



DEAN'S LIST

Rev. Fr. Pierangelo C. Repuyan | dean.cathedral@bunburycatholic.org.au | 29 May 2022 | The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord | Year C, Cycle 2

TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST, A WARM WELCOME TO YOU ALL. In our first reading, the author of the Acts of the Apostles writes to a certain 'Theophilus,' a Greek name which means 'friend of God' (Acts 1:1). Perhaps intentionally left unknown so as to maintain its universal import, the Book of the Acts of the Apostles is implicitly addressed to all the 'friends of God.' We heartily remember the words of Christ in John 15:15 – "I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." What a wonderful blessing it is that after we have been created "in the image and likeness of God" (Gen. 1:27), we have now been called 'friends of God.' We gather around the Eucharist because we are happy to respond to Christ's offer of his friendship. Our actual presence today bespeaks loudly of our desire to remain friends with God. We could have been elsewhere, but true friends stand by each other. Further, we should remind ourselves of our commitment to Christ, our dear friend, when he tells us: "you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). True friends do not just 'hang out' with each other; they delight in their friendship and are confident to tell the world of such friendship. In our world today, Christ expects us to be his witnesses. Let us tell the world of his friendship and let everyone know that Christ could be their wonderful friend just as he is always a friend to us.

"Greetings of peace we give you." THE MINISTRY OF SMILES



L-R: John Italiano, Irene Rodges and Wally Ceccanti

our presence, that indeed someone does care about us. Offering a smile to someone could just be what some people need in a world of worries and pain. True, it could be someone's salvation...just because we care to smile.

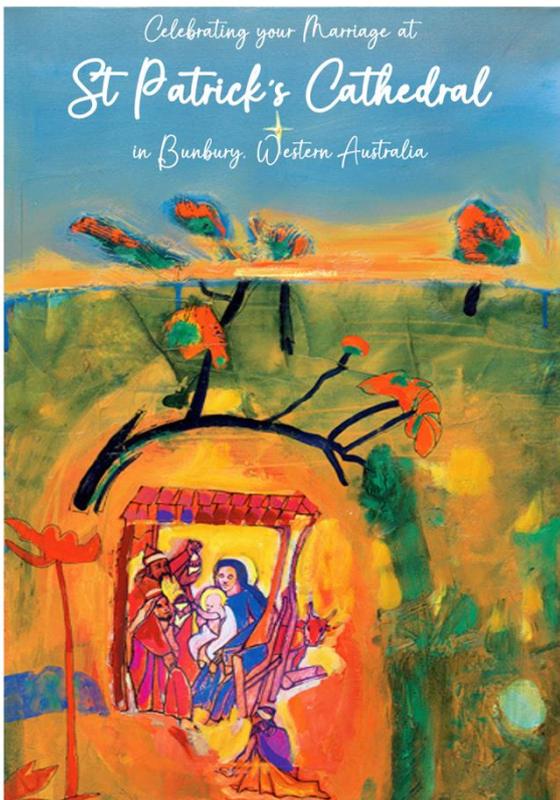
Let us thank all our Cathedral greeters. If you can share a smile to others, why don't you get on board and join the Ministry of Smiles? God will smile on you if you do!

Behind those masks is a friendly smile that greets and welcomes us the moment we go through the Cathedral doors for our Sunday worship. They have come forward to offer and share a smile to all, young or old. Come to think of it, it doesn't really cost anything at all to smile but what it can do to people's lives is invaluable. A smile could bring healing to our aching heart. St. Therese of Lisieux saw the Virgin Mother smiled at her and all her pain went away. A smile from someone could bring an instant change in the way we see things in our life. A smile could be affirming of

FLORES DE MAYO (May Flower): Honouring our Blessed Mother in May. We congratulate and thank all those involved with the running of the 'Flores de Mayo' most specially the South West Filipino-Australian Association led by Francis Albacite and his wonderful team. This year is the first time that we've had Friday evening Masses in the Cathedral in honour of our Blessed Mother. Based on the responses from parishioners, we certainly look forward to having it again in the future. The objective was clear: that through our devotion to our Lady, we may be led deeper to her son, Jesus Christ. This sacred endeavour was on display when we witnessed mothers assisting their children offer flowers to Our Lady. It was delightful to see them led their children to appreciate the motherhood of Our Lady.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES: Nuptial of Maria Concepcion de Castro and Edward Bermudez. Maria and Edward celebrated their Sacrament of Holy Matrimony in St. Patrick's Cathedral's Blessed Sacrament Chapel last Saturday, 21 May. With their family and closest friends present, both prayed solemnly and exchanged their commitment to love each other for the rest of their lives. It was a 'dream come true' for Maria and Edward who are now blessed with three children: Nicole, Jayce and Tarah. We wish them God's blessings now that they have 'tied the knot' before God and His Church.

The Cathedral Parish is committed to assisting couples celebrate Holy Matrimony at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Many have questions about how to go about being married in the Cathedral. The Parish is releasing this weekend the booklet titled, "Celebrating your Marriage at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Bunbury, Western Australia" which, in a Q&A format, attempts to answer important questions relating to the practicalities of marrying in the Catholic Church, particular at St Patrick's Cathedral.



The Cathedral Parish is also committed to assisting couples who had been married civilly and who now seek the 'blessing' of the church upon their wedding. Holy Matrimony confers grace upon married couples enabling them to fulfill their marital responsibilities. Holy Matrimony bears in mind that it is God who first loved us (1 John 4:19) and God is the author of the love between husbands and wives. If God is the source of human love, it is therefore God who will continue to nourish that same love and will make it happen for families to grow in love. If God is not involved in marital relationships, we should wonder where husbands and wives get their guidance and strength in dealing with the challenges that they face in their family life. Christ offers his undying love to husbands and wives, to empower them of His love that they may journey from strength to strength, and to feel his presence during times when they appear to go through rough patches in life.

Please ring the Parish Office at 9721 2141 if you wish to inquire on how we can help you with your marriage questions.