

Message from the Secretary

It is with great pleasure that I write to you once again as the Secretary of the SS Crocifisso.

This year's annual festa is on the 14th September at the Holy Cross College, Ryde. Unfortunately, I will not be here for this year's festa, as I will be in Grotteria celebrating where this tradition commenced many, many years ago. I encourage that you and your friends attend this event, as it is a special day on the religious calendar. I hope that you all have a lovely day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members, volunteers and sponsors whose contribution year after year is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, but not least, I would like to thank my committee colleagues for their continuous support they have provided me over the years I joined the Committee.

I will take this opportunity to wish every one of you a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Maria Chiarelli
Secretary

Message from the Treasurer

Hello Everyone

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to you all again as the Treasurer of the SS Crocifisso.

I would like to thank all the members, sponsors and friends for their continuous support throughout the year.

I would like to encourage friends and paesani and the younger generation to become members, and to attend the functions, the annual festa and the bus outing trips and to remember our culture, our beliefs and traditions where our families and ancestors came from.

I would also like to thank the Committee members for their support, hard work and patience.

Thank you again.

Annunziata Iaria
Treasurer

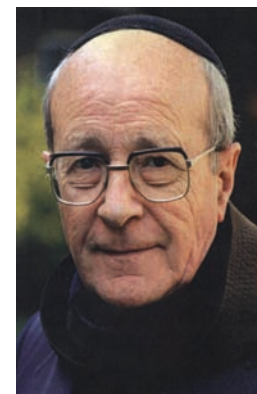
PS: If anyone has any suggestions please give a committee member a call, including the younger generation if they have any ideas and input on what we can do for the younger generation.

Message from Father Atanasio Gonelli, OFM

Carissimi Grotterisani, mentre sto scrivendo un breve ma fraterno messaggio, la chiesa di Sydney è nella gioiosa attesa della venuta del sommo Pontefice per la celebrazione della Ventitreesima Giornata Mondiale della Gioventù. L'augurio di tutti noi è che i nostri giovani, molti di quali forse hanno perduto il dono della fede, possano sentirsi di Cristo nel rinnovo della promessa battesimale e vivere il dono della Fede. Auguriamo che i giovani Grotteriani possano prendere parte alla grande manifestazione e che nasca in loro il desiderio più sincero di continuare coi nostri anziani a celebrare la bellissima festa del SS. Crocifisso.

Sempre vivi nel pensiero e nella preghiera auguro a tutti ogni bene.

Vostro Padre Atanasio Gonelli



Message from Brother Mark Ryan

This year 2008 has been a very eventful year. We have celebrated World Youth Day with great enthusiasm and welcomed Pope Benedict to Australia. We have been spellbound with the spectacle of the Beijing Olympics and have all become one year older.

The Patrician Brothers are experiencing a great event also this year. In 1808, on February 2, just 200 years ago, the Patrician Brothers Congregation was founded by Bishop Daniel Delany. From Tullow, a small town in County Carlow, the Order has spread from Ireland to the USA, India, Australia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Kenya and Ghana. The Brothers have held many celebrations throughout the world to mark this special time. One of the great insights we have gleaned from these events is the huge part tradition plays in our lives.

I was reminded of this recently when it was pointed out to me that the Sydney section of Associazione S.S. Crocifisso came into being in 1993, fifteen years ago. Like the Patrician Brothers this group is small in numbers but has an enormous influence in our society. This is due in no small part to the dedication and enthusiasm of its office bearers but also to the tradition all of you have inherited from Grotteria. You proudly honour and proclaim your heritage and the values you have learned. This is wonderful to see and must bring blessings.

The Brothers at Holy Cross feel privileged to be your hosts and wish you a successful celebration

Brother Mark Ryan
Holy Cross College

