



# JOURNEYS

NEWSLETTER

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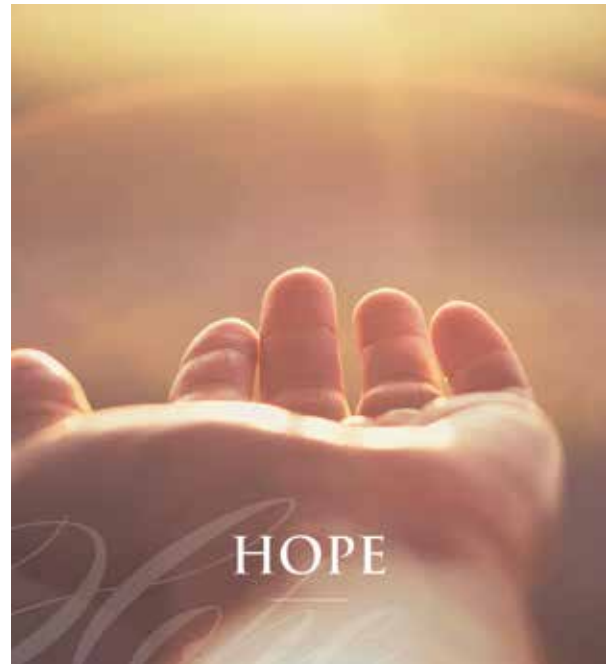
## HOPE BEGINS WITH YOU

The new millennium has seen growth in individualism with ensuing impact on social coherence and community harmony which is increasingly evident. At this time, it is important to maintain *HOPE*. The lived experience of the collective *HOPE* of the Trustees and senior leaders continues to define Mary Aikenhead Ministries and ensures every dimension of the Ministries is animated by the values of *Love, Hope, Compassion and Justice*.

These Gospel values found in the life and teachings of Jesus, were chosen and gifted to Mary Aikenhead Ministries by the Sisters of Charity. Today, in our homes and our workplaces across the ministries, inspired by the numerous stories of Mary Aikenhead and many examples of service delivered daily by colleagues, by reading the “signs of the times”, each person is called to be a beacon of *HOPE*. We do this by living out these values, by our commitment to the gospel imperative of preferential option for the poor and our response in service to the vulnerable and marginalised.

Elise Harris, reporting on behalf of the Catholic News Agency from the Vatican City about Pope Francis’ TED talk on 26 April 2017 remarked: “Hope is the door that opens onto the future”. He said that it is like the hidden yeast that makes bread grow, and as such “can do so much, because a tiny flicker of light that feeds on hope is enough to shatter the shield of darkness”. He told conference participants: “A single individual is enough for hope to exist ... that individual can be you ... And then there will be another ‘you’ and another ‘you’, and it turns into an ‘us’”, he said, explaining that hope begins as ‘you’, and when an ‘us’ develops, “there begins a revolution”.

It is important for each of us to reflect on the purpose and meaning of our ministry. Individuals already do this informally, perhaps on the commute home in traffic, assessing how the day went, noting the tasks achieved, and making a mental note of priorities for tomorrow. Where are the values of love, hope, compassion and justice sitting in our words and actions on any given day? These values come with much responsibility, both individually and collectively and were not given lightly to Mary Aikenhead Ministries.



In the Gospel of Matthew 25:31, Jesus shares the parable of ‘The Judgement of Nations’. This is a message about providing *HOPE* to those most in need, as Jesus teaches us that:

*we must feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked and visit the imprisoned. And when we do that to the least of those amongst us, we do those things for Him.*

We are all impacted by the prevailing climate within which we seek to carry out our responsibilities and we are not immune to the outside pressures of the wider world either individually or at an institutional level – be it the ebb and flow of the global economy, political tensions played out locally and abroad, or the views expressed through mainstream media, not to mention a growing plethora of advice cast upon us through social media. However, following the advice of Francis, each individual has the opportunity to choose to be a beacon of *HOPE* thus making an impact for good on those in their immediate circle.

[Continued on page 2](#)

# HOPE

## BEGINS WITH YOU

from page 1

Standing on the shoulders of those religious and lay leaders who went before us and walking alongside like-minded colleagues, we have the advantage that already the 'you' has grown to become a formidable 'us'.

Thus, the seed of the revolution based on the teaching of Jesus about which Pope Francis is speaking is alive in each of 'us'. We can choose to harness its energy. Standing together as 'us', we have the capacity to continue to be a beacon of *HOPE*, spreading the good news and answering Jesus' call in Matthew's Gospel to serve our sisters and brothers, especially those most in need.

Mr David Alcock

Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

*Hope knows no fear.*

*Hope dares to blossom even inside the abysmal abyss.*

*Hope secretly feeds and strengthens promise.*

Sri Chinmoy

# MS JANET FREEMAN

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW TRUSTEE



Ms Janet Freeman, Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

Janet completed her secondary schooling at Bethlehem College Ashfield before commencing at Macquarie University where she graduated firstly with a BA DipEd and later a Masters of Education. She has experience as a Catholic School Principal at Loreto Kirribilli (1999-2013) and Mercy Catholic College Chatswood (1989-1998). Janet has been involved in Catholic education for over 40 years.

She currently works one day a week at Sydney Catholic Schools Leichhardt coordinating a mentoring program which links university potential school students with successful business people, as well as holding voluntary positions on several religious order education advisory committees.

Janet has been a member of many State and National educational committees both in the Catholic and non-Catholic sectors. She has a passion for the education of all students but has been especially committed to girls' education, following on from the outstanding education she says she received at Bethlehem College in the late 1960's.

Janet is an active member of St Mark's Parish Drummoyne. She grew up in Rydalmere in Sydney and now lives in Drummoyne with her husband Colin who is a Registered Nurse.

# 160<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## ST VINCENT'S COLLEGE POTTS POINT



Commencement Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

Throughout 2018, the St Vincent's College Community will celebrate its 160th Anniversary. Since 1858, a school has operated on the Potts Point site overlooking the Harbour Bridge and city. How different that vista is now compared to the early days of the College when sailing ships moored in Woolloomooloo Bay! Now the bay is home to the Australian Navy and the city skyline looms tall and illuminated. This is but one of the dramatic differences that can be illustrated in the 160 years since Foundation. The "different times" created from the profound changes in the Church Society and family; the political economy, technological changes, changes in demographics and democracy and the major advancement of women in every sphere of life have all impacted on St Vincent's College. Yet despite all the changes that the last 160 years have created, St Vincent's has stood confident and sure of itself.

The strength of its foundation based on the gospel of Jesus and the lived witness to that gospel by the Sisters and their associates, and now the stewardship of Mary Aikenhead Ministries have allowed the "same spirit" to be present.

The College Commencement Mass held at St Mary's Cathedral on 9 February was a joyful celebration. This was the launch of a year of celebration which will feature a garden party, Alumni Dinner, Gala Event for Parents and a "birthday party" on 1 May for the students.

The Community of St Vincent's will continue to "celebrate, remember and believe" in the mission of the College which is still as relevant today as when the College was opened on 1 May 1858.

[Ms Anne Fry](#)

*Principal, St Vincent's College Potts Point*



Year 12 St Vincent's College students at the Commencement Mass



# HEALTH MINISTRY

## OFFICIAL OPENINGS

### ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE HOSPITAL WERRIBEE

St Vincent's Private Hospital Werribee was officially opened on Friday, 16 February 2018.

The new St Vincent's Private Hospital Werribee has been designed and built to meet the pressing health needs of Melbourne's outer west and south-west suburbs. With new data revealing the city of Wyndham is now bigger than Greater Geelong and has growth of over 12,000 people each year, there was an urgent need for a new state-of-the-art private hospital.

St Vincent's Private Hospital Werribee (SVPHW) will provide health services for more than 16,000 patients annually, becoming one of the region's busiest and biggest acute care private hospitals.

The hospital, which opened its doors to patients on 30 January 2018, has four theatres and 61 beds, including a Special Care Nursery. SVPHW is the only

hospital in Melbourne's south-west with a Cardiac Catheter Laboratory, providing critical care to cardiac patients without them needing to travel to the city.

The hospital has already employed 80 new staff and expects to employ another 350 staff over the coming year.

The hospital was officially opened and blessed on Friday 16 February by Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Reverend Denis Hart at a ceremony also attended by Mr Tim Pallas MP, Local State Member for Werribee, representing the Premier Daniel Andrews and the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Jill Hennessy.

The hospital will provide services for Heart & Vascular Care; Ear, Nose and Throat; Gynaecology; Maternity; Orthopaedics; Neurosurgery; Oncology & Haematology; Paediatrics; Rehabilitation; General Surgery & Endoscopy; Urology; Plastics; and Sleep Studies.



Left to right: Mr Ian Grisold, SVPHM Regional CEO; Mr Paul Robertson AO, Chair SVHA; Mr David Alcock, Deputy Chair and Trustee, TMAM; Linda Ferrington rsc, Trustee TMAM; Ms Christine Flett, CEO/DON St Vincent's Private Hospital Werribee; Mr David Swan, CEO of Private Hospitals Division; Dr Maria Theresa Ho, Chair and Trustee, TMAM; Mr Toby Hall, Group CEO, SVHA; Mr John Gurry, Vascular surgeon (retired)

# THE CLIVE BERGHOFER OPERATING THEATRE SUITE



Left to right: Mr Toby Hall, Dr Maria Theresa Ho, Bishop Robert M McGuckin, Mr Clive Berghofer, Ms Kathryn McKeefry and Mr Gregory Quinn

## St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba has entered a new era with the completion of the \$30 million Clive Berghofer Operating Theatre Suites.

Officially opened on 22 February 2018 by Dr Theresa Maria Ho, Chair of the Trustees of the Mary Aikenhead Ministries and Mr Clive Berghofer, local businessman and philanthropist, this major project has added six state-of-the-art operating theatres, including a hybrid theatre, a new recovery area and hospital front entrance as well as a new hospital kitchen. St Vincent's CEO Kathryn McKeefry said "the project has been an outstanding success from day one, with the project builders, Hutchinson Builders, completing the project two months ahead of schedule and under budget. Construction began on 13 March 2017, and while we have had to work around a lot of change, disruption and noise – the new facilities are worth it and exceed all our expectations. We sincerely thank Mr Clive Berghofer for his support and commitment to St Vincent's and the services we provide. Without Clive's support we might still have been looking at plans on a drawing board rather than working in this fabulous new facility."

In addition, St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba and Brisbane based cardiology practice HeartCare Partners, have finalised a joint venture agreement that will deliver a comprehensive interventional cardiology service to

Toowoomba and the Darling Downs by the end of 2018.

CEO Kathryn McKeefry said the new service will commence with the addition of a diagnostic angiography service to be delivered initially by Dr Bob Ayres and Dr Loretta Carr, in addition to the diagnostic services already being delivered locally by Drs Roess Pascoe and Dr Loretta Carr from Hearts 1st.

Diagnostic services will expand later in 2018 to include a full range of interventional services, delivered in partnership with HeartCare Partners.



Official Opening Plaque



# WELCOME

## MS RITA GRIMA, PRINCIPAL ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE

Ms Rita Grima commenced as Principal at St Columba's College, Essendon at the beginning of the 2018 school year, following eleven years as Co-Principal at Marian College Sunshine, working within the values and traditions of the Brigidine Sisters.

Rita's parents emigrated from Malta in 1965 soon after they were married. Arriving in Australia Rita's mother secured employment at a local picture framing shop, whilst her father took on various labouring jobs. Her parents encouraged and supported Rita and her brother to make the most of the opportunities that a good education offered; opportunities that had not been readily available to them. The story of Rita's mother's is a powerful influence in her life. She was removed from school during Grade 5 to help Rita's grandmother raise her siblings and attend to household chores allowing her grandmother to assist her husband labouring in the fields. One evening the school Head Mistress knocked on the door and said, "You have to leave her in school, she's such a bright girl!". Rita's grandmother responded "...I need her at home". Rita's mother was determined her own children would have opportunities that she did not.

When Rita was in grade three at St Mary's, Ascot Vale her parents moved the family to the then outer suburb of St Albans where she attended Holy Eucharist, St Albans South. Rita has clear memories of her first day in primary school. Asked to draw a car she didn't know how and began to cry. Fortunately she was rescued by a couple of classmates and a friendship with these girls blossomed. Secondary Education followed at Catholic Regional College, St Albans and Catholic Regional College, Sydenham.

During her secondary education Rita was particularly influenced by her science teacher, a young woman who inspired her interest in the sciences. Looking back Rita is aware that the lessons were well prepared, had excellent student engagement and the class was orderly and settled; which, "...didn't always go with the territory, back in the day." Rita studied biological sciences at La Trobe University before going on to complete a Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching at Mercy College, Ascot Vale. At University Rita supplemented her income with casual work as a Myer sales assistant and a brief stint working in a call centre, which provided some valuable life lessons about individual management styles and change management.

Rita's first teaching appointment was at Marian College, Sunshine. Here she encountered a real commitment to student centred learning, encouraged by an unshakeable belief in the power of education to assist people to improve their circumstances. At that time Sr Brigid Arthur CSB and Mr Gerard Stafford were the College Co-Principals. Sr Brigid was instrumental in promoting this strong commitment to the transformative power of education.

*"It was here that I learned about the power of curriculum as a social voice and to shift our understandings of who we are as a community. It also showed me what learning needs to look like; how we engage young people in learning and how we should be learning together as teachers to deliver the type of programs that needed to be offered. Brigid was prophetic in 1991 to be leading these conversations.*



Left to right: Ms Janet Freeman, Dr Maria Theresa Ho, Linda Ferrington rsc, Ms Rita Grima (College Principal) and Mr David Alcock

# SVHA

## SUPPORTS JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES IN KASAIT, TIMOR-LESTE

*There was a real sense of trust, you were given an opportunity if you demonstrated some interest and skill along with a commitment to building peoples' capacity. Opportunity and challenge really flavoured my time at Marian."*

Life was not without challenge however.

*"Managing student behaviour was really tough at times. I came from a stable family environment and my friends' families were also like that. As a beginning teacher, the diversity of young people's experience was certainly more than I had experienced, and confirmed how important an education was for young people".*

When Rita had been at Marian for fifteen years the Co-Principal positions were advertised, and she decided to apply. Successful in her application she joined Mr Ray Pisani as the new College Co-Principal. She and Ray did not know each other prior to their appointment but, *"Right from the start we understood it was a commitment to collaboration, to good communication and a commitment to a shared model of leadership with the entire leadership team as well. It was about a conversation; where we might bring different ideas and come from a different perspective, but it was the conversation that was important to help us to arrive at the best outcome."*

Reflecting on her move from the tradition of the Brigidine Sisters to that of the Sisters of Charity, Rita acknowledges the courage and commitment of these women and their tremendous contribution to society through outstanding education, social care and health services, and is mindful of what that means for her as the leader of St Columba's.

*"There is a narrative around the tradition of both the Brigidine Sisters and the Sisters of Charity; ...that narrative has enriched what we are able to do in our communities and will always be part of the tradition. The question we need to ask is, what's the new narrative; ...what does that look like? What are we drawing on? The ongoing stories shaping this narrative and the work of the new PJP's is so exciting".*

Rita is married to Jason and they recently celebrated their twenty fifth wedding anniversary. They have three beautiful daughters aged twenty four, twenty one and thirteen.

The Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries are pleased to welcome Rita to St Columba's College and know she will lead the community in inspiring the young women in their care to dedicate themselves to a love of learning, becoming women of deep faith; personally committed to justice.

**Mr David Alcock**

*Trustee of Mary Aikenhead Ministries*



The Jesuits in Timor-Leste

The Inclusive Health Program (IHP) is a core activity for the Mission Directorate, St Vincent's Health Australia and is inspired by the teachings of Sr Mary Aikenhead rsc. While vulnerable people being cared for by SVHA facilities in Australia are the main focus of this program, the IHP is also committed to supporting overseas programs for vulnerable people.

One project supported over the past three years has been the Jesuit Social Services (JSS) in Kasait, Timor-Leste. This ministry was formed in mid-2013 to facilitate a more active role for the Jesuits in Timor-Leste's social development, after the withdrawal of Jesuit Refugee Service from the country.

The Timor-Leste JSS have created a secondary school, a teacher education institute, a mission parish and health-care programs. The program is also engaged in projects in three geographical areas where the Jesuits have a long-term presence – Dare, Hera and Kasait. The projects include; water and sanitation, agricultural development, social innovation and public health development. In addition, the JSS has created a unique media productions centre that seeks to promote peace-building and sustainable development through audio-visual productions.

It has been an honour for the IHP to have been able to support this important work in a country rebuilding itself with pride and hard work.

**Dr Carrie Lethborg**

*Manager, SVHA Inclusive Health Action Research*

# A PILGRIMAGE TO PARRAMATTA

On 23 January 2018, Christine Raeside, Rita Zhang and I joined a Pilgrimage led by Rachel McLean and Anne Taylor rsc to the Female Factory at Parramatta.

We followed the journey of the five Sisters of Charity who arrived in Sydney from Dublin on 31 December 1838: Mother Mary John Cahill, Sr Lawrence Cater, Sr Mary de Sales O'Brien, Sr Xavier Williams and Sr John Baptist De Lacy.

Walking from St Vincent's College through Kings Cross, stopping on the way to view the Safe Injection Room set up in 1999, we visited St Vincent's Hospital Darlinghurst. We walked past "The Wall" and paused at the Pink Triangle Memorial which commemorates lesbians and gay men who were killed by the Nazis during the war.



Left to right: Rita Zhang, Karen Zancanaro, Christine Raeside

We continued to St Mary's Cathedral taking time to sit and reflect on what we had already observed on our Pilgrimage.

After morning tea at Hyde Park Barracks, we boarded the River Cat at Circular Quay where we disembarked at Parramatta and walked along the Parramatta Riverside walk. The artwork on Aboriginal history on the footpath, hand painted by Jamie Eastwood, a descendant of the Ngemba people of far north western NSW.

Our pilgrimage continued to St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta destroyed by fire on 19 February 1996, rebuilt and re-opened on 29 November 2003.

Our last stop was the Parramatta Female Factory which operated from 1802 to 1821 as a place which allowed women who had not been assigned 'masters' on arrival in NSW to gain employment in the colony. A new Female Factory opened on 1 February 1821 serving as a multipurpose institution until 1848.

The pilgrimage ended at the stone memorial in the grounds of the old Female Factory for reflection on the sacrifices the five sisters made and their care for the women held captive in the Female Factory.

*The day was enlightening and a very special experience.*

Ms Karen Zancanaro  
Mary Aikenhead Ministries

## REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN



**THE HEART OF  
OUR MISSION:  
SERVING AT THE MARGINS**  
MARY AIKENHEAD MINISTRIES  
CONFERENCE 2018

The Trustees are pleased to announce that the TMAM conference will be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart on 10-11 May 2018.

The theme of the 2018 conference is

*'The Heart of our Mission: Serving at the Margins'.*

The conference is the primary formation activity conducted by the Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries for leaders of their health, education, research, aged care and outreach ministries.



**MARY  
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