



FROM THE HEART

NEWS FROM THE LAITY OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY AUSTRALIA

November 2022

In This Issue

Welcome

ACLFC Endorsements

Spiritual Companion

Vision For The Future

Save The Date

Heart of Life Event

First Friday Reflection

Congratulations

Laudato Si Film

Fr Linckens Anniversary

Fr Chevalier Anniversary

Daramalan Anniversary

NATSICC Assembly

Social Media

Call For Contributions

Fundraising

Contact Us

Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural *From The Heart* monthly email with news from the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia.

The *Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family* (ACLCF) is seeking to support and encourage formation in *Spirituality of the Heart* and connecting individuals and groups with a background in, an experience of, or a desire for *Spirituality of the Heart*.

The ACLCF hopes to showcase how lay people can 'be on earth the Heart of God' by sharing stories about Chevalier Family events, activities, and ministries.

ACLCF Endorsements

The *Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family* endorses the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* (an invitation from the First Nations people of Australia to dialogue about human dignity, inclusion, a parliamentary voice, treaty, and truth), *Laudato Si* (an encyclical letter exploring the relationship between God, people, and the Earth and discussing our responsibility to care for Creation and others), and the supporting [Declaration](#) endorsed by the lay and professed branches of the Chevalier Family. The following logos and brief statements have been added to the ACLCF email signature, official documents, and website (coming soon) to demonstrate these endorsements.

Uluru Statement From The Heart



With deep respect and love, we acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (the traditional custodians of this land) and their Elders - past, present, and emerging.

We support the *Uluru Statement From The Heart* and recognise the importance of ensuring First Nations people have a voice in Australia.

Laudato Si



We commit to a "greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share". (*Laudato Si* 14).

We live in the *Spirituality of the Heart* and are called to love and care for Creation.

Spiritual Companion

The Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family is pleased to announce that Michael Fallon, Missionary of the Sacred Heart (MSC), has accepted the position of Spiritual Companion.

The Spiritual Companion offers formation and guidance to the members of the Australian Council, particularly in *Spirituality of the Heart* and its practical implications. They act as a conduit between the lay and professed members of the Family, actively promoting the vision for the laity within the Chevalier Family and supportively communicating with the professed leadership. They assist in forming Spiritual Companions to lay groups to ensure they are mature 'faith-sharing' groups that avoid a dependent relationship between laity and professed.

The Spiritual Companion has the energy, passion, and vision for the possibilities of the lay vocation and appreciates the joys and challenges of the lay lifestyle.

Michael Fallon became involved with what was to become the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia in 1972 as the chaplain at the University of New South Wales. Then small lay MSC communities would celebrate mass together and gather at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park. In retirement, Michael looks forward to experiencing a deeper connection with the Laity of the Chevalier Family.

Michael is a prolific writer of *Spirituality of the Heart* formation materials. For more information on these publications, visit [Michael Fallon's website](#).



Vision for the Future

The *Synod on Synodality (2021-2024)* is a “gathering of the faithful to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church and asking her to be and to do”, particularly concerning adopting a synodal Church “led by the Holy Spirit who enables everyone to offer their own contribution to the Church's life” ([Synod FAQ](#)). Becoming a synodal Church is an opportunity to become a “listening Church” and a Church of “closeness, compassion and tender love”, which better reflects the “style of God” ([Pope Francis, 09 October 2021](#)). For more information, visit the [Synod on Synodality website](#).

The *Wijngaards Institute for Catholic Research (WICR)* has coordinated an interdisciplinary group of academics to work on a proposed new ‘Constitution of the Catholic Church’ in preparation for the *Synod on Synodality (2021-2024)*. [Download the Proposed Constitution](#).

As the Continental Phase of the Synod begins, there is an opportunity for Australians to contribute feedback about their vision for the future of the Catholic Church. People wishing to coordinate groups for discernment on the [Document for the Continental Phase](#) should express their interest by emailing the *National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPR)* contact, Stephen Reid (stephen.reid@catholic.org.au). The submissions portal will be open from 4 November to 9 December 2022.

For more information, visit the [Catholic Church in Australia website](#).



Save The Date

Laity Of The Chevalier Family Australia National Gathering

22-24 September 2023

St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park

Join the Australian Council for the Laity of the Chevalier Family for a weekend retreat of spiritual formation, community building, and learning.

To hear about past participant experiences, visit the ACLCF YouTube Channel:

- [Reflection on 2022 Gathering](#)
- [Photos from 2022 Gathering](#)



Heart of Life Event

Spirituality and Screen Images

Saturday, 5 November 2022, 12:30 pm-5:00 pm

Malvern, Melbourne

Cost: \$60 (BYO lunch)

Speaker: Peter Malone MSC, BA(Hons), STL, DTheol (Honoris Causa)

Book and Pay: Via the [Heart of Life website](#).

Further Enquiries: Phone (03) 9890 1101 or email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne.

From 'To Kill a Mockingbird', 'Edward Scissorhands' and 'Star Wars' to 'On the Basis of Sex', join with *Heart of Life: Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation* to look at how we can relate to screen images as visions for our spiritual lives.

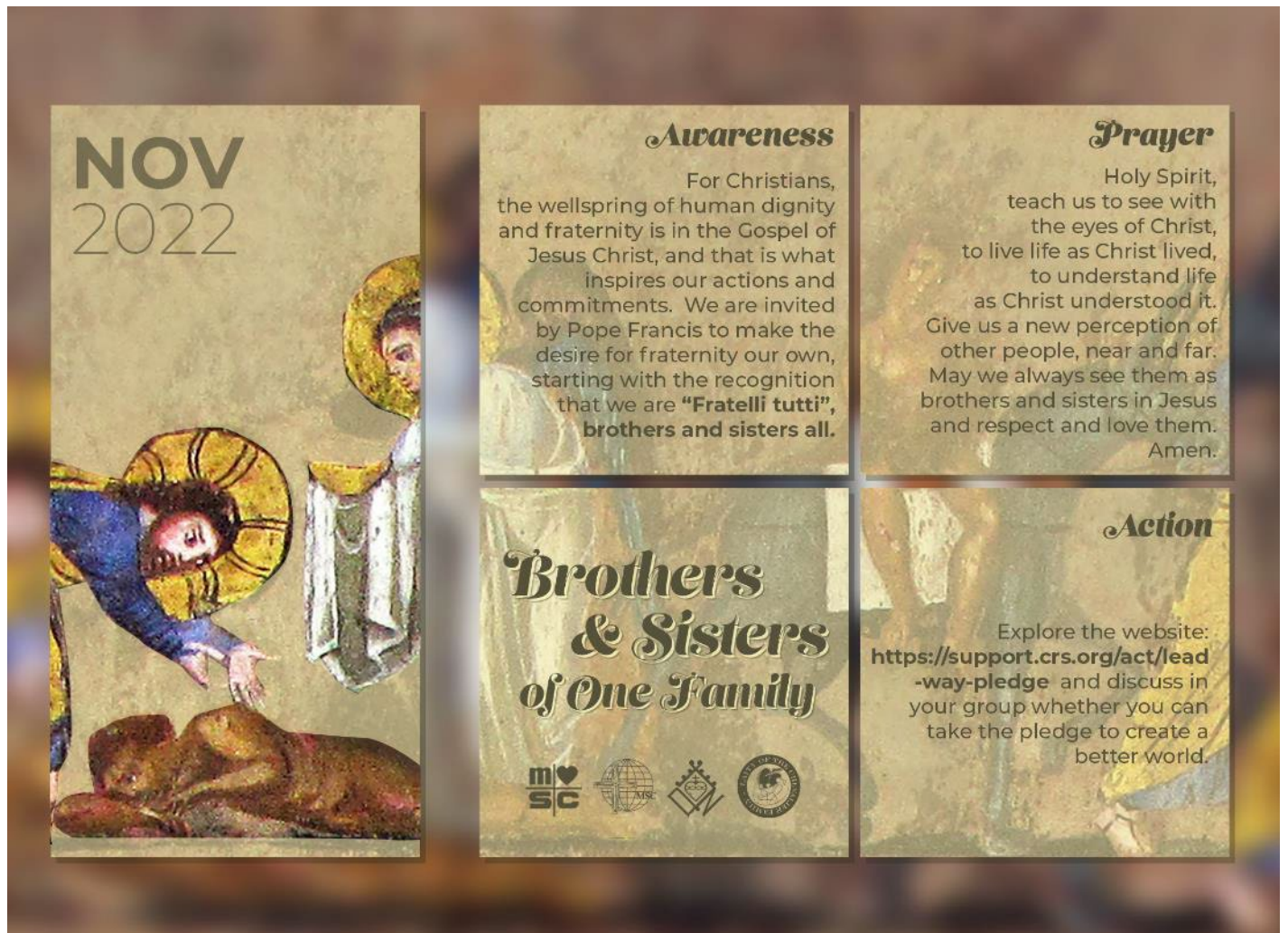
It is often helpful to use movie themes, the everyday themes of life, to help convey and uncover more profound messages for ourselves.

In this event, we will explore movie characters and link them to the Jesus of the Gospel.



First Friday Reflection

The *International Chevalier Family* publishes a reflection on the first Friday of the month to support individuals and groups to focus communally on an area of spiritual formation. It aims to raise awareness, inspire prayer, and give a social justice action related to the monthly topic. The initiative is jointly supported by the *International Laity of the Chevalier Family*, the *Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart*, the *Missionaries of the Sacred Heart*, and the *Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*.



Download [First Friday Reflection \(November 2022\)](#) (png image, 3.1 MB).

Australian Reflection

Awareness

Loving all people includes appreciating Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

Prayer

[Chevalier Family Blessing](#) (png image, 196 kb).

Action

- Learn more about the [Uluru Statement From The Heart](#).
- Pledge your support to the [Uluru Statement From The Heart Canvas](#).
- Learn about the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council ([NATSICC](#)).

Congratulations

Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann AM, a teacher from St. John's Catholic College, Darwin and the first lay principal of St Francis Xavier Catholic School, Daly River NT, has been recognised for exemplary servant-leadership and contributing to the new understandings of Indigenous art and spirituality, and their importance to the Catholic tradition.

[Full Story](#)



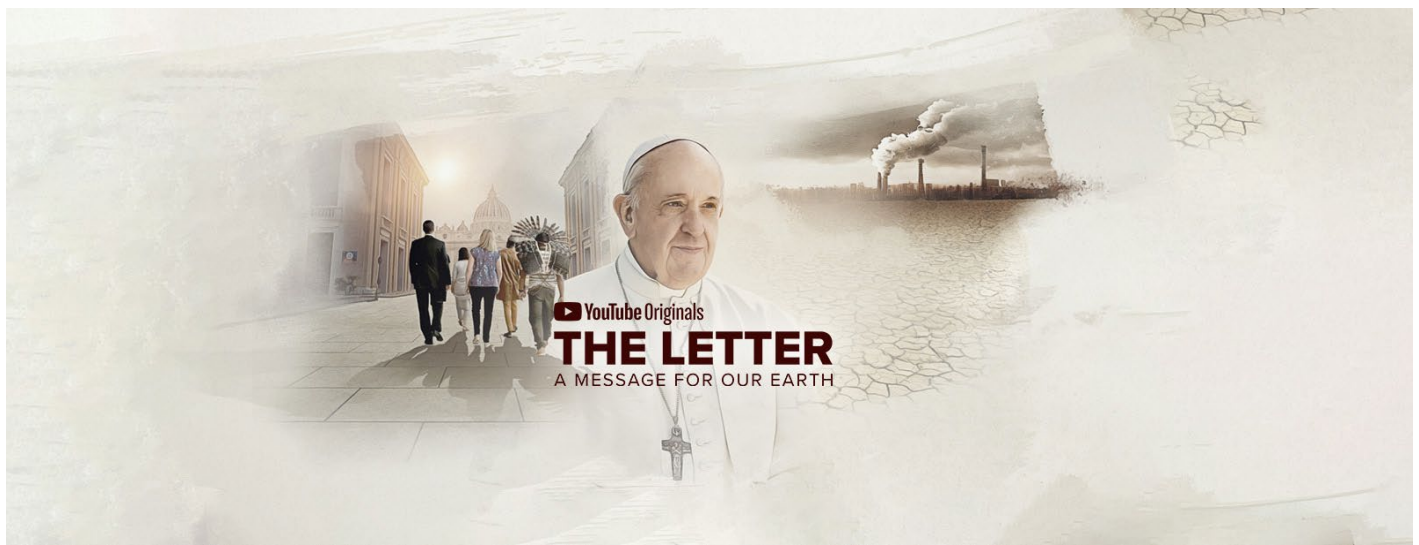
Laudato Si Film

In October, the Vatican released a *Laudato Si* film called *The Letter*, which invites people to explore caring for the natural environment and others.

“In 2015, Pope Francis wrote *Laudato Si* (*The Letter*), an encyclical letter about the environmental crisis to every single person in the world. A few years later, four voices that have gone unheard in global conversations have been invited to an unprecedented dialogue with the Pope. Hailing from Senegal, the Amazon, India, and Hawai’i, they bring perspective and solutions from the poor, the indigenous, the youth, and wildlife into a conversation with Pope Francis himself. This documentary follows their journey to Rome and the extraordinary experiences that took place there, and is packed with powerfully moving personal stories alongside the latest information about the planetary crisis and the toll it’s taking on nature and people.” ([The Letter Film, 2022](#))

Visit [The Letter Film website](#) to learn more about the protagonists and how to take action.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)





Father Linckens Anniversary

The Chevalier Family commemorated Father Hubert Linckens on 5 October 2022, the 100th anniversary of his death.

The anniversary event on Saturday, 8 October 2022, was a joy-filled, reverent and reflective occasion that recalled the life of Father Linckens, a great missionary and the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (MSC Sisters).

The Eucharist was led by Father Peter Hendricks MSC and celebrated with the Chevalier Family.

The friendly lunchtime gathering facilitated reconnection with each other, sharing stories and fond memories.



“
Love should urge and
impel us.
It should inflame and
animate us.
”

Fr. Hubert Linckens MSC
100th anniversary of the death of the
founder of the **MSC Sisters**
1922 - 2022



Father Chevalier Anniversary

The Chevalier Family commemorated the life and vision of Father Jules Chevalier on 21 October 2022, the anniversary of his death.

As part of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) tribute, Tony Arthur MSC presented a talk on *Jules Chevalier's Missionary Christology*. This talk has been generously shared with the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia for spiritual formation.

[Download Talk](#) (pdf, 76 kb)



Fr Jules Chevalier
1824-1907

Founder of the **MSC**, the **FDNSC** and spiritual founder of the **MSC Sisters**. It was always Fr. Chevalier's vision, that the **laity** have a very important place within the **Chevalier Family** sitting alongside the professed members.

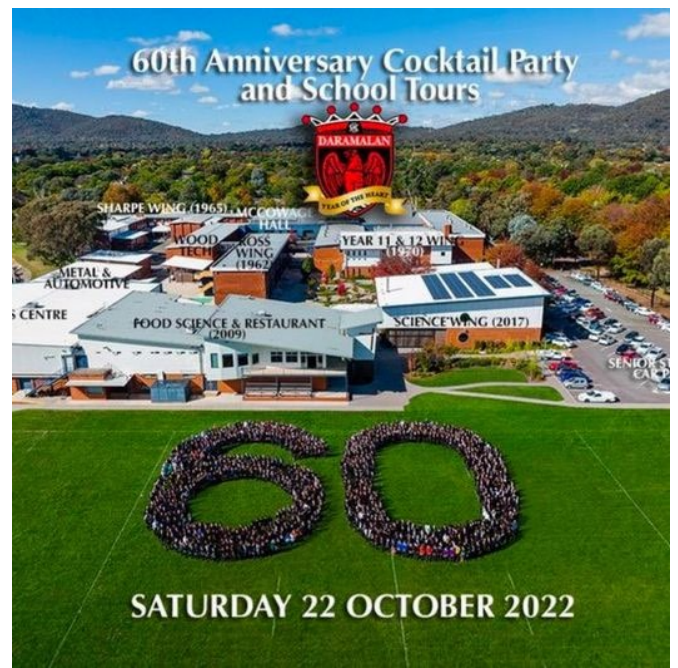


To be on earth the Heart of God

Daramalan College Anniversary

The Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia congratulates Daramalan College, a Chevalier Family school, on its 60th anniversary.

“The Headmaster at the time, Fr McMahon MSC, explained to the first Assembly that the name ‘Daramalan’ came from the local Aboriginal word for ‘eagle-men’, the eagle being their symbol to indicate the Great Spirit. That same spirit aligns with the ‘heart’ ethos of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, which has been pivotal in the education of our 17,000 students over the last 60 years.” ([MSC, 18 October 2022](#))



NATSICC National Assembly

Lee Toll, a member of the Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family, recently attended the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Catholic Council (NATSICC) National Assembly in Townsville, Queensland on 19-23 September 2022.

Lee said, "It was a privilege to be a participant at the NATSICC Conference in Townsville! The friendliness, passion, and enthusiasm of First Nations People from all over Australia and the Torres Strait as they spoke of Aboriginal Spirituality and issues facing their communities today created a deep sense of gratitude and optimism for the future".



Social Media

The Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family recently launched its social media profiles on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube to facilitate communication with and connection between the Chevalier Family.

Follow us for news and spiritual formation.

Tag us using @aus.lcf and #auslcf to share your news and stories with the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia community.



[aus.lcf](https://www.facebook.com/aus.lcf)

(Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia)
(@aus.lcf)



[aus.lcf](https://www.instagram.com/aus.lcf)

(Laity of the Chev Family Aus)
(@aus.lcf aus.lcf)
(#auslcf)



[Australian Laity of the Chevalier Family](https://www.youtube.com/AustralianLaityoftheChevalierFamily)
(auslcf)

Call for Contributions

The Australian Council for the Laity of the Chevalier Family is looking for contributions to social media stories and the *From The Heart* monthly update to help build connections in the Chevalier Family.

- Hosting a Chevalier Family event?
- Have a Chevalier Family story?
- Know of a Chevalier Family achievement?

Whether a local item or something of national/international significance, send a short paragraph (or sentence) and any photos/images (with permission to be publicly shared) to aus.lcf@gmail.com.

Fundraising

The Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family has committed to raising funds to support two delegates from Pacific Countries and four from Australia to attend the 4th International Assembly of the Laity of the Chevalier Family held in the Philippines in 2024. Your contribution is one way to express solidarity as part of the Chevalier Family. Download the [Fundraising Appeal Letter](#) (pdf, 270 kb).

Share *From the Heart*

- Download [From the Heart \(November 2022\)](#) (pdf, 1.6 MB).
- Join the mailing list by contacting aus.lcf@gmail.com.

Contact Us

To contact the Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family or to provide feedback on the *From the Heart* update, email aus.lcf@gmail.com.



The Australian Council of the Laity of the Chevalier Family



[aus.lcf](https://www.facebook.com/aus.lcf)



aus.lcf@gmail.com



[aus.lcf](https://www.instagram.com/aus.lcf)



chevalierfamily.com.au



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Let Your God Love You

**Be silent.
Be still.
Alone.
Empty.
Before your God.
Say nothing.
Be silent.
Let your God look upon you.
That is all.
God knows.
God understands.
God loves you with an enormous love.
God only wants to look upon you with love.
Quiet.
Still.
Be.**

Edwina Gateley VMM