



The Chimes

Newsletter of the Benedictine Community of New Norcia

April 2023



Join Us at Easter!

We extend a warm welcome to visitors during the Easter Triduum:

HOLY THURSDAY – April 6

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY – April 7

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY – April 8

Holy Saturday Concert (see below)

St Gertrude's Hall, 10:30am

EASTER SUNDAY – April 9

Easter Vigil 4.30am

Mass of the Day 9.00am

Solemn Paschal Vespers 5.30pm

Location for all liturgies:

Abbey Church, New Norcia

Enquiries: (08) 9654 8018 or

information@newnorcia.com.au

Holy Saturday Piano Concert

Fr Robert Nixon will offer a morning piano concert in St Gertrude's College Hall on Holy Saturday, 8 April, at 10:30am. The concert will feature the piano music of Philip Glass, including the epic Trilogy Sonata and the transcendent Mad Rush.

Also featured is an interlude of original songs performed by Coralie Kan and other members of New Norcia's Easter Triduum choir. Admission is free.

The Chimes is a monthly publication of the Benedictine Community of New Norcia.

To subscribe to the digital version, contact: publications@newnorcia.com.au.

Visit our website: www.newnorcia.com.au

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Announcing... PAX magazine!

Pax (peace) has been the emblem of the Benedictine Community of New Norcia for generations. It captures the essence of the spiritual lives of the monks and the ambience of the monastic town where they have lived for 177 years. The sense of peace is palpable here.

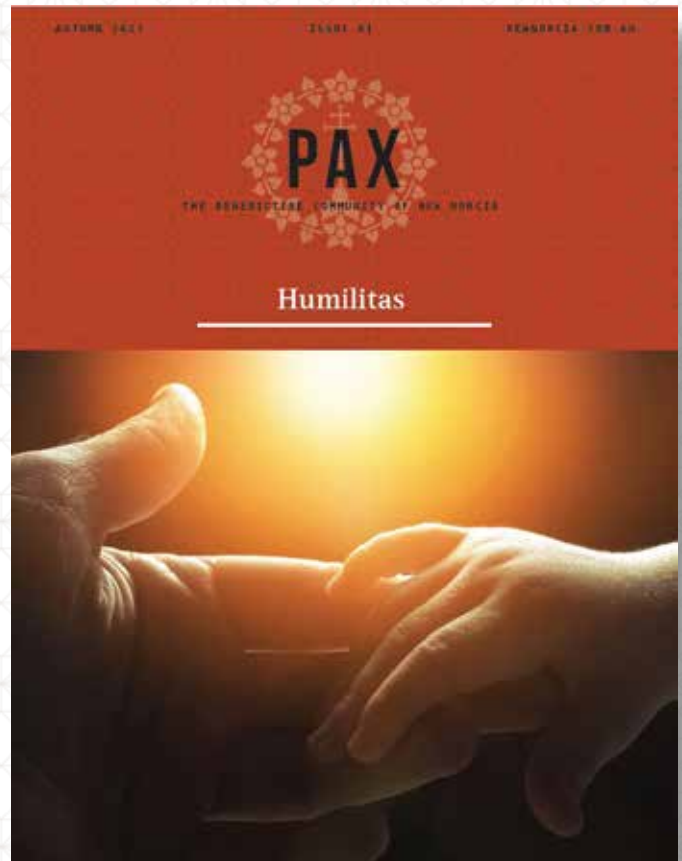
PAX was also the name of a publication produced by the monks of New Norcia for 14 years in the mid-20th century. It started out as a simple parish news sheet and grew to a newspaper with a distribution across the Western Australian Catholic community.

Many of our long-time friends and supporters will be familiar with the Friends magazine that got its start in the early 2000s and has been an important way for the Community to communicate latest news and events for nearly two decades.

With the recent upgrade of The Chimes, these “articles of substance” are now being published on a more regular basis in this monthly newsletter. All the latest updates in one easy to access digital format – always free to our Friends!

Our new magazine is PAX, a biannual publication that we regard as “food for the soul”. It includes in-depth articles on a particular theme (changes each issue), plus arts and culture, history and thought-provoking ideas on Benedictine spirituality and modern Christian practice.

We'd like to offer our first digital version of the magazine to you as our gift. The theme is Humility, and along with



several feature articles, this issue includes poetry, art, photography, book reviews, and some tantalizing history of our special place on the map. We hope you enjoy it – and invite you to share it with your friends and family.

Access the digital version: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/vrkka/yehz/>.

Print copies and subscriptions are available at the New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery Gift Shop and webshop.

Guesthouse Updates

The Guesthouse has had a relatively busy start to 2023. Many guests have enjoyed the air-conditioned comfort of the twin share rooms with ensuite for a night or two.

The Spirituality Programme has proven to be very popular, with some of the retreats fully booked months ahead. If any of the topics are of interest to you, please register online as soon as you can to avoid disappointment. The Lenten Retreat on 24-26 February was attended by fifteen guests. Nine guests enjoyed a Benedictine Experience Weekend on 10-12 March. There are three places still available for the “Letting Go” retreat coming up on the 31 March - 2 April.

Planning is well under way for the influx of guests over the Easter Triduum. If you would like to join us for the Easter celebrations, please contact the Guesthouse staff on guest-

house@newnorcia.com.au. Easter services begin with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening and culminate with the Easter Sunday Vigil Mass from 4am Sunday morning followed by a festive breakfast.





Centenary of New Norcia's Pipe Organ

A Day of Recitals, Talks, and Lunch

Saturday, August 12, 10.00am to 3.30pm

The Moser pipe organ in the Abbey Church, a unique, beautiful and historically significant instrument, has now reached its 100th birthday. In celebration of this important occasion, New Norcia and the Organ Society of Western Australia will present a day of music performances and talks highlighting the remarkable features and capacities of the instrument, and celebrating the history both of the organ and of musical culture within the monastery.

Tickets available at the New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery Gift Shop and webshop.



A Late Summer Schubert Soirée

Franz Schubert's melodious songs were the centrepiece of a late summer evening event at New Norcia's Hostel, with Fr Robert Nixon on the piano and vocalist Mary Barrett-Lennard.





Winners of the 2023 APSMS Research Scholarship

The Abbot Placid Spearritt Memorial Scholarship (APSMS) was set up in 2009 in memory of New Norcia's late abbot. The programme invites scholars to dig into the rich history contained in the New Norcia Archives, which includes diaries, chronicles, photographs, maps, letters and reports – many in Spanish, the language of the first missionaries.

The 2023 recipients of the APSMS are well-versed in the painstaking process of translating foreign documents. Judith McGuinness and Eugenia Schettino – both language teachers – are continuing their previous work on translating, researching and organising the letters written from 1849 to 1868 by Santos Salvado to his brother Rosendo Salvado, before Santos moved to New Norcia.

This continues the translation of and research into the letters of Santos Salvado to his brother Rosendo, which the researchers completed in 2021. These comprise letters written by Santos during his ten years as prior at New Norcia, which were published in the 2022 *New Norcia Studies* journal as *The Letters of Santos Salvado: New Norcia, 1869–1879*.

“It was decided to publish the Western Australian letters first because of their immediate relevance to the history of this state”, Eugenia explained. “So this year we are working backwards, revising the 268 letters written in Spain and Italy by Santos to Rosendo between 1849 and 1868”.

The pair met at Central TAFE in Perth where Eugenia was teaching a Spanish Diploma course. Judy had recently completed the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage trail with her husband in Spain and was enthused to learn her third

language, after English and French, so she signed up for Eugenia's course. When Judy attended a New Norcia Open Day in 2010 and learned about the extensive collection of Spanish material in the Archives, she jumped at the chance to use her newly acquired skill. She invited Eugenia to join in their first project together: translating letters written by Rosendo Salvado to Théophile Bérengier from 1874 to 1897.

Both fell in love with the material they were researching and offered their continued services to the Archives. In 2016, they won the APSMS to translate the letters of Santos Salvado that he wrote from New Norcia from 1869–1879. A book of those letters was published by Abbey Press in October 2021.

In 2018 the dynamic duo again won the APSMS to translate letters written by Santos Salvado to Rosendo Salvado from 1849 to 1868. Their 2023 scholarship will enable them to revise, research and organise those letters in preparation for Volume 2 of the Santos trilogy.

Most of their work is done from home, online, through regular contact with New Norcia's archivist, Peter Hocking, who sends CDs with the scanned letters. Eugenia starts with transcribing the original hand-written letters, reproducing them word for word, including errors, as the transcription has to be an exact copy of the original. This requires regular online research to ensure her transcription of obscure terminology and place names is accurate.

She then sends them to Judy who edits and translates the letters, carrying out any additional research needed.

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2023 APSMS Research Scholarship

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The work is then volleyed back to Eugenia who acts as a critical reader, ensuring that the translations are as close as possible to the original. The team of two say they really enjoy working together on the challenge of spending hours researching, thinking and deciding what is the best translation.

“It has to be said, however”, says Judy, “that translators are never entirely happy with their work. Our translations are not literal; we attempt to translate so that the letters read in English as they would have read in Spanish, with the same tone, emphasis, colour and shades. This means that there is often a ‘better’ word or a ‘more accurate’ rendering of an idea! As we work through these letters for a second time we are encouraged to see that some of our phrasing is very pleasing, but we know that other bits need a rethink and a revamp”.

“For me as a translator”, says Eugenia, “there is no greater joy than to be able to translate historical documents. Winning the scholarship is a great honour. Helping to translate the history of Australia from Spanish into English, knowing that more people will have access to all the interesting times and the hardships that these Benedictine monks had to go through to build a Catholic Mission in Australia 177 years ago, is something that makes me joyful”.

The women intend to complete their project by year’s end.



Eugenia Schettino at the Sun Pyramid (100 BCE), Teotihuacan in Mexico



Judy McGuinness on the Portuguese Camino near Tuy, birthplace of Rosendo Salvado

The Archives Committee, which oversees the scholarship programme, welcomes expressions of interest by scholars and academics wishing to research an aspect of New Norcia’s history. For more information please go to: www.newnorcia.com.au/education-research/archives/abbot-placid-memorial-scholarship

The Committee also welcomes donations to support the ongoing research into New Norcia’s unique place in Western Australian history. Please contact the archivist, Peter Hocking, to discuss your interest.



Coming Events

8 April 2023: Holy Saturday Concert

20-28 April 2023: RETREAT: Female Benedictine Mystics of the Middle Ages: St Hildegard of Bingen, St Gertrude the Great, and others

22 April 2023: DAY RETREAT: Thomas Merton: Dialogue in Prayer

20 May 2023: DAY RETREAT: Thomas Merton: Answering in Creativity – A Hidden Wholeness

20 May 2023: Abbot’s Table - Autumn SOLD OUT

26-28 May 2023: Benedictine Experience Weekend II

Where We Are With the Salvado Diaries

by Fr David Barry, OSB

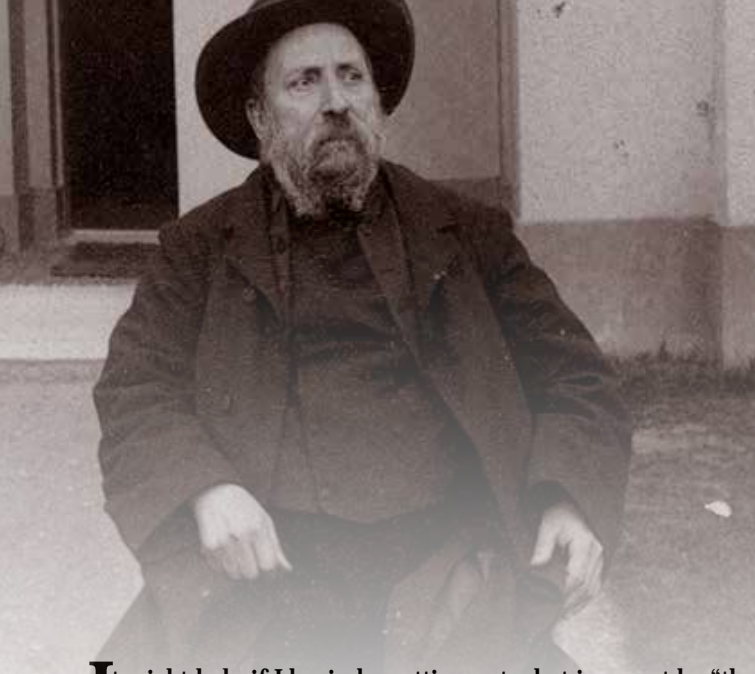
work of transcription came at a time when the digital scanning of documents was becoming common place. Who now thinks twice about it? But the improvement over microfilm can only really be appreciated by those who have had to work with the older technology.

The translation in turn required its own set of criteria, one of them being that anything Salvado wrote in English would be reproduced as he wrote it, mistakes and all. The translation was intended for anything written in any language other than English. Of course, the dominant language is Spanish, but there are documents quoted in Italian, Latin and French, with the Spanish itself sometimes reflecting the language of the part of Spain Salvado came from, viz. Galicia.

In the course of his fifty-five years of monk-missionary endeavour, beginning in 1845 when he was first assigned to the newly-established Western Australian mission, he met and had occasion to record in his diaries the names of hundreds of people. When writing Aboriginal names, he used both Italian and Spanish phonetics. As time passed, he regularly revised his idea of what he had heard, and changed his spelling accordingly. This makes for all sorts of variant spellings of people's names, especially those of the Indigenous. The same applies to his spelling of the place names he writes in the course of keeping a pioneer grazier's, leaseholder's, and cartographer's records of journeys in search of land suitable for grazing his increasing sheep flocks, for use as lambing stations, sinking of wells and excavation of tanks or dams.

So, besides translation, the diaries require many biographical, historical and linguistic footnotes. Besides that, not a few entries call for contextualisation by reference to Catholic liturgy and its history, as anyone familiar with present-day Catholic liturgy will soon realise. Finally, of the utmost importance for the use of the diaries by researchers and interested readers is the compilation of detailed indexes for people's names, place names and the manifold subjects mentioned in the course of diaries which started out as notebooks and memoranda, only gradually coming to take on the character of what is generally understood by a diary. The pagination of the original diaries is given each time in both transcription and translation, and this makes it possible to compile indexes that do not need to wait until the printers' proofs are prepared.

Between the end of translating, annotating and indexing the diaries and then having them published, a painstaking editorial process still lies ahead of us.



It might help if I begin by setting out what is meant by “the Salvado Diaries”. This is the term used for a collection of seventeen small, hand-written documents, mostly between covers to form a book, which range in size from a few pages to some hundreds of pages. Of the first seven diaries, numbered from 1 to 7, some are multi-purpose, comprising portions that can be described as diaries, as well as lists of names with or without addresses, of expenses incurred, of distances covered, places visited, memoranda and letters. The mixed content of these diaries is sometimes betrayed by the time spans they include, as illustrated in the following list:

- Diaries, notes, letters, etc., 1844–1851
- Diary, 1850, 1852–1855, 1856, 1867 & 1868
- Diary, April–August 1853 (Garrido's copied by Salvado)
- Diary, 15 August to 27 December 1853 & 10 January 1854 to April 1855
- Diary, 1854–1859 & 1865–1868
- Diary, 15 July–9 August 1859
- Diary, 18 September 1864–2 February 1865

The remaining ten diaries, numbered from 7b to 16, are regular diaries varying in length from 184 to 527 pages in the original. They also vary from two to six in the number of years each covers.

The process followed in the translation of Rosendo Salvado's Diaries required first of all the production of a legible transcription of the original documents. Since the Diaries are regarded as of importance to the history of the Swan River Colony and the Catholic Church there from 1846 till Salvado's death in December 1900, the transcription required that we draw up a set of criteria in order for it to comply with scholarly standards.

A preliminary draft of all but Diary 5 had been done by a team at the University of Queensland. This was taken over and completed by the two-person team of Dr Teresa de Castro, a Spanish historian, who already had a decade-long engagement with New Norcia archival material through her work of summarising the Salvado Correspondence from 1868 to 1900, and myself, who has a reasonable working knowledge of Spanish and experience in translation. Our

Meet Melissa Victoriano

Back in 2015, Melissa Victoriano was browsing the internet for a job for her husband, who's a chef. Marlon was working FIFO and at least one of them wasn't happy with his frequent absences. He applied for a chef position at New Norcia and got the job. Up to New Norcia the family moved, eight years ago this month! (Marlon still does all the cooking for the Monastery and Guesthouse, plus special functions and bus tour meals).

Staff Focus



Marlon, Melissa and their two boys (featured in last month's edition of the Chimes) live in town and, except for the lack of extended family close by, they enjoy living in this remote spot. "We have a few friends that keep my sanity intact", laughs Melissa. She did a few jobs in town before landing a permanent position at the New Norcia Visitor Centre. She particularly loves being a guide for the Daily Tours but can also be found behind the check-out counter in the Museum & Art Gallery and assisting the many visitors who come to town.

The family is also active in the local parish and Melissa acts as the Safeguarding Officer, sings in the choir (every first Sunday of the month) and helps with decorations in the Abbey Church on special occasions.

Melissa has a Bachelor of Science in Laboratory Medicine and a Doctor of Medicine from De La Salle University Health Sciences Campus in the Philippines. She worked as a City Health General Practitioner and Immunization Coordinator before migrating to Australia in 2006. She's done a few medic jobs in the mines.

Coming to New Norcia was a special move for the family, who lived near a Benedictine community in the Philippines. Meeting people and telling the story of New Norcia is high on her job satisfaction list. "It truly is a town like no other", she says. "My heart is overflowing with love for New Norcia" – her

guests must pick up on the vibe as she gets a lot of positive feedback. "Some say that they'll remember New Norcia because of the tour and what they learned about our history. They can't believe what lies behind the buildings".

When she's not working, Melissa loves to go window shopping, dine out with family and friends, time at the beach and taking in some Netflix at home. She watches thrillers, suspense, sci-fi and documentaries – "I'm not much of a love story person", she demures. Her favourite read is Chicken Soup for the Soul and she takes a lot of pride in being able to do solo Karaoke, which she does a lot of.

She dreams of going back home to see her beautiful family and friends again. Her one wish for the world is that there be more peace and that everyone would treat each other as they'd like to be treated. "I'm big on the Golden Rule", she smiles.

Liturgical Calendar

APRIL

SUNDAY 2 APRIL – PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

Holy Week begins

Thursday 6 April – Holy Thursday

Friday 7 April – Good Friday

Saturday 8 April – Holy Saturday

SUNDAY 9 APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY (SOLEMNITY WITH OCTAVE)

SUNDAY 16 APRIL – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Fri 21 April – St Anselm (Memorial)

SUNDAY 23 APRIL – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Tuesday 25 April – ANZAC DAY

Wednesday 26 April – St Mark (Feast)

Saturday 29 April – St Catherine of Sienna (Memorial)

Magical Stories

Fr Robert's new book *Imperatrix Aeterna: Magical Stories of the Queen of Heaven*, includes translations of two important collections of miracles involving the Mother of God – the first (dating from the 13th C) is by the mysterious Benedictine hermit-pope, St Celestine V and the second (from about 400 years later) is by Ippolito Marracci, a prolific and popular Marian author of the Baroque era. Many of the stories are beautiful and touching, while others are strange, fantastical and even slightly heterodox, reflecting the dynamic and complex syncretism of medieval folk-Catholicism.

Samples of three stories from this volume are included in the inaugural edition of PAX magazine. The paperback edition is now available through the New Norcia gift shop and features specially commissioned artwork by UK artist Rosa Laguna. A limited-edition sewn hardback version will also be available in the near future.

