

E-BULLETIN #71

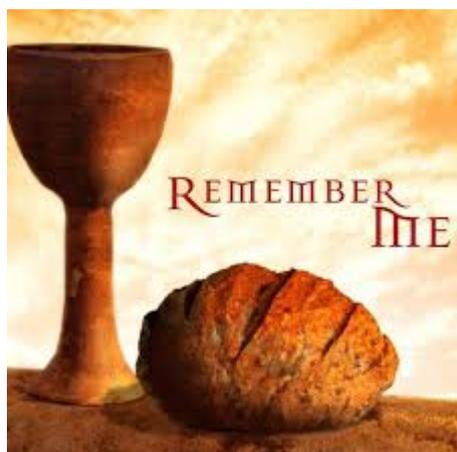
"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 134

can we stay awake for an hour with the Lord?

As was announced by the Holy See, on Sunday June 2, a worldwide hour of Eucharistic adoration was held, starting at 5 pm in Rome. Pope Francis lead the Holy Hour from St Peter's Basilica.

From the Vatican Information Service, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, President of the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, explained the significance of the event, the theme of which was "One Lord, One Faith":



"It will be an event," Archbishop Fisichella explained, "occurring for the first time in the history of the Church, which is why we can describe it as 'historical'. The cathedrals of the world will be synchronized with Rome and will, for an hour, be in communion with the Pope in Eucharistic adoration. There has been an incredible response to this initiative, going beyond the cathedrals and involving episcopal conferences, parishes, lay associations, and religious congregations, especially cloistered ones."

From the Cook Islands to Chile, Burkina Faso, Taiwan, Iraq, Bangladesh, the United States, and the Philippines, the dioceses were synchronized with St. Peter's and prayed for the intentions proposed by the Pope.

The **first** was: "For the Church spread throughout the world and united today in the adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist as a sign of unity. May the Lord make her ever more obedient to hearing his Word in order to stand before the world 'ever more beautiful, without stain or blemish, but holy and blameless.' That through her faithful announcement, the Word that saves may still resonate as the bearer of mercy and may increase love to give full meaning to pain and suffering, giving back joy and serenity."

Pope Francis' **second** intention was: "For those around the world who still suffer slavery and who are victims of war, human trafficking, drug running, and slave labour. For the children and women who are suffering from every type of violence. May their silent scream for help be heard by a vigilant Church so that, gazing upon the crucified Christ, she may not forget the many brothers and sisters who are left at the mercy of violence. Also, for all those who find themselves in economically precarious situations, above all for the unemployed, the elderly, migrants, the homeless, prisoners, and those who experience marginalization. That the Church's prayer and its active nearness give them comfort and assistance in hope and strength and courage in defending human dignity."

This new initiative of the Holy Father reminds us of the message prepared by the Pallottine Eucharistic Sisters and published in the UAC publication, *Apostles for Today*, June 2013:

“Let every baptized person then, in order to be an apostle and evangelist, as St. Vincent urged all, listen to the Word of God with humility and simplicity, welcome it with joyful gratitude, and live it with ever renewed fervour. Let every Christian have an ever-deeper awareness of the inherent duty of every baptised person to proclaim the Word which has been received, experienced and celebrated to his or her brothers and sisters, near and far. And this is in order to lead them to the Table of the Eucharistic, the centre, core and inexhaustible source of the life and mission of the Church. From the Eucharist, from the intimate encounter with the Risen Christ, springs the commitment to be real evangelisers: we recall how the eyes of the disciples of Emmaus were opened and they recognized Jesus only when he took the bread, broke it and gave it to them. After this encounter the two disciples were able to return to Jerusalem immediately and joyfully in order to tell other disciples what had happened to them and how they had recognized him at the breaking of the bread. The Eucharist gave them the strength to become evangelizers (cf. Lk 24:30-35). In summary: the missionary impulse of the Church has its roots in the commandment of the Lord Jesus; such an impulse has grown constantly from communion with Him, who is truly present in the Eucharist. For this reason we can say with certainty that the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's mission”.

Hence the holy Eucharist and the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament remain at the very heart of the challenge of New Evangelization. How wonderful it would have been if all our Pallottine communities could spend an hour in the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament?

Can we stay awake for an hour with the Lord?

We can be then sure of many miracles indeed!

Jacob Nampudakam sac – Rome – ITALY
03.06.13
jnampudakam@gmail.com

item 135

Mary of Warmun one of the Great Art works of the 20th Century

The carved wooden sculpture of the Virgin Mary by the late Indigenous artist, **George Mung Mung** from the East Kimberley's Warmun community has been described as one of the great art works of the 20th Century. Now for the first time in almost 15 years, Sydney art lovers will have a chance to see Mary of Warmun as the sculpture is known along with other rare and breathtaking religious and spiritual artworks by Indigenous artists from the remote Warmun community.

Entitled "Gifts of the Artists," the exhibition includes significant works by such renowned Indigenous artists such as Hector Jandany, Freddy Timms, Jack Britten, Queenie McKenzie Nakarra and Henry Wambiny. Many of these paintings have not been seen in public before and it is believed this will be only the third time in the more than two decades George Mung Mung's carved sculpture of the Virgin has been seen by those outside the community.

"The sacred statue is an important and much loved icon and seldom leaves the community. So to have the people of Warmun and George



Mung Mung's nephew, Patrick Mung give their permission to allow the statue to be part of this important exhibition is a great privilege and honour," says "Gifts of the Artists" curator, Lachlan Warner, who is also Coordinator of the Gallery and Senior Lecturer in Visual Arts and Design at ACU.

His view is shared by art historian, educationist, artist and curator of many of Australia's major exhibitions of spiritual and religious art, Sister of Mercy, Rosemary Crumlin OAM. Sr Rosemary says George Mung Mung's sculpture not only has incredible presence and energy but in her view is "one of the great works of the 20th century."

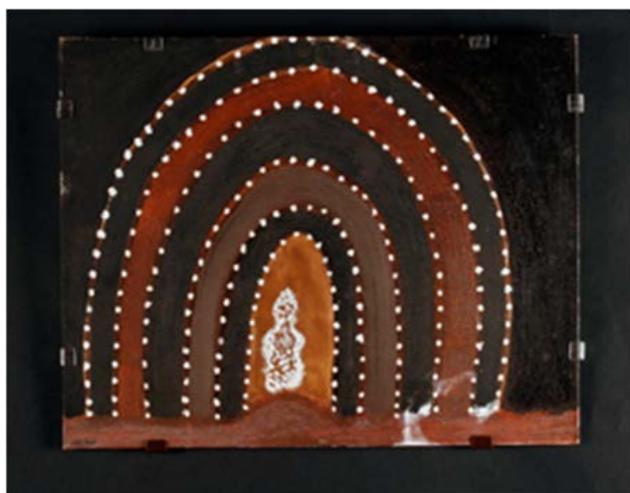
"In fact I am sure it is," she says.

The sculpture was carved from a tree bough George found deep in the Bungle Bungles after a plaster statue of the Holy Mother was knocked off a table by dogs as a small group prayed around it. That's when George promised he'd make them a Mary 'that would never break' and set off to find some suitable wood," Sr Rosemary says.

Originally called "the pregnant Mary," George's sculpture depicts her as a young woman painted with the body paint patterns reserved for unmarried Warmun girls.

"Her womb is like a shield under her heart where her unborn man-child dances. He is the One. She is the Mother," Sr Rosemary explains. "Mary of Warmun and the other artworks at the exhibition epitomise what the two pillars of the Warmun culture which are - the Dreaming or Ngarrangkarni which centres on the living land, the ancestors and their stories, and the Bible, especially the Creation and the Jesus and Mary gospel stories."

The people of the community describe their culture simply as "two way." Or as the late great Warmun artist, Hector Jandany told Sr Rosemary, "We always knew about Ngapuny (God) and the Spirit but youse mob had to tell us about Jesus and Mary."



Indigenous Artist Hector Jandany's
Jesus Rises from the Grave

Another of the highlights of the exhibition are **Hector Jandany's** evocative series of four paintings depicting the Crucifixion and the Resurrection.

"The paintings are quite beautiful with a simplicity and elegance the way he conceives the Body of Christ with the Virgin Mary and Saints all around Him."

Sr Rosemary says a hallmark of the work of the Warmun artists is the sheer physical beauty of their paintings and sculptures. "Nearly all the works are made with ochre which is typical of the Warmun style of art, minimal and pared down and raw, but beautifully executed."

What is less well known is that the Warmun's works of religious and spiritual art were created as teaching tools for the children at the community's Christian school.

"George, Hector , Queenie and a number of other artists would come down to the school carrying a painting under their arms to teach the kids about the story of Christ as well as the stories of their own culture. They'd teach them songs and dances and tell them about Dreamtime and Christian Dreamtime."

Unlike many Indigenous communities, Warmun discovered Christianity not through missionaries but by one of their own respected elders. A senior woman in the community had been sent to a leprosarium in Derby and

became a Christian. When she returned to Warmun she fought to have a Christian school built, and held a series of interviews on the best people to do this.

"In 1979 it was this woman and other elders including George, Hector and Queenie who chose the Sisters of St Joseph to establish the school and Warmun's involvement with the Sisters has continued ever since," she says.

Recently another Warmun artist, **Lena Nyadbi Lely** made history in Paris after news was released that her Dayiwul Lirlmim (Barramundi scales) painting, which hangs in the Musee du Quai Branly, would be stencilled on to a 700 square metre section of the museum's roof where it will be visible from Google Earth when it is unveiled in June.

Rosemary Crumlin rsm
30.04.13
courtesy Catholic Communications,
Sydney Archdiocese, AUSTRALIA



Sr Rosemary Crumlin rsm has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia [OAM] – she is an Honorary Fellow, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne. For her art has affirmed her faith in a positive way. 'I still carry the same idealism I had when I was a young novice [at age 18].... But by searching for meaning through art and creativity, I've found some deeper ways into my questions about life and meaning'.

sac asia oceania e-bulletin

you commented...

on #70

thank you for this newsletter and specially for Father John's sharing about of the Pallottine's taking part of Jews' saving during the second world war. I would ask Father John about the mention into the book of the Father Suwala from polish province but staying at this time in Rome (Father being my noviciate master in France in 1980-81)

RK 03.06.13

Indeed the harvest is rich and none can say he is out of work in the kingdom of GOD.I really was amazed at the Pallottine fathers who did such works worth remembering down the pages of history and how we, the later Pallottines have a rich heritage of the past in working for the children of God in all circumstances. Lord set my heart on fire.

SN 04.06.13

Thanks for sending E-BULLETIN. Thanks for sharing this history where a Pallottine was involved actively in saving lives of many Jews. Reading was interesting.

BB 05.06.13