



Introduction of the Henley Beach Parish Prayer

Feedback from parishioners who attended the Parish Strategy Day in May 2019 included significant emphasis on the value of **prayer**; people talked about the importance of their personal prayer lives and also of praying together as a community. A suggestion, which was readily embraced by others on the day, was that Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish should implement a Parish Prayer to be used in our daily lives and at Parish gatherings.

An overwhelming amount of feedback also related to the love and esteem parishioners hold for the **msc charism** and **Heart Spirituality**.

There was a realisation that a Henley Beach Parish Prayer required the msc charism at its core.

In 1854 when Father Jules Chevalier was thinking of founding a society whose mission it would be to cure the evils of that time by leading people to the Heart of Christ as the healing source of life, he asked Our Lady for help. Having experienced her powerful intercession several times he felt that, out of gratitude, his society should honour her in a special way.

Eventually he invoked her with the title "*Our Lady of the Sacred Heart*" and the devotion to Mary with that title spread rapidly in all continents.

The purpose of this devotion, according to Father Chevalier, is to honour Mary "in her relationship of ineffable love which exists between her and the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

'The Memorare', as this prayer has come to be affectionally known by the PPC, has been prayed at the conclusion of PPC meetings since introduced by Fr Mark McGuinness over 12 years ago. This prayer is intricately tied to the charism and history of our parish and is deeply loved by the msc order and respective confraternities.

We encourage you to take a copy of 'The Memorare' with you to say at home in your personal prayer and with your families. We encourage its use at masses, Liturgy of the Word, and Parish meetings & activities.

We have added a petition at the end of the prayer: we ask always for the love and protection of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, on the Parish of Henley Beach.