



Heart to Heart

A monthly publication of **HJM** hearts of Jesus and Mary
prayer community
marayong australia



Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) Prayer Community

January 2024

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To be a group of people who are journeying together in faith, guided by the Spirit of God, growing and learning from each other, and whose life, as a whole, follows the footsteps of the Master Himself...that is, a life of prayer and active, loving service to others.

From the Desk of Fr Kevin Medilo Straight to **The Hearts**

Greetings of Peace, Joy and Hope for 2024!

It is another year in our faith and human journey. We bid farewell to 2023 and we welcome the new year of 2024. As we start the new year, may I invite you to reflect and look back on our life journey of the past year with grateful hearts. We are grateful for the many blessings we received in 2023. We are thankful for the gift of family, relations, friends, work colleagues and faith community. Some of us may find the past year as challenging and difficult but we can still be grateful. These past experiences of trials and difficulties may make us stronger and wiser as we welcome 2024.

As Christians, we are called to be men and women of gratitude, with our hearts full of thanksgiving, a thanksgiving to God and each other. We are thankful because we have received the most precious gift in the person of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of all nations and the Prince of Peace. In Jesus, we have Emmanuel, God-is-with-us. In and through Jesus, we become the sons and daughters of our loving and forgiving God. Through Him, we are all brothers and sisters belonging to God's family.

My heartfelt gratitude to the members and leaders of our various parish ministries, groups and prayer groups like the Hearts of Jesus and Mary for living and witnessing the Christian faith in the family, parish community and beyond. I am very grateful for your active and enthusiastic presence and participation in the life and ministry of our parish.

As we look at the past with gratitude, let us live the present moment with passion and joy and may we embrace the future with lively hope and courage. As we journey together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, let us welcome the new year of 2024 with grateful hearts, full of hope and faith for the future.

May we always "rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer..." (Romans 12:2)



The Hearts of Jesus and Mary prayer community would like to thank the raffle prize donors during the HJM 2023 Christmas Party.

A special "THANK YOU" to everyone who generously donated for our Love Offering for the St Vincent de Paul Society and FETCH. Around \$800 has been raised.

Please continue to support our HJM future community activities through prayer meeting love offerings or by making donations to the HJM account.

Let us celebrate our 2023 achievements

- ❖ Pentecost celebration coordinated by HJM.
- ❖ A very successful Life in the Spirit Seminar with 18 graduates and home-grown speakers.
- ❖ Participation in the Diocesan Synod.
- ❖ Host to the CCR celebration of the Feast of Christ the King.
- ❖ Successful and intimate HJM Christmas/32nd Anniversary celebration.
- ❖ Regular Teachings, Healing Prayers and Sharing at Praise and Worship meetings.
- ❖ Full support and guidance from the parish priests.
- ❖ Dedicated music service at masses and Praise and Worship meetings.
- ❖ Volunteer prayer leaders.
- ❖ Continuous prayers and intercession with Divine Mercy and Holy Rosary.
- ❖ Commitment from the Bible Cell Facilitators.
- ❖ Well-organised fellowship after prayer meetings.
- ❖ Regular publication of Heart to Heart newsletter.

Looking forward to 2024

- ❖ Lenten Pilgrimage in March.
- ❖ Pentecost celebration in May.
- ❖ Growth in the Spirit Seminar.
- ❖ Celebration of Feast of St Andrew in November.
- ❖ HJM Christmas/33rd Anniversary celebration in December.
- ❖ HJM Growth and Formation sessions.
- ❖ Discernment of new HJM leaders.
- ❖ Bible Cell regrouping.

From the Core Group

Last Core Group meeting was held on 17 November 2023. The next one will be on 16 February 2024.

Apostolate Ministry – will schedule an All Bible Cell facilitators' meeting.

Growth Ministry – will conduct Teaching sessions and Growth in the Spirit Seminar

Music Ministry – will continue to provide music service during mass and praise and worship meetings and support parish music service requests.

Praise and Worship Ministry – plan to conduct a workshop on Praise and Worship with CCR input and to encourage more attendance at prayer meetings.

Prayers and Intercessory Ministry – continue the nightly prayers.

Service Ministry – maintain roster on church cleaning after the 1st Friday mass of each month and manage fellowship after prayer meetings.

Pastoral Team – lead the HJM Formation sessions.

Please send any feedback to the Pastoral Team or corresponding ministry.

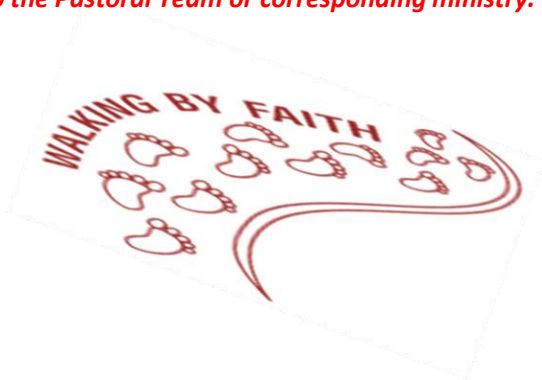


MYRA ESTRERA

Sis Myra has been a committed member of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) prayer community since its inception. Her husband, Bro Cezar, is an equally committed member of the Prayer Community.

Sis Myra is currently the Head Servant of HJM Music Ministry. Both Sis Myra and Bro Cezar are facilitators of the John Paul II Bible Cell.

The Estrera marital union has been blessed with three beautiful daughters and 5 gorgeous grandkids.



MERCY AQUINO

Sis Mercy Aquino is one of the pioneers of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) prayer community. She is married to Bro Remy and they have been blessed with four children all of whom are now adults and have their own families.

Sis Mercy is currently the Head Servant of the Prayers and Intercessory Ministry. Sis Mercy is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bible Cell.

Sis Mercy also currently serves at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Seven Hills and Mary Queen of the Family Parish in Blacktown both as a reader and a Minister of Communion.



Bible Cell: Blessed Trinity

Message: Use your talent and be fishers of men.

Action: Share an experience on how you used your talents to be fishers of men.

Bible Cell: Our Lady of Fatima

Message: Praise and thank God humbly for the talents He has given us.

Action: Share an experience on what you have done with the talents God has given you.

Bible Cell: St. Mary MacKillop

Message: NIL. **Action:** NIL.

Bible Cell: Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Message: God entrusted us with the gift of talent, time and treasures to share to others and be prepared to meet Him in His time.

Action: Share an experience when you shared your talents and blessings to others.

Bible Cell: St. John Paul II

Message: Be prepared for the day of the Lord. You are blessed with many talents. Use them to build God's Kingdom.

Action: Share on how you are helping to build God's Kingdom.

Upcoming Events:

HJM PRAYER MEETING, SAT, 13 JANUARY 2024

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE
TIME: 6.30PM to 7.30PM
LEADER: SIS MYRA ESTRERA

HJM PRAYER MEETING, SAT, 27 JANUARY 2024

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE
TIME: 6.30PM to 7.30PM
LEADER: SIS MERCY AQUINO

1st FRIDAY MASS, 2 FEBRUARY 2024

PLACE: ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
TIME: 7.00 PM
(FOLLOWED BY CHURCH CLEANING)

HJM FORMATION SESSION, 3 FEBRUARY 2024

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE
TIME: 9.30AM to 12.00PM

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

Happy birthday and God's blessings to the ff:

Myra Estrera	Jan 3	Nene Sayo	Jan 11
Mercy Aquino	Jan 4	Melissa Carbone	Jan 12
Val D'Lima	Jan 4	Ghing Gamban	Jan 13
Boy Emperado	Jan 5	Anna Nifas	Jan 16
Emma Perez	Jan 8	Ed Danao	Jan 21
Myrna Hitchcock	Jan 9	Erna Sow	Jan 29

Anniversaries

Cezar and Myra Estrera Jan 7
David and Mel Bustamante Jan 17

February

Dids Velasco	Feb 2
Dorotea Gazo	Feb 6
Virgie Salom	Feb 7
Julieta Clark	Feb 7
Oscar Viola	Feb 8
Lusiana Dewi	Feb 11
Leighton Farrell	Feb 12
Monica Desira	Feb 18
Mario Icaro	Feb 19
Cezar Estrera	Feb 21
Fe Hernandez	Feb 24

Please send feedback to the
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If you would like to be a part of the **HJM's PLAN GIVING PROGRAM** to support our future community outreach activities, kindly make your donations to the following account:

Account Name:

Hearts of Jesus & Mary

BSB:

082 133

Account No:

39 331 6435