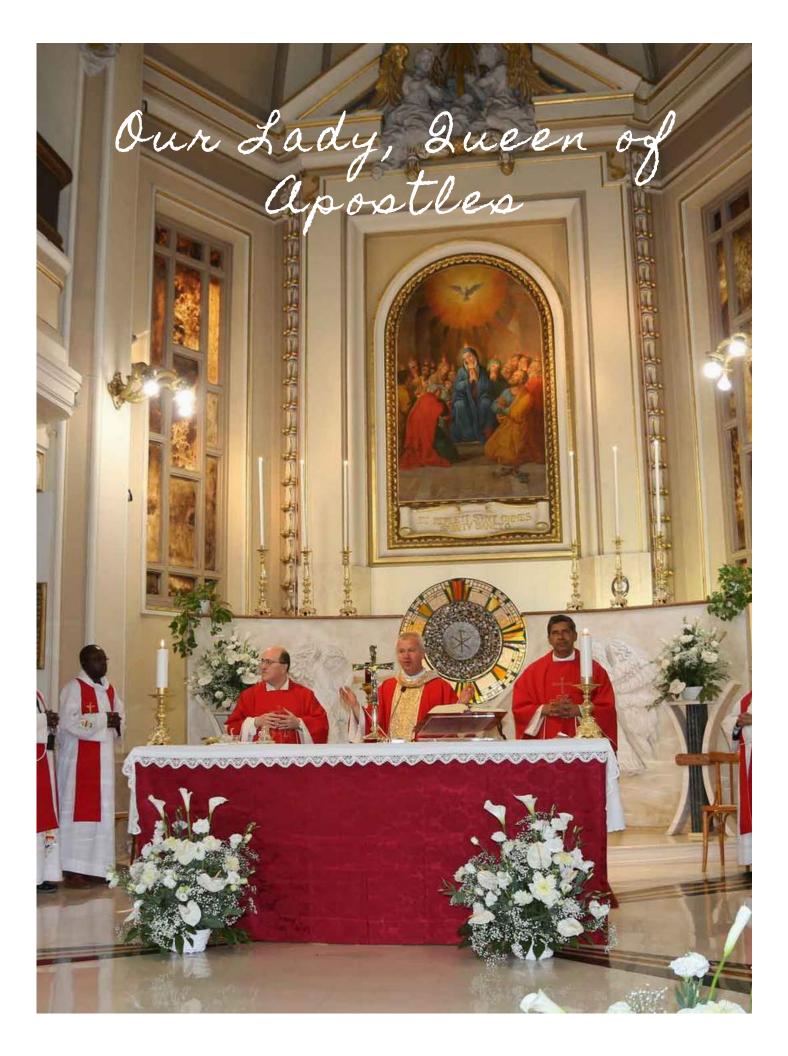
Our Lady of Czestochowa is a most revered icon of the Blessed Mother, that has been in Polish history for over 600 years. Located in the Jasna Góra Monastery, legend says that it was drawn by St. Luke in the home of the Holy Family.

A pilgrimage site for the entire country and world, so, too is it most close to our Pallottine family spiritually and physically. The Society- entering Poland in 1907- also built the Church of Divine Mercy on the

"western foot of Jasna Góra, built just after the first years of WWII.

Our Polish Fathers have a history of being extraordinary missionaries, and with the growth of its own presence in Poland, it has two provinces: Christ the King (Poznan) and Annunciation of the Lord (Warsaw).







ITALY, AUSTRALIA, UAC

"After Jesus Christ, we all have in the most holy Mary the most perfect model of true Catholic zeal and perfect charity. She did so much for the works aimed at the greater glory of God and for the salvation of souls that she surpassed in merit the apostles, so that the Church rightly salutes her as the Queen of the Apostles."

St. Vincent Pallotti

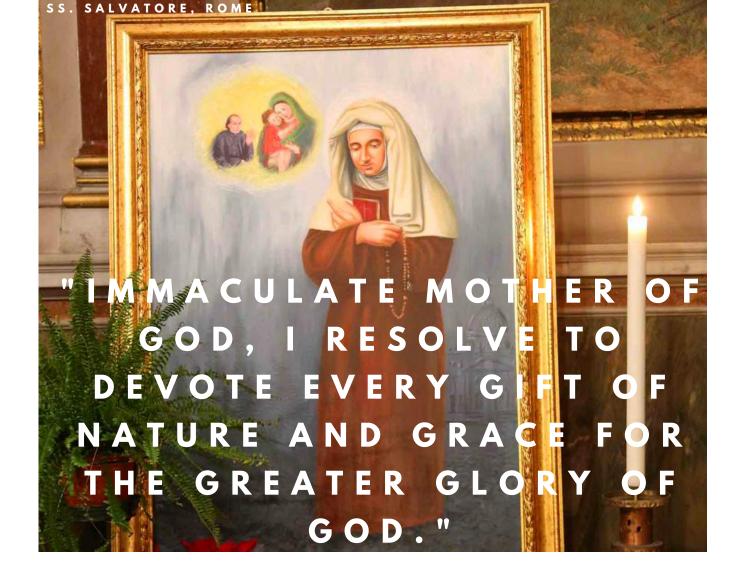
And thus we have the very patron of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate; where all the faithful undertake the mission Jesus entrusted to us.

The mission to love, to live radically, to correct oppression, to plead for the needy, and to live just like Him.

In Rome, the Church Mary Queen of Apostles honors her name, as well as in Perth, Western Australia.







ITALY, SS. SALVATORE IN ONDA

The beloved mother of our own beloved Blessed Elisabetta Sanna; mother, widow, lay collaborator, and spiritual daugher of St. Vincent Pallotti.

When she received the image of the Virgo Potens- meaning Virgin Most Powerful- she made a shrine in her tiny apartment. Indeed, this devotion was part of her spiritual greatness.

At her death, she gifted it to our Church in Rome, Ss. Salvatore in Onda; where it rests upon her tomb in the side chapel.







ITALY, IRELAND, THE WORLD!

"My God, we are unworthy to receive the gift of perfect love of our Immaculate Mother, our most holy Mother, but you bestow it on us through your infinite mercy and through the merits of Jesus Christ. We desire to love our beloved Mother Mary with the love with which you love her, Eternal Father, who love her as a daughter; with the love with which you love her, O Divine Son, who love her as your mother; with the love with which you love her, O Divine Spirit, who love her as your bride; and it is in this way that we desire her to be loved by all creatures."

St. Vincent Pallotti OOCC VIII 224

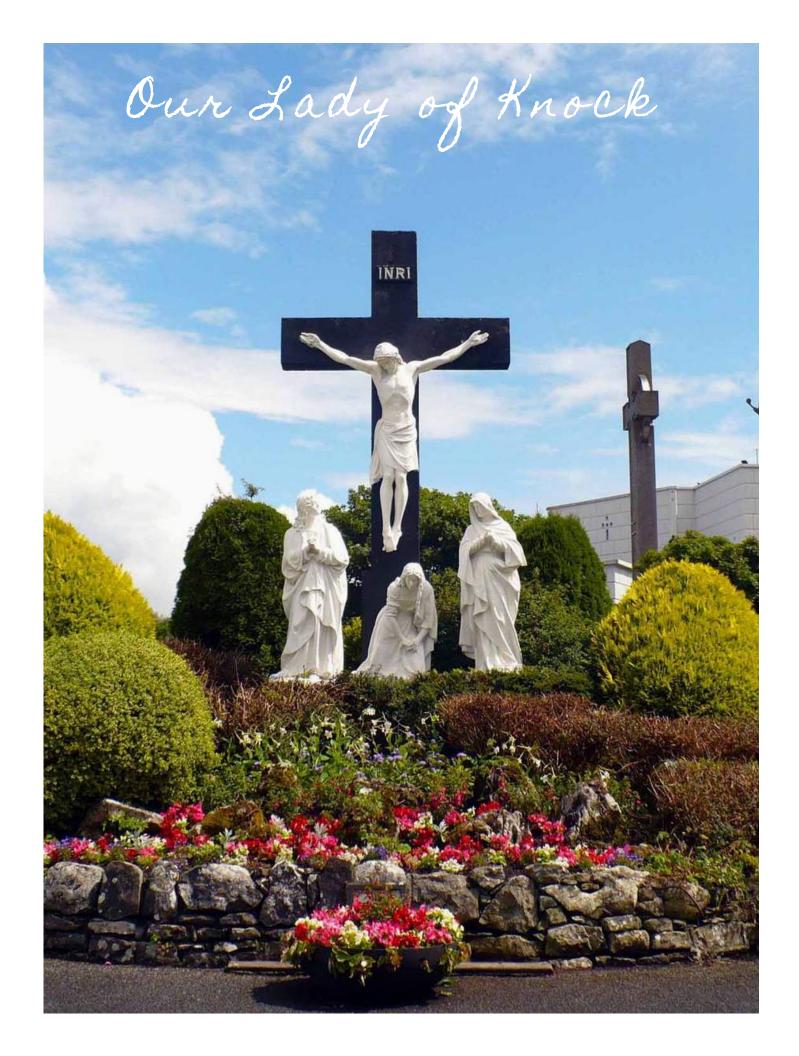
Our holy Founder held a most precious devotion to the Mother of Divine Love, whose image he extended when people

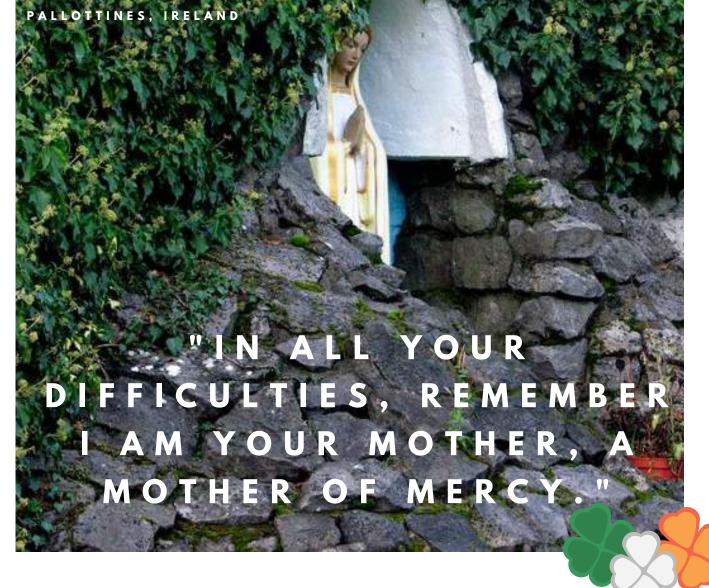
wished to kiss his hand; permitting them to instead press their lips upon Jesus & Mary.

Rightly so, then, our Society's Irish Province- started in 1909- carries her name; Mother of Divine Love!

Furthermore, Rome is home to il Santuario del Divino Amore; which- during WWII-Pope Pius XII visited so that the City may be spared; naming her Salvatrice dell'Urbe; "She who saves the city".

Pallottine Rosary Yarden, Thurles, Ireland





IRELAND

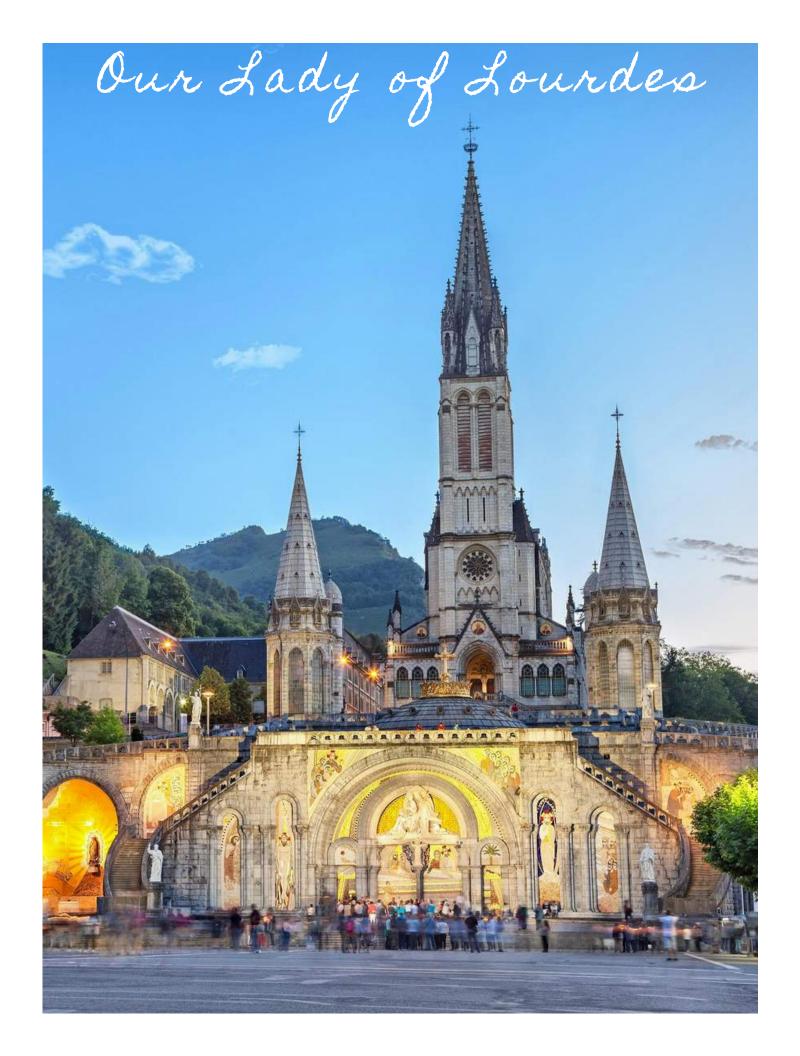
August 21, 1879, 8:00pm:

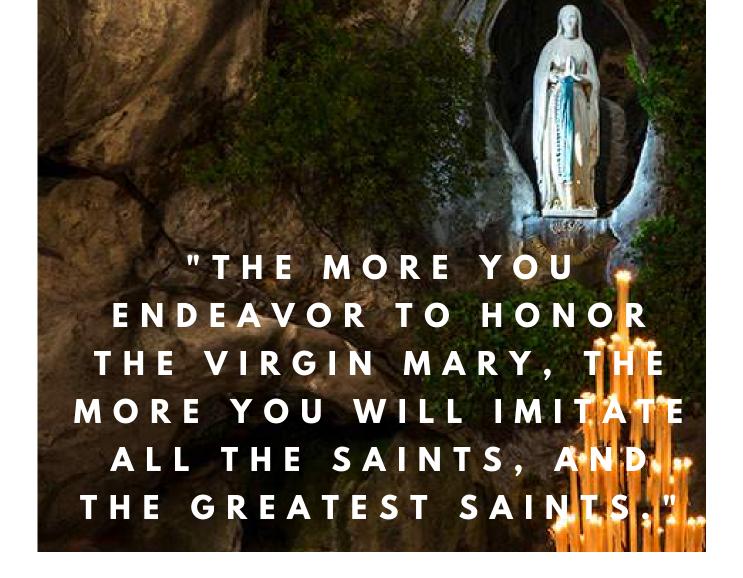
15 people from the village of Knock, Ireland, witnessed an apparition of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, a Cross, and a Lamb on the altar of the Parish Church.

For two hours, they recited the Rosary in the rain; yet not once did a drop fall upon them! Since that time, the site has been a place of miracles and of grace.

Our Irish family- the Mother of Divine Love Province, 1909- takes pilgrimages here to pay homage to Our Lady who watches over the "Emerald Isle."







FRANCE

In the south of France, on February 11, 1858, Our Lady of Lourdes appeared to a poor, young girl; whom we now know today as St. Bernadette Soubirous.

In the words of the little saint, she said, ""I raised my head and looked towards the grotto. I saw a Lady dressed in white, wearing a white dress, a blue girdle and a yellow rose on each foot, the same color as the chain of her Rosary."

Mary identified herself as the Immaculate Conception, and told St. Bernadette that she must drink the miraculous water from the grotto, to pray for the conversions of sinners, and to build a chapel on the very site.

Dear Bernadette suffered much; both from a chronic illness, and also from suspicions of others. Though she died at a young age, through her death to Eternal Life, she lives.

The Pallottines have been in France since 1849, by way of the Society's Mercy of God Region.







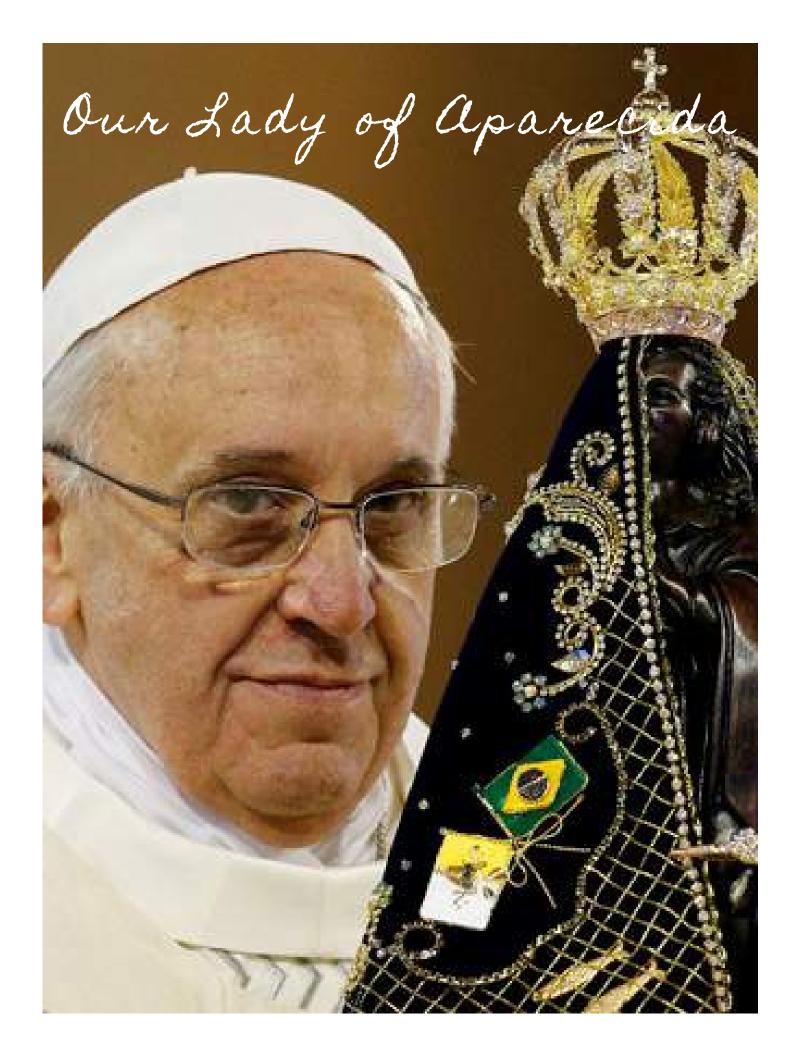
MEXICO

"Our Lady of Guadalupe begins in the 16th Century, when she appeared to farmer Juan Diego on his way to Mass. Dressed as a beautiful Aztec princess, she told him he must speak to the Bishop so as to build a chapel on the site she appeared.

Naturally, at first the bishop did not believe Juan, so he asked for a sign. Days later, when Juan opened his cape, roses fell to the ground, and the bishop to his knees.

The patroness of Mexico and the Americas, the Pallottines are also present in this Catholic land, where the Polish Fathers run the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Tenango del Aire.







BRAZIL

On October 12, 1717, three fishermen invoked Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, and cast out their nets for a catch.

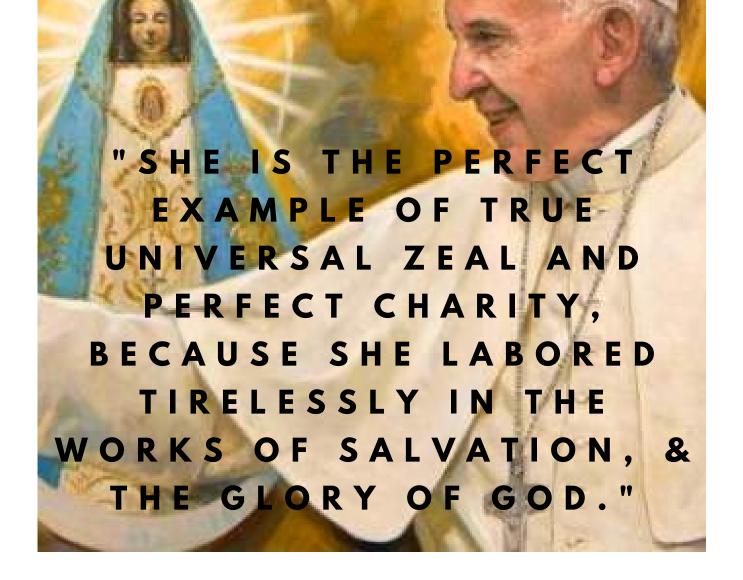
When they reeled them in, there was a dark- colored statue of Mary, missing her head; when they reeled them in the second time, there it was; and when they reeled them in the third time, what a catch!

During Rio's World Youth Day in 2014, Pope Francis entrusted his pontificate to her.

The Pallottine Fathers have been in Brazil since 1886, with the Sao Paolo Province, & Mother of Mercy Region.







ARGENTINA

The Madonna of His Holiness!

Our Lady of Lujan, Nuestra Señora de Luján, is the patroness of Argentina. Venerated since 1630, it was made in Brazil with the intention to be picked up in Buenos Aires, and taken to the town of Santiago del Estero.

However, divine providence had other plans. En route back, the oxen pulling the wagon stopped unexplainably next to the Lujan River; where they would not move again until the rancher removed the figure of Our Lady. Unloading all other items, and repeating the process to be sure, it was clear that the oxen would only move if the statue was taken out of the caravan.

The rancher understood this to be a sign from Mary that she wished to remain in Lujan.

It was first venerated in a small chapel near the site, until it moved to its current sanctuary in the 1800s once canonically crowned. In 1934, Pope Pius XII declared it a Basilica.

The Pallottines have been in Argentina since 1886; known over 100 years later as the Region of Our Lady of Lujan.





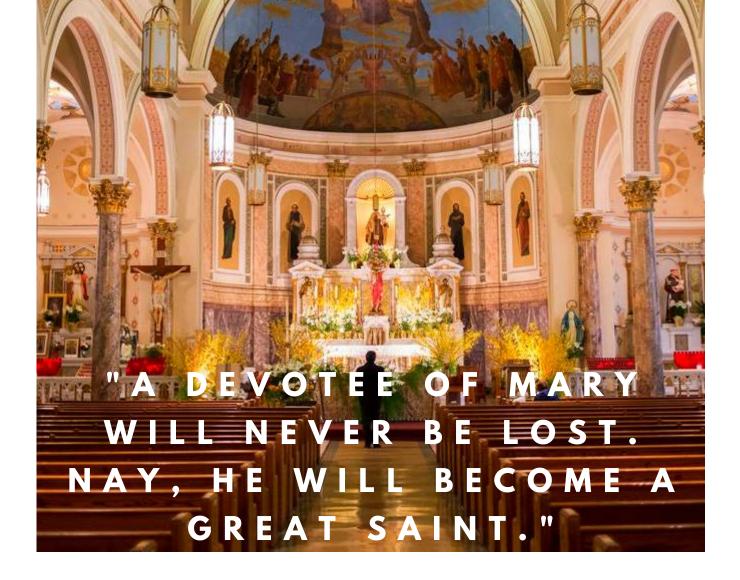












USA, PERU

"The Scapular is a practice of piety which by its very simplicity is suited to everyone, and has spread widely among the faithful of Christ to their spiritual profit." Pope Pius XII

For over 8 centuries, the Carmelites have crusaded God's mission upon earth, with a monastery atop Mt. Carmel. Legend says that it was formed before the time of Christ, when the prophet Elijah successfully brought people to our true God.

Officially approved an order in 1274, it was in 1251 that Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock with the devotion of the Brown Scapular, saying: "Receive, My beloved son, this habit of thy order: this shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege, that

whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire It shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger, and a pledge of peace."

Wearing the scapular is a prominent reminder to be holy always, following Jesus in the way of Mary.

As Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is ever beloved throughout the world, there are two Pallottine churches in particular to mention: the Pontifical Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in New York, as well as the Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Peru; a mission of the Immaculate Conception Province.



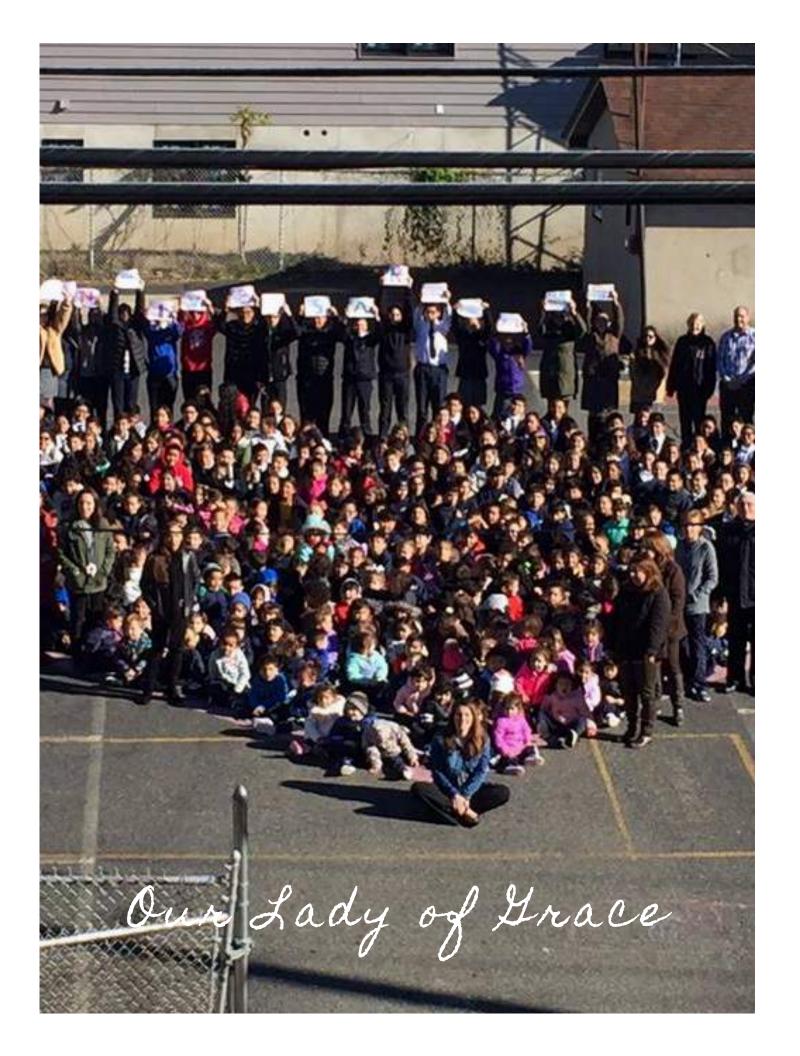














UNITED STATES

Hail Mary, full of grace!

In the United States, the Immaculate
Conception Province honors Our Lady of
Grace with both a Church and School.

It's a devotion ever pure and beautiful, as those who carry this namesake offer it to the Virgin Mary for her precious intercessions and graces showered upon them.

In Italian, she is called La Madonna delle Grazie, and is the Patroness of Nettuno; the birthplace of St. Maria Goretti.





The Feast of Possibilities!

Lio de Janeiro

Pray & Believe

There are 4 Patron Saints of the Impossible in our Catholic Church: St. Jude, St. Gregory, St. Philomena, and - as we celebrated last week - St. Rita of Cascia! Indirectly, she and St. Vincent hold something in common: Cascia, located in Italy's Umbrian countryside, is 5 miles- or 8km- from San Giorgio; where our holy Founder's father was born. Even today, the connection remains; our Fathers run the parish in the town of Pietro Paolo Pallotti, as well as administer confession in the Basilica of St. Rita.

And while the Society's presence is there physically, so, too, is it there spiritually; particularly in Rio di Janerio. At the Paróquia De Santa Rita Itaperuna they held a procession and Mass with her relic, and at Pascom De Fátima Italpaucu, there was a Triduum in her honor.

Indeed, the life of St. Rita proves Pallotti's words to be ever true; "remember, God is found in suffering." From her youth, she desired a religious life, though obediently obeyed her parents when they married her to Paolo Mancini for what they hoped to be a secure future for their only daughter. Yet soon thereafter, her husband was tragically murdered while her two sons were still just boys. Afraid they would wish to seek vengeance- as was custom in the 1600s-, she prayed fervently that their souls not be stained. When they succumbed to dysentery one year later, pious Catholics believe this to be an answer to her prayer.

Following these tragedies, she sought life where her heart had always desired, at the St. Mary Magdalene Monastery. Upon first try, she was denied; upon second try, she was denied yet again, as the rival family who killed her husband were in the convent. Inspired to make peace amongst families, she herself did the impossible between them both, and was permitted entrance on her third attempt.

15 years before her death, in a deep and mystical moment of prayer, she asked Jesus to receive part of His suffering. He granted her request, and in turn, had an open wound from the Crown of Thorns on her forehead for the rest of her life.

Soon before her death, a relative asked if there was anything she wished for from her hometown before his visit. She asked simply for a rose; though there was a catch. It was January, surely such a feat would not be possible. Yet there in the snow covered garden, in Umbria's rolling hills, was a single rose.

And so as St. Vincent Pallotti says, "the surest way to the Kingdom of Heaven is the road of tribulations trodden with the Lord."







MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

MEET ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI'S YOUTH ON AUSTRALIA'S EASTERN SEABOARD!

WRITTEN BY DAVID THAM





CATHOLIC YOUTH APOSTOLATE

Welcome to
Australia's southeast:
Melbourne, the
capital city of
Victoria!

St. Christopher's Parish fosters a safe environment in which our youth can, with confidence, be active witnesses of God's love. We assist young people to develop personal relationships with God through participation in Mass and formation experiences. St. Christopher's youth ministry provides meaningful opportunities for young people to build friendships, become adept in their faith, and provide service to those who are in need. By opening new horizons for young people, we .

instil in our youth that they are a part of an expansive Catholic community of passionate young people, experiencing together the joy of God.



St. Christopher's Pallottine Parish



#DEEDSANDTRUTH!





YOUTH APOSTOLATE ACTIVITIES

ELEVATE YOUTH (JR. GROUP)



ELEVATE YOUTH (SR. GROUP)

The Elevate Junior youth group meets every fortnight on Friday. The program involves fun -- games, food and music - targeted at youth aged 10 to 12 years old, to help them form friendships within the parish.

The Elevate Senior youth group meets regularly to form a young Catholic community of friendship and faith within the parish. Its purpose is to bring together young people, 13 to 17 years old, to journey and grow in their faith and prayer life, by catching up with friends and simply living holiness together!



ELEVATE CONNECT

The Elevate Connect youth group meets monthly and provides opportunities for exploring the Catholic faith in deeper ways through worship, fellowship and fun. Youth Connect is primarily targeted at university students and young working adults between the ages 18 and 30.





#DEEDSANDTRUTH!







YOUTH MASS

A Youth Mass is held monthly in the parish to encourage young people to participate more fully in the Mass through lively music and vibrant liturgy.

FAST 24

On 5 Apr 2019, FAST24 was introduced from Perth to Melbourne at St Christopher's Parish by Fr Ralph Besterwitch SAC (PP), Katrina Koh (Youth Committee Chairperson) and Melissa Kwok (Youth Minister).



