

CATHOLIC Voice

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

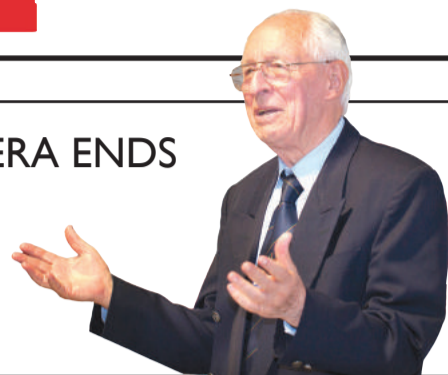


**HARRY
CLEVERDON**
A Young star on the rise
Page 8



**FEATURE
ARTICLE**
Marriage on the Agenda
PAGE 10 - 11

EDDIES ERA ENDS
Br Matt
McKeon
moves on
PAGE 5



FREE

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Fatima awaits centenary



The old and the new at Fatima... inside the impressive modern Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity (above), which was dedicated in 2007 and has seating for more than 8500 people; and (below left) the tombs of Sr Lucia, who died aged 97, side by side with Jacinta, 9, in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, which was consecrated in 1953.

BY JOHN MCLAURIN

West Wyalong parish priest Fr Emil Milat and Bolo Farm Shrine hermit Br Dominic Levak OFM are among the Australian Catholics counting down the days to the 100th anniversary of the Marian apparitions at Fatima in May.

The pair will journey to Fatima for the anniversary, with Helen and Ian Brown, and Norma O'Connor and Barry Hoban, from Moruya.

They will join Pope Francis and hundreds of thousands of people from all over

the world at the world-renowned place of pilgrimage in Portugal on May 12 and 13.

The Pope will celebrate Sunday Mass as the high point of the commemoration.

From May 13, 1917, Our Lady visited three children, Lucia dos Santos, 11, Francesco Marto, 9 and Jacinta Marto, 7, while they were looking after sheep in a field.

The six apparitions that year took place on the 13th of the month.

Francesco and Jacinta died aged 10 and 9 respectively, and their feast is celebrated every year on February 20.

Lucia died on February 13, 2005, and the

cause for her canonisation was opened on February 13, 2008.

Initially the children struggled to convince their families and those in positions of authority in the Church of what they had seen.

They were questioned at length on the authenticity of the visions.

On May 3, 1922, the Bishop of Leria (Fatima), Jose Carreira da Silva, opened an official investigation into the apparitions, which were declared worthy of belief on May 13, 1930.

Continued page 4

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S DIARY



February

FRIDAY, 3
5.00pm Man Overboard

SATURDAY, 4
3pm Mass /Blessing,
Missionary of God's Love Building,
Garran

SUNDAY, 5
11am Mass, Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, 8
9.30am Opening Mass for St
Edmund's College, St Christopher's
Cathedral

SATURDAY, 11
6pm Mass, St Vincent's Parish,
Aranda

SUNDAY, 12
11am St Thomas More Annual Legal
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

TUESDAY, 14
11.30am Opening Mass for
Merici College, Merici School Hall,
Braddon

SATURDAY, 25
11am National Day of Prayer
and Fasting, St Peter Chanel's,
Yarralumla
6pm Mass, St Thomas the Apostle,
Kambah

SUNDAY, 26
11am Mass, St Christopher's
Cathedral

5.30pm Archdiocesan
Youth Mass/Rally,
St Christopher's Cathedral, CEO
offices



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WHEN we think of time we think of hours and minutes, watches and clocks. We think of how time flies or drags. More recently, to respond to the perception that modern life means busyness and having no time, we use expressions such as time poor or time sensitive.

Lack of sequential time worries us. It usually means we find it difficult to allocate time to pray and reflect and organise our time that truly reflects our deeply felt priorities. Failure to do this prudently places modern people into a dazed state of inattentiveness and unreflectiveness. This deeply worries us. This is time as "chronos" from the Greek word. We derive the word chronology from this.

Then comes biblical time. This is called "Kairos". It is not so much a matter of a clicking clock, but time as "the favourable time". It is the opportune or right time. It is a great and supreme moment to refresh ourselves and come back to what really is important in life.

Responding to the grace and invitation of the gentle murmuring of the Holy Spirit, we have a window of opportunity to respond in faith to what has been given. We do not really think about the next meeting or next task – but to the next life – our external life in Jesus! To respond to "Kairos" we don't need a watch or a clock (quantitative time). We need silence, stillness

and simplicity (qualitative time)!

The Church's liturgical life comes to our rescue as always and offers us the Lenten Season. We need each of the forty days of Lent to enter into "Kairos" (quality) time.

We are given three foundations to properly respond to Lenten Kairos time.

Firstly, there is the priority of prayer. Personal and liturgical prayer is a great medicine to the unfocussed human spirit. It draws us deeply into the contemplative heart of Jesus. When we truly know we are loved and forgiven, we are given Godly energy to rebuild or build the relational bridges between God, humanity and our world. We go back to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and promise "to try not to sin again".

Secondly, there is the need for fasting. This is not to help us meet our dietary promises and reduce weight! It is to help us reduce the "weight" of our inner self-sufficiencies and ego demands. It helps sensitise us to the needs of



ARCHBISHOP'S MESSAGE
ARCHBISHOP
CHRISTOPHER PROWSE

others.

Thirdly, there is the foundation of almsgiving. "Heart conversion" is to be expressed in "hand generosity" in helping lift the burdens off the needy and peripheral in society. It is practical charity on all levels.

The Church offers all sorts of practical pastoral help to assist us in this Lenten "Kairos" time.

Pope Francis offers us his Lenten Message, for example, to inspire religious instincts towards the good. This year it is the beautiful reflection on the parable of The Rich Man and the Lazarus (Luke 16/19-31). Reflect on what happens to the Rich Man in the parable when he has no time for Kairos moments in his earthly life.

Our blindness to sin is exposed in the parable. He sees others as a nuisance rather than a gift. The road to conversion is blocked.

Also, in Australia, the Church offers us the CARITAS way of almsgiving. This Archdiocese was particularly generous to Project Compassion last year. Great! Let's do even better in 2017.

Then, in the Archdiocese, I have been part of two new DVDs that are offered to you all for your spiritual nourishment. There is: "Welcoming Jesus in Lent" (Year A). It is a reflection on the Gospels of Lent this year. Then, after Lent, there is another DVD resource on Christian Meditation. It is named "Set Pools of Silence in this Thirsty Land". Both DVDs can be used in groups or on your own. Refer to our website for further detail (www.cg.org.au).

As Lent starts and we move well into 2017 with hope and joy, let us all opt for "Kairos" time and not simply "chronos" time! Let us pray for each other – especially the battlers amongst us. "Yes, you are our glory and joy" (1 Thess 2:20)

Talks continue on parish mergers

ONGOING discussions about the potential merging of six parishes in the Belconnen region are taking place following three recommendations made by Archbishop Christopher Prowse.

The recommendations are:

To ask the parishes of Kaleen and Evatt to begin the process of becoming one parish, possibly in 2017. The Council of Priests had received a delegation from both parishes in June 2015 seeking this outcome.

To ask the parishes of Page and Aranda to consider the process of becoming one parish. Archbishop Prowse would like to receive a similar delegation from these parishes.

To ask the parishes of Charnwood and Kippax to begin working more closely, pastorally, in providing combined initiatives – eg, RCIA, sacramental programs, justice outreaches.

The recommendations come in the wake of the Archbishop establishing the Belconnen Parishes Working Group in April 2016.

The group's task was to look

into the re-organisation of Catholic parishes in the Belconnen region, building on the work of previous groups and consultations from as far back as 2006.

After much work and consultation, the group submitted to the Archbishop, a series of recommendations on August 9 last year.

In essence it recommended that the six parishes in the Belconnen region be brought together into two parishes.

After consideration of further demographic statistics and predictions, the Council of Priests met on November 10 and considered the recommendations of the group.

Writing to the parishes concerned on behalf of the Archbishop, Vicar General Fr Tony Percy thanked the parishioners during the time of change and he particularly sought out the Working Group for its efforts.

He also reaffirmed parishes in the Belconnen region that the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation will provide significant help to them during the time of transition and opportunity.

Priest appointments

ARCHBISHOP Christopher Prowse has announced a number of appointments to parishes and chaplaincies.

Fr Jiss Kunnumpurath (Tumut to Gungahlin), Fr Luke Verrell (South Tuggeranong to Tumut), Fr Pale Leota (Young), Fr James Onoja (Cathedral) and Fr Paul Praveen (Gungahlin to South Tuggeranong) took up assistant priest appointments on January 31.

Fr Johnny Abraham has taken up appointments, including assistant priest at Evatt/Kaleen,

priest-in-residence at Archbishop's House and chaplain to Canberra Hospital.

Fr Bill Kennedy has taken on the chaplaincy of the Serra Club replacing Fr Julian Wellspring. Korean Catholic community chaplain and Page assistant priest Fr Thomas Jin has taken on a chaplaincy role at Australian Catholic University. Fr Jin will share the ACU role with recently appointed vocations director, Fr Paul Nulley who became parish priest of O'Connor last month.

Former Goulburn priest dies

FR JOHN DALY, who served in Goulburn and other parishes in the Archdiocese until 1977, has died in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He was 91.

Fr Daly migrated to Australia from Ireland and with the help of then Gooloogong Parish Priest Fr Tom Moore was ordained for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

He completed secondary studies at St Stanislaus College, Bathurst, and returned to Ireland to complete seminary studies at All Hallows College, Dublin. He was ordained by the then Archbishop of Dublin, JC McQuaid, on June 14, 1959.

Fr Daly worked as an assistant priest in the Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn until 1977, when he sought leave to go to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, where he was incardinated in 1985. He served as an assistant in the parishes of Goulburn, Crookwell, Boorowa, Cathedral, West Wyalong, Tumut, Adaminaby and Delegate.

An invitation to enter 'pools of silence'

THE ARCHDIOCESE'S 'Pools of Silence in this Thirsty Land' Christian meditation DVD, which includes a contribution from Archbishop Christopher Prowse, will be made available after Easter.

Also helping revive the use of Christian meditation was Fr Laurence Freeman OSB on his second visit to the Archdiocese.

Based in London, he is the spiritual director for the World Community for Christian Meditation.

He believes that "meditation is the prayer of the heart and is the missing contemplative dimension of much Christian life today."

Fr Freeman addresses many practicalities of Christian meditation in the DVD, something which he describes as "simple, but not easy."

"The best way to learn to meditate is to do it."

"The real work of meditation is to let go of your thoughts."

Some of the main areas he covers include posture, alertness and relaxation as well as the need for developing a mantra word, such as Abba or Maranatha.

Stillness, silence and keeping things simple, also emerge as key themes.

He says Christian meditation can be done alone, or with a group, referring to Scripture, "where two

or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" (Matt 18:20)

Fr Freeman led the recent Archdiocesan clergy retreat at Galong and also gave a talk at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture in Barton, highlighting Christian meditation's ecumenical dimension.

As principal host of the DVD, Archbishop Prowse says Christian meditation's origins go back to the early days of the Church.

He also speaks about the benefits of Christian meditation.

"In Christian meditation we are actually allowing Jesus to speak in us, in our heart," he says.

"I want to encourage it as much as I possibly can."

"Let's go ahead now and practically start to think about how in our personal lives, and how also in our parish lives and communities, we can bring a contemplative dimension into our faith."

"How can we in our parishes bring a deeper contemplative dimension?"

"How in our workplace, in our families, marriages, in our communities whatever they are, to dig deep, to find the deep pools of communion with Jesus in this thirsty land of ours?"

"This is our hope and is part



Christian Meditation with Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB. Picture: Supplied.

of our mission, this deep drinking from the streams of living water, bringing peace to the world because that makes us more peaceful, that makes us peaceful people and we pray in the heart of Jesus."

"So let that be our mission now, let that be a particular focus in the times ahead, so that we can truly say, not only set pools of deep silence in this thirsty place, but Lord Jesus start with me, start with us."

He says people sometimes are surprised to learn that meditation belongs in the Catholic tradition.

One such person is Helen

Bramanathan, a teacher at Thomas More Primary School in Campbell, who speaks in the DVD about her Christian meditation experiences.

Initially she started meditating in the Buddhist tradition and was unaware about Christian meditation.

"When I found out that meditation was part of the Catholic tradition, I was really awestruck," she says. "I felt like my (Christian) meditation was a coming home."

Mrs Bramanathan believes that her Catholic faith has been strengthened by Christian

meditation and that other areas of her prayer life have benefited.

She adopted Christian meditation in her classroom after learning it was being used in Queensland.

"I decided that maybe I should give the children in my class the opportunity to pray in this way, to feel that they could just sit and be with God," she said.

"To be honest I didn't really know at first whether they could do it. I did have doubts, but I realised that they're quite natural at it, they're amazing."

Francis and Susan Sullivan, who have been active in Canberra Christian meditation for the best part of a decade, give their testimony on the DVD.

They focus on Christian meditation as a couple in marriage and family life and speak about how important it is for them to meditate for half an hour in the morning and half an hour before dinner.

"You just have to manage to find the time," Mrs Sullivan says.

The Pools of Silence in this Thirsty Land DVD will sell for \$18. To pre-order go to www.faithresources.org.au

For more information about Christian meditation in the ACT, contact Susan or Rod Page on (02) 6281 2378 or by email act@christianmeditationaustralia.org



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Study
THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

Prayer, Confession a parish priority

HAVING recently taken up his appointment as the parish priest of St Joseph's O'Connor, Fr Paul Nulley is marking his arrival with more opportunities for prayer and confession as Lent begins.

On Tuesdays to Fridays during the course of Lent, which begins on March 1, there will be a Holy Hour at St Joseph's from 5:15pm with confessions available for the first 30 minutes.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday of Lent at 7:15pm.

"I see the providence of God in the timing of my arrival at St Joseph's - Lent begins on March 1, the month dedicated to St Joseph who is the patron of the family and the patron of the universal Church," Fr Nulley said.

"I have a devotion to this great saint who was the guardian of Jesus and Mary and continues to be the protector of the family, which is under increasing pressure and attacks."

Speaking of the extra times for prayer at St Joseph's, Fr Nulley said: "Lent seems to come at just the right time. It's only 40 days and so I'm always encouraged to put in my best effort. I try to use it as a time to re-focus and journey with our Lord during his 40 days in the desert."

"I'm hopeful that St Joseph's will become a place of rest and quiet, especially after a day's work, where people can encounter the life-giving and refreshing mercy of God, even if it is just for a quick visit on the way home."



Fr Paul Nulley has recently taken up his appointment as parish priest of St Joseph's O'Connor. Picture: John McLaurin.

Following the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, the added opportunities for prayer and reconciliation at O'Connor come after Pope Francis and Archbishop Christopher Prowse implored Catholics to continue seeking the mercy of God.

"The Year of Mercy has ended, but mercy never ends," Pope Francis said when closing the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Archbishop Prowse said that he had been told by his priests of a spike in the number of

people frequenting the confessional throughout the Archdiocese during the Year of Mercy.

Fr Nulley highlights *Misericordiae Et Misericordia*, Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter at the Conclusion of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, as an inspiration to continue to provide opportunities to encounter the merciful love of God.

"The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy was a great grace and I think it's so important in our times that people know and experience the love of God precisely in those

areas of their life of which they might be most ashamed, hurt or struggling - only the love of God can transform us," he said.

Fr Nulley's move to O'Connor coincides with Fr Matthew Kunnappallil and the Syro Malabar community also calling St Joseph's home. They were at St Peter Chanel's Yarralumla for the previous 10 years.

After a stint as assistant priest of Cootamundra and Harden with Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter, Fr Nulley has spent the past three years as assistant priest of the Young Mission

working with Fr Tom Thornton.

Fr Nulley says ministering at Young was "a time of great learning and great blessings".

The former Marist College student is humbled about his first appointment as parish priest in addition to roles as universities and youth chaplain and vocations director.

"It's a big load, but I've got full confidence in the power of prayer, the generosity of God and the warmth, support and encouragement from the people of O'Connor, which I have already experienced," he said.

"To my mind, prayer is central to the fruitfulness of these ministries. I have a great desire to lead, especially the young people, to an encounter with the living Lord who has a plan for each one of us."

"I see vocations work and the chaplaincy roles as essentially teaching young people about how to become disciples of the Lord, so that they are able to follow him throughout the rest of their lives."

"I would like to thank the Archbishop for his encouragement and support and to thank Fr Tony Percy for the work he has done as administrator at St Joseph's."

"I once again entrust my vocation and ministries to Our Lady, especially during this centenary year of Our Lady of Fatima."

Beginning in March, First Saturday devotions to Our Lady will be held at O'Connor. Daily Mass is celebrated at St Joseph's Monday to Saturday at 8am. Vigil Mass is at 6pm and Sunday Mass at 9am.

Fatima apparitions mark 100 years

From page 1

FATIMA has drawn much attention over its 100 years, mainly because of its devotional nature and the prophetic messages concerned with it.

The messages given by Our Lady which St Pope John Paul II called "the greatest of modern times", are centred on consecration and conversion, prayer and repentance, fasting, reparation and peace.

Mystery surrounded the "Third Secret" which is explained in detail on the Vatican website at http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20000626_message-fatima_en.html

Fatima is where Our Lady became known as the Immaculate Heart of Mary - a "triumphant" title which adorns many Catholic churches worldwide.

In the third apparition on July 13, 1917, she said that God wishes to establish in the world devotion to her Immaculate Heart and that she would come to ask for the communion of reparation on First Saturdays.

Our Lady then said: "My

daughter, look at my heart surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console me, and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death with all the graces necessary of salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months go to confession and receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of The Rosary and keep me company while meditating on mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

In the sixth apparition on October 13, Our Lady performed the "miracle of the sun" in front of 70,000 onlookers, who had become curious about the chain of events.

Along with Lourdes in France, Jasna Gora in Poland and several other apparition sites, Fatima continues to be regarded as one of the better known pilgrimage and tourism sites for Catholics and non-Catholics.

It has had a profound impact on the Church, with many people claiming to have had a conversion

experience through Our Lady's messages at Fatima.

Bega parish priest Fr Michael Lim will lead a pilgrimage from his country of origin Singapore in April.

"The devotional message of Our Lady at Fatima has deeper significance to us believers and a remedy for the malaise of the ills of this modern world," he said.

"It calls us to the core of the Gospel, repent and believe in the Good News, ie, the conversion of human hearts through repentance of our sins."

A large statue of Our Lady of Fatima stands in North Goulburn parish, which has the only church in the Archdiocese that bears the patronage of Our Lady of Fatima.

An indulgence can be gained by visiting a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church, oratory or proper place during the days of the anniversary of the apparitions, between May 13 and October 13 this year.

Those seeking an indulgence must also pray an Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima.



Catholic Voice is looking to hear from parishioners intending to travel to Fatima for the centenary celebrations, as well as those who would like to recount significant personal experiences they have had there.

Contact John at Catholic Voice, telephone 0400356177 or email john.mclaurin@cg.org.au

Harvest Pilgrimages have a number pilgrimage options to Fatima. To learn more call 1800

819 156 or go to www.harvestpilgrims.com

Catholic television station Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) is showing a live broadcast with commentary of events at Fatima over the centenary weekend. To learn more about getting EWTN installed go to www.ewtn.com.au There are many books and DVDs on the topic, while you can also learn more at <http://www.fatima.org/>

Eddies' era ends as last Brother leaves

FORMAL Christian Brothers representation at St Edmund's College is ending with the departure of Br Matt McKeon, the last to teach and minister at the college.

Signifying a change of era, Br McKeon, 92, is moving on after 20 years. He has been appointed to the order's Brisbane chapter, due to a recent shuffling of personnel.

The college pulled out all stops to give a farewell of note, holding a Thanksgiving Mass in the school's Blessed Sacrament Chapel for him and the Order.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse said he was delighted to offer the Mass and acknowledged the contributions of Br McKeon and the Christian Brothers to Catholic education in Canberra.

Having recently been acknowledged for his work in the Archdiocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Br McKeon's positive influence on St Edmund's, was highlighted in a student reflection from 2017 college captain Jack Dowling.

Archbishop Prowse described Jack's reflection as an accurate description of the departing Christian Brother and attributed some other superlatives.

"I think the thing that stands out about Br Matt is his humility," Archbishop Prowse said.

"He has been a rock in the community."

The Order's Australian Provincial Br Ted Magee attended along with Br Brian Berg (Braidwood) and Br John Giacon (Canberra).

In his speech, Br Magee acknowledged that the time to move on was right.

"The time has come, the time is now," he said.

"For the past 63 years many brothers have shared their lives and their expertise and energy on this very site.

"It has been their workplace, their home. Theirs has been a selfless and self-effacing service which in generosity, enthusiasm and courage they have been willingly involved."

He thanked Br McKeon "who has served this college and many other educational establishments wholeheartedly for more than seventy years.

"I know he will find the parting sad, but I know that as a man of deep faith and fidelity he will respond to the new challenges of new places of living and ministry with characteristic generosity."

Offering a reflection of his own, Br McKeon said he left with great memories. He expressed his gratitude to the St Edmund's community for all they had done for him and the Brothers over the years.

He also spoke of the optimism which St Edmund's can look



Br Matt McKeon (left) shares a light-hearted moment with Archbishop Christopher Prowse. Picture: Loui Seselja.

forward with.

"I know we the Brothers leave this college in good hands," he said.

Several Eddies Old Boys were present for the occasion, including Canberra's Bishop Pat Power and Mgr John Woods.

Both were on hand to celebrate Mass, while another Old Boy, Stephen Kirk provided the

music.

Following Mass, refreshments and speeches were held in the college hall named after Bishop Power.

Michael Maloney spoke about the early days in the college's history and the characters that had been involved there at some stage, and the 147 Brothers who had educated the boys since 1954.

Principal Daniel Lawler said the college would aim to carry on the good work and standards left behind by the Brothers.

"To honour their legacy and spirit, this remains the goal of St Edmund's – a broad program that includes all and aims high, to enable boys to reach their God given potential through education," he said.

Grotto art reflects life in the bush

A MEMORIAL grotto which reflects the losses of modern-day life as well as those of the past sits at the foot of the local ranges at the Bolo Farm Shrine, following its installation and blessing.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse blessed the pro-life grotto in a visit to the north west of the Archdiocese as part of the official opening with West Wyalong Parish Priest Fr Emil Milat.

Painted by local Condobolin Wiradjuri members Max and Gloria Rees, as well as Eugene and Emily Goolong, the mural-style grotto is full of colour and reflects the red earth.

Temora and West Wyalong assistant priest Fr Trenton van Reesch, Canberra resident Joshua Osbourne-Goldsbrough and Catholic Voice editor John McLaurin visited the shrine at the time the grotto was being painted.

A large statue of Our Lady keeps watch over the grotto and Brother Dominic Levak, of the Order of Franciscan Minor Conventual, the resident hermit at Bolo, is encouraging pilgrims to make the journey.

"Our Blessed Mother Mary stands with open arms embracing and welcoming everyone who comes for whatever personal



Taking time out at the grotto recently was (L-R) Eugene Goolong, Joshua Osbourne-Goldsbrough, Max Rees, Gloria Rees and Fr Trenton van Reesch.

reason they might have," he said.

Br Levak, who lives a contemplative life under the Christ the King chapel, acknowledged the work of the artists.

"It's a real credit to our indigenous brethren here who have encapsulated life in the bush with

their art," he said.

"We wanted to celebrate the indigenous link with the bush at the back of the property."

He was recently interviewed by a NSW rural lifestyle magazine, which focused on his lifestyle.

Standing within a stone's throw

of the shrine's chapel, the grotto is accessible to visitors depending on the conditions of the unsealed road.

Located between Tullibigeal, in the north west of the Archdiocese, and Condobolin, Bolo Farm is owned by Sydney businessman

Walter Bachmann and managed by Tom and Karen Turner and their children.

Before visiting Bolo, pilgrims are encouraged to first make contact with Br Levak on 0457 692 735 to ensure that the roads are open.

'Missionary parish' turns 40

ARCHBISHOP Christopher Prowse reaffirmed the mission of Mary Help of Christians South Woden (Pearce) as the parish celebrated the 40th anniversary of dedication of its Church of the Sacred Heart.

By virtue of being called the Sacred Heart Parish it becomes a missionary parish," Archbishop Prowse said.

"The Sacred Heart is the love of God given to us freely on a daily basis so that we can be messengers and missionaries of Christ's love in our world.

"Today the missionary impulse of our Baptism is to go forward from this Mass to be Christ's Eucharist in the world in which we live."

Archbishop Prowse thanked parishioners for their dedication and support and for preparing the anniversary celebrations.

In particular, he paid tribute to the "tenacity and cunning" of Fr Ailbe Conway, the original parish priest, whose "pastoral energy and personal generosity are still spoken about today".

Archbishop Prowse reflected on "the great generosity and loyal support of the original parishioners

who paid for the church through their legendary house nights each Thursday evening in the early 1970s.

The Sacred Heart Church boasts an impressive stained glass window which was highlighted in Archbishop Prowse's homily.

He recalled the contributions of all clergy who had served the parish, including deceased parish priests Fathers Conway, Dominic Egan and Joe Rheinberger.

He forecast a busy 2017 for the parish under parish priest Fr Richard Thompson.

"I am pleased to hear that the parish is wanting to re-launch the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)," Archbishop Prowse said.

"We cannot really talk of a welcoming parish that does not have a vibrant RCIA team, because the greatest welcome we can give to people coming to this place is the welcome of Baptism.

"More people than we think come to Mass who are not Catholics (and) many people in the community are searching for God – more than we think!

"The faith and vibrancy of this parish should have a big open door



South Woden (Pearce) Parish Secretary Megan Loughlin and Parish Priest Fr Richard Thompson are all smiles at the 40th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Church. Picture: Daniel Kenny.

to welcome them, if they wish, to make a formal enquiry to the Catholic Church with regard to possible initiation through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist."

In addition to the return of

RCIA, the parish is looking at building an office complex attached to the parish hall. The project will include a 12-space car park.

Fr Thompson concelebrated

at the anniversary Mass with Fr Kevin Flynn also present, while a number of former parishioners returned to be part of the day.

Apologies were made by former parish priests Fathers Laurie Blake, Tom Thornton and Brian Ebert as well as current Deacon, Matt Ransom, who was occupied with ministerial duties in Cooma.

Speaking after the event, Fr Thompson said "the celebrations and the luncheon were designed to thank and honour all those who helped build the church and maintain it over the last 40 years.

"We wanted to give something back to those who gave so much to build our community and it was an outstanding success, in every aspect."

The lunch catered for 200 parishioners with a three course meal prepared by parishioner Cathie O'Neill and her team of helpers.

Parishioner Daniel Kenny made the celebratory cake for the day and took photos.

A further highlight was the calling of a memorial houseie game.

Archbishop Prowse's homily: www.cgcatholic.org.au/about/our-archbishop/homilies/homilies-december-2016/

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**YOU JUST HELD HER,
LET HER CRY AND
SAID NOTHING.**

EVERYONE HAS A STORY.

I remember it well. A man collapsed and died at the front gate of his home after work. I was called to the hospital, anointed the man and prayed with his gathered family.

His wife wrapped her arms around me and began to weep. I held her, feeling quite helpless to do anything else.

The following Sunday after mass a young man approached me, saying, "I want to thank you Father for what you did for my Aunt. We were all telling her not to worry, Uncle is in heaven now. You just held her, let her cry and said nothing. That's what she really needed. Thank you Father."

He shook my hand and walked away, leaving me stunned.

– Fr Patrick Sharpe msc

To discover more MSC stories please visit whatsalifeform.com/stories, attend a discernment weekend retreat, volunteer as a short term lay missionary or just call Fr Peter 0408 299 170

Link endures with inmates

A LINK made more than 30 years ago between South Woden parishioners and the inmates of a jail in Lima, Peru, continues to this day.

The connection was recalled when Canberra's Mary Help of Christians Parish gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the dedication of Sacred Heart Church.

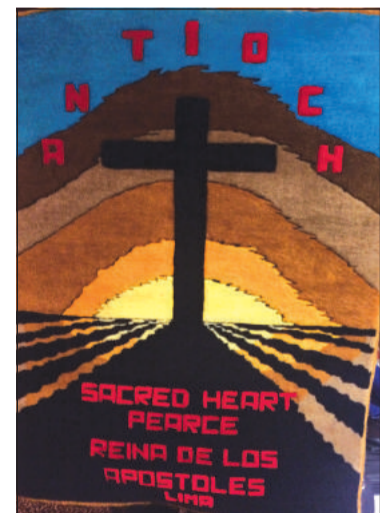
It began one weekend in the early 1980s when Pearce parishioners welcomed a priest home on leave from his ministry as chaplain to the inmates of a jail in Lima.

In a talk given to members of the Antioch group – the first of its kind in Canberra – he told of the needs of prisoners who were incarcerated for life and confined to living in deplorable and degrading circumstances, often without hope.

The priest asked the youth of the parish to pray for the prisoners, which they agreed to do.

On returning to Peru, the priest, who admired the Antioch concept, told the inmates that a youth group in Canberra was praying for them and their seemingly hopeless situation.

So impressed by the gesture of good will, the prisoners produced a hand-woven banner and sent it to the Antioch group.



Mike and Pat Doherty, who have been active members of the parish since it was formed in February 1968, are caretakers of the banner. Their children were involved in the Antioch movement from its inception.

Although Antioch is no longer active in the parish, Mr Doherty was adamant that the prisoners in Lima have not been forgotten.

"Antioch Pearce has moved on, but prayers for the prisoners in Lima and for the Universal Church continue," he said.

If anyone remembers the visit and particularly the priest's name, it would be appreciated if they contact John at the Catholic Voice, by phone 0400 356 177 or email john.mclaurin@cg.org.au

Ecumenical approach to counter violence

THE ARCHDIOCESAN Commission for Women has joined forces with Anglican and Uniting Church counterparts in taking an ecumenical approach to domestic violence.

Following the ecumenically coordinated domestic violence forum held in Canberra last June, plans were put in place for formal discussion in rural regions of the Archdiocese.

Late last year, Goulburn, Tuross Heads and Cooma hosted workshops on behalf of their deaneries.

The Western Deanery is looking at holding a workshop this year.

The days at Tuross Heads, Cooma and Goulburn followed the Canberra format with the theme What is Domestic/Family Violence? Presentations were given by people who have been on the receiving end of domestic violence as well as by local community professionals.

The panels included the police, members of crisis centres and housing refuges, Aboriginal and multicultural communities, legal aid and lawyers, court support groups, emergency housing



Back row, L to R: Anna Vincent, Margaret Ryan, Tracy Crompton, and at the end Dr. Dawn Glasgow. Front row: Maureen Babler, Elizabeth Laught, Marilyn Watt.

organisations, Centrelink representatives, a doctor, CatholicCare and other Church care groups.

Commission spokesperson Margaret Ryan said the panel members were people who were “not only competent and compassionate, but very generous in their time and efforts to assist those experiencing family violence”.

A booklet created and produced by the Uniting Church, called *For Such a Time as This*, was made available at all deanery workshops.

The commission opted to stage

the forums in neutral venues to encourage a wide range of attendees from each local community.

A 30-minute DVD has been created for those who could not attend a forum. Endorsed by Archbishop Christopher Prowse, the DVD will be delivered to Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, and parishes may also obtain a copy.

Ms Ryan said the DVD would benefit school boards, P&Fs, staff, and perhaps students from Year 10 upwards, as well as parish teams, pastoral councils and parishioners.

Where are women in the church?

“Where are women in the Church?” was the topic posed by the Archdiocesan Commission for Women to its guest speaker, Archdiocesan Financial Administrator Helen Delahunty at the annual open morning.

After describing her family, upbringing and schooling, Ms Delahunty explained she realised that baptism was her entry into a community, the Catholic family, and that her vocation was to use her gifts for the Kingdom of God.

She spoke of the pleasing variety in her current position, which is primarily to look after the temporal goods of the Catholic Archdiocesan Church.

“The Church can’t operate without financial stability,” she said. “We need money for mission.”

What emerged from Ms Delahunty’s talk was that women make up nearly two thirds of both worshippers and workers in parishes.

In an active sense they are pastoral associates, undertake various liturgical and pastoral ministries, do gardening and house-keeping in addition to being involved in financial and stewardship ministries.

In some dioceses, women are chancellors, canon lawyers and judges in canon law cases. “Do not underestimate the influence of women,” Ms Delahunty said.

“Women have a different leadership style from that of men (in that) we tend to be more nurturing and supportive of each other.”

In her address, she gave examples of four women in the Archdiocese who have been or are the heads of important organisations including Moira Najdecki (formerly of Catholic Education), Anne Kirwan (CatholicCare), Camilla Rowland (Marymead), and herself, while also highlighting that Suzanne Greenwood is the CEO at Catholic Health Australia.

At question time, Ms Delahunty was asked about traditional Catholic patriarchal culture and said she believed it was shifting and being modified. “Clericalism is not so prevalent now, the culture is slowly changing,” she said.

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Harry's star is on the rise

YOUNG'S Harry Cleverdon is making his mark in the entertainment industry, after taking out the best new young male artist at the 2016 NSW Urbanstar, an underground song contest for unsigned artists.

Harry was declared teen champion and received a highly commended for his vocal solo in the open division.

"I love to entertain and really hope I can make music my future and my career," he said.

At 14, the singer-songwriter and Year 8 student from Hennessy Catholic College, continues to showcase his talents.

In the Wagga Wagga Eisteddfod, he won the 14 years contemporary vocal solo and the 16 years contemporary championship performing two contrasting songs.

Despite winning talent quests at Juneec, Blacktown (Sydney), Wollongong, Thirroul and Quandialla, Harry remains humble and modest about his achievements.

He accompanies himself on piano, guitar and harmonica, and has held multiple scholarships from the Young Regional Conservatorium of Music.

He cites being admitted to a six-month rising star program for classical piano at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music in 2013 as a highlight.

He first came under notice when he won the primary school entry at the National Busking Championships in Cooma in 2014.

Since then his talents have also seen him perform with considerable success at festivals all over NSW including at Tamworth, Tumbarumba, Young, Batlow, Grenfell, Canowindra and Harden,



Young's Harry Cleverdon is making his mark. Picture: Supplied.

as well as at Floriade in Canberra.

Harry is generous with his talents and has performed at goodwill events for Can Assist, Seniors week, Cure for Brain Cancer and variety concerts.

His diary continues to fill up with requests to perform at weddings, birthday parties and business award dinners.

He has been approached to perform on television by popular television shows including The Voice and X-Factor, but he was considered too young for the 2016 auditions, with the cut-off age being 15.

Harry's father Charlie is well

aware of the talent which his son possesses and has made considerable efforts to take his son to performances.

However, he said he "wouldn't have it any other way".

Likewise, mother Elke is also a keen supporter. "We are very proud of what he has achieved so far, but he is always the same Harry to us," she said.

"He enjoys spending time with his family, younger sister and his dog Bella, and often rides motorbikes on the family farm and plays soccer."

Harry has several events on the horizon, but he has also been

putting time into debating at Hennessy Catholic College.

Last year he was part of the school's Year 7 debating team which took out the NSW Catholic Schools State title.

The same team of three (now in Year 8) qualified again this year and competed in Wollongong late last month.

His school music teacher, Mr William Stewart, said Harry was "one of those rare human beings who is an accomplished musician and composer but also always willing to help others".

To follow Harry's progress you can like him on his Facebook page.

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Call to pray and fast

CHRISTIANS from across Australia are being called to come together to pray and fast for the conversion and transformation of the nation on February 25.

With Lent starting on March 1, organisers of the annual National Day of Prayer and Fasting are trying a different approach. In past years, the day was held at Parliament House, where Christians gathered in the Great Hall to pray and worship. On February 25, individuals, prayer groups, and churches are being encouraged to celebrate the day in their local areas.

"Our vision is to link the various events through webcast all over Australia," Warwick Marsh, one of the national coordinators, said. "Our prayer focus is to see individuals, our churches and our nation experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as it says in Acts 2: 17, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people.'"

Archbishop Christopher Prowse has invited people to join him on the day at St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla, from 10am to 4pm. He will give a talk at 11am, and there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, praise and worship, rosary and intercessory prayer.

"My hope is that many Catholics will respond to this call," he said. "(We need) to unite with our Christian brothers and sisters to pray and fast for the urgent needs of our nation."

For more information about the Archbishop's event, call or SMS: Neda 0415 266 019, Sandra 0406 692 999 or Susanna 0419 902 293. Also see the CCR website: www.ccract.gov.au

Ukrainians enjoy the festive season

CANBERRA'S Ukrainian Catholic community, who follow the Julian calendar, celebrated Christmas on January 6 and 7.

Adhering to the Byzantine Rite according to the Church's Eastern tradition, the community began with Mass, carols and a dinner at St Volodymr's Church, Lyneham, on Christmas Eve (January 6).

The next day, the community gathered for Mass at St Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Queanbeyan East as well as at St Volodymr's. Canberra's Ukrainian Catholic chaplain Fr Wally Kalinecki said the community "enjoyed a wonderful festive season and is looking forward to a positive new year. We pray that 2017 is a good year for us all, full of hope and joy in Christ."

There are many differences in the form of worship and practice from the Latin Rite of the Church.

"We stand more in the Byzantine Rite Mass," Fr Kalinecki said. "It is based on singing and praising God. Our sanctuary and altar are different to the Latin Rite in that they are more hidden like in Old Testament times with an icon screen called the Iconostasis.

"Also you will notice the walls



Canberra's Ukrainian Catholic community celebrated their Christmas in early January. Picture: John McLaurin

of most Eastern churches are laden with iconography and ours here in Canberra are no different."

Another key difference in the Byzantine Rite is at the Eucharist, where pieces of bread are cut into little cuboids and soaked in wine,

in effect becoming the Body and Blood at the consecration.

The Second Vatican Council document *Ut Unum Sint* (n.54), reminds that the Church breathes with her two lungs - the East and the West. In 2011, Pope Emeritus

Benedict XVI's general intention for the month of November was "that the Eastern Catholic Churches and their venerable traditions may be known and esteemed as a spiritual treasure for the whole Church." In 2016 the Australian

Catholic Bishops Conference produced a document called *Eastern Catholic Churches in Australia* to assist priests and deacons of the Latin Catholic Church in their parish pastoral ministry. To obtain a copy visit www.catholic.org.au

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Marriage on

‘Perhaps now more than at any time in our history we need a renaissance, a rediscovery united in the goal of advancing our understanding of Catholic marriage.’

“Perhaps now more than at any time in our history we need a renaissance, a rediscovery united in the goal of advancing our understanding of Catholic marriage.”

Armidale Bishop Michael Kennedy, who heads the Australian Catholic Marriage and Family Council, made this comment after the inaugural Renaissance of Marriage Conference in Sydney late last year.

Three bishops as well as many clergy, religious and laity gathered for the conference (www.rom.org.au), which was run as a collaborative effort between the Marriage Resource Centre in Sydney and the Australian Catholic Marriage and Family Council.

The council is the conduit through which lay-led Catholic marriage education organisations in Australia relate formally to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Bishop Kennedy believed the event was a timely one.

International speakers included Theology of the Body expert Christopher West and David Lejeune, the French CEO of OPUSfidelis, a strategic communication and social media agency which has been assisting the Vatican in establishing the Foundation for Evangelisation Through the Media (<https://femus.org/>)

Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Archbishop Anthony Fisher and Bishop Peter Comensoli, as well as Lara Kirk and Jonathan and Karen Doyle from the Archdiocese, spoke at the conference.

One young couple who gave public witness to their love when they married in December last year is Canberra’s Joshua and Louise Osborne-Goldsbrough.

At last year’s Central Deanery Assembly they were invited on a panel to share their story.

They discussed a number of aspects about modern courtship, including the trend, which they did not follow, of many people cohabitating before getting married.

Catholic Schools Youth Mission Australia national director Huw Warmenhoven and his fiancée Chloe Kelly, are taking a similar path to the altar and will tie the knot at Mary Help of Christians, South Woden, on February 11.

Apart from the witness of their own parents, the couples could also take inspiration from the example of David and Valerie Patterson, of Young.

Last year at the Western Deanery Assembly, which focused on marriage and family life, the Pattersons along with Michael and Bernadette



Clockwise (from top left) 1. Canberra’s newly-wed couple Louise and Joshua Osborne-Goldsbrough with Fr Tony Percy, 2. Young’s Valerie and David Patterson with Archbishop Prowse, 3. Huw Warmenhoven and Chloe Kelly, 4. The Osborne-Goldsbrough’s at their photo shoot and 5. Just married.

Mullany, also of Young, and Jack and Meg Grant were celebrating respectively their 50th, 60th and 67th wedding anniversaries.

When brought out in front of the assembly and asked by Archbishop Christopher Prowse to reveal the secret of marriage, Mr Patterson responded simply by saying: “we not me, ours not mine”.

Archbishop Prowse spoke about the need to be vulnerable with others, for intimacy sake.

It is a theme which is shared by CS Lewis who writes in *The Four Loves*, “to love at all is to be

vulnerable”.

Marriage preparation in the Archdiocese

The Archbishop’s Office for Evangelisation has teamed with CatholicCare to help create an enhanced marriage preparation program for engaged couples.

The program will be available to engaged couples from Tuesday, February 7, and will run from 5pm to 9pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

The program builds on the FOCCUS Inventory which has been provided by CatholicCare for many



years.

It allows a couple to individually read and consider a series of statements about relationship issues and mark a response that most appropriately reflects what they each think and feel about those issues.

After assessing each person’s responses, a trained CatholicCare facilitator meets privately with the

couple to run through the inventory, identifying the strengths the couple can build on and highlighting issues that may require further discussion.

In feedback on the program, one young couple commented that, “the opportunity for open conversation in a safe and respectful, non-judgmental environment was brilliant”.

Once each couple has filled out

the agenda

and a renaissance, a rediscovery united in the goal of advancing our e.” (Armidale Bishop Michael Kennedy)



Pope Francis makes a strong call for better marriage prep

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News): In his annual speech to the Holy See's main court, Pope Francis stressed the pressing need for effective education and preparation for the sacrament of marriage – not only to guard against invalid marriages, but also to strengthen the faith of the couple as they prepare for the unique blessings and challenges of married life.

“The goal of this preparation consists, namely, in helping engaged couples to know and to live the reality of marriage as it is intended to be celebrated, so that it is possible to do so not only validly and lawfully, but also fruitfully, so that they are able to make this celebration a stage of their journey of faith,” Pope Francis said.

“In this spirit, I would reiterate the need for a 'new catechumenate' in preparation for marriage,” he said in his address to the judges of the Roman Rota at the Vatican's Clementine Hall.

“Welcoming the guidance of the Fathers of the last Ordinary Synod, it is urgent to implement effectively what has already been proposed in Familiaris Consortio (no. 66),” he said.

“That is, as for the baptism of adults the catechumenate is part of the sacramental process, so the preparation for marriage must become an integral part of all sacramental marriage procedure, as an antidote that prevents the increase of invalid or tenuous marriage celebrations.”



Annual St Valentine's Day Masses

The Sacred Heart Parish of Cootamundra and St Thomas the Apostle Parish Kambah will again be holding their annual St Valentine's Day celebration Masses on February 11 and February 18 respectively. Cootamundra's 6pm Mass at will include a Renewal of Marriage Promises for married couples.

Kambah's St Valentine's Day Mass will feature a Renewal of Marriage Promises for married couples, and a special blessing for engaged couples. Mass at Kambah will be followed by an informal meal out together at a local club. Just turn up for the Mass, but please RSVP to Elizabeth (02) 6231 9219 or Trish (02) 6231 8468 if you would like to join for dinner.

Archdiocese.

“The importance of marriage preparation has again been highlighted by Pope Francis and, indeed, by our recent archdiocesan gatherings devoted to marriage and family life,” he said.

“CatholicCare and the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation have responded to this need and teamed up to ensure solid and relevant marriage formation for couples wishing to enter the sacrament of matrimony.”

Anne Kirwan, the CEO of CatholicCare in the Archdiocese, is equally supportive.

“We have found that marriage preparation is a wonderful way to affirm a couple's relationship and supports the formation of positive and strong relationships into the future,” she said.

Couples wanting to book into the course, should contact on CatholicCare (02) 6162 6100. Registration is essential.

Priests and marriage educators wanting to learn more about the program should contact Lara Kirk, Marriage Family and Relationships Coordinator with the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation.



CatholicCare marriage preparation PROGRAM DATES

The program runs from 5pm-9pm on the first Tuesday of every month at the CatholicCare offices at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill ACT.

Tuesday, February 7
Tuesday, March 7,
Tuesday, April 4
Tuesday, May 2

Tuesday, June 6
Tuesday, July 4
Tuesday, August 1
Tuesday, September 5

Tuesday, October 3
Tuesday, November 7
Tuesday, December 7

the inventory, the program brings them together over a light meal to meet other engaged couples as well as long-time married couples who support the program.

After the meal, a priest from the Archdiocese will provide input on the theology of the marriage and a volunteer couple will witness to the blessings and challenges of married

life.

Couples will also be given access to the Smart Loving Engaged Online resource which can be used in conjunction with the priest or a married couple from their parish to provide ongoing formation.

Vicar General Fr Tony Percy believes the added focus in marriage preparation is a good initiative in the

'There'll be a lot of work to do here, Father'

By Dan McAloon
of Catholic Outlook

Published on 18 January 2017,
40th anniversary of Granville
train disaster

ON THE morning of 18 January 1977, Fr Les Campion was preparing for the 9 o'clock Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Granville. As he walked to the church, he could hear the telephone ringing in the presbytery.

As he picked up the phone, Fr Les heard panic straining the familiar voice of a parishioner who lived opposite the nearby railway line: "Father, please get down here, there's been a shocking accident."

Today is the 40th anniversary of what has become known as

the Granville Rail Disaster when an express train from Mt Victoria bound for Central Station derailed and crashed into a row of steel pylons, bringing down the Bold Street bridge.

Fr Les was the first religious minister to arrive at the scene of Australia's worst rail disaster, which claimed the lives of 83 people and seriously injured 213 others. Scores more were deeply traumatised by their experiences on that day.

In the years that followed, Fr Les was a participant at the annual Day of the Roses Memorial Service where he blessed the 83 roses representing the people who died.

Last night, a memorial Mass for the souls of those who died on the

day was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church in Granville where Fr Les had been the parish priest until his retirement in 2008.

Today's commemorations began with a remembrance ceremony at the Memorial Wall in Bold Street. The ceremony was followed by a service at St Mark's Anglican Church, a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial, then a traditional Day of the Roses commemoration where 83 roses were thrown on to the tracks in honour of each victim.

In January 2007, on the 30th anniversary of the disaster, Fr Les recalled the events of that fateful day. From the congested roadway, he recalled, there was no indication of the devastation that lay in the railway cutting below.

"I checked in first with a policeman and introduced myself as the local priest. I remember his words to this day: 'There'll be a lot of work to do here, Father, believe you me.'"

Down on the tracks, Fr Les accessed car four, its wooden frame splintered like matchwood, dust and particles hanging thickly in the



The Granville train disaster in 1977. Picture: Catholic Outlook.

air. "Though the vision was limited I could see people. The injuries were unbelievable, yet there was no sound, no noise at all inside.

"Can anyone hear me?" I called. 'I'm a priest. I'm here to help you. Help is on its way. Cry out if you can hear me now.' But there was no response at all," Fr Les said.

"I'm here. God is here. Let's just talk with him. If you can say it now, say the Our Father with me.' I said a few prayers, praying with them wherever they were, and I gave a general absolution."

As he moved further into the shattered car, it gave a settling lurch, and, looking back, he realised his entrance was now blocked. "Somehow or other I got back into the gap between the carriage and the bridge and got out," he recalled.

Leaking LPG gas from ruptured tanks under the crushed carriages further frustrated rescue efforts to get to the victims. A single spark from a torch could have caused a massive explosion under the collapsed bridge. Blowers were brought in to dissipate the gas, and oxygen was pumped in.

Against this desperate toil Fr Les stayed at the scene for several more hours, giving comfort to the rescuers: "Many were professionals who were themselves in shock, feeling helpless at the enormity of it all."

He praised the community response that came to bear on the disaster scene that day.

Fr Les was Parish Priest of Holy Trinity Parish, Granville, from 1975-2008. He died on 15 March 2014, aged 87.

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New bishop for Lismore

LISMORE Diocese has a new bishop, Gregory Homeming OCD.

The sixth Bishop of Lismore is Regional Vicar of the Discalced Carmelite Friars in Sydney and succeeds Bishop Geoffrey Jarrett.

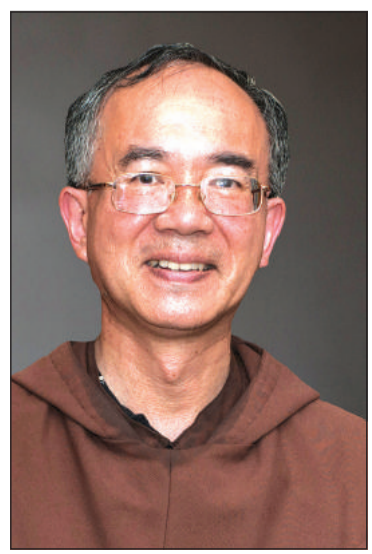
Bishop Jarrett served the diocese for 15 years.

Bishop-elect Homeming said he was "humbled by the news. I knew that I had to say 'yes' after the past 31 years as a friar.

"There is a lot that I have to learn. I hope that the people and the priests of the Diocese of Lismore will teach me how to be their bishop."

Bishop-elect Homeming said he had travelled to the diocese many times as Superior of the Discalced Carmelites, visiting the Carmelite nuns at Goonellabah.

He brings wide experience as a retreat-giver, spiritual director and leader. Born in Sydney in 1958, to a Australian Chinese family, he completed primary education in Shepparton, Victoria, and secondary school at St Aloysius College, Milsons Point. He took degrees in Economics and Law (B.Ec and LLB) at Sydney University and worked as a lawyer in a Sydney law firm from 1981 to 1985.



Courageous woman friend to the lonely



Pope Francis washes the feet of migrants and refugees during Holy Thursday Mass. PICTURE: L'Osservatore Romano

VATICAN CITY (CNA/EWTN News): Pope Francis has pointed to St Frances Cabrini as an example of how to treat foreigners, calling her a “courageous” woman who knew how to bring God’s love to those who were lonely and in hardship.

On the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis sent a greeting to members of different ethnic communities gathered in St Peter’s Square.

“I wish that you can live peacefully in the towns that welcome you, respecting their laws and traditions and, at the same time, maintaining the values of your cultures of origin,” he said.

The Pope thanked those who

work with migrants for the welcome and accompaniment they provide to newcomers.

He encouraged them to continue their efforts “always remembering the example of St Frances Xavier Cabrini”.

“This courageous Sister dedicated her life to bringing the love of Christ to those who were far from their homeland and families,” he said.

“Her witness can help us learn to take care of our foreign brother, in whom Jesus is present, often suffering, rejected and humiliated.”

St Cabrini, more commonly known as Mother Cabrini, was an Italian missionary who spent much of her life working with Italian

immigrants in the United States.

Though she had a fear of water and drowning, she crossed the Atlantic Ocean more than 30 times in service of the Church and the people she was assisting.

After arriving to the US, she travelled throughout the nation setting up orphanages, hospitals, convents and schools for the often marginalised Italian immigrants.

Eventually, St Frances became a naturalized US citizen.

She died in 1917 and was canonised in 1946, just before a new wave of immigrants began to arrive in the US.

Due to her service to struggling foreigners, she was named patron of immigrants.

WYD weather is a date changer

VATICAN CITY (CNA/EWTN News): Next World Youth Day in 2019 will be held in January in Panama instead of July due to the weather.

Archbishop José Domingo Ulloa Mendieta, of Panama, officially announced the dates as January 22 to 27.

At a news conference, he reiterated the gratitude of the Panamanian Church to Pope Francis for

choosing Panama to host WYD.

He explained the change of dates was done for reasons primarily linked to the climate and weather.

Speaking directly to youth, he said “you are the true protagonists of this World Youth Day..

“Panama awaits you with an open heart and with open arms to share the faith, to feel that you are the Church”.

Dominicans give thanks to God

ROME (CNA/EWTN News): As the Dominicans celebrate the 800th anniversary of their founding, they gathered in Rome from around the world to reflect on their history, their charism of preaching, and how they can continue to serve the Church.

The International Congress for the Mission of the Order came at the close of the order’s celebration of a Jubilee Year, which marks the 800th anniversary of their founding by St Dominic.

One purpose of the congress, Dominican Brother Vivian Boland said, was a chance for the order “to thank God for the graces of the past year, but also to try to re-own the mission of the order in the Church and to give it a fresh energy, a fresh impulse.”

The charism of the Dominicans, could sometimes be difficult to pick out, because it’s a charism “that’s at the very heart of the Church and Christianity, preaching the Gospel”, he said.

“We’re not the only ones that preach the Gospel. “But the year of celebration has been a chance for us to think about what it means to be the Order of Preachers in the Church and on behalf of the Church, and that our first task should be to help the Church in its preaching of the Gospel.”

One thing they can be working on is “what are the difficulties, what are the possibilities, for preaching the Gospel of Jesus today. To be helping the Church with that task,” he said.

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Liturgy: Does it really matter?



LITURGY MATTERS
BY JENNY ANDERSON

IN THIS new feature, we will present various aspects of liturgy, focusing on preparing for and celebrating the liturgy, because we believe that liturgy matters.

Why does liturgy matter? There are so many important issues that we face in the Church and in our lives.

Does it really matter how we do things when we come together to worship? We believe that it does. Not because we need to get it “right” or because it is a performance. Not because we need to please God, but because celebrating the liturgy is central to who we are as a Catholic community. It is what we come together to do each week. Liturgy is the public act of worship celebrated by those who have been baptised and received into the faith community: the People of God.

One of my all-time favourite



quotes about liturgy is from an article by D W Fagerberg entitled “A Theology of Liturgy” published in the Fall 2005 issue of Liturgical Ministry. Fagerberg says:

Liturgy is joining the dance of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Liturgy is living in the eternal circulation of love within the Trinity. Liturgy is the verb form of the noun Church.

Liturgy is what we do when we come together as the Body of Christ, as Church. Each celebration is part of our experience of faith. It has the power to nourish us, to strengthen our faith and connection with our faith community, or

the power to weaken or damage our relationship with our faith community and with God. Of course, it is not our only experience of faith or of God’s presence, but over time, our liturgical celebrations form part of our understanding of who God is and who we are as part of the Body of Christ.

By preparing our liturgical celebrations and celebrating them well, we help to build our communities and remove barriers and obstacles that can keep people from joining us.

When we celebrate the liturgy, we bring our hopes and dreams, our frustrations and our sorrows,

we bring our whole lives. The liturgy we celebrate is the source from which we draw strength and the summit to which we return. In essence, it is who we are and who we are becoming as we travel on our life’s journey. The liturgy invites us to become more truly the People of God.

In liturgy, it is God who draws us to worship and who invites us to respond. Liturgical celebrations have a ritual form through which we become more than individuals; we re-member, we become the Body of Christ, united in a particular time and place for a common purpose.

As community, we become part of the experience of the salvation of the world through the paschal mystery. We gather together to hear the Word of God and to respond in a covenant relationship. Together, we pray for our needs and for the needs of the world. We are nourished through communion; receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and sharing in becoming the Body of Christ. We are sent forth into the world to become what we have received.

Through the liturgy, we come to understand the meaning and purpose of our lives and our identity as part of the Body of Christ. This understanding is captured in the oft-quoted adage derived from Prosper of Aquitaine: ‘lex orandi, lex credendi’; the law of prayer is the law of belief, or what we pray becomes what we believe.

Often ‘lex vivendi’ is added; this emphasises that the way that we live is also shaped by our prayer. If how we pray the liturgy as community has such power to shape what we believe and how we live, to nourish or destroy our faith, then it follows that this is a matter of great importance to the Church.

We look forward to exploring various aspects of liturgy with you in the months ahead.

Live a life empowered by the Spirit



YOUTH MINISTRY
BY HUW WARMENHOVEN

THE RENEWED youth ministry structure in the Archdiocese seeks to help young people encounter Christ, live a life empowered by the Spirit and participate in the mission of Church.

To achieve this, the Archdiocesan model of youth ministry will seek to establish discipleship pathways from Catholic schools into Church communities (parishes and ecclesial movements).

Over the past five years, the Youth Ministry Equipping School has been an initiative in the Archdiocese to equip, empower and resource youth ministry leaders to form young people across Australia and the Asia-Pacific.

From February 22 to 26, the Youth Ministry Equipping School will again call youth ministry leaders from across the Asia-Pacific region and from the Archdiocese to be renewed in faith and equipped



Archbishop Christopher Prowse with members of the CSYMA leadership team. Picture: Jeanine Doyle

for ministry and mission in 2017 and beyond.

St Gregory’s Queanbeyan youth minister Jordan Hodge said that last year’s equipping school was a “time of refocusing. Being surrounded by such inspiring and faithful people whilst being filled with knowledge and training from leaders in youth ministry allowed me to discover more fully God’s plan for my year and how to carry that out.”

The Youth Ministry Equipping School will be a key formation initiative for all youth ministry leaders

in the Archdiocese in the first of the Three Years of Youth: Formation (2017), Celebration (2018) and Mission (2019).

It will also be foundational in training and forming youth ministers working between parish and school communities, as well as teachers who will be implementing the CSYMA (Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia) programs in Canberra-Goulburn Catholic secondary schools.

The Youth Ministry Equipping School will be conducted by CSYMA in partnership with the

Asia-Pacific School of Evangelisation, Australian Catholic University and the Archdiocese.

These partnerships provide the opportunity for young people to engage in the ministry and mission pathways into the life of the broader Church.

This includes the opportunity to go on cross-cultural mission opportunities following the Equipping School to Uganda, England, the Northern Territory and India.

Covering topics including the new evangelisation, leadership, youth ministry skills, spiritual

disciplines, CSYMA and cross-cultural mission, this is a great formation opportunity for all current or prospective youth ministry leaders in the Archdiocese.

Visit csyma.com/equipping school for more information on how to get involved.

CSYMA LEAD Youth Rally and Student Conference

The Youth Ministry Equipping School will be followed by the CSYMA LEAD Youth Rally and Student Conference.

The youth rally will be held at the St Christopher’s Cathedral from 5:30pm on February 27 and is open to all young people.

This will be followed by the student conference on February 28 for Catholic secondary schools across the Archdiocese. These two initiatives will draw youth ministry leaders together to be equipped in ministry and formed in faith.

LEAD will also form and resource youth ministry teams in individual school communities to support formation initiatives through peer-to-peer ministry.

These two core initiatives – the Youth Ministry Equipping School and LEAD Youth Rally and Student Conference – will be important steps in establishing the new youth ministry vision in the Archdiocese.

Learning boundaries from busy Pope



BELOW THE SURFACE
BY BRIANNA THOMAS

RECENTLY, Pope Francis told the press that all his travels really take a toll on him, but the people he sees make it worth it. This got me thinking about the Pope's busy schedule, and how he manages.

Pope Francis (affectionately known as Papa Frank) is 80 years old and in a normal week, leads multiple gatherings at St Peter's Square, including Mass, the Angelus, papal speeches and more.

The Pope also makes a number of long-distance trips throughout the year. His first trip as Pope was to the Italian island of Lampedusa, at the news of migrants dying at sea.

Pope Francis said that even though there was no official invitation, he just "had to go" when he heard of the peoples' suffering. World Youth Day 2013 shortly followed this and from there, the



invitations kept coming. Just like the modern parent, worker or student, the Pope is busy.

In CS Lewis' *The Screwtape letters*, a little devil and his uncle are desperately trying to pull a solid Christian away from his faith. They try everything under the sun to corrupt him and the uncle eventually says to the little devil, *if you*

can't make him bad, make him busy (paraphrased).

So busyness can draw someone away from their goal. It's also associated with a number of physical problems. Stress can be a toxic experience. A stressed brain releases a hormone called cortisol into the blood, which induces mental and physical illness.

I thought about this as I read the Pope's words. My question is, how can the Pope have such a full and crazy schedule and still see the good in what he's doing – not burn out or turn crazy (like I know I would)?

I'd like to offer some key points from Pope Francis' secret life that might help those of us called to a

heavy load.

Firstly, the Pope starts his day with prayer. No matter the start time of his schedule, he wakes up earlier to spend some time with God, mostly just sitting with him. This means his heart is set on the goal for the rest of the day.

Secondly, the Pope is not rigid in the way he sees the world (with black and white rules), but is quite flexible. Some trips are planned in his schedule long in advance, but some are spontaneous. The spirit moves him in a case-by-case way, which is something we can learn from. Plan, but be open.

Thirdly, Pope Francis has (as a matter of survival) to know how to say no to some of the thousands of invitations. This assertiveness is a strong skill in being able to live a full schedule without burning out. One tip could be to never give an answer straight away, especially if asked in person, but say you'll go away and think about it (you get a bit of perspective that way).

Busyness can pull us from the ultimate goal and distract us with life's other million things. If your life calls you to a big load, beware of what the busyness can do, and fight to keep your eyes set on the right place among the chaos.

Social justice: We want your help



JUSTICE MATTERS
CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

DO YOU have an interest in social justice? Would you like to get involved? If so, you might consider volunteering to join us at the Archdiocese's Social Justice Commission.

What does the commission do? Essentially we are responsible for spreading the word about the Church's social teaching. We do this by, among other things, – conducting forums, releasing public statements, publishing articles, and bringing people together for discussions about the application of the Church's teaching to specific issues.

We do not see our normal role as telling Catholics what the right answer is to everything that we consider.

We aim instead to inform, educate and encourage (although, of course, there are times when we have to be more definitive).

The Church has a long history

of practical involvement in social justice through its schools, hospitals and charitable organisations.

It has also had an important teaching role, which was given a much sharper focus with the release of Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* in the 1890s.

In the 125 years that have passed since, successive pontiffs have spoken on a wide range of social issues through their encyclicals and other means.

Pope Francis has been no exception. He has had much to say on environmental and refugee issues in particular.

Archbishop Prowse has also made it clear that he sees the commission's work as vital to the mission of the Archdiocese.

What are the principles that guide the Church's social teaching? In essence they fall into four groups.

The Church stands for the common good rather than individualism. At the same time it lays strong emphasis on the need to respect and advance the dignity of each person. It proclaims human solidarity.

It supports "subsidiarity" – in essence the idea that social responsibility should reside as closely as possible with the level of society where it can be effectively exercised.

What are some of the applications of these principles? They include:

An insistence that every person has the right to life (including the supports that make everyday living worthwhile)

A preference for policy that benefits the poor and vulnerable (such as progressive taxation and social security)

A commitment to peace and disarmament

Protection of the environment.

The Church does not pretend to have all the answers to every injustice. For concrete solutions it looks to the nous, knowledge and practical wisdom of those in the field – all the while insisting that such measures be underpinned by sound principles rather than simply political and technocratic necessity.

What is expected of commission members? They are asked to attend a monthly meeting, usually lasting about one hour, where specific tasks are allocated – such as writing submissions and letters, organising public events, liaising with social justice groups in parishes, and participating in external and internal forums.

The allocation process is almost invariably based on expertise, interests and members' other commitments. It is essentially voluntary.

If this sounds like you, we



would welcome hearing from you. There is no form to complete, but you will be asked to provide a written expression of interest. It doesn't have to be long, but needs to have enough information about your interests and background to guide the final decision, which is made by the Archbishop, on your nomination.

If you are unsure, why not

contact commission chair Mike Cassidy? He is happy to take you through the work we do. If you wish to test the waters first-hand before you nominate yourself, he can also arrange for you to attend a few meetings.

Contact Mike at 6235 5452 or 0412 145 088, email mikec@pcug.org.au or by post at GPO Box 3089, Canberra 2601.

'People's person' retires



FOR MARGIE Doyle (above) dealing with people from all walks of life was one of the joys of her 21 years working with the Archdiocese.

The former personal assistant for 12 years to now Emeritus Archbishop Francis Carroll, Mrs Doyle was one of three women who completed service to the local Church at the end of last year.

Mrs Doyle says she is "very much a people's person. Even though I have retired, I enjoyed working with many people over the years and they remain good friends of mine.

"Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave and impossible to forget.

"To me, everyone is special and you need to make them feel that way.

"I particularly enjoyed the ecumenical dimension of my role over the years, having dealings with people of other denominations, and the sense of local community."

Mrs Doyle said the biggest work change over the years was the means of communications.

"Technology has lessened the personal dimension – an aspect of the job that was important to me," she said. "In accepting change, I hope that we don't lose our soul and identity but remember who we are and that we are here to serve."

Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Archbishop Carroll thanked her for her service at a farewell reception attended by colleagues, family and friends.

In retirement she is looking forward to catching up with friends, spending more time with her family and looking after her grandchildren. She also hopes to travel more and devote time to pastoral care of the sick.

Sue Orchison and Sharon Brewer also finished work with the Archdiocese at the end of last year.

Mrs Orchison began work with the Church in Canberra nearly two decades ago at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. She spent most of the past decade working with the Archdiocese in Favier House and at the Apostolic Nunciature at Red Hill processing papal blessings.

In farewelling Mrs Brewer, Archbishop Prowse praised her for her work with parishes and particularly for organising successful deanery assemblies in recent years.

Big move a lesson in faith

BY FIONA VAN DER PLAAT

MARIE COMBE was so stressed when she found out her husband Arnaud's job with the French diplomatic corps would be taking them to Canberra for three years that her back seized up.

"It just blocked and I couldn't move," she says. "It was a shock because, for me, Australia was very far."

The thought of moving their five young children from their home in Paris to the other side of the world, to a country whose language she barely spoke, was daunting at first.

"But, after the shock, I was very excited," Marie says, as she realised what an opportunity it would be for her children to expand their language and social skills.

She immediately set building on her limited and rusty schoolgirl English. After 18 months in Canberra, those skills have expanded considerably, though she still apologises for her limited vocabulary.

The children, meanwhile, speak the local lingo easily after participating in the introductory language program through Hughes Primary School and now attending the French-Australian school at Telopea Park.

The family has embraced the Canberra and Australian way of life. Having come from an apartment in the middle of Paris, Benilde, 13, Amedee, 11, Domitille, 9, Amicie, 6, and Sibylle, 4, love their big garden with its trampoline and pool.

"And they also love this," Arnaud says, pointing to the barbecue outside the back door. Benilde says they found a French friend at school who helped them adjust to their new life and language, and now they have a good mix of friends from French, Australian and other nationalities.

One of the main reasons the family has settled so well in Canberra is their involvement in the Catholic community.

Arnaud and Marie say members of St Benedict's parish at Narrabundah, including the MGL brothers and sisters, have gone out of its way to make the family welcome. They have especially enjoyed being part of a more intimate parish than they had in Paris.

"It was like our family across the other side of the world," Marie says, referring to one parishioner in particular, who gave them



Marie Combe with her children, from front to back, Sibylle, Amicie, Domitille, Amedee and Benilde

somewhere to stay while they were waiting for furniture for their house and helped Marie with the logistics of renting a house while Arnaud was busy at work.

"I will remember this for the future when we are back in France. I will always be careful with new people because it's been such a good experience for me."

The family also likes to go to Sunday Mass at the cathedral and take part in parish and archdiocesan events. Benilde has joined his parish youth group and the two older girls have taken part in the Little Flowers

Catholic girls' club.

Arnaud says his time in Canberra has shown him what it means to be part of the Catholic "family". "I hadn't had the opportunity to feel like the Catholic Church was such a family until we got here."

At the same time, their faith has given them something familiar to relate to.

"When we say the church is universal, it is often something we say and don't really understand," Arnaud says. "But, arriving here at the bottom of the world, now we understand – we're all from the same faith."

Cursillo farewells a good friend

WHEN THE Cursillo Movement celebrated its 50th anniversary in the Archdiocese late last year, it signalled the end of Fr Allen Crowe's personal involvement with the lay group.

"In February 1997, I accepted an invitation to be the spiritual director for a three-year appointment and ended up staying for 20," Fr Crowe said.

"It's now time for me to take a step back from this ministry, due to poor health in recent years."

A retired priest based in Young, Fr Crowe credits the movement with playing a pivotal role in him becoming a priest.

"Initially I started as a lay person with a three-day weekend as a candidate in October 1988," he said. "And it was through the experience of participating in this weekend that I felt myself ready to accept the challenge of seminary formation and discernment toward priestly ordination."



Not long after, he begun theological studies at St Paul's Seminary in Kensington and was ordained a priest at St Mary's Church, Young, in April 1994.

There are few stronger advocates for the benefits of Cursillo than Fr Crowe.

"The charism and spirituality of the Cursillo Movement is a journey of the heart, and gives an opportunity for people to share their lived experiences and where they encounter Jesus and God Our Father

in their lives," he said.

He leaves the chaplaincy to Batemans Bay parish priest Fr John Armstrong, who was appointed as co-spiritual director late in 2009.

Past Archdiocesan Cursillo President Merran Martin praised Fr Crowe's "generous involvement in every aspect of the movement".

Mrs Martin cited that like several others, the newly elected president of the movement in the Archdiocese, Jeanne Montgomery, joined Cursillo after being encouraged by Fr Crowe.

National Co-ordinator of the Australian Catholic Cursillo Movement Joe Jambor said Fr Crowe had been "a stalwart supporter of the movement" and thanked him for bringing "humility, warmth, and good humour".

"Fr Crowe's genuine qualities reveal a deep inner peace and a gentle and humble heart," he said.



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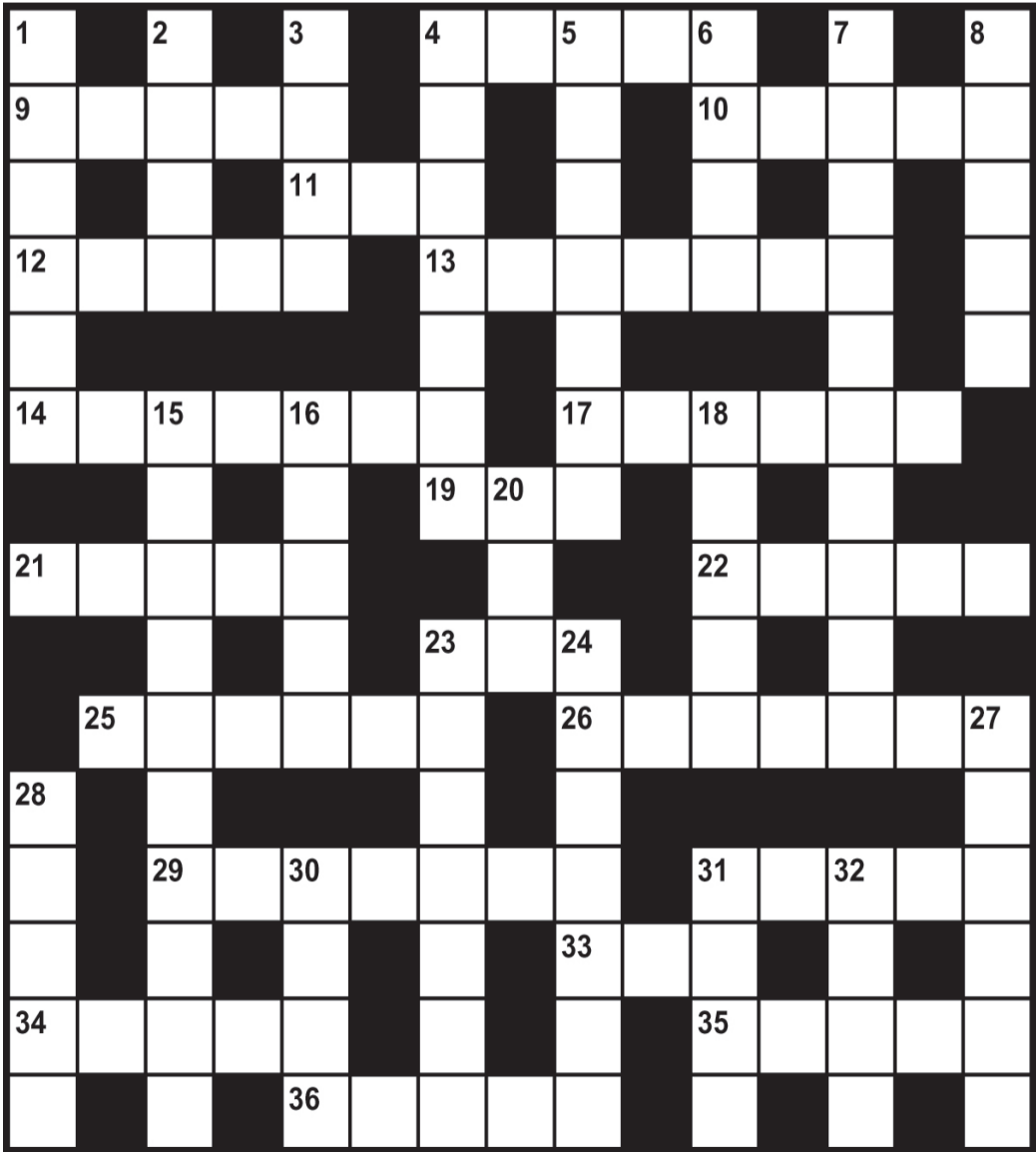
Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary (never known to fail): O most beautiful flower of Mt Carmel, fruitful vine, Splendour of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O star of the Sea, help me and show me here thou art my Mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand thy power.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this prayer in thy hands (three times).

This prayer must be said for three days and the prayer published.

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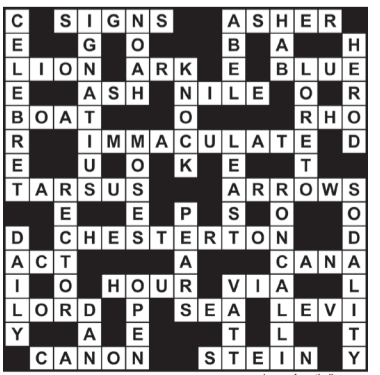
- 4 ___-cain, the first metal worker (Gen 4:22)
- 9 "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will ___ it up." (Jn 2:19)
- 10 Condition of the tomb on Easter morning
- 11 Abbr. for two OT books
- 12 Letter by which a priest is released from one diocese and accepted into another
- 13 Pilate's given name
- 14 ___ Being
- 17 Biblical hunter
- 19 Heroic St. Bernard animal
- 21 Land of milk and ___
- 22 "Dying you destroyed our ___"
- 23 ___-Cana Conference
- 25 St. Theresa, the ___ Flower
- 26 ___ of Cardinals
- 29 Son of Abraham
- 31 Biblical instruments
- 33 "I believe in ___ God..."
- 34 British Prime Minister who converted in 2007
- 35 Liturgical color
- 36 Reverence

DOWN

- 1 Sacred vessels
- 2 The daughter of Pharaoh found a baby here (Ex 2:5-6)
- 3 "Eternal ___ grant unto them"
- 4 What the serpent did to Adam and Eve
- 5 The ___ bush

- 6 Tribe of Israel
- 7 The bishops, collectively
- 8 Saint who gave his name to an alphabet
- 15 Papal
- 16 Starting point of the Exodus
- 18 Miraculous, for one
- 20 ___ Father
- 23 Element of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 24 St. Francis is the patron of this
- 27 The day of the Resurrection
- 28 A queen from this country came to hear Solomon speak
- 30 Biblical instrument
- 31 They fill the church
- 32 NT epistle

Solutions in the next Catholic Voice





Written entries are invited for the July edition to: Catholic Voice, PO Box 7174, Yarralumla, ACT 2600, or email catholic.voice@cg.org.au by March 15. Entries which are accepted are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

Archdiocesan & National Coming Events

February 3: Man Overboard

Held from 5pm to 7pm on the first Friday of every month (public holidays excepted) at Archbishop's House, Man Overboard is a monthly gathering of young men discerning priesthood. It is a time to gather, reflect, and commune in order to feel supported during a time of such importance. RSVP your attendance via www.manoverboard.org.au

February 6: Men Alive

monthly Mass, 5pm at St Christopher's Cathedral. Drinks and fellowship afterwards in Manuka.

February 11: St Valentine's Day Mass

Sacred Heart Church Cootamundra at 6pm. Mass will include a Renewal of Marriage Promises for married couples.

February 12: ACT Thomas More Legal Year Mass,

I am at St Christopher's Cathedral. At the same Mass, local members of the Italian Venezia Giulia Association will be present to offer thanks for their blessings and to remember deceased loved ones.

February 14: Chamber Philharmonia Cologne Vivaldi Concert

8pm at St Christopher's Cathedral. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.com.au or by phone 136 100.

February 18: St Valentine's celebration Mass

The Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah invites you to celebrate the Love, Romance and Joy of Christian Marriage with a St Valentine's celebration Mass at

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6pm. Mass will include a Renewal of Marriage Promises for married couples, and a Special Blessing for engaged couples. EVERYONE is welcome. Mass will be followed by an informal meal out together at a local club. Just turn up for the Mass, but please RSVP to Elizabeth (02) 6231 9219 or Trish (02) 6231 8468 if you would like to join for dinner.

February 22 (5pm) to February 26 (1.30pm) Youth Ministry Equipping School

JPII Polish Centre, Narrabundah. For more information go to http://www.csymaten.com/equippingschool/

February 25: National Day of Prayer and Fasting

Archbishop Christopher Prowse invites you to prepare for Lent with a day of prayer and fasting for the many needs of Australia. At St Peter Chanel's Church, Weston St, Yarralumla, ACT from 10am to

4pm The day will include Adoration, Rosary, Prayer and Worship. The Archbishop will give a talk at 11am. For more information call/ SMS Neda 0415 266 019, Sandra 0406 692 999, Susanna 0419 902 293.

February 26 (5pm) to 27 (3pm): LEAD student conference

JPII Polish Centre, Narrabundah. Launch of the new youth ministry app and website.

February 26 (5.30pm to 9pm): LEAD

Archdiocesan Youth Mass and Rally at St Christopher's Cathedral.

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March 5: Rite of the Elect at St Christopher's Cathedral

Catechumens, candidates, sponsors, family members and RCIA team members will celebrate the Rite of the Elect at St Christopher's Cathedral with Archbishop Christopher Prowse. The Rite will commence in the Crypt at 9.30am, followed by Mass at 11am.

April 13 (3pm) to April 16 (1pm): LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

Chevalier College Bowral, all are invited to Light to the Nations 2017. LTTN is for young people (16+), families and for the young at heart. Camping as well as other accommodation options are available.

REGULAR EVENTS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Monday 8am-10pm, Tuesday 12pm-10pm, Wednesday and Thursday 1pm-10pm and Friday 7am-Saturday 8am. All welcome.

GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP:

Meets Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm, parish room, St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla, ACT. Rosary, charismatic praise and worship, teachings, testimonies, prayer ministry, intercession and fellowship. Inquiries: Susanna, phone 0419 902 293, Neda 0415 266 019, Gabriel 0432 082 642.

HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY:

Third Friday of the month, 7.30pm, St John Vianney's, Waramanga. Secular Franciscans try to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis. Inquiries: Tony, phone 0407 072 139, Frank 0400 793 260, email sfo@fastmail.fm.

MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED:

A mentoring program for newly married or soon to be married couples. Contact Debbie & Brian: phone (02) 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167, email: mnm@grapevine.com.au.

National Day of Prayer and Fasting

Saturday 25 February 2017

"...I will pour out my Spirit on all people... And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Acts 2: 17,21

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Building the Church



Hawks boys at the Temora Hotel for its re-opening (L-R) Brian Lake, Isaac Smith, Liam Shiels, Luke Breust, Taylor Duryea and Ryan Schoenmakers. Picture: Temora Independent.

Hawk champ comes home to Breust

BY JOHN MCLAURIN

AFTER playing in three consecutive premierships with Hawthorn between 2013 and 2015, former Temora resident Luke Breust could be forgiven for leaving the Riverina town in his wake.

But, the Hawthorn forward hasn't forgotten his origins.

Along with seven of his friends, he recently bought and revamped the Temora Hotel.

Breust said he was keen "to put something back into the town", after it supported him in his junior days, as well as now that he is playing in the Australian Football League (AFL).

Buying the pub is not the first time Breust has left an impression on the Temora community since making a name for himself in the AFL.

Despite a demanding schedule, the accurate right-footer has been known to make the occasional visit back to the family farm.

"It is always nice to see the family; they keep me pretty grounded and I enjoy seeing the farm," he said.

"It's also good to get out of the hustle and bustle of the city and back to where I grew up.

"Temora will always be home."

At the invitation of sister-in-law Georgina (nee Rodway) Breust, on some of his journeys home he has visited the local St Anne's Central School to speak to students.

Mrs Breust, a teacher at St Anne's, married Breust's older brother Mark at Sacred Heart Church Temora in 2013.

Often when home, Hawthorn's goal-kicking machine would also visit his now deceased nan, Merle.

He has also been known to train with the local Temora Roos football team of which his brother played.

Those closest to the 26 year old know that he is made of the right stuff on and off the ground.

Even after turning himself into one of the most damaging forwards in the game, it has been said that he has remained "very grounded".

It just so happens that he has even been of use for helping St Anne's student Patrick Davies finish a school assignment.

Patrick's mother Katherine (Davies) was complimentary when reflecting on the star footballer and his generosity.

"A few years ago Patrick had to do an assignment on someone in the community who they looked up to and he chose to do it on Luke," she said.

"It just so happened that when I rang his parents Allan and Denise, he happened to be home on the farm so Allan put him straight on the phone.

"Patrick was then able to ask Luke all the necessary questions for his assignment over a number of phone conversations."

Breust's aunt on his mother's side, Lyne Witenden, says what pleases her most is that her nephew "hasn't got too far ahead of himself".

She says the same humility applies to her other nephews, former St Anne's students, Trent Barrett (St George Illawarra great) and Jake Barrett (Brisbane Lions) - the pair being first cousins of Breust.

Riding shotgun alongside Breust at Hawthorn in the golden era has been Isaac Smith, a former Temora and Cootamundra resident and ex-student of Mrs Witenden's at Sacred Heart Central School.

The footballing pair have known each other since primary school days, when they were in just about every representative sporting team.

Mrs Witenden remembers coaching them in representative basketball from under-12s.

She says that they were "always ultra competitive", but "more importantly kind and considerate people off the court".

Also in the picture is Smith's father Wayne (Smith), who was a well-known principal at Cootamundra's Catholic school.

He moved to Melbourne with wife Christina a few years ago to be closer to Isaac.

Isaac Smith was one of several Hawthorn players on hand late last year, supporting Breust at the re-opening of the Temora Hotel.

Smith, along with Hawks players



Luke Breust (far right) signs autographs for the young fans with other Hawks players. Picture: Temora Independent.

Taylor Duryea, Ryan Schoenmakers, Tom Mitchell and Liam Shiels, signed autographs on the day of the re-opening, while retired full-back Brian Lake also came up to be part of the occasion.

Apart from buying a hotel in his home-town, Breust is completing a Bachelor of Commerce in Melbourne, which he says keeps him busy and gives him a focus outside of football.

In 2016, the Hawks had another successful season playing finals, but were pipped by eventual premiers Western Bulldogs in their semi-final.

The Hawks have made wholesale changes over the off-season, where it was speculated that Breust might be traded to Gold Coast.

Instead Hawthorn bade farewell to high profile players Sam Mitchell and Jordan Lewis, who

have since found homes at West Coast Eagles and Melbourne respectively.

To fill the void, the Hawks have added highly-rated pair Jaegar O'Meara and Tom Mitchell.

For the Hawks to remain in premiership contention for season 2017 they will again need big output from the likes of Breust and Smith, something the Temora footballer is embracing.

"I'm pretty excited about this season as we have had a number of changes to our playing group," he said. "This has created some uncertainty as to how we will go this year but we are excited by the challenge."

Another Archdiocesan connection with Hawthorn is that Archbishop Prowse's father Frank played 20 games as a ruckman for the Hawks between 1949 and 1950.

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