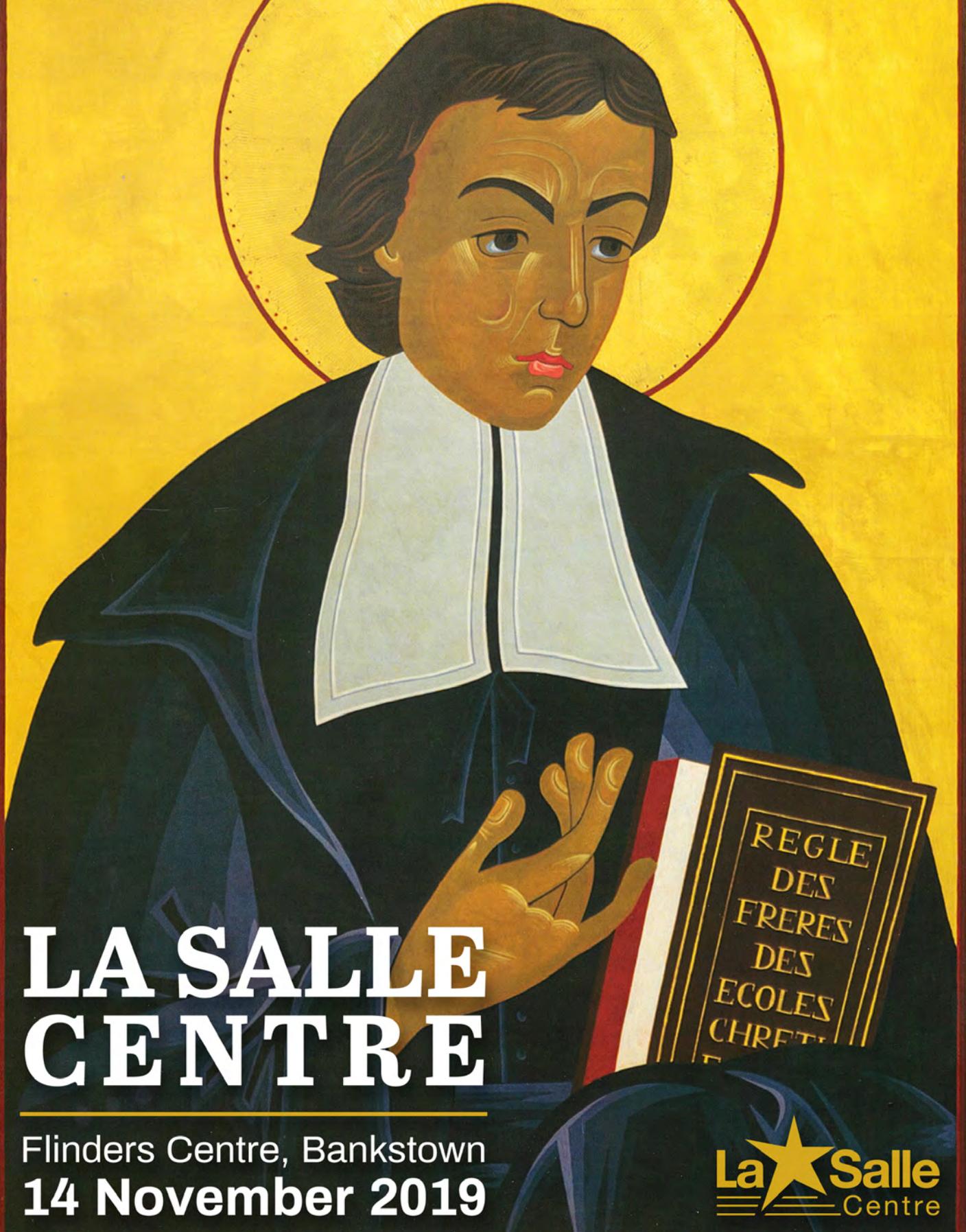


**ST JOHN  
BAPTIST**

**DE LA  
SALLE**



# **LA SALLE CENTRE**

Flinders Centre, Bankstown  
**14 November 2019**





*Deeply moved by the human and spiritual distress ‘of the children of artisans and of the poor,’ and in response to the call of God, John Baptist de La Salle and his first Brothers made a lifelong commitment to God to provide these children with a human and Christian education, and so extend the glory of God on earth. They reformed the kind of schooling available at the time to make it accessible to the poor, and to offer it to all as a sign of the Reign of God and as a means of salvation (Rule, #1).*



The mission of human and Christian education in the District of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Papua New Guinea (ANZPPNG) is a wide-ranging, collaborative effort, entrusted to men and women of diverse backgrounds and gifts who, in creative fidelity to De La Salle’s vision, commit themselves to making the benefits of a transformative human and Christian education available to all, most especially to the poor.

# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

## **Master of Ceremonies**

**Br. Peter Ryan, FSC**

Director of Mission Integration

## **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**

**Mr. Merv McCormack**

Executive Director, Lasallian Mission Council

## **Prayer and Blessing**

**Br. David Hawke, FSC**

Visitor of the District of ANZPPNG

**Br. Peter Ryan FSC**

Director of Mission Integration

**Mr. Damian Khoury**

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

**Mr. Sebastian Duhau**

Retreats & Programs Co-ordinator

**Dr. Jill Gowdie**

Member, Lasallian Mission Council

**Mr. Wayne Bull**

Chair, Lasallian Mission Council

**Mrs. Janene Populin**

Accountant

## **End of Formalities**

# WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**LEADER:** Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.

---

### *Brief Quiet Pause*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
Lord God of power and might,  
listen to your people who turn to you in love.  
Make your Church a living witness  
to the Spirit's rejuvenating presence in every age.  
May we be so transformed  
into the image of the likeness of your Son  
that we view the world and our place in it through his eyes,  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**ALL:** Amen.

## OPENING SONG

### **HERE I AM LORD**

I the lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin.  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord.  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you, calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord,  
if You lead me,  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

# READING I

## **We read from St. John Baptist de La Salle's *Meditations for the Time of Retreat (#3.2)***

Since you are ambassadors and ministers of Jesus Christ in the work that you do, you must act as representing Jesus Christ himself.

He wants your disciples to see him in you and receive your instructions as if he were giving them.

They must be convinced that your instructions are the truth of Jesus Christ who speaks with your mouth, that it is only in his name that you teach, and that it is he who has given you authority over them.

They are a letter which Jesus Christ dictates to you, which you write each day in their hearts, not with ink, but by the Spirit of the living God,

For the Spirit acts in you and by you through the power of Jesus Christ. He helps you triumph over all the obstacles that oppose the salvation of these children, enlightening them in the person of Jesus Christ in order to make them avoid all that could be displeasing to him.

In order for you to fulfill this duty with as much perfection and care as God requires of you, frequently give yourselves to the Spirit of our Lord to act in your work only under his influence, so that your own spirit may have no part in it.

This Holy Spirit, then, will come upon them generously, so that they will be able to possess fully the Christian spirit.

### ***Brief Quiet Pause***

---

*Here I am Lord.  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you, calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord,  
if You lead me,  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

## READING II

**We read from Pope Francis | *Evangelii Gaudium*  
(*The Joy of the Gospel*), (#274)**

If we are to share our lives with others and generously give of ourselves, we also have to realize that every person is worthy of our giving. Not for their physical appearance, their abilities, their language, their way of thinking, or for any satisfaction that we might receive, but rather because they are God's handiwork, his creation. God created that person in his image, and he or she reflects something of God's glory. Every human being is the object of God's infinite tenderness, and he himself is present in their lives. Jesus offered his precious blood on the cross for that person. Appearances notwithstanding, every person is immensely holy and deserves our love. Consequently, if I can help at least one person to have a better life, that already justifies the offering of my life. It is a wonderful thing to be God's faithful people. We achieve fulfilment when we break down walls and our heart is filled with faces and names!

### *Brief Quiet Pause*

---

*Here I am Lord.  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you, calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord,  
if You lead me,  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

## REFLECTION - Br. David

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

*Cf. The Rule, 3152, #159, #155, #153*

**READER:** With confidence that “young people, the poor, the world, and the Church need the witness and ministry of the Brothers” and their Partners and that “the Lord does not abandon “his work” but “is pleased to make it bear fruit from day to day,” we pray:

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** In “the conviction that the Lord still today calls laborers to work in his vineyard” and in the hope that God will continue to bless our Institute, our District, and the Lasallian Family with good vocations, we pray:

**ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**READER:** With gratitude for all Lasallians who continue to respond in creative ways to “the educational and spiritual needs of young people, especially those who are the most vulnerable,” we pray:

**ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**READER:** In thanksgiving for Saint John Baptist de La Salle, inspiring “model of fidelity in adversity and the power of new beginnings,” we pray:

**ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

## PRAYER OF BLESSING AND DEDICATION

**LEADER:** Let us pray:

**BR. DAVID:** Loving God, as this candle burns cause your light to shine upon this place and all who work here. Scatter any darkness. Protect and guide those who work here, urged on by faith and zeal, in their ministry of service and support to the Lasallian family present in the four sectors of our District – Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea. Make it a healing light and bring right relationships and mutual respect for those we work with, and those we work for. Make this a warm and hospitable workplace. Fill it with love and laughter. Bless all who will work in La Salle Centre, giving them meaning and purpose, granting productivity and success. Help us to remember that every good and perfect gift comes from you and you are a faithful, steadfast provider. So enable those who minister here, in association, to be your light in the world, that all who enter this place for any reason will know your care and compassion; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**ALL: Amen.**

---

*After the prayer of blessing, those present and the office  
are sprinkled with holy water.*

# CLOSING PRAYER

From “A Lasallian Prayer” – *Circular 470 (2015), 63-64.*

**LEADER:** Lord, you have granted us the gift of spreading the gospel to all,

**ALL:** but especially to the poor and the young.  
Difficulties and challenges confront us,  
just as they did during the Founder’s time.  
We may be slow of heart to believe;  
yet, you Lord, still believe in us,  
question us, challenge us, and send us.  
Regardless of our age,  
we are filled with hope and joy for the mission;  
and we rejoice as the mission expands  
through the ever-widening circle of Lasallians.  
We thank you for having called and sent us again and again  
to live our vision, our passion, and our future  
for the mission you have entrusted to us. Amen.

**LEADER:** Saint John Baptist de La Salle

**ALL:** Pray for us.

**LEADER:** Live Jesus in our hearts,

**ALL:** Forever.