

Blessing of Macanese Cultural Centre

OFFICIATED BY: Fr John Pearce CP

GREETING: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

INTRODUCTION:

After much work and discernment by the Macanese Community, we gather now to bless and dedicate this new Centre. It will be a place for the community to gather, and to offer support and friendship to one another and to others, and to give witness to their faith in Jesus Christ.

READING: John 21:15-17

After the meal, Jesus said to Simon Peter: "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these others do? He answered: "Yes Lord, you know I love you!" Jesus answered: "Feed my lambs."

A second time he said to him: "Simon son of John. Do you love me?" He replied: Yes Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him: "Look after my sheep"

Then he asked to him a third time: "Simon, son of John. Do you love me?" Peter was quite annoyed that he had asked him a third time "Do you love me" and said: "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you." Jesus said to him: "Feed my sheep."

REFLECTION: Fr John Pearce

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L. We pray for the Leaders of the Church and the Civil Society:

All: May they courageously face the challenges to serve all people, nurturing life and faith. We pray to the Lord:

L. We pray for all peoples who continue to migrate to new lands:

All: May they find in these new lands, places of peace and support. And may they take their place new leaders in these lands. We pray to the Lord.

L: We pray for the new generations of children born in these lands:

All: May they see the customs and cultural expressions of their old lands as something to value, to treasure and to build upon, something living and vital as we pass on our stories. We pray to the Lord.

L: We pray for all who will come through the doors of this centre:

All: May they find this to be a place of generous hospitality, where all people are welcome to share in the hidden treasures of the members. We pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

**God of mercy and truth,
you sent your only Son to be our
Saviour and Lord.
He calls us together as his Church,
to carry on the work of salvation.**

**We ask you now to bless us,
and all who will use this Cultural Centre.
May all who come here
experience the love and hospitality of
Jesus Christ
through the kindness of its members,
experience the joy of his friendship
and grow in his love.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

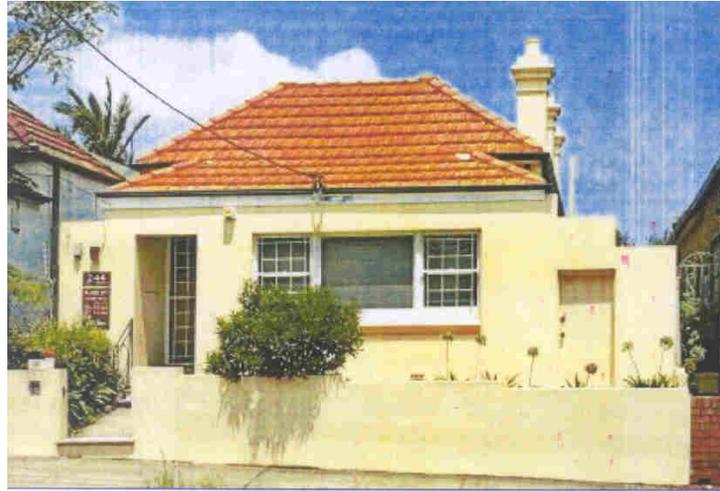
BLESSING OF THE STATUE OF OUR LADY

**Blessed be your name, O Lord,
you are the fount and source of every blessing,
and you look with delight upon the devout
practices of the faithful,
Draw near we pray to these your servants and,
as they use this statue for the faith and devotion,
grant that they may also strive to be transformed
into the likeness of Christ your Son,. Amen.**

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Hail Mary





Special Thanks

*For your attendance today, to share
and celebrate a landmark
achievement & significant milestone
in the history of our Association.*

*Casa Committee 2008/9
"Keeping the Macanese Community Alive"*



'Macanese Cultural Centre'

Official Opening & Blessing @ 2pm

PROGRAMME

*Welcome & Introductions
Apologies*

*Unveiling of the Plaque
By Founding President,
Vasco Rodrigues*

*Blessing of the Centre
Feast of Our Lady of Fatima
Officiated by Fr. John Pearce,
St Brigid's Parish, Marrickville*

Presentations

Closure

Invitation to Afternoon Tea & Refreshments