



# Xavier College Memorial to Survivors

A ceremony of acknowledgement and hope at Xavier College Senior Campus, Kew on Sunday 22 May 2016

The memorial is supported by the Australian Province of the Society of Jesus and Xavier College with In Good Faith Foundation and the Advisory Group of Survivors.



# Inscription on Plaque

"Xavier College acknowledges that some students have suffered harm and abuse in their time at our school. The College acknowledges its past failures in this regard.

To those whose experiences have been painful we offer an apology.

Xavier College commits itself to creating a place of learning that is safe and welcoming for present and future generations of students.

May all who come to this place find a welcome and an opportunity for growth in knowledge and wisdom. May those students who have experienced pain and hurt in the past now find recognition, healing and peace."





# Conducted by Sherry Balcombe Aboriginal Catholic Ministries

We acknowledge the people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land we meet on today. We honour their elders, past and present, and acknowledge any other Aboriginal people present with us today. In this healing ceremony, we invite you to walk through the smoke as an experience of healing, cleansing and connection with the land and its people.







10:30 - 10:35

#### Welcome

Chris Middleton SJ, Rector, Xavier College

10:35 - 10:50

Acknowledgement of Country and Smoking Ceremony Sherry Balcombe, Aboriginal Catholic Ministries

10:50 - 10:55

# Song of Reflection, You'll Never Walk Alone

Vincent O'Connor, Celebrated Irish Singer

10:55 - 11:00

# A Moment in History

Richard Jabara, Survivor Advisory Group and Oliver Hicks, School Captain 2015

11:00 - 11:10

### A Commitment from Xavier and Jesuit Province

Brian McCoy SJ, Provincial of the Australian Province of the Society of Jesus; Dr Chris Hayes, Principal of Xavier College

11:10 - 11:15

#### **Affirmations**

Paul Holdway, President, In Good Faith Foundation David O'Brien, Old Xaverian and former member of Victorian Parlimentary Inquiry into Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Organisations



11:15 - 11:30

## **Dedication of Memorial**

Pouring of Waters, Advisory Group, Brian McCoy SJ and any guests wishing to share this dedication.

Laying of Flowers, in support and care of Survivors. All are invited to place flowers at the memorial.

11:30 – 11:35 Song of Reflection, *You Raise Me Up* Vincent O'Connor

11:35 Conclusion

Thankyou to all. Please join us for morning tea in the Dalton Room Chris Middleton SJ, Rector

"The creation of this memorial is challenging, reminding us of past abuses at Xavier, whilst keeping hope together that this will be the beginning of a better future."

Survivors' Advisory Group



# Memorial to Survivors in Xavier grounds

We believe this is the first memorial of its kind in Australia, recognising survivors of sexual and other abuses by Jesuit clergy and lay staff from Xavier College and Burke Hall. A former student and survivor of abuses, Richard Jabara, is the catalyst for this memorial through his justice processes. It comes from a restorative commitment between Richard Jabara, Jesuit Provincial Brian McCoy SJ, Xavier Principal Dr Chris Hayes and Rector Chris Middleton SJ, with the Xavier Survivors Advisory Group to this project.

The memorial is a symbol of acknowledgement and sorrow that breaches of trust and spirit have been inflicted on the vulnerable children and their families entrusted to Xavier's care. It calls us to understand the lifelong impacts of abuses and bring skilled assistance to aid the recovery of all affected. It commits Xavier and Jesuit communities to establish relationships of trust and support for the healing of survivors and their families. These memorials and pastoral actions that follow are also an historical contribution to Pope Francis' Jubilee Year of Mercy.

# Memorial to Survivors in Xavier Chapel

Xavier College achieves further historical recognition of survivors on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016, at a student assembly which includes the blessing of a second plaque. This plaque, placed on the Wall of Remembrance in the chapel, will bear witness to survivors' suffering for generations of students and staff.

# Advisory Group of Survivors

A small group of courageous survivors including Richard Jabara, met over several months to provide guidance on sensitive and key issues to the memorials' development and dedication event. In Good Faith Foundation pastoral staff and counselling psychologists from Integrative Psychology provided assistance to the group. It is hoped that an Advisory Group of Survivors will be a continuing part of the institutions' commitment to its pastoral responses.



"We express heartfelt appreciation to the Year 12 class of 2015 who raised funds for plaques to show solidarity with survivors."

Memorials Project Participants

# You'll Never Walk Alone

# Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein

When you walk through a storm, hold your head up high And don't be afraid of the dark At the end of the storm, there's a golden sky And the sweet, silver song of a lark

Walk on through the wind Walk on through the rain Though your dreams be tossed and blown

Walk on, walk on With hope in your heart And you'll never walk alone You'll never walk alone

Walk on, walk on With hope in your heart And you'll never walk alone You'll never walk alone

Please join in songs if you wish



# You Raise Me Up

#### Rolf Løyland

When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary; When troubles come and my heart burdened be;

Then, I am still and wait here in the silence, Until you come and sit awhile with me.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains:

You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas; I am strong, when I am on your shoulders; You raise me up... To more than I can be.

There is no life - no life without its hunger; Each restless heart beats so imperfectly; But when you come and I am filled with wonder.

Sometimes, I think I glimpse eternity.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains;

You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas; I am strong, when I am on your shoulders; You raise me up... To more than I can be. **Acknowledgements** 

Members of the Survivor Advisory Group

Brian McCov SJ, Provincial

Dr Chris Hayes, Principal and

Chris Middleton, SJ, Rector, Xavier College

Xavier Class of 2015 raised funds to provide plagues

Richard Wood, Xavier Property Manager

Helen Last, Samara Pitt and staff of In Good Faith Foundation

Nigel Denning, Linda Tilgner, Integrative Psychology

Sherry Balcombe, Aboriginal Catholic Ministries

Vincent O'Connor, Celebrated Irish Singer

Danielle Blackburn, Graphic Design

Henderson's Granite and Marble

## Support on the Day

If this event causes distress, counsellors are present and identified by name tag or contact the following services:

#### Lifeline (24 hours)

Telephone crisis help and referral



#### In Good Faith Foundation

Independent assistance, referral for survivors, families and communities Helen Last CEO or Clare Leanev





**2** 9326 1190 **2** igff@igff.org.au

### Integrative Psychology

Expert trauma counselling, group and community support Nigel Denning or Linda Tilgner





1300 855 228 info@integrativepsychology.net.au

#### **Jesuit Professional Standards**

Confidential assistance and support for Jesuit-related abuse Simon Davies





🖀 9810 7300 or 9810 7312 🛮 🔀 professionalstandards@sjasl.org.au



Confidential consultations









