

An Italian Dream

Catholic Voice talks to Dominic Lenarduzzi as he heads towards his cycling dream Page 5



Archbishop's Message

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Faith and culture in Australia

SOME PUBLIC ISSUES OF 2017:

IN a healthy society **faith and culture** are kept in a respectful friendship. Fundamental human rights of religion and freedom of speech are respected.

Faith offers many transcendent gifts to culture, including profound ethical dimensions to the questions a culture raises. A dynamic understanding of culture assists faith to remain “young” and comprehensible to newer generations.

One of the great dramas of our day is the widening gap between faith and culture in the Western World and especially noticeable in Australian society. We are sometimes called, therefore,

one of the most secular societies in the world!

We see this gap widening in some of the many political debates over the past year. There were the issues of **same-sex marriage, euthanasia, sexual dysphoria, refugees**, to name just a few.

The “friendship” between faith and culture in Australia in past times seems unlikely to deepen in times ahead. There are, and will be, many more practical and challenging implications for the Catholic Church.

The Royal Commission into Sexual Abuse shames and humiliates us all. Our hearts go out to the wounded and courageous victims.

Along with all of Catholic

Australia, this Archdiocese will examine carefully recommendations of the Royal Commission and pledges to do all we can to prevent such abuse ever repeating itself in the future.

I am particularly pleased with the introduction of the national **Catholic Professional Standards** structure which will be a real help to expand and audit our extensive policies regarding professional standards and safeguarding.

In a sincere and prayerful gesture to seek the Holy Spirit’s healing in these sensitive times, **4 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Reparation** for all victims will take place beginning on **ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14 this year.**

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020-2021:

Over the next period of time we will hear more about our participation in a major Australian Catholic Church pastoral initiative seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the years ahead.

As mentioned to you previously, it is called a **Plenary Council.**

It will culminate in two national gatherings – one in the latter part of 2020 and another in 2021. It is a time of ecclesial co-discernment, walking together, and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we move into the “new world” now present among us in Australia.

JESUS AMONG US:

Let us place our Archdiocese at the start of 2018 under the care and protection of Mary, Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia.

We have many and varied sincere opinions and thoughts about being Catholic in a “changed” Australian society. However, in our depths, we are united in our common belief that is in our encounter with Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour, that our lives find deepest meaning, joy and hope.

Let us pray for each other as 2018 opens up to us all.

Read the Archbishop's homilies online at www.cgatholic.org.au

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S DIARY

February

SUNDAY, 4 10.00am
Installation Mass Fr Simon Falk, St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul, South Belconnen

WEDNESDAY, 7 12.15pm
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

THURSDAY, 8 12.15pm
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

SUNDAY, 11 11.00am
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

TUESDAY, 13 10.00am
Launch Project Compassion, St Mary MacKillop College, Isabella Plains

12.15pm Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, 14 12.15pm
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

SATURDAY, 17 12.15pm St Thomas More Annual Law Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

SUNDAY, 18 11.00am Rite of the Elect Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

2.30pm Liturgical Inauguration of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, St Francis Xavier College, Florey

THURSDAY, 22 5.00pm
Marist College Commencement Mass, Pearce

SUNDAY, 25 8.00am
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

10.00am Installation Mass Fr James Antony, Corpus Christi Parish, Sth Tuggeranong

Archdiocese prepares for historic national plenary

INITIAL details regarding the upcoming historic Plenary Council for the Church in Australia have emerged.

Following a recent conference, the Australian Catholic bishops agreed that the Plenary Council would be held over two sessions – one in late 2020 and one in May 2021. They also endorsed the establishment of diocesan working groups by the end of March 2018 to support bishops in their engagement with the Council and the facilitation team.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge outlined the variety of approaches that might be taken by dioceses in the journey of preparation for the Council.

These include a diocesan synod, a diocesan assembly or another diocesan gathering that is already

established as part of diocesan life. He also noted the importance of coordination of the preparatory journey within each diocese.

“The approaches taken by the dioceses will need to be tailored to the circumstances of each diocese, its needs and the available opportunities,” he explained.

At a local level, Archbishop Christopher Prowse said he has formed a small brainstorming group. The group has met a few times in relation to how the Council can be expressed in the Archdiocese.

Archbishop Prowse says in the near future that he hopes to be able to produce a document with the particulars about the process of the Council and the Archdiocese’s involvement.

GOOD NEWS in tough times

Lenten Reflections by Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Two great options:
1. DVD or
2. Digital Download
(plus a free downloadable Prayer Journal)

Good News in Tough Times is a great resource for parish-based groups, prayer companions, staff reflections, families and individuals.

Order now at www.faithresources.org.au
or contact Canberra Catholic Bookshop ph. 02 6239 9888

Priest Changes in the Archdiocese

IT MIGHT be early in the year, but there has already been some movement among the Archdiocesan clergy in recent weeks. Fr Steve Astill SJ has gone to Young as assistant priest until March 31, while Fr Kimi Vunivesilevu is the new assistant priest at Kippax.

For more information regarding priest changes, please go to www.cgatholic.org.au

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

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Royal Commission

Final report marks ‘line in the sand’

“THIS REPORT marks the line in the sand,” Archbishop Christopher Prowse declared following the release of the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

“As a Catholic leader, I accept this responsibility, and with the support of our faith-filled communities, I am determined to forge a more accountable and transparent future direction.”

Joining with other key Church figures in welcoming the final report of the five years long Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sex Abuse, he reiterated the Church’s remorse for victims, their families and friends.

“The journey of the Commission has been a period of utter shame for the Catholic Church,” he said.

“I congratulate the Commission on its rigor during this long investigative process, and honour the victims for their courage in exposing the unspeakable horrors they have endured,” he said.

“We are truly sorry for all that has taken place.”

Archbishop Prowse described the revelations in the report as “shocking and diabolical” and likened the Commission to an extended ‘examination of conscience’ for institutions, especially the Catholic Church.

He said the events of the past have engendered immense humiliation in our communities, and that the only forward is with a conversion of heart and by righting the wrongs through actions.

“This conversion of the heart is the beginning of a hope-filled path into the future,” he said.

“Conversion of cultural patterns and structures must follow.”

He said the Archdiocese will now commit itself to carefully examining the recommendations of the Commission, and building on what has already begun in the long future road to collective responsibility.

The Archbishop says he supports the introduction of a national redress scheme for the survivors of child sexual abuse in which the Church will participate along with the State governments.

“I have strongly advocated the



The Final Report marks the 'line in the sand'. Picture: Supplied.

ACT Government to strengthen and expand the reportable conduct scheme to include religious organisations,” he said.

“May the Lord deliver us from evil as we follow more closely His ways of mercy and justice.”

To read the Archbishop’s statement in full visit <http://tjhcouncil.org.au/media/144938/171215-STATEMENT-Archdiocese-of-Canberra-Goulburn-RC-final-report-response.pdf>

Recommendations set to have significant impact on the Church

A NUMBER of recommendations by the Royal Commission may have a significant impact on the way the Catholic Church in Australia operates into the future.

Various amendments to the 1983 Code of Canon Law are proposed in the report as is greater transparency and stricter reporting and governance by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

President of Catholic Religious Australia Sister Ruth Durick OSU said religious orders across Australia are committed to continuing the work of recent years to ensure a future in which the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults is paramount.

“We acknowledge with gratitude the courage of all those survivors who have come forward to the Royal Commission,” she said.

“We will be taking very seriously the Commission’s report and have commissioned an initial assessment of its findings by the Truth, Justice and Healing Council.

“We expect the TJHC assessment to be completed early in 2018.”

In a joint statement, Sr Durick and Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, said the Church will continue to push for the introduction of a national redress scheme for the survivors of child sexual abuse which the Church will participate in.

“The success of this scheme lies with the cooperation of the state governments,” they said.

“Without their involvement, national coverage will be impossible.”

To read all the Commission’s final report recommendations for the Catholic Church visit pages 51-55 at https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/final_report_-_recommendations.pdf

Vital time for Church research

Experienced researcher Trudy Dantis has begun as the new director of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference’s Pastoral Research Office.

Dr Dantis, who has conducted research on behalf of the Catholic Church in Australia and India, will lead the research office from its new Canberra office.

“Catholics are the largest religious group in Australia, with more than 5.2 million people having identified as Catholic in the 2016 Census,” she said.

“It is important that we, as a Church, understand the demography of the Catholic population and their religious practices and beliefs, particularly in this time of rapid change in Australian society.

“Accurate and up-to-date research can enhance the Church’s

pastoral practice in parishes, Catholic schools, hospitals and aged care facilities, in social service agencies and the many other ways in which the Church lives out the Gospel.”

While working for the research office from 2010 to 2015, Dr Dantis was coordinator and lead researcher of the Building Stronger Parishes project. She also completed her PhD on the vitality of Catholic parishes. She will use the knowledge gained from that rich experience to help shape her work on behalf of the Australian Church.

Archbishop Julian Porteous, of Hobart, who oversees the work of the research office on behalf of the Australian Catholic bishops, said Dr Dantis knows the opportunities and challenges facing the Church.



Dr Trudy Dantis is the new director of the Pastoral Research Office. Picture: Supplied

“Trudy has examined closely the life of the Church through its parishes, which alongside homes are the epicentre of the Catholic faith in this country,” he said.

She is the author of two books, including A Handbook for Building Stronger Parishes.

Ex-Raider is this year's face of Project Compassion

FORMER Canberra Raiders footballer and St Edmund's College student, Michael 'Madge' Maguire, is the face of this year's Project Compassion campaign.

The 2014 South Sydney Rabbitohs premiers coach will be in the ACT for the project launch at St Mary MacKillop College on Shrove Tuesday.

Mr Maguire will be joined for the launch by Sr Ivy Khoury.

Together they will seek to raise both awareness and also funds for the project.

Later in the evening from 6pm onwards, the duo will be at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre to promote 'Caritas Kitchen' – a new social justice initiative by Caritas in the Archdiocese.

Last year Mr Maguire was introduced to the work of Caritas Australia and his supporting role has continued into 2018.

In his time with the organisation he has hosted the Kinchella Boys Home at Redfern Oval and spoke on the East Africa Food Crisis, while last October he travelled to Zimbabwe to visit three of the Caritas funded programs.

His sojourn to Canberra this month will include a further Catholic schools visit to Holy

Spirit Parish Gungahlin on Ash Wednesday.

Over the two days in the ACT he will share his experiences, particularly his time spent in Zimbabwe – the focus country for this year's Project Compassion campaign.

Lulu Mitshabu, director for Caritas in the Archdiocese, said she is delighted to be welcoming someone of Mr Maguire's calibre.

"The Year of Youth in the Church brings with it much excitement and potential," she said.

"The schools really get behind this and I think we can look forward to more good works amongst the next generation.

"By raising money and awareness for the vulnerable in the world, you can share the joy far beyond your table and community."

Mrs Mitshabu and her team are encouraging as many people as possible to attend the Caritas Kitchen on the evening of February 13.

Those attending Caritas Kitchen are asked to leave a message at the link <http://my.caritasfundraising.org.au/LuluMitshabu2018> to confirm their attendance.

Those who aren't able to make



Matt Maguire with the red shirt is helping Caritas. Picture: Nicole Clements – Caritas.

it but still want to contribute, can donate to the cause via the same link.

Mrs Mitshabu, whose area also takes in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, says parishes and schools can expect to receive their Project Compassion boxes from Ash Wednesday onwards.

She was thrilled with last year's response in the Archdiocese and remains confident that a similar figure of \$359,492.00 can be achieved.

"This year we are funding five programs in Zimbabwe," she said.

"These include Integrated Community Development Programs in the dioceses of Gweru, Gokwe and Hwange.

"These programs support the most poor and vulnerable."

Caritas Australia also supports Caritas Zimbabwe to assist all of the eight dioceses in the country with capacity building activities so that the staff are qualified to implement and monitor their programs.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA PROVIDES ZIMBABWE WITH:

- Safe and clean water.
- Nutritional gardens in communities and schools.
- Latrines at schools and people's homes.
- Dip tanks for livestock to prevent tick fever and all types of diseases.

Income generating activity programs so that people can earn a small income that allows families to send their children to school, purchase other food items and medical fees.

A child protection program called Putting Children First that is implemented by three partners in Harare and Chinhoyi.

- (This program includes training in schools and in the communities on child protection, assisting families to obtain birth certificates so that children can attend school and sit for exams, income generating activities so that families can send their children to school, purchase school uniforms and school materials).

Euthanasia falsely described as choice

BY KATH WOOLF

EUTHANASIA is falsely described as 'giving people choice', providing 'death with dignity', 'taking control of dying'. The so-called 'the right to die' is not a right we need to claim; we shall all die! The ethical question is the way in which we die. Suicide is legal in Australia, but a personal and social tragedy nonetheless. 'Voluntary euthanasia' is simply assisted suicide.

Euthanasia is a threat to the most vulnerable members in our society: the frail, the handicapped, the very old and those suffering mental handicap, especially dementia. In the Netherlands and Belgium where euthanasia is legal the categories of persons 'eligible' for lethal

injection has been ever-expanding to include young children and those 'weary of life'.

In 1995 the Northern Territory was the first jurisdiction in Australia to legalise euthanasia. However the Federal Parliament, exercising its power over territory laws at that time, quashed the NT legislation and in its place passed the Euthanasia Laws Act 1996 which removed from both the NT and the ACT the power to legislate on euthanasia. This prohibition still stands despite the subsequent grant of self-government to the Territories.

Philip Nitschke, the most passionate advocate of euthanasia, has admitted that the persons he killed under the short-lived NT regime suffered more from fatigue, frailty, and depression

than from pain arising from their condition.

In 2010 a Senate Committee lamented the "hidden toll" suicide and attempted suicide impose on families and the community. Suicide is the leading cause of death for males aged 15-44, especially those in rural areas and indigenous populations. Federal and State Governments have devoted hundreds of millions of dollars since 2000 to discourage suicide through mental health programs; the Commonwealth Criminal Code even makes it illegal to use telephone or internet services to counsel or incite a person to commit suicide.

Despite these worthy initiatives the push to legalise euthanasia is relentless throughout Australia; recent years have

seen a storm of enabling Bills in State parliaments. Until last November all have been defeated because of the heroic efforts of pro-lifers, including the defeat of a pro-euthanasia Bill in the NSW Legislative Council.

Unfortunately in the same month the Victorian Assisted Dying Bill 2017 narrowly passed. *In both the Victorian and NSW parliaments, opponents of euthanasia essentially warned of the inadequacy of 'safeguards' against abuse and urged increased provision of palliative care. During debate over the Bill, a Sikh leader, Mr Singh, issued a powerful multi-faith statement on behalf of Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, and Sikh communities;*

Compassion is best addressed to the alleviation of suffering and the care for life, which our

traditions deem precious. We are concerned that deliberate interventions to end life tear at the fabric of our society.

Pressure resulting from Victorian legislation has doubtless motivated ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr to establish *an Inquiry into End of Life Choices in the ACT*.

Please put your views to the Inquiry. Submissions close on February 23, 2018. Email them to LACommitteeEOLC@parliament.act.gov.au

Post them to The Committee Secretary, Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the ACT, GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA, ACT.

Kath Woolf is the Secretary of Euthanasia? No! ACT Inc.

Cyclist with 2020 vision of glory

CANBERRA track cyclist, Dominic Lenarduzzi, is out to win the 2020 Italian National Championship.

Being a third generation Australian of Italian descent, the dual citizenship rule stipulates that he is allowed to compete for Italy.

It's something he did with pride a few years back.

"I would love to race for Australia but the competition for spots here is too fierce," the St Mary MacKillop teacher said.

"I am a late comer to the sport and most of the athletes in the Australian team have been in training since they were 10 or 12 years of age, so they have that added edge I guess.

"The Italian loophole gives me a chance to compete on the national and international stage, which is phenomenal."

While competing for Italy at a 2015 event in Switzerland, Mr Lenarduzzi rubbed shoulders with coach Marco Villa and star cyclist Elia Viviani. Mr Villa won bronze in the sport at the 2000 Olympic Games, while Mr



Canberra's Dominic Lenarduzzi is eyeing off the 2020 Italian National Championships. Picture: Amber Maher

Viviani took out the Omnium at the Rio Olympic Games in 2016.

Mr Lenarduzzi's journey to cycling is far less conventional than most in his chosen sport.

He first settled in Canberra as an 18 year old with the intention of studying education and

playing Rugby at the Uni-Norths Rugby Club.

With a big frame and a promising junior career behind him, he soon found his way into the Brumbies under 20 squad.

His time at the Brumbies was hampered by a knee injury which

led to him spending hours in rehabilitation.

In front of coaching staff at the ANU Cycling Club he first came under notice for his talents on the bike. They pointed to his natural technique. "I really love Rugby and had my heart set on

playing for the Brumbies First Grade team, who I've supported since I was eight," he said.

"At the time of my rehab, I actually knew very little about track cycling.

"It wasn't until one of the coaches told me that I could actually go somewhere with it that I began to take it seriously."

Despite not playing Rugby for the past six years, Mr Lenarduzzi, 26, has still managed to accumulate his share of injuries. These include three more knee surgeries, a busted shoulder and a severe bout of glandular fever at 21. He also survived being hit by a passing car. It buckled the bike and left him a bit shaken.

Mr Lenarduzzi said it has been difficult trying to mix semi-professional sport with a career in education. "Michael Lee, our school principal, has been ultra-supportive and I can't thank him and the other staff enough," he said. "Especially in the earlier years they were tremendous in job-sharing and affording me the time off when I needed it.

"I hope I'm gradually paying them back now."

Philanthropists: Lovers of humanity

PHILANTHROPY OUGHT TO BE AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE FOR OUR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS, BUT IT CAN SOMETIMES BECOME A VEHICLE FOR SELF-INTEREST OR TURN INTO AN EGO TRIP.

BY MIKE CASSIDY

IN ITS original sense, the term "philanthropist" refers to someone who loves and cares about other people. Today, however, it seems to have a narrower sense. In particular, we have come to associate philanthropy with money and large amounts thereof. Humbler contributors to human wellbeing are usually well regarded by the community, but they are rarely described as philanthropists.

The New Testament makes clear that Jesus was scornful of the money/power elites of his era, including many of those who might by today's standards be regarded as philanthropists. In both versions of the well-known story about the "widow's mite" (Mark 12, 41-44 and Luke 21, 1-4), Jesus draws a sharp contrast between the widow quietly giving all she has and the prominent members of society whose contributions may be much larger in absolute terms but still be only a small portion of their wealth.

He is not attacking generosity. He is saying that we should not measure generosity by the size

of the gift alone. We have to take into account donors' financial and personal capacity and the extent to which they use giving to advance their own wealth and social standing. He may also have been questioning the justice of a system that puts pressure on the very poor to give from what little they have.

There are modern parallels. Not so long ago, the names of contributors and the amounts they gave to collections of Easter and Christmas dues were read from the pulpit. This practice almost certainly had the effect of shifting many parishioners' attention to the relative size of individual contributions made by those around them – hardly the right focus!

The modern philanthropist is lionised in the media. Popular opinion is generally supportive, but more sceptical insofar as it questions how some philanthropists came by their wealth.

We can emulate the best philanthropists, modern and not so modern, if we are honest with ourselves about our generosity to others and about what motivates us.



PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

A Just Future starts with your support! Donate now.

YEAR OF YOUTH 2019

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AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency for international aid and development

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‘Remarkable story’ of culture

WHEN people think of the Vatican Museums, their minds turn to Michelangelo and Raphael.

But a new book celebrates the prominent place of Indigenous Australian art and culture on display at the much-visited attraction.

Australia – The Vatican Museums Indigenous Collection, which features some of the earliest known documentations of Australian Indigenous cultures, was officially launched in Canberra recently.

The publication was a joint project of Aboriginal Studies Press and the Vatican Museums.

Fr Nicola Mapelli, curator of the Ethnological Collections at the Vatican Museums, was in Australia for the launch.

He had visited the Kimberley and the Tiwi Islands, among other Indigenous communities, in preparing for the publication of the book.

Fr Mapelli said the Australian exhibit at the Vatican Museums is the first one visitors come across after leaving the Sistine Chapel – a nod to the place of Indigenous Australians as the oldest continuous culture in the world.

“For the Vatican and the Vatican Museums it has been very important to enhance the Australian collection and to present it in a beautiful way,” he said.

“This publication shows how important it is to connect with Aboriginal people and to show respect for their culture and to preserve their culture inside the Vatican Museums and to show the culture of Aboriginal people is as important as a painting of Michelangelo or a painting of Raphael.”

Many of the pieces in the catalogue were gifted to Pope Pius XI for an international exhibition in the 1920s that was held to expand European consciousness of other cultures.

Other items came from the fledgling communities around New Norcia in Western Australia in the mid-1800s. Bishop Christopher Saunders of Broome, where many of the pieces in the Vatican Museums and many of the items featured in the



Josephite Sister Maria Casey RSJ (left) with Fr Nicola Mapelli and Katherine Aigner. Picture: Supplied.

catalogue originate from, said Indigenous communities will treasure the publication.

“What a wonderful gift it is to the world and great recognition of Aboriginal people and their culture,” Bishop Saunders said at a special event in Sydney ahead of the launch.

“It is a reflection of the Vatican’s respect for those peoples, who have suffered greatly in this country but I believe are emerging from those times into something positive. I know it will be immensely popular among our people.”

In addition to showcasing Indigenous art and culture, the book also contains 18 essays from Indigenous and non-Indigenous

authors.

The book’s editor, Australian National University historian and ethnologist Katherine Aigner, said the development of the publication brought many Indigenous communities together, sparking conversations between young and old about the history of various objects, their stories and their significance.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, as well as local dioceses and religious orders, provided financial and other assistance to support the project.

ACBC president Archbishop Denis Hart said the publication “tells a remarkable story, offering amazing insights into our Australian history and into the wider world of which our country and

our Indigenous brothers and sisters are an important part”.

As well as items dating back 150 years or more, the book also features on its back cover the artwork “Pilgrimage”, which was given to Pope Benedict XVI in 2010 to mark the canonisation of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Fr Mapelli said the image, which depicts the convergence of Indigenous Australia and the Roman Catholic Church, is a fitting metaphor for the publication’s ability to bring together and celebrate those two distinct heritages.

Australia – The Vatican Museums Indigenous Collection can be purchased from <http://www.aiatsis.ashop.com.au/p/9281666/australia-the-vatican-museums-indigenous-collection.html>

What a wonderful gift it is to the world and great recognition of Aboriginal people and their culture

Five Minutes with Fr Dominic Carrigan

(Fr Dominic Carrigan started as rector of St Clement’s Retreat Centre, Galong this year on January 15)



WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU ORDAINED?
December 19, 1970 in St Stephen’s Cathedral, Brisbane Qld

WHAT INFLUENCED YOU TO BECOME A PRIEST?
Family values, good mentors and good teachers

HOW LONG ARE YOU AT GALONG FOR?
Until the next Redemptorist Chapter (in September 2018) and possibly longer

WHERE WERE YOU PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT ST CLEMENT’S?
Newcastle in the Maitland-Newcastle diocese

WHAT ARE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF THE RETREAT CENTRE?
It’s a big and beautiful place

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACHIEVE WHILST AT GALONG?
That people who come here experience the Spirit of God

WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE SAINT AND WHY?
For many years, I’ve been interested in St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross OCD (Edith Stein). She is a very modern saint in that she came from Judaism and agnosticism to Catholicism. She was a brilliant German philosopher who entered the Discalced Carmelites in Cologne in 1933. I find her life and spirituality fascinating and attractive. She died in the gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942, offering her life for her Jewish people. After her death, a soldier recognised a photo of her in her habit and recounted that when their train stopped at a siding on their way to Auschwitz, she said to the soldier, ‘Tell Mother Superior of the Carmelite

Monastery in Echt, Holland, that we are going to the East.’ ‘Going to the East’ meant geographically as well as mystically (‘We are going to heaven’).
WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PHRASE, QUOTE OR MOTTO?
‘No speech, no word, no voice is heard, yet their span goes out through all the earth, their words to the utmost bounds of the world.’ (Psalm 19)

WHICH SPORTING TEAMS DO YOU BARRACK FOR?
The Australian Cricket Team. Living in Newcastle for many years, the Newcastle Knights (wooden spooners for the last three years!) and the Newcastle Jets (less so, but also last year’s wooden spooners)

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD OR BEVERAGE?
Water

Feature
By Fiona Power

Dr Sr Mary Glowrey

a saint in-waiting

DR SR MARY GLOWREY JMJ, SERVANT OF GOD, WAS THE WORLD’S FIRST SISTER-DOCTOR. BORN IN RURAL VICTORIA, SHE LEFT AUSTRALIA IN 1920 AND SPENT 37 YEARS IN INDIA SERVING THE POOR. SHE REMAINED CLOSE TO HER FAMILY ALL HER LIFE, DESPITE NEVER RETURNING TO HER HOMELAND.

IN JULY 1919, six months before she left Australia to minister to India’s poorest, Dr Mary Glowrey wrote to her mother.

‘For four years now I have realised that this is God’s appointed task for me,’ she explained. ‘... there is so much work to be done in India and while I stay here it remains undone.’

Mary was 32 years old at the time, a successful professional woman with private medical rooms in inner Melbourne and appointments at the city’s leading hospitals. The sense of vocation she had experienced in 1915, and only briefly shared with family, had not dimmed as she worked, studied and served the community during war-time. She was particularly determined to use her skills to help poor Indian women, who would not consult male doctors.

Yet, as Mary confided in her mother, leaving would be ‘a wrench’. She had lived away from her home in rural Victoria since obtaining a scholarship at age 13 but remained close to her family.

On January 21, 1920, Mary left Port Melbourne bound for India. It was the last time she saw most of her relatives. She arrived in Guntur on February 12, where she joined the Society of Jesus Mary Joseph. She spent the next 36 years there ministering to the poor. Religious could not work as doctors until 1936, however Mary was the first to be granted special permission by the pope in 1920 to do so ‘for the good of souls’.

Mary’s achievements were extraordinary. She attended to or supervised the medical needs of hundreds of thousands of patients. She oversaw the construction and administration of St Joseph’s Hospital. She trained midwives, dispensers and nurses and researched and successfully treated many women who had experienced multiple miscarriages and stillbirths. She worked tirelessly towards the establishment of a Catholic medical training College in India



and founded the organisation that is today known as the Catholic Health Association of India, whose members care for 21 million people a year.

For more than half her time in Guntur, Mary was the only female, Catholic doctor in the district. She wanted to multiply herself ‘a thousand times’.

Mary was known for her calm demeanor, humility and good humour. She faced the challenges of unfamiliar culture and languages, relentless climate, limited water, disease and famine with patience,

respect and faith. And she made time to write - articles about the mission, correspondence seeking and acknowledging donations and hundreds of letters to her family and friends in Australia.

Mary’s letters now form the bulk of the Mary Glowrey Collection, which is owned by the Catholic Women’s League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga, of which Mary was the first president in 1916. In

the letters Mary evocatively described her experiences, discussed faith, politics and medical issues and exchanged news. And she built up relationship with all who were

FAST FACTS ABOUT DR SR GLOWREY

- Mary Glowrey was born in Birregurra, 130 km from Melbourne
- 1919 – She obtained her Doctorate in Medicine.
- 1920 (January 21) She left Port Melbourne bound for India.
- 1920 (February 12) – She arrived in Guntur, India.
- 1957 (May 5) - She died in Bangalore after a long and painful battle with cancer. She was buried there.
- 2013 - She was declared a Servant of God by the Archbishop of Guntur.
- 2016 (November) - Her body was exhumed in Bangalore and remains moved to Guntur.
- 2017 (January) - The diocesan phase of the Cause inquiry was completed and the results sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican.



Pictures: Supplied from Mary Glowrey Collection, courtesy of Catholic Women's League Victoria and Wagga Wagga.

dear to her.
After Mary died, a family friend remarked to Mary’s sister Lucy that other missionaries he knew drifted away from their homes, ‘but she ... came nearer’.

Fiona Power is the curator of the Mary

Australian Catholic University’s Melbourne Campus and is located at 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. For more information about the museum including its opening hours go to <http://mary-glowreymuseum.info/>
Alternatively the museum can be contacted by phone on (03) 9416 4674.

She faced the challenges of unfamiliar culture and languages, relentless climate, limited water, disease and famine with patience, respect and faith.

Vinnies spreads its wings with new centre

KIPPAX is the latest suburb in the Archdiocese to have a St Vincent de Paul shop.

The conference, according to Bernie van Wyk, has assisted 464 people with 1443 services in the immediate area in the last 12 months.

"The society has a proud history in the area, having had a local conference running in the Kippax suburb for over 40 years," the CEO of the St Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese said.

"It was only fitting to consider a Vinnies Centre in Kippax, especially considering the growth experienced in the area."

The centre was opened by Centres Area Manager, Helen Curtin and blessed by Archbishop Christopher Prowse.

Joining them in the formalities were Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Housing and Suburban Development Yvette Berry and Shadow Minister for Families Youth and Community Services, Elizabeth Kikkert.

Mr van Wyk thanked the Belconnen community for their continued support to Vinnies.

"The presence of the new shop will mean that the society will be better able to service the community in the West Belconnen



L-R: Yvette Berry, Elizabeth Kikkert, Archbishop Prowse, Helen Curtin and Bernie van Wyk. Picture: Supplied.

area and service those in need of a 'hand up' in the Kippax area," he said.

"The donations and purchases made in the shop will directly go towards benefitting the West

Belconnen community through the Societies outreach services."

Since opening the new centre, more than 95 people from the local community have put up their hand to volunteer their time in-store.

It is located at shop 2, 22 - 48 Hardwick Crescent, Holt ACT 2615.

The shop is open 9am to 5pm on week days and 9am to 4pm on weekends.

Catholic Voice Classifieds

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Contact (02) 6163 4312.

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

**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

Fr Pasquale answers the call

WHEN Archbishop Christopher Prowse put out a plea for priests to fill a gap in the rural part of the Archdiocese, Fr Pasquale Pizzoferro answered the call.

Showing great enthusiasm already, the Italian born-and-raised priest says he is delighted to now find himself in Temora as its new administrator.

"I became concerned for the appeal of Archbishop Prowse requesting that priests make themselves available for rural parishes that do not have pastors," he said.

On loan from the Archdiocese of Sydney, he has been in the mission parish since January 3.

He is a relative latecomer to the priesthood, but speaks of vocational fulfilment in the priesthood after earlier spending 12 years working for a public transport company in Italy.

"In retrospect I realise that my decision to embark on social work and my career had been something of a delaying approach," he said.

"It was a way of doing something productive with my life without actually committing myself fully to what my life was made for. I did continue with my job and my social activities, but my heart was not made for these things. I was happy, but not completely fulfilled."

To help with discernment, Fr Pizzoferro spent 2001 applying himself at the Neo-Catechumenal vocational centre in Naples.

It became apparent for him during this time that he should



become a priest.

In January 2003, he entered the Redemptorist Mater Seminary at Pagewood, and found his formation years to be full of trial and tribulation.

"I was a stranger to myself in many respects," he said. "So, indeed I came to know myself well. Prior to this, I was ignorant of God and of the Church, but eventually I came to know God as Father."

He was ordained by Cardinal George Pell at St Mary's Cathedral in 2012 and has since ministered to a number of Sydney parishes in addition to being a member of the CRS Board Committee.

He has served as a chaplain to the Courage International group, which journeys with those who have same-sex attraction.

Fr Pizzoferro says that with assistant, Fr Trenton van Reesch, there is already great harmony.

"Temora is a nice town and I am loving the regular sunny days, Fr Pizzoferro said.

"I have found the people to be very kind and courteous."

L’Arche offers a hub to connect

BY FIONA VAN DER PLAAT

IN A SPACIOUS ROOM UNDER THE L’ARCHE GENESARET OFFICES IN PHILLIP, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY’S WOMEN’S GROUP ARE ENJOYING A CUPPA WITH SUPPORT WORKERS ON THE COMFY SOFAS BEFORE APPLYING THEMSELVES TO THEIR LATEST ARTISTIC PROJECT – A “KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLOUR” CALLED WINGS.

The word “creativity”, splashed across the wall behind them, sets the scene for their work on the mural, to be mounted on a large black canvas.

The women, some of whom live in L’Arche’s supported independent living houses and work part-time jobs for businesses such as GG’s Flowers in Deakin and in the kitchens of Calvary John James Hospital, have gathered in the space known as The Hub.

For the past nine months, The Hub has provided a dedicated place for people with intellectual disabilities to form connections with people from the broader community – which is what L’Arche (French for “the ark”) is all about.

L’Arche Canberra’s interim CEO Kim Sinclair said a function of The Hub was to allow these core members and others, with or without a disability, to intermingle, typically through



(L-R) L’Arche Canberra core members Si Mikosza, Louise Carrigan and Anne Walsh in the The Hub in Phillip with Homes Coordinator Lyn Kelly (back right). Picture: Supplied.

activities such as art, drama and planned yoga and fitness classes.

This social enterprise is yet another way L’Arche is making a difference to the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

To mark their 40th anniversary in Australia, L’Arche is holding a dinner at the Southern Cross Club Woden on March 9 with John Coleman attending

as the guest singer. Also this year, the organisation will open its fifth house in Canberra, in Calwell as part of the Corpus Christi Parish, South Tuggeranong. Each house provides a family-home environment in which four or five core members, with the help of live-in and live-out assistants, can live independently and interact with

the community in their daily lives.

Ms Sinclair said the homes provided opportunities “over and above the support under the NDIS [National Disability Insurance Scheme]” and gave “core members the opportunity to make mutual friendships across the wider community”.

She said L’Arche was hoping

to set up another three households in the near future.

To buy tickets for the anniversary dinner or to help with sponsorship or fundraising call (02) 6282 9066 or email canberra@larche.org.au

For more information about The Hub and its activities, go to www.thehubinphillip.org.au

CRY OF THE EARTH *Theologian to help kick start Galong’s centenary year*

REDEMPTORIST Fr Anthony Kelly, will help kick-start the anniversary celebrations of the Redemptorist Order’s 100-year presence at the Galong Monastery.

The world-renowned theologian is one of two key speakers at the ‘Cry of the Earth’ conference to be held at St Clement’s Retreat Centre between February 16 and 18.

Former Catholic Earthcare director, Jacqui Remond, will also present at the conference.

Together the pair will explore some key elements to Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si’* and how it is touching the lives of Australians today.

Retreat Coordinator, Fr Patrick Corbett, says St Clement’s is thrilled

to be hosting ‘Cry of the Earth’.

“2018 marks an historic moment,” he said. “For 100 years the Redemptorist Congregation has played a very active role in the life of the Diocese of Goulburn and more recently in the Archdiocese.

“It is with a great deal of satisfaction that we can put events like this on.”

‘Cry of the Earth’ is open to those attending one day or the whole weekend.

Next month the retreat centre will host soprano Greta Bradman, who will sing on the evening of March 10. To RSVP your attendance at either event please call (02) 6380 5222. Accommodation and meal options are available.

MORE ON THE KEY SPEAKERS:

FR ANTHONY KELLY has undertaken doctoral and post-doctoral studies in Rome, Toronto and Paris. He is a former president of Australian Catholic Theological Association and past Chair of the Forum of Australian Catholic Institutes of Theology. He was Head of Sub-Faculty of Philosophy and Theology at the Australian Catholic University from 1999 to 2004. In February 2004, he was appointed by His Holiness Pope John Paul II to the International Theological Commission. Fr Kelly is the author of two studies on *Laudato Si’*.

JACQUI REMOND, is a former Director of Catholic Earthcare Australia and co-founder of the Global Catholic Climate Movement. She specializes in ecological conversion and has been the spokeswoman for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference on ecology for the past 10 years. She was invited to Rome to meet with Pope Francis in May 2015.

The earth, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she groans in travail.
(Rom 8:22 *Laudato Si’* para 2)

MERICI IMMERSION



MERICI College students had the privilege of learning first-hand about the lives of remote Indigenous peoples in the September 2017 holiday break when they volunteered at a community on the Dampier Peninsula, Western Australia.

The group were the first-ever to experience the Indigenous Immersion Program offered by the College, which creates opportunities for students to engage in real situations, at the same time addressing community needs.

In partnership with Catholic Mission, the group of six students and two teachers assisted at a school holiday camp run by Save the Children in the remote community of Lombadina/Djarindjin.

Year 11 and 12 students led activities teaching the children how to knit, make loom bands and origami, play games, and sports. They gained valuable insights into the ways and life of the Bardi Jawi people, and the children and others members of the local communities of Djarindjin, One Arm Point and Beagle Bay shared their skills, such as oyster-collection.

The students were honoured to interact with Elders and members of the communities, learn the basics of their language, and explore sacred country.

Catholic Mission views the program as: 'A rare and remarkable opportunity to really be with our Indigenous brothers and sisters and experience life, family, connectedness, and their spirituality in their communities'.

"The Immersion aimed to foster respect for the people, history and cultures of the remote Indigenous community, and recognise God's presence in their lives and culture," explained Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at Merici.

"We also wanted our students to be challenged personally by the stories, experiences and relationships they encountered."

The two-week trip was experienced by students Lauren Hawkins, Eva Knight, Hannah Mason, Alex Moylan, Julia Page, Genevieve Sandeman. Teachers Mr Chifley and Ms Connellan accompanied them.



New Leadership Role for Mr Tulley

DISTINGUISHED Catholic school educator, Angus Tulley, has taken up a secondment to the Catholic Education Office in the Archdiocese in the role of Deputy Director to implement its Strategic Plan.

"I am grateful that Angus has agreed to take up this crucial role in 2018, as Catholic Education strives to meet new challenges, whilst continuing to meet the expectations of our community," Director of Catholic Education, Ross Fox, said.

Mr Fox said Mr Tulley's primary role will be to support principals in their leadership of Catholic schools and serve school leaders in their work to provide students with the academic, emotional and spiritual growth needed to flourish.

"I am excited to have Angus commit to a different leadership role in Catholic Education to advance the education of children across Catholic schools in Canberra and Goulburn," Mr Fox said.

Mr Tulley has been principal of St Francis Xavier College since 2003. His previous positions included Deputy Headmaster of St Edmund's College; Campus Head and Campus Deputy of MacKillop Catholic College; and he has been president of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn principal executive since 2014.

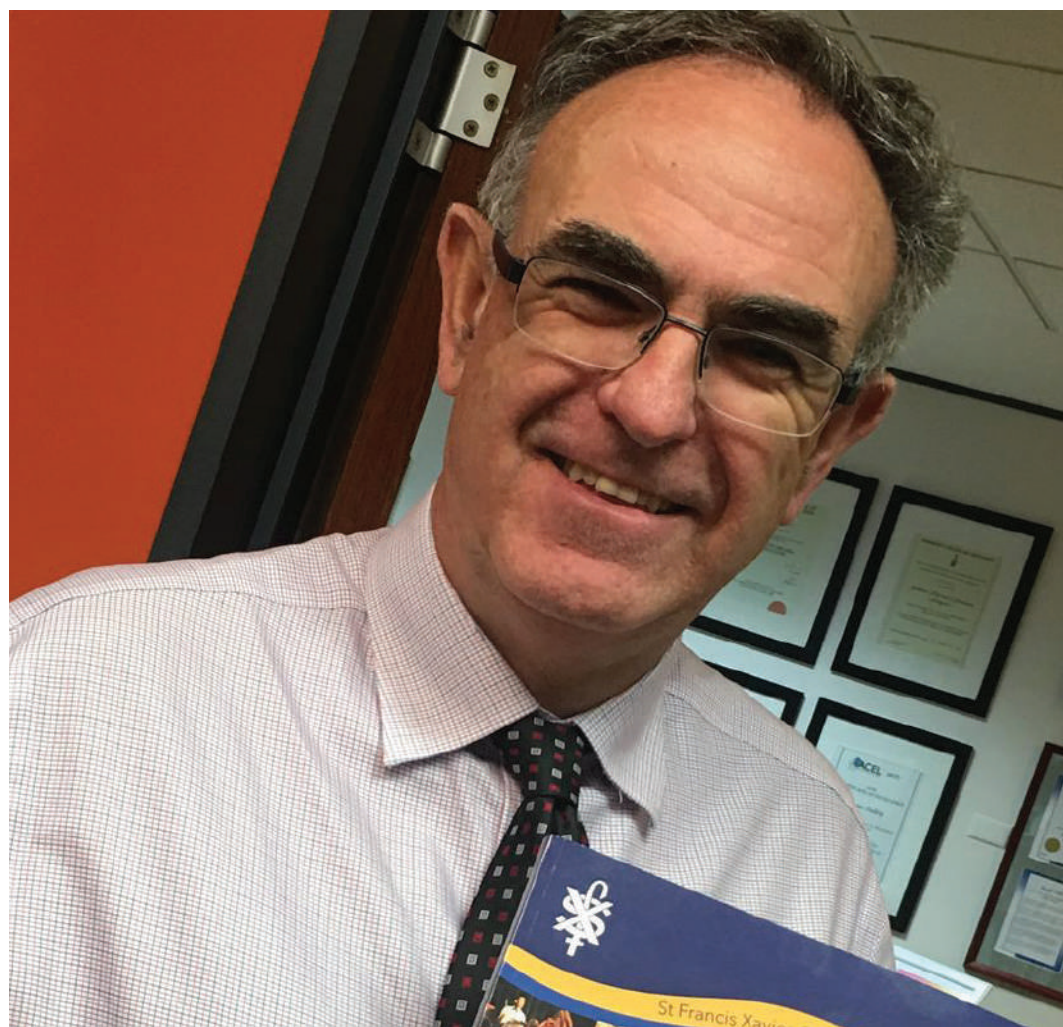
"2018 marks my 37th year involved in Catholic Education in the Archdiocese not to mention my nine years as a Catholic school student in Canberra," he said.

"I look forward to making a further contribution to the System and schools that have formed and nourished me as a student, teacher and leader.

"My role is in terms of school quality and performance but in essence it is about leading, listening and living the gift that is Catholic Education.

"I'm particularly excited about the opportunity to work with the dedicated, professional and forward thinking staff at the Catholic Education Office and having the opportunity to have an influence across the 56 schools in the Archdiocese."

Mr Tulley holds tertiary qualifications in the fields of science, education, education administration, religious education and education law.



New Principal Induction

Catholic Education Director, Ross Fox, reflected the words of St Francis of Assisi to impress the great importance of simplicity and sharp focus on the things that will benefit our students most.

“Do few things, but do them well. Simple joys are holy,” he quoted at a Leaders Induction Day at the St Christopher’s Pastoral Centre for new principals, assistant principals and religious education coordinators.

Mr Fox led the group through a motivating, visionary presentation about the need to focus on performance and improved student results.

He encouraged ‘doing less well’ by concentrating more on critical and core elements and removing distractions.

“We have world class achievement in our schools,” he said.

“Last year Narrabundah topped a global coding challenge, and SFX students outclassed universities from all of the world to design and build a robot that could one day assist emergency services in disaster events.

“The students in our 1000 classrooms throughout the Archdiocese deserve this quality of teaching and learning opportunity and we have the principals and teachers fit for the challenge.”

Mr Fox explained the new strategic plan which enables this focus on the core elements for spiritual growth and academic learning.

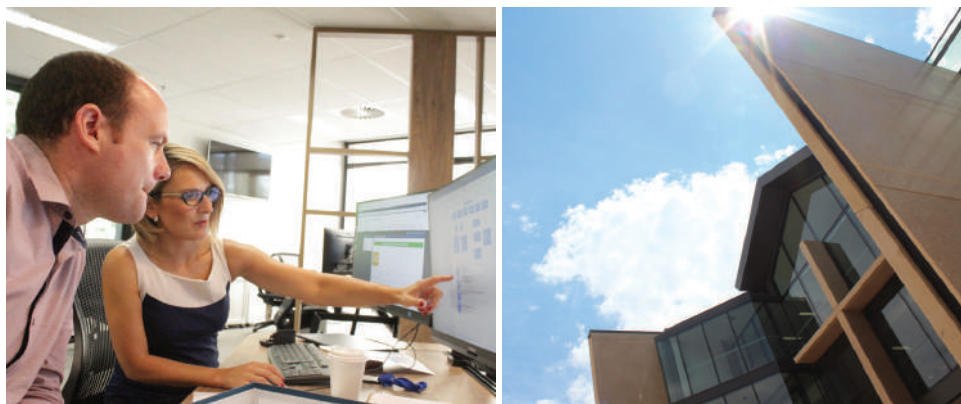
“One of the biggest challenges for Catholic Education is making sure that we are progressing an education agenda that is in step with a rapidly changing world but at the same time being true to our Catholic identity,” he said.

“Research tells us that our school communities value tremendously the Catholic character of our schools, our pastoral care, social justice, and all-inclusive culture within our schools.

“So we must stay true to our Catholic identity, celebrate this, while at the same time pursuing and ensuring safety and academic performance.”



Catholic Education at home in St Christopher’s



ST Christopher’s Pastoral Centre is now home to Catholic Education staff. The move to the new work space marks a year for renewal and growth as the Catholic Education Office embarks on implementing its revitalised strategic plan. Director Ross Fox said Catholic Education is a significant Ministry of the Church and is highly regarded and prized by parents, both Catholic and non-Catholic.

“Sharing a work space with the Archdiocese offers invaluable collaborative opportunities,” he said.

Religious Education Leader Paddy McGrath said it has been immensely beneficial for the RE Team to be under the same roof and connect each day with our religious leaders.

“To bump into to the Archbishop, Father Tony Percy or Father Warrick on any given day is a great asset,” he said.

“While we have always been a part of the Catholic Church, we feel more like a part of the whole. Principals who come to the Catholic Education office from across the Archdiocese can feel this strong sense of connection and mission when they come here,” said Performance Improvement Leader, Mary-Jane Carroll-Fajarda.

Meet our new principals

CATHOLIC Education is delighted to welcome Patrick Ellis, Michael Green and Cameron Tarrant to Principal roles in the Archdiocese.

Mr Ellis, the new acting principal St Michael’s Kaleen, is very excited about 2018 having been introduced to the school and community late last year when the retiring Judy Walsh handed over the reins. He said the strong sense of community and calming vibe across the school was immediate. Having completed a Masters in Adolescent and Child Welfare, he is passionate about student wellbeing and its impact on student learning.

“I have a significant depth of experience teaching and supporting students with additional needs or complex behaviours and tend to be able to engage the most reluctant of learners to a task,” he said.

“I am a ‘hands-on’ leader and will be in classrooms and on the playground often.

“I entered into this profession to teach, support, challenge and affirm children, so being around them brings me the most joy.

“To belong to a school community with a common belief and commitment to following Jesus’ example through the Gospel values is quite a powerful and inspiring opportunity.”



Photo (LtoR): Patrick Ellis, Cameron Tarrant and Michael Green

Mr Green, is a proud born and bred Canberran, and a Catholic educator of 20 years. He will step into an acting principal role after four years as assistant principal at Mt Carmel Yass. He is immensely fond of the school and its sense of community.

“As principal I believe it is tremendously important for my primary school to be a place of joy,” he said.

“If a child feels loved, accepted and cared for they will be ready to learn.

“I hold relationships in the highest value in teaching and learning.

“The more a child feels valued for who they are, not what they can do, the better they will learn.”

This year marks Cameron Tarrant’s 24th year teaching and he is delighted to be acting principal of St Joseph’s O’Connor.

He grew up in the ACT and after 12 years teaching in Sydney, returned to Canberra to raise his family.

“Canberra is such a wonderful city to live in and to grow up in,” he said.

“We ski in the winter and love the summer in and around Canberra, especially the mountain bike tracks!”

Having always been on the Southside, he says he is looking forward to getting to know all about the Northside of town.

“I am looking forward to bringing my experience and energy to the school, to continue the great work being done, and getting to know the students and support them to be confident and active global citizens,” he said.

Advertisement

HOME BASE

Gerard Heffernan

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You can avoid revert rates by changing to another home loan product with the same lender, but you may have to pay a switch fee. Alternatively, you could change lenders, but this too will come at a cost.

Revert rates are a good example of why it's important to think through your home loan options with a long-term view in mind. A benefit to using a mortgage broker to secure your home loan is that we can do this research for you. We know the importance of checking details like what rate your fixed term will revert to.

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Drum on the run



AUSTRALIAN Catholic missionaries, Daniel and Stephen Drum, certainly weren't resting on their laurels over the most recent Christmas period.

Originally from Bribbaree in the Western Deanery, the brothers who are training with the Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity Order, helped launch a campaign to create awareness of the distressing situation which is currently happening in Venezuela.

"The campaign is called #CORREMOSPORVENEZUELA, which means we run for Venezuela," Daniel said.

"Two religious, accompanied by Carla Sacramento and Ricardo

Castano, ran the San Silvestre 2017 road race on December 31 in order to shed light on the crisis of Venezuela."

Mrs Sacramento is a former world champion athlete, while Mr Castano is a former Spanish marathon champion.

Verbum Dei missionary priests, Fr Bernardo Telo Rasquilha and Fr Daniel dos Santos, also ran in the race.

"We ran to denounce the abandonment that the Venezuelan people suffer in the areas of health and food shortages, but also in order to collaborate with them and give them back their hope," Fr Rasquilha said.

Those who are interested

further can collaborate with Venezuela by "running in a symbolic or real way" by following the link at <http://crea.verbumdei.org/venezuela/>

In choosing the "symbolic" option, one can manifest their support for the initiative, while for those who choose to run in a real race, the Verbum Dei Fraternity will be in contact with them to give them the necessary instructions.

In addition to their efforts for Venezuela, the Drum brothers are undertaking theology studies in Spain. To learn more about the Verbum Dei order and their presence in Venezuela go to <http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/>

Book Review

In All Seasons for All Reasons by Fr James Martin SJ

Reviewed by Andrea Dean

In All Seasons for All Reasons, is a simple and encouraging book by Fr James Martin, Society of Jesus.

Just 80 pages, this booklet is a collection of monthly columns originally published in "Give Us This Day - a monthly publication centred on the Word of God.

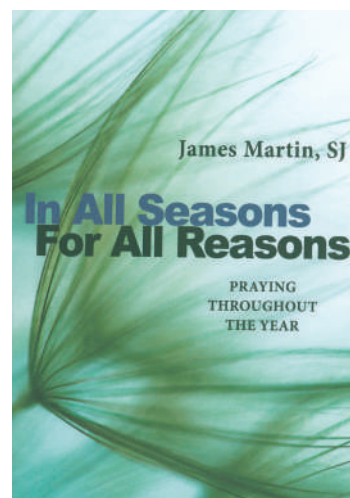
In All Seasons for All Reasons is a collection of essays. It explores and affirms various ways and reasons to pray.

Fr Martin is an experienced author and is the editor of America - a leading US Catholic journal of opinion. He is also a consultant to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communication. In this work he contends that the right way to

pray is what works best for you!

With elegance, clarity and accuracy, the author describes styles and forms of prayer in the Catholic tradition that range from the Rosary to prayer with Scripture; and from imaginative prayer to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The one-page articles are divided into three sections:

- A Rich Tradition - 17 essays on the Church's traditional prayers including the Hail Mary, Our Father, and Centreing Prayer.
- For All Reasons - 32 essays on non-traditional prayers for various reasons such as Faith Sharing, Journaling, Anger, Gratitude, Distractions, and Enemies.
- In All Seasons - Special



prayers for the Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter/Pentecost, and Feasts/ other season time periods.

This is a helpful introduction for those exploring and extending their prayer as well as a gentle refresher for those seeking a renewal of their spiritual life. I recommend a slow savouring of each page.

Bringing out the best in Catholic women



A program aimed at supporting, encouraging and bringing out the best in Catholic women will be launched in Canberra on International Women's Day.

The National Catholic Women's Mentoring Program, run by volunteers through the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's National Office for the Participation of Women, is inspired by the words of St Catherine of Siena: "Be who God wants you to be and you will set the world on fire."

Christine Pace, the 34-year-old woman who had the original idea for the mentoring initiative, says the free program can help women understand the contribution they are making and can make into the future.

"Sometimes we need others to recognise our potential in order for us to see it for ourselves," Ms Pace said.

"Mentoring is the perfect instrument to provide this opportunity."

Andrea Dean, director of the Office for the Participation of Women, concurs.

"In a time when the turmoil caused by the revelations of the Catholic Church's inadequate response to the sexual abuse of children is profound, we can focus on fostering the potential of women so that they can take their place in helping create the Church of the future," she said.

Merici College, a school committed to the transformative education of girls, will host the Canberra launch at 6pm on March 8. It is also one of the partners for the event.

Special guests will come from the fields of law, health, education and politics. All women who appreciate the support and friendship of other women are encouraged to attend and to bring a friend, daughter, sister or mother.

Tickets are available at www.catholicwomensmentoring.org.au or by calling (02) 6201 9861.

1234

YEAR OF YOUTH AIMS

1. Prayerfully discern the Australian bishops vision for ministry with young people, Anointed and Sent
2. Authentic and personal engagement by Church leaders in the challenges and success in young people's lives
3. Acknowledging the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of young people, and young people acting upon the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church
4. Upholding the dignity of young people, ensuring a safe environment from physical, emotional and spiritual harm

Year of Youth invitation to dialogue

THE AUSTRALIAN Catholic Bishops have identified the liturgical year of 2018 as a national Year of Youth.

Focused on local renewal, the Year of Youth invites the Church into dialogue about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the Church and society.

It calls for active engagement focused on the reconnection and renewal of a new generation of young people in the life of the Church.

Painted by Amunda Gorey.
Copyright: Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



A faith-filled gathering

A MELBOURNE woman with a deep faith and a strong sense of social justice has been chosen to represent young Australian Catholics at a Vatican meeting this year to prepare for the Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment.



Angela Markas will represent Australian Catholics. Picture: Supplied.

Young people from across the world will gather in Rome in March in anticipation of the Synod, which will be held in October 2018.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, Bishops’ Delegate for Youth, said Angela Markas, a member of the Chaldean Catholic Church in Melbourne, was one of many faith-filled young people who were nominated to represent Australia at the pre-Synod gathering.

“Across Australia, we see young people who are living out their faith both in the life of their local parish, but also beyond the walls of the church,” Archbishop Fisher said.

“As we observed with almost 20,000 young people last December in Sydney, there is a vibrant and diverse community of young Catholics right across our country and Angela, and the work she does in the Chaldean community, is a great example of the vibrancy and diversity of the Catholic Church in Australia.”

Miss Markas, who is currently studying at the University of Melbourne, was honoured when she found out she was chosen to attend the pre-Synod gathering.

“Like many other young Catholics in Australia, I am constantly seeking to live out my faith in my daily life. “I don’t see my own journey or my own life as much different from those

around me, so it will be that faith, that journey that I carry with me to Rome,” she said.

“The opportunity to gather with young Catholics from across the world and to spend some time in the company of the Holy Father is one I will cherish, but I know that I am there to represent my fellow Australian Catholics.

“I will use the coming months to engage with my peers and share their hopes and their visions when I travel to Rome.”

Archbishop Fisher, who along with Melbourne Auxiliary Bishop Mark Edwards OMI will attend the October Synod, said the March gathering of young people is a pivotal step along the way.

“If the Catholic Church is to host a Synod on Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment, it is obvious that the voice of young people must help to shape the preparations for the meeting and also the deliberations that take place at the Synod,” he said.

“A survey of young Catholics in Australia will ensure that the voice of hundreds of thousands of young Australians will be heard by the Holy Father and by the universal Catholic Church.”

Youth counting the days to Panama

YOUNG Catholics all over the world are counting down the days to next year’s World Youth Day event which will take place in Panama between January 22 and 27.

Pilgrims and supporters are being encouraged to visit the official website at <http://worldyouthday.com/panama-2019> for

signing up for the updates, as well as checking out the schedule. Other areas of interest on the website include the official logo, song and prayer. Archdiocesan Youth Coordinator Huw Warmenhoven said the Archdiocese will take a contingent across to South America.

He is encouraging all young

people to start saving money. “The Archdiocese will be releasing its plan soon and we are encouraging young people from all of the different deaneries to join us on this road to Panama,” he said. “World Youth Day 2019 will culminate the Year of Youth not just in our Archdiocese, but around the country.

Help Religious Sisters - the unsung heroines in the Church!

They smile, they heal, they teach, they comfort. Around the globe Catholic religious sisters quietly perform their dedicated and heroic service without remuneration and barely even noticed by the wider world. But in order to assist others, they themselves also need to be helped, for although they minister to so many, they themselves still need their daily bread and a roof over their heads.



Sr Annie Demerjian works with those in need in war torn Syria.

Each year the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) supports over 9,000 religious sisters in every corner of the earth. Many religious congregations turn to the charity for help, not least for the formation of their precious new vocations. While many congregations in the Western world have few or no new vocations and even seem to be dying out, in other parts of the world the religious communities are filled with young and smiling faces.

Along with the contemplative orders ACN helps those sisters active in the charitable apostolate, relieving them of the daily burden of supporting themselves while they also care for the poorest of the poor, whether in the slum quarters of the great cities, in the vast expanses of the African continent, or in the besieged cities of Iraq and Syria.

It is vital that the indispensable work of religious sisters in Christ’s Holy Catholic Church continues. Religious sisters are the unsung heroines in the Church. ACN is proud to assist the inspirational work carried out by religious sisters in some of the poorest, most dangerous places in the world.

The average grant ACN gives to support a religious sister or novice is \$300 - but whatever you can afford will be enormously appreciated. ACN forwards the donations directly to the religious superiors in charge of the religious communities and congregations.

A complimentary Mother Teresa rosary designed by the Vatican rosary makers will be sent to all those who can assist with a donation of \$20.00 or more to support this cause and tick the box below.

Mother Teresa, now St Teresa of Calcutta, was canonised on September 4th 2016. The rosary carries the following inscriptions on the reverse side of the crucifix and central medal: “A little pencil in the hand of God” and “It is not how much we do, but how much love we put into what we do”.

The colours of the rosary beads represent the simple white sari worn by Mother Teresa and the blue, her devotion to the Virgin Mary.

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Coming Events

FEBRUARY 10: National Day of Prayer and Fasting. For more information and to register go to www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au

FEBRUARY 13: Caritas Kitchen initiative at St Christopher's. See story on page 4.

FEBRUARY 16 to FEBRUARY 18: The Earth's Cry: Care for Our Common Home live-in weekend with an open day on the Saturday (Open day booking essential). For more information and bookings call (02) 6380 5222 or email info@stclement.com.au

FEBRUARY 17 (6pm): St Valentine's Celebration Mass at Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah, ACT. Includes 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 18 (2.30pm): Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Inauguration Liturgy at St Francis Xavier College, Florey, ACT.

FEBRUARY 21 to 23: Catholic Social Services Victoria is hosting a conference titled 'Hearing, Healing and Hope'. For more information go to <http://www.css.org.au/Conferences/Hearing-Healing-Hope-2018>

FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 5, 19 and 26 (6pm): A short course in Theology is being offered at Canberra's Australian Catholic University campus in Watson. Registration fees apply. Registration essential. Go to www.acu.edu/theology/shortcourses

MARCH 3 (7am): MenAlive Breakfast at St Benedict's in HOME (Cnr Rutledge and Crawford Streets) Queanbeyan. RSVP to Frank on 0417 664 110 or by email fstanford200@gmail.com

MARCH 3 to 10: The Catholic Bushwalking Club will be based in Jindabyne doing six days of graded walks in Kosciuszko National Park. Participants would have to join the Club as prospective members. Certain fitness level required. ALL WELCOME. RSVP by February 9 to Denise Brady on 0425 378 724.

MARCH 4 (Save the Date): LEAD Youth Mass and Rally at St Christopher's Cathedral and Pastoral Centre.

MARCH 9: 40th Anniversary for L'Arche in Canberra Dinner at Southern Cross Club Woden. For more information call (02) 6282 9066 or go to <http://larche.org.au/larche-communities/canberra/>

MARCH 9 and 10: The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Office for Youth is hosting an Australian Catholic Youth and Youth Ministry Research Seminar at the ACU Leadership Centre, Brisbane. For more information go to <http://www.youth.catholic.org.au/projects/research-seminar>

MARCH 10 (6pm): Greta Bradman in concert at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong. Chicken and champagne dinner. Cost: \$60pp. Ph: (02) 6380 5222. Accommodation available.

MARCH 22 (7pm for 7.30 start): The Concerned Catholics of Canberra and Goulburn will hold its next public forum at

the Centre for Christianity and Culture in Barton, ACT. For more information go to <https://www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org/new-events/>

MARCH 24 (6.30pm to 8.30pm): Wine tasting social event for Engaged and Young Married Couples at Clonakilla Winery, Murrumbateman, NSW. \$25 per head includes drinks and finger food. Numbers limited to 50 couples. For bookings and more information contact Lara on 0429 102 869.

APRIL 6 to 8: 'Living in the light of the Resurrection': A retreat in the spirit of Taizé at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW. Facilitated by the Friends of Taize. Cost: \$250.00 (Concessions available). Bookings (02) 8795 3400 or visit <http://carmeliteretreats.com.au/>

For more information including the weekend programme and Canberra carpooling options contact Annemarie on 0421 492 554.

JUNE 10: St Greg's Youth LIVE

JULY 11 and 12: St Greg's Youth Queanbeyan Retreat.

JULY 12 to 14: The PROCLAIM 2018 conference in Brisbane is organised and hosted on behalf of the National Centre for Evangelisation, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. For more information go to <http://promo.proclaimconference.com.au/>

AUGUST 5: SHINE Youth Mass and Rally at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre.

SEPTEMBER 5 to 7: Australian Catholic Communications Congress 2018: Communicating Hope and Trust. Held at Rydges South Bank Brisbane. The congress is open to everyone communicating the Good News across Catholic media or communication channels. For more information go to <https://www.catholic.org.au/>

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Written entries are invited for the June edition to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra, ACT 2600, or email catholic.voice@cg.org.au

Entries which are accepted are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

About Town



January 5 is the all-important Feast of St Nina (the infant Jesus). Led by the Filipino Community there were three major celebrations in the Archdiocese throughout January. Pictures: John McLaurin.



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Seeking the Mind of Christ

Friday 9 Feb – 7pm to 9pm at St Monica’s Church, 1 Sharwood Crescent, Evatt, ACT 2617

Saturday 10 Feb – 10am to 5:30pm & **Sunday 11 Feb** – 10:30am to 5:30pm at St Brigid’s Church, 2 Bancroft St, Dickson, ACT 2602

Speakers: Br Lalith Perera, Archbishop Christopher Prowse & Fr Ken Barker

Supported by: Fr Bernie Patterson & Fr Loi Viovicente



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Timely subject of love in family



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Energetic Couples for Christ members at the recent congress. Picture: Supplied.

“YOU have chosen a very important and timely subject of Love in the Family”, Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana told more than 200 members of the Couples for Christ (CFC) community.

Speaking at the community’s national lay and clergy congress held in Queanbeyan, the apostolic nuncio to Australia gave a thorough dissertation on Pope Francis’ 2015 apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*.

“This document has nine

chapters, excluding the introduction, 256 pages, made up of 325 paragraphs, not counting the sub-paragraphs,” he said.

“While we can read in a day a paperback fiction story of the same length, if not longer, this particular document, should be read and assimilated slowly because of its rich content.”

Highlighting paragraph 311 of the document, he prescribed Pope Francis’ added emphasis on the Church and the pastors of the Church to be close to people,

no matter what their situation might be, especially those who are hurting.

The nuncio’s talk was then complemented by a session delivered by Lito Tayag. The theme of Mr Tayag’s talk was on the empowerment of the laity.

Archbishop Yllana, originally from The Philippines, was the principal celebrant at the congress Mass at St Raphael’s Church.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Fr Mattheus Wuwu

MGL and Fr Joshua Scott concelebrated.

Recently ordained, Fr Scott pitched his talk on the journey as a clergyman, while Shane Dwyer discussed his role as the director of the National Centre for Evangelisation and his journey as a lay person.

Praise and worship as well as reflective sharing opportunities were prominent throughout the gathering, while catechesis took shape in the form of a question and answer forum.

Some of the questions raised were about inter-religious marriage, impediments to marriage, irregular relationships, those with headstrong secular views and those with homosexual tendencies.

The CFC Leader Summit which followed the congress featured a best practices workshop conducted by Canberran Ronnie Bautista, while a calendar of events and the community’s direction for next year was finalised.

Western parishioners bid fond farewell to churches

MASS has been celebrated in the Bribbaree and Quandialla churches for the last time.

St Columba’s Bribbaree held its final Mass on December 17, and St Brigid’s Quandialla officially closed its doors after morning Mass on December 31.

Young Parish Priest Fr Tom Thornton was the principal celebrant at both Masses. Bribbaree Catholic Women’s League President Nola Drum fulfilled the role of parish secretary for the past 20 years and says the closure of the two Western Deanery churches was inevitable.

“St Columba’s and St Brigid’s have been very important parts of our communities for the best part of a century,” she said.

“With the shortage of both priests and parishioners however, the right decision has been made and we are now amalgamated with the parish of Young.

“We thank our priests over the years who have

served us for so long with their spiritual support.”

Catholic Women’s League Treasurer Angela Sweeny organised a cake for the occasion at Bribbaree. She also provided presents and flowers and for parishioners before offering some kind words to those who had contributed to the parish life in all the various ways. A highlight of the day was the Baptism of Mabel Gibson.

Mrs Drum said everyone who attended agreed that the morning tea was a fitting testimony to the 97 years that the Bribbaree Parish had been in existence. She and husband John are also on the verge of a big change with the couple retiring to Temora after spending the past 37 years on their Bribbaree sheep farm. They will look back on their time in the district with fond memories.



VOLUNTEER THIS FEBRUARY



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Retirements

Fr Brannelly’s legacy of faith and devotion

FATHER Kevin Brannelly leaves behind many fond memories at Weston Creek after spending the past 15 years as parish priest of St John’s Waramanga and St Jude’s Holder.

Leigh Schneider, chair of the parish pastoral council says his most powerful legacy will be his example of strong faith, devotion to service and humility.

“One part of Fr Brannelly’s farewell speech was a very generous tribute to Fr Michael Lim as our new parish priest,” Mr Schneider said.

“It’s typical of his modesty that he’d bring other people into a moment like that rather than making it all about himself.”

Others to give speeches at the departing priest’s farewell were Bishop Pat Power and South Woden Parish Priest Fr Richard Thompson.

Bishop Power recalled his long friendship with Fr Brannelly and spoke of the priest’s wisdom, spirituality and dedication in a number of roles including a significant chaplaincy at the Canberra Hospital.

Fr Thompson thanked him for his service to the Archdiocese and to the parishes he has served,

particularly in North Goulburn and Weston Creek.

Weston Creek’s Corson twins, Clare and Maria, 16, said they appreciated Fr Brannelly’s wisdom which they said is particularly evident in his homilies.

“His sermons give deeper meaning to the readings when he puts them in context,” Clare said.

“He always left us with the challenge of taking the Sunday readings into our daily lives,” Maria said.

“He has always been very friendly to us as kids and takes the time after Mass to shake hands and talk to each person.”

Clare and Maria’s parents, Phil and Camille, also spoke highly of their former parish priest.

“The word that stands out for me is steadfast,” Mr Corson said.

“Fr Brannelly has always conveyed to me that his core job is to serve his parishioners by nurturing the spiritual life of each of us.”

Mrs Corson said the pastor greatly supported her in creating the first Archdiocesan atrium – the retreat space of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

During his time at Waramanga, Fr Brannelly accommodated and ministered to the



Fr Brannelly leaves behind many fond memories at Weston Creek. Picture: John McLaurin.

Neo-Catechumenal Way Community in the parish.

Last year he celebrated his silver jubilee of priesthood alongside Fr Bernie Patterson and Dominican Fr Kieran Adams.

He also had the privilege of delivering the eulogy at the funeral of his close friend, Sir Peter Lawler (Order British Empire).

Fr Brannelly, who qualified as an accountant years ago when

living in London, said he has been around for five popes and lived through the Second Vatican Council.

He believes the re-assertion of the Scriptures and focus on the Eucharist as ‘source and summit’ has been important for the Church.

Although he laments the fact that “the faith is greatly under-appreciated these days,” he has

great hope in the Holy Spirit whom he called ‘the sanctifier’.

“I will continue praying for the world and for all those in the Archdiocese and I am most grateful for meeting all the wonderful people I have across the journey,” he said. Now that he no-longer has the pressures of looking after a parish, Fr Brannelly, says he is looking forward to watching Eternal World Television Network.

Curtain closes as ‘ever-generous’ priest retires

THE CURTAIN has closed on Fr Tony Frey’s time as parish priest of North Woden.

Calling it a day on December 31, after 17 years in the Parish of the Transfiguration, he has been described by parishioners as ‘most-welcoming’ and ‘ever-generous’.

His retirement came in a year where the parish helped him celebrate his 70th birthday.

About 300 parishioners were given a more formal opportunity to farewell their priest at a celebration held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club in Woden towards the end of last year.

Fr Frey’s time in the parish involved ministering to a large parish community incorporating Holy Trinity Church at Curtin and Sts Peter and Paul’s Church

at Garran.

David Swan, chair of the parish pastoral council, gave the farewell speech.

“Ministering to a large parish has not stopped Fr Tony from generously embracing those who may seek the services of a priest but whose links to the Church may at best be tenuous or intermittent,” Mr Swan said.

Accolades to the departing priest included his generous and friendly nature and his ability to connect and relate with people from all walks of life.

During his tenure he oversaw the construction of the parish centre at Curtin.

The parish has taken advantage of this facility not only to serve parishioners but also to reach out to vulnerable members of society.

Until recently the centre staffed mainly by parish volunteers offered a unique service each Friday as a day care centre for those in the community with a life limiting illness.

Fr Frey was a familiar face around the Curtin shopping precinct and was known there by Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

Mr Swan said the departed priest “pushed through” in his duties often at times when serious health issues accompanied his ministry.

“I suggest it is in these willing responses that we can get a good informal read-out of the regard and affection in which Fr Tony is held by parishioners,” he said.

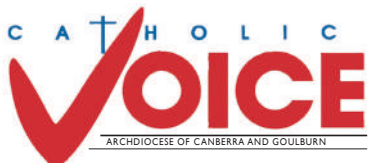
“Let me conclude by saying on behalf of all of us that you go, Fr Tony, into your



Fr Tony Frey at his 70th birthday celebration with his sisters Christine (left) and Ann (right). Picture: Supplied.

well-deserved retirement with our love, respect and gratitude for sharing with us so generously the gift of your priesthood.”

Fr Frey who has received much support from his sisters Christine and Ann will remain in Canberra.



Classifieds

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BIRTHS

MCLAURIN, Clement Hugh: Hugh and Fenelle McLaurin from Conder,ACT are pleased to announce the arrival of their first born son. 'Clem' was born at Canberra Hospital on 05/12/2017 weighing 8lbs 1oz. He is a much loved brother for his sister Maelle, aged 1.

REBBECHI, Joseph Theodore: Joe and Jess Rebbechi from Belconnen are pleased to announce the arrival of their son. Joseph was born weighing 9lbs 5oz on the 4/11/2017.

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DEATHS

HARRIGAN, Mary: Beloved wife of Neil passed away on Boxing Day last year. Her funeral Mass was held on January 4 at Holy Rosary Church, Watson. Commiserations to children Genevieve, Paul, Felicity and Rachel and their families.

QUINANE, Mary: President of Serra Club Canberra in 1991, she passed away on January 18. Please remember her in your prayers.

TRAN, Fr John Baptiste Tran: Passed away at Jindalee Aged Care Residence. He was aged 77 and during the last few months of his life, kept very poor health. He is survived by two brothers – one living in Vietnam and the other in Brisbane – and a sister living in Vietnam. His funeral Mass was held at St Thomas More Church, Campbell, on January 3. His committal on January 4 was at Norwood Park Crematorium.

ENGAGEMENTS

HODGE and PEARSON: Family and friends of Jordan and Sarah congratulate them on their recent engagement.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MCNAMARA: Jack and Joan (nee Lipman) of Batemans Bay celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary in the parish on November 19 last year. They were joined by family, among them were the couple's 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

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PRAYERS

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary
-This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted.
O most beautiful flower of Mt Carmel, fruit vine splendorous of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (pray this 3 times). I place this cause in your hand (x3). Thank you for mercy toward me and mine.

GOOD NEWS IN TOUGH TIMES

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Mass needs silence, not ‘chit-chat’

BY HANNAH BROCKHAUS

Vatican City, (CNA/EWTN News).- CHRISTIANS can’t just be a good person and skip Mass on Sundays, according to Pope Francis.

He says it is the Eucharist that provides the nourishment needed to truly live the Gospel well in our daily lives.

“How can we respond to those who say that there is no need to go to Mass, not even on Sundays, because what is important is to live well, to love our neighbors?” he said.

“It is true that the quality of the Christian life is measured by the capacity to love.

“But how can we practice the Gospel without drawing the necessary strength to do it, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible spring of the Eucharist?”

Pope Francis spoke during his Wednesday general audience, during which he continued his weekly catechesis on the Mass and Eucharist.

He focused on the reasons why we must go to Mass every Sunday, besides the fact that it is a law of the Church, which he said is important, but “not enough alone.”

Instead we must go deeper: “We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with the grace of Jesus, with his living presence in us and among us, can we put into practice his commandment, and thus be his credible witnesses,” he said. The Eucharist and Mass, he said, are where we find our strength for daily life.

Without it, Christians “are condemned to be dominated by the fatigue of everyday life.” Often consumed by worries and fears, this weekly meeting is where Christ gives us the strength to live each day with courage and with hope.

He explained how participating in the Eucharistic communion with Jesus here on earth helps us to anticipate heaven, where it will be “Sunday without sunset”: no more tears, grief, or pain, but only “the joy of living fully and forever with the Lord.”

At Sunday Mass we rest from the busyness and work of the week, which teaches us to place our trust in the Father, not in earthly things, the Pope said.

In this same way, abstaining from unnecessary labour on Sundays helps us to live out our identity as sons and daughters of



God, and not slaves. The Pope also noted an important distinction about Mass, which is that Christians do not go in order to give something to God, “but to receive from Him what we really need.” This teaching is evoked in a prayer from the Roman Missal, which addresses God, saying: “You do not need our praise, but for a gift of your love you call us

to give you thanks; our hymns of blessing do not increase your greatness, but they obtain for us the grace that saves us,” he said. Pope Francis then noted that there are some Christian communities which are not able to celebrate Mass every Sunday, but they are still called to gather together in prayer, to listen to the Word of God, and to nurture their desire for the

Eucharist Alternatively, there are many secularized societies which have entirely lost the Christian sense of an “illuminated Sunday,” he said. In this case we must help revive and recover the meaning of the day, he said, which should be celebrated with joy, with community, and with solidarity; as a day of rest “that restores the soul and the body.”

Society named partner for return and earn

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW has been named one of the initial donation partners of the NSW Government’s Return and Earn scheme. The Return and Earn program came into effect on December 1 last year. Of the partnership, St Vincent de Paul Society NSW CEO, Jack de Groot said, “Vinnies is extremely

grateful and excited to be one of the initial donation partners for the NSW Government’s Return & Earn Scheme. “The initiative will raise important funds to assist Vinnies provide a helping hand to those Australians experiencing disadvantage and homelessness in our communities.”

Mr de Groot said that all funds donated to Vinnies by consumers using the Reverse Vending Machines will be used to help run Vinnies accommodation and support services, such as counselling and case management for vulnerable and disadvantaged people. The initial donation campaign will run until the end of February.

Encounter

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"Go and make disciples of all nations"
MT 28:19





The YMI Equipping School is a key international formation and mission initiative that is proudly hosted by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. May the grace of the Holy Spirit renew our Catholic youth through the Equipping School and all the missionary work flowing from this experience. I invite all those involved in youth ministry, including our Parishes, movements and schools, in the Archdiocese and beyond to pray for and actively support this exciting work.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

COME AND JOIN US IN THE
Year of Youth

REGISTER TODAY!
csyma.com/equippingschool



Opening new horizons for spreading joy



What is ACYF?

THE AUSTRALIAN Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC). It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.



Archbishop Christopher Prowse

ARCHBISHOP Christopher Prowse was proud to lead 170 young people from the Archdiocese to the festival. He was also a prominent speaker and homilist across the three days and described the event as ‘awesome’.

His main plenary talk can be viewed and listened to at approximately the 40 minute mark of this YouTube clip at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kPOM-OUzPM>

Alternatively it can be read at <http://cgcatholic.org.au/plenary-session-keynote-address/>

To read his homily at ACYF go to <http://cgcatholic.org.au/about/our-archbishop/homilies/homily-acyf17/>

What proved hot at ACYF 2017

APART from the warm weather, a number of items and performers proved popular including lots of live music, Catholic organization stalls, the Chapel and Confessionals and the plenary sessions. Some of the key performers and speakers at the festival included:

- Matt Maher - <https://www.mattmahermusic.com/>
- Fr Robert Galea - <https://www.frrobgalea.com/>
- Emily Wilson - <http://emwilsonmusic.com/>
- Steve Angrisano - <http://www.steveangrisano.com/>
- Simon Carrington - <http://fireupministries.com/>



CDF
Catholic Development Fund
Canberra and Goulburn

Supporting parish initiatives

Supporting parish initiatives