

# CATHOLIC VOICE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

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*Overwhelming support as a coastal community rebuilds its life: Middle pages*







## Archbishop's Message

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Dear Friends in Christ,  
HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL!

*I continue the pastoral reflections on the upcoming AUSTRALIAN PLENARY COUNCIL (2020/2021) that I began in the March edition of CATHOLIC VOICE.*

# 2. Making the Church the home and the school of Communion

Having established that the journey to the Plenary Council of 2020/2021 is marked by a pilgrimage of conversion, we need to then remind ourselves that we do this as Catholics.

St John Paul II, in one of his wonderful documents at the turn of our new millennium, reflected that the great challenge facing us in the millennium which is now beginning is precisely this “to make the Church the home and the school of Communion.” (Novo Millennio Ineunte, 2001, n.43)

Reflecting on this key term of promoting a spirituality of communion, Pope Francis comments:

“The pastoral journey of the local community has as an essential reference point the pastoral plan of the diocese, which is to be placed before the programmes of the associations, movements and any particular group. This pastoral unity, of everyone around the bishop, will create unity in the Church.”

Catholics have a particular theological understanding of this term “pastoral plan”.

For example, the documents of the Vatican II Council make it quite clear that our Church has both a hierarchical and a collegial structure. It is this living experience of Communion – of all of the baptised working in the service of the Kingdom of God among us – that is essential.

Following from this is the understanding that we all have equal dignity but we serve in different tasks. The Lay Faithful direct the entire world towards the Kingdom of God. The Clergy specifically serve in the governance, teaching and sanctification of the Church. Even in this they are assisted by the Lay Faithful. The Bishops, as successors of the Apostles, serve under the leadership of the Pope, and become signs of unity and Communion of their entire diocese. We are all part of this school of communion.

This is different from viewing the Church purely from the prism of a parliamentary democracy. The principle in a democracy rests on the understanding

that all power comes from the people. In the Church, however, all power comes from Christ. It is the power of the Holy Spirit to serve.

There are many wonderful examples in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn over the years of the practical living out of this ecclesial vision of Communion and Service.

For example, there have been several attempts in the Archdiocese to articulate a pastoral plan for herself. In more recent years, diocesan-wide and regional deanery assemblies have moved towards a vision of encouraging our people in the crucial areas of married and family life. So many of our diocesan agencies give incredible service in this area. This pastoral plan needs further development.

Diocesan Pastoral Councils have also been created to flesh out pastoral plans. These have lapsed over the years.

They need to be re-freshed in a manner that involves as many as possible. Similar observations could be said too about a new Diocesan Commission for Women.

In this Year of Youth, our common vision too must be focussed on the place of youth in the Archdiocese. Surprising to some, this is a very dynamic pastoral area in the Archdiocese at present. Let us encourage it together.

These and other possible examples, especially responding to the incredible thirst for prayer among so many, the pastoral care and dynamic contribution of our migrants and refugees, care for the poor and marginalised, and the welcome of new Catholics via the RCIA, ought be areas of our communion in listening and practical charity to ensure that all find a “home” in our Archdiocese.

Our pilgrimage to the national Plenary Assembly in 2020/21 offers us increased Gospel urgency to focus on these vital pastoral areas.

In the next edition of Catholic Voice I will continue on these reflections in preparations for the Plenary Assembly.

God bless us all in the exciting times ahead.

## ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S DIARY

- April**
- SUNDAY, 8 to WEDNESDAY, 11**  
Federation of Catholic Bishops' Conference of Oceania, Port Moresby
- TUESDAY, 17 SATURDAY, 21 6.00pm**  
Mass, St Joseph's Parish, O'Connor
- SUNDAY, 22 11.00am**  
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral
- WEDNESDAY, 25 8.00am**  
ANZAC Day Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral
- SATURDAY, 28 6.00pm**  
Mass, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish South Woden
- SUNDAY, 29 11.00am**  
Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

## The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church Feast Day



The Pope has instituted a new Marian feast honoring Mary as mother of the church. It will be celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost.

## Pilgrims on a journey



THE RECENT fires at Tathra have brought great destruction to properties and immense trauma to this close coastal community in our Archdiocese. It reminds us all that we are in a passing world as pilgrims on a journey to the Father's heavenly home. This Easter time can help us all re-focus on the things that will never end. In Jesus Christ, our pilgrim leader, “we have this hope, and sure and steadfast anchor of the soul.” (Hebrew 6/19) As we pray for the fragile township of Tathra, we place all our wounded fragilities in the Risen Wounds of our Saviour, Jesus -our Risen Lord -and the true compass in our distracted world.

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CATHOLIC VOICE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

EDITOR:  
John McLaurin  
catholic.voice@cg.org.au  
Ph. (02) 6239 9831

ADDRESS:  
GPO Box 3089  
Canberra ACT 2606

www.cgatholic.org.au

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Nguyen



# Bringing the Joy of the Gospel

*"We are not living in a era of change, but a change of era."  
Pope Francis (2015)*

ACCORDING to Pope Francis in his Angelus address on March 23 in 2014, 'now is an opportune time to look within ourselves'.

With this in mind, the Archdiocese will host a 'Joy of the Gospel' parish revitalisation weekend in the Haydon Hall of St Christopher's Pastoral Centre in Manuka on June 29 and 30.

The program aims to shine a particular light into ecclesial culture and is a leadership response from the Church as it emerges from the recent historical sexual abuse findings.

Despite these regrettable incidents of the past, Churches in the Archdiocese and throughout the nation have recorded strong turnouts to Christmas and Easter Liturgies in the past four months highlighting Christian hope amid turmoil.

The Joy of the Gospel weekend is an Archdiocesan initiative.

Its purpose is to equip parishes and provide key personnel with the support they need in

authentically living out the 'Joy of the Gospel'.

Attendees can take what they have learnt back to their Church communities encouraging members of their parish to also live out the 'Joy of the Gospel'.

Fr Tony Percy says the program is primarily leadership and mission based, designed for priests, pastoral councillors, finance committee members, school council members, catechists, teachers, deacons, seminarians, youth ministers, aspirational leaders.

"This program will work best if parish priest and key parish leaders attend together" he said.

Fr Percy believes parishes have shown remarkable resilience and creativity since their inception in the fourth Century and that research into renewal identified three key factors in living out the Joy of the Gospel in our Church communities. They are:

- Good community
- Good teaching and preaching
- Good music

## THE SESSIONS

The sessions will take place between 5pm to 9pm on Friday

June 29 and 10am to 5pm on Saturday June 30. A follow-up review and feedback session will be held between 5pm and 9pm on Friday, October 26. Each of the sessions will be facilitated by Tony Farley, Executive Director Catholic Commission for Employment Relations, Archdiocesan Communications Manager, Jeanine Doyle, and Archdiocesan Manager of Executive Services and Fundraising, Rachel Romney-Brown. They will maintain a focus on leadership and mission for each of the nine units. The approach will be dialogical. There will be nine units of input, time for reflection, time for dialogue. Each session will involve 20 minutes of input, 10 minutes of reflection and 20 minutes of dialogue. The 20 minutes of input is akin to a TED TALK (see YouTube), with a pertinent question that inspires creative thinking and feeling, and dialogue among participants.

## 'JOY OF THE GOSPEL' UNITS

**Unit One:** "Not an Era of Change but a change of Era"

**Unit Two:** Jesus Christ, His Call and the Christian Community



**Unit Three:** Leadership and Mission

**Unit Four:** Our Experience of Parish – Our Desires for our Parish

**Unit Five:** "If you knew the Gift of God" (John 4:10)

**Unit Six:** Governance and Stewardship

**Unit Seven:** Teaching and

Preaching

**Unit Eight:** The Power of a Witness

**Unit Nine:** The Beauty and Power of Music

To register to attend go to [www.faithresources.org.au](http://www.faithresources.org.au) Cost is \$200 per person. For information contact Kylie Bereza: (02) 6239 9800 [kylie.bereza@cg.org.au](mailto:kylie.bereza@cg.org.au)



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# Making friends with Muslims

GETTING to know Islam and making friends with Muslims was the theme of a recent presentation at St Augustine's Parish Yass.

Rev Dr Patrick McInerney, the co-ordinator of the Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations at the Columban Mission Institute in Sydney, gave the presentation to an ecumenical group of 50 people.

It was the latest gathering in a series of six talks so far on the theme of 'Learning of Other Faiths'.

Most of the talks have taken place in the original church of St Augustine, now known as the Lovat Chapel and which had its foundation stone laid by Archbishop John Bede Polding in 1838.

Dr McInerney's 'Getting to

know Islam' talk followed on from his earlier homily on the same topic. He placed high importance on devotion to God and began with a prayer which had originated in the culture of the Sufis.

The Sufis were mystics who emerged in the Islamic world some nine to ten centuries after the birth of Christ and who sought to understand the presence of God in human lives through meditation and prayer.

In a recent Facebook post, Dr McInerney shared the words of President Stuart McMillan on Christian-Muslim relations at the last Uniting Church in Australia Assembly, saying:

"As Christians our task in the presence of other faiths is to rediscover our own Christian discipleship, as a reconciling,

prophetic, hospitable way of life, as a witness and sign of God's loving purposes for all humanity."

Yass Pastoral council member Dr Bryan Coleborne, who has particular responsibility in the parish for Ecumenism, said the series was arranged by the parish in conjunction with the Yass Ministers, whose clergy comprise the leaders of six Christian congregations in the Yass Valley Shire.

"These talks, mostly on Sunday afternoons on themes of faith, belief and religious practice, have been well attended by people from these congregations and beyond," he said.

"They have been open to ideas on spirituality and the importance of building harmony in society through understanding."



Dr Patrick McInerney gave a talk on getting to know Islam. Picture: Supplied.

## Learning of Other Faiths series hosted by St Augustine's Parish Yass

**Talk 1** - Rabbi Alon Meltzer, of the ACT Jewish Community, gave an introduction to Jewish faith.

**Talk 2** - The late Eric Bell, OAM, Ngunnawal elder and Yass community leader, in association with Peter Bindon, formerly of the West Australian

Museum, ethno-botanist and authority on indigenous culture, addressed themes of body and soul from an Aboriginal view.

**Talk 3** - The Venerable Karen Kime, a Birripi woman, the first Aboriginal woman to become a priest in NSW in the Anglican Church in Australia, and

Indigenous Academic Fellow at Charles Sturt University, reflected on ideas of country and spirituality in South Eastern Australia from an indigenous perspective.

**Talk 4** - Karan Gabriel - Founder of Yass Rural Australians for Refugees,

formerly Managing Editor of The Yass Tribune and currently public sector worker and student of law, spoke on the work of human rights advocacy through Yass Rural Australians for Refugees.

**Talk 5** - Pastors Ruth and Dr Gary Jones - Medical Officer at

the Yass Hospital and Pastors at the Eagles Nest Church in Yass, conduct an annual medical mission in West Kenya.

They introduced the theme of building faith there amongst people living with established religiousness and the reality of oppression.

# The long journey from Tehran

IT'S a long way from Tehran to Narrabundah.

At age 17, while still in high school in Iran, Steve (not his real name) began to become interested in Jesus, mainly through reading the Bible and other books about the Christian faith.

At the time he was a devout Muslim, well-schooled in all its teachings.

He knew that if his interest in Jesus was discovered, his life could be in danger.

He says he had an experience of seeing Jesus and hearing his name called and that his interest in Christianity deepened over the years.

Many years later because of his work, he was tried and convicted of not supporting the Muslim regime.

He was sentenced to five years' hard labour and placed in the infamous Tehran prison, Evin.

Many of those sent to Evin are not seen again.

By God's grace, Steve was granted an appeal, and released



Archbishop Christopher Prowse bestows a blessing on RCIA candidates in the crypt of the Cathedral during the Rite of Election earlier this year. Picture: John McLaurin.

after lodging his house as surety for bail. The appeal was to be held in eight days.

He was able to arrange air tickets out of Iran, and transport by boat from Indonesia to Australia.

He fled knowing that he

would be incarcerated with little chance of living to the end of his sentence, and that his house was forfeit to the regime.

After three days and two nights in a small boat, he and 66 other refugees arrived at Christmas Island around Christmas

2013.

All this time, he continued to study Christianity in secret.

After living in Christmas Island, Darwin, and Adelaide, he arrived in Canberra in January 2015 and was given accommodation by the Christian Brothers.

Two years later was taken in by a family connected to St Benedict's Narrabundah.

He asked to be taken to Church, and after a little period, announced that he wanted to become Catholic.

"I can feel God is there, and there is much happiness and joy," he said of the Mass. His host family is taking him through the instruction leading to his Baptism. Every lesson is a challenge in communication as he comes to terms with his new language.

Many of the concepts in the Christian faith are very different from what he grew up with as a Muslim, but with patience and perseverance, his love for and understanding of the Catholic faith is growing.

Steve was Baptised, Confirmed and received his First Holy Communion at Easter through the RCIA at the Easter Vigil last month.

RCIA is the acronym for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you would like to learn more about the process of becoming a Catholic please contact your local parish.



# Twists and turns on way to Catholicism

THERE was a sense of wholeness for Canberra’s Davidson family at this year’s Easter Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart Church Pearce.

It was a particularly joyous moment for Natasha, wife to Geoff and mother to Alyssa, 13, and James, 12.

She watched as those dearest to her completed their RCIA journeys and joined her as a Catholic.

The family call to Catholicism began with James, a student at Marist College.

He asked if the family could try out Mary Help of Christians Parish in Pearce as their place of worship.

The fact that Natasha’s brother and sister-in-law were also attending the parish gave them added incentive.

James wasted little time in settling on being baptised on New Year’s Eve.

He will be Confirmed later this year and says his Catholic faith is important because it makes him feel safe and loved, while also providing him with a strong network of people.

Alyssa says her new faith makes her feel confident and connected. She also likes learning about compassion and having empathy for others.

For Geoff, in particular, the journey to Catholicism has taken many more twists and turns.

Fifteen years ago, his family home was destroyed in the Canberra bushfires and a week later he was involved in a serious car crash.

“At the time I was possibly suffering from post-traumatic stress,” he said.

“I was only 19 and was plunged rapidly into facing mortality.

“I’d gone from being a confident, carefree teenager to being terrified about the fragility of life.

“I would dream about my parents dying and I’d cling onto them – never wanting to let go. I’d lost faith and I was vulnerable to the many challenges of

adult-life.”

Mr Davidson was brought up an Anglican, spending most Sunday mornings at St John’s on the Central Coast, something he enjoyed.

“My introduction to the Catholic faith came about when we moved to Canberra and I attended Marist College,” he said.

I had a natural curiosity for the Church’s teachings.

“Marist was a great school and I enjoyed my religious education.”

“But as so often happens, my teenage years introduced a level of cynicism which led to me turning my back and facing life alone.”

A year after the Canberra bushfires he was engaged to Natasha.

Marriage soon followed as did the births of their children.

Not long after this he met a Christian man from South Africa who made an instant impression on him.

“There was something different about him,” Mr Davidson said.

“He was kind, he was genuine, and he was invested in me and my family.”

The Davidsons took up an invitation from their new friend to join the Hughes Baptist Church.

“We were struggling with James at the time – he was terribly shy, he had delayed speech and my new friend invited me to Boys’ Brigade,” he said.

“He said it would benefit James, which it did, but it also benefitted our whole family, and we started attending church services on Sunday mornings.”

Mr Davidson says at this point although the family were at church, he would suffer terrible anxiety – worried about his family and the inevitability of death.

“I prayed to God and I asked him for help,” he said.

“Each time I looked up at the pastor, he was glowing, and when he preached about eternal life with Christ I would immediately feel comforted with a connection to God.”

He says that this faith



L-R: Fr Richard Thompson, James, Geoff, Alyssa and Natasha Davidson. Picture: Supplied.

connection has been reaffirmed on a number of occasions including in a sermon about the state of the world, especially in Australia.

“Around a half of people have turned their back on God,” he said. “Life is good, fun and is so

unobstructed without God.

“But there is no light in a world without God and we are starting to see the evidence of that now.”

The Davidsons say they now have a sense of belonging and purpose at Mary Help

of Christians Parish at South Woden. “We feel at home there and we are inspired by Fr Richard Thompson,” Mr Davidson said.

“We ask our brothers and sisters to pray for us as we continue to explore and confirm our Catholic faith.”



## 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

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# Igniting the ‘feminine genius’



L-R: Genevieve Jacobs, Senator Jacinta Collins, Giulia Jones MLA and Sophie die Mezza. Picture: Jeanine Doyle.



ONE HUNDRED-and-forty women and men gathered in Canberra on International Women’s Day to explore what more can be done to ignite the ‘feminine genius’.

The Archdiocese marked the day with the launch at Merici College in Braddon of Catholic Women’s Mentoring.

Panel members Senator Jacinta Collins, Giulia Jones MLA and disability advocate Sonia di Mezza discussed issues of gender balance, parental leave, the role of mentoring as well as their unique responses to career, motherhood and faith.

Media personality Genevieve Jacobs was the panel host.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse spoke of his delight at the mentoring program being introduced to the Archdiocese.

He commented that the meeting of Mary and Elizabeth, as described in Luke’s Gospel (1: 39-45), “is a profound example of the yearning we have for mentoring, particularly at times of challenge”.

Ms di Mezza promoted ‘getting the priorities right’ which for her are, “Number one, God, number two, my family, friends, those I care about, number three work.” She said in her experience other things then fall into place.

Mrs Jones acknowledged that the changes initiated by other women in politics opened doors for her participation in the ACT Assembly. She spoke of her two grandmothers, her mother and Mary MacKillop as Catholic women who have been her models and inspiration.

Senator Collins, who entered the Australian parliament first in 1995, spoke of the absence of political women mentors in her early career. Her Catholic formation influences her ongoing concern for social justice.

“Women’s participation, in all the ways that are possible, is key to shaping the church and to building a better church,” she said.

Loretta Wholley, Principal of Merici College which hosted the event, said “We are 100% committed to creating a culture of mentoring”.

Merici’s hospitality students prepared food and served guests during the proceedings.

Archbishop Prowse said he hoped the project would draw up, in the Archdiocese, the voice of Catholic women in a more prominent way.

“My desire is to re-establish a Commission for Women and I’m sure that the many voices of women tonight will help us all to see where God is leading us in this particular way,” he said.

Archbishop Prowse prayed for the project’s success and thanked Andrea Dean, the Director of the National Office for the Participation of Women, for her efforts in coordinating the night.

Ms Dean said women from all over Australia were signing up to Catholic Women’s Mentoring with a launch having been held in Sydney Archdiocese.

“Once women have been matched in a mentoring relationship they arrange to meet face to face or to use telephone or Skype for their regular conversations,” she said.

*My desire is to re-establish a Commission for Women and I'm sure that the many voices of women tonight will help us all to see where God is leading us in this particular way'*

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**Wednesday 2 May**  
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**Year 11 Information Evening**  
**Thursday 10 May**  
Discover the many courses and leadership opportunities available for senior students at our Information Evening from 6.00pm - 7.30pm at the College.

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# MacKillop pilgrims take to road again

MACKILLOP-WOODS Way pilgrimage enthusiasts, David Schütz and Sean Deany will return to the Archdiocese this month, together with fellow pilgrim Josh Martin.

Last year David and Sean reached Eden, having come from Orbost as part of their pilgrimage from St Mary MacKillop's birthplace in Melbourne to her tomb in Sydney.

Their story featured in the June 2017 issue of Catholic Voice.

This month, the trio plan to walk from Eden to Ulladulla over a period of 11 days. They again hope to call on the hospitality of the coastal parishes for their journey. Already the parishes of Pambula, Bega and Batemans Bay have offered help. They plan to be at Narooma for Sunday Mass on April 22.

"The next leg of our pilgrimage has come around very quickly," Mr Schutz said.

"We know that the terrain from Eden to Ulladulla will be testing at times, but we are well prepared."

They are inviting anyone who is "fit enough" to join them as they tackle the next leg of their pilgrimage.

"If anyone wants to walk with us on one of the days or even just for a few hours, they are most welcome," Mr Schultz said.

The pilgrims aim to complete the Ulladulla to North Sydney stretch during the 2019 Easter holidays. Mr Schutz can be contacted on 0400 978 938.

To read more about the pilgrimage and to follow the trio's daily journal, visit <http://secclesia.com/MWW-Pilgrimage>

## Next leg on MacKillop-Woods Way Pilgrimage

- DAY 1 (Tuesday, April 17): Eden to Merimbula
- DAY 2: Merimbula to Tathra
- DAY 3: Tathra to Murrah
- DAY 4: Murrah to Central Tilba
- DAY 5: Central Tilba to Narooma
- DAY 6: (Sunday, April 22): Narooma to Bodalla
- DAY 7: Bodalla to Moruya
- DAY 8: Moruya to Batemans Bay
- DAY 9: Rest Day for Anzac Day in Batemans Bay
- DAY 10: Batemans Bay to Kiola
- DAY 11: Kiola to Ulladulla
- DAY 12: (Saturday, April 28) Journey home



Outside ACU in Melbourne with the statue of St Mary MacKillop from left are David Schutz, Sean Deany and Josh Martin

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# Bill’s inspiring life of service

BY SIOBHAN REEVES

ANZAC Day is a time of reflection for all Australians, for what has been lost, what has been learnt, and what will always be treasured: the self-sacrifice of our servicemen and women, up until the present day.

One such Australian was Lance Corporal William (Bill) John Gleeson (August 16, 1923 –August 3, 2002).

He was born in Swan Hill, Victoria, and his family moved to Lake Cargelligo in 1925.

He was drafted into the army and experienced active service during World War II, originally serving in the 56th Battalion, but later enlisted in the AIF.

Bill was accepted into the 2nd/4th Independent Company of Commandos, and served in Tarakan, Borneo, and Papua New Guinea.

After his return to Burgooney (between Lake Cargelligo and Tullibigeal), Bill was involved in the local community for the remainder of his life.

At different times he served as president of the Burgooney

Cricket Club, the Burgooney Football Club, the Burgooney Bush Fire Brigade, the Probus Club, the Lake Cargelligo RSL and the Lake Cargelligo Show Society.

He was actively involved in such diverse community efforts as the Festival of the Lakes committee, the United Farmers Association and the local Care of the Aged Committee.

Bill was a recipient of a Citizen of the Year Award and the Bob and Jean Memorial Community Shield in recognition of his contribution to the community.

Perhaps most importantly, Bill was devoted to his family and his faith. He and his wife Anne (nee O’Kane, May 31, 1922 –February 11, 2017) raised nine children together, seven daughters and two sons.

He also served on both the local Our Lady of Lourdes Lake Cargelligo Parish Council and the parish school council.

Australians such as Bill Gleeson are inspiring examples of a life steeped in service and self-sacrifice, virtues that Anzac Day should remind us to emulate.



A young Bill Gleeson. Picture: Supplied.

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For more information on how to apply, visit [acu.edu.au/community-achiever](http://acu.edu.au/community-achiever)

# Samantha is off for Anzac experience



Liza Laird and Samantha Elise Trafford are in France for ANZAC Day. Picture: Supplied.

MERICI College Year 10 student, Samantha Elise Trafford is off to France after being selected as the 2018 Simpson Prize winner for the Australian Capital Territory.

She will be accompanied on the tour to the Western Front between April 16 and 29 by Merici teacher, Liza Laird.

Together they will attend the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Villers-Bretonneux alongside other students and teachers.

The Simpson Prize is a history competition which has a focus on the legacy of ANZAC, open to all Year 9 and 10 students in Australia.

Students were required respond to a quote and question provided using both the Simpson Prize Australian War Memorial Source Selection and one’s own research.

The 2018 Essay Question was “Some historians have described 1917 as the worst year of the Great War for Australia and Australians. To what extent is this assessment accurate?”.

Students are encouraged to agree, debate with or challenge the statement from a variety of perspectives – individual, national and global – and to use sources in a variety of forms.

## Expressions of Interest

The Archbishop’s Office is seeking applications from suitably qualified persons to join the Archdiocesan Investment Council (AIC).

The AIC was established by the Archbishop to work to reduce the Archdiocese’s dependence on the Catholic Development Fund (CDF) and to increase the asset base of the Archdiocese in order to provide funds for

mission. The AIC currently manages a small by growing endowment fund. In carrying out its role the AIC works closely with the Archdiocesan Finance Council (AFC) and the Catholic Development Fund.

Candidates would need to demonstrate a commitment to the mission of the Catholic Church and an awareness and understand-

Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn  
INVESTMENT COUNCIL

ing of the political, social, demographic and moral issues concerning the life and mission of the Church in Australia.

Experience in the field of economics, investment, finance, business, governance or similar fields would be considered favourably.

The AIC meets at least every three months in the Boardroom at St Christo-

pher’s Pastoral Centre, Forrest.

Interested parties are invited to make contact (brief letter, email or phone) with the Chancellor, Victor Dunn by 15 April 2018.

Contact Details:  
GPO Box 3089  
Canberra ACT 2601  
0418 222 693  
[victor.dunn@cg.org.au](mailto:victor.dunn@cg.org.au)

## Charismatic Mass change

From April 22 the St Benedict’s Narrabundah Parish Sunday Charismatic Mass will be celebrated at 6pm not 7pm as it has been in recent years.

For Archdiocesan Mass times go to [www.cgatholic.org.au](http://www.cgatholic.org.au)





# Easter in our Archdiocese

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT – Archbishop Christopher Prowse washes the feet of Nathan Galea and his daughter Sophie. / Seminarians (L-R) Alex Osborne and Eden Langlands / Archbishop Prowse blows into the Oil of Holy Chrism / Fr Miroslav Jelic (middle) leads the Croatian Catholic Community during the Easter Vigil Mass. Picture: Loui Seselja / Archbishop Prowse holds up the Oil of Catechumens in front of Deacon Chris van Gessel / Marist College Canberra's Stations of the Cross in action. Picture: Loui Seselja / RCIA candidates and their sponsors during the Easter Vigil Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral / A young worshipper during Marist College's Stations of the Cross event on Good Friday. Picture: Loui Seselja.





# One night isn't a lot

*'The gap between rich and poor is widening'*

ARCHBISHOP Christopher Prowse will take part in this year's St Vincent de Paul CEO Sleepout.

He will join with hundreds of others under the stars at the Garden of Australia Dreams at the National Museum of Australia on the night of Thursday June 21, to help raise funds to tackle the ever-growing problem of homelessness.

'Vinnies' Canberra are holding an official launch for the Sleepout at the same venue beginning at 11am on Wednesday, April 18.

The National Museum, which is in Acton, on the shores of

Lake Burley Griffin, hosted Canberra's first CEO Sleepout in 2010. Archbishop Prowse said he is looking forward to his involvement.

"My prayer is the hope that it will highlight the huge problem of homelessness in our country and lead to practical assistance for the needy," he said. Bernie Fehon, the founder of the sleep-out 12 years ago, said every year participants take a step out of their comfort zone to be a part of the solution and he is encouraging as many as possible to get involved either by donating money or by sleeping out themselves.

"Since it began, the Sleepout has raised more than \$34 million," he said. Last year alone, it gave assistance to almost two million people, and provided over one-and-a-half million meals, but there's so much more to do."

Those individuals and businesses who would like to make a donation or who would like for their CEO to take part are asked to register at <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/>

Joining Archbishop Prowse at this year's Sleepout so far will be Greg Hood, CEO and Chief Commissioner of Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Suzanne

Find a CEO or a team

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Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn at Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

Location: Canberra

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Contribute to my fundraising effort

Raised

\$0

My Goal

\$2,000

One night isn't a lot, but it can make a whole lot of difference

One night isn't a lot, but it can make a whole lot of difference

Every night, thousands of Australians experience homelessness. But it doesn't have to be that way. This year I'm taking part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Society to support Australians in need. For one night, I'll be sleeping outside as part of an eye-opening experience to raise awareness and bring home the realities of homelessness.

To help break the devastating cycle of homelessness, I need your support. Will you help me to help me reach my target? Donating \$0 dollars can make a huge difference to people who need it most.

Select amount to donate

55

Feed a family for a day

105

Help a family keep the power on this winter

155

Provide emergency accommodation for a family in crisis

Greenwood, CEO of Catholic Health Australia, Prof Kylie Ward, CEO of Australian College of Nursing, Prof Michael Frater, Rector of UNSW Canberra at

ADFA, Barnie van Wyk, CEO of St Vincent de Paul Society Canberra and Goulburn and Mathew Trinca, Director of the National Museum of Australia.

# Home, not just house

JUSTICE MATTERS  
CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

BY FR ANTHONY PERCY VG

POPE Leo XIII, elected in 1878, was the first truly modern pope.

He succeeded Pope Pius IX who was nicknamed "Pio No No" because he was opposed to all things modern.

Leo opened up the Church in five key areas: theology, history, biblical studies, politics and economics. A truly remarkable man. Leo demonstrated that "unless we change we cannot conserve."

His teaching called *Rerum Novarum* (1891) set the scene for modern social Catholic thought. It dealt with culture, economics and politics. It confronted the challenges of the industrial revolution and the socialist solution. By defending the right to private property and its orientation towards the common good, he advanced modern society and defended it against the scourge of socialism.

Our experience of socialism in the 20th Century suggests that his teaching was prophetic.

Popes since have insisted on the necessity of the right to private property and thus access to affordable housing. They have unanimously argued that without this right, society descends into poverty and chaos.

In Australia, housing affordability was at its best in the Menzies era, when in the late 1950's it took just below 4 years of average yearly income to buy a house. In 2018, all of the state capital cities in Australia are in the thirty worst cities for housing affordability in the world. In Sydney, for instance, it takes almost 14 times the yearly median income to buy a median priced house.

Why has this happened? Australia is a country, continent and island. We have huge tracts of land. Much of it is uninhabitable, but technology may change this in time. Even so, we have land that can and should be inhabited now. The land is either publicly or privately owned. Governments can certainly effect change by changing the purpose of land, thus increasing supply which will help to reduce pressure on prices. Prudence and courage is required. Governments will have to overcome their appetite for stamp duty!

Fast trains between state capitals and regional cities would be more than helpful. With Australia's population increasing by 400,000 each year – expected to be 50 million by 2050 – this would seem an eminently

sensible proposition. Easy, quick access between capital and provincial cities and regions is critical to achieving significant decentralisation and easing pressure on the capital cities.

What about demand? A number of government policies could be adjusted. It won't be long before higher interest rates are with us, as they should be. When money is cheap, dislocation in investment occurs. The US 10 year bond rate is now on the rise, so get ready for some needed "haircuts."

Australia is an economy that relies heavily on overseas capital to facilitate investment. It is true that some overseas money has contributed to higher property prices. Both Federal and State governments have measures in place now to calm speculation in property.

A complete review and overhaul of our inefficient tax system and the burden of excessive regulation is certainly in order. As part of the mix, it must be asked whether it is a good idea to have the family home totally exempt from capital gains tax. The exemption has the unintended consequence of making the family home a very attractive investment opportunity, thereby driving up prices.

But our houses are more than investments. They are our homes. They are places of shelter, warmth, communion, love, laughter, sorrow, celebration and community.

For CSJC enquiries contact Mike Cassidy on 0412145088 or email [mikec@pcng.org.au](mailto:mikec@pcng.org.au)

BRIEFS

Cycling for HOME

CANBERRA'S Filipino Cycling Community are pedalling for HOME in Queanbeyan. And they are calling on the support of the wider community to help them raise funds an awareness. HOME is a community-based initiative that provides a loving home for twenty men and women with chronic mental illness who cannot live independently and are at risk of becoming homeless. Support can be given by cycling the Centenary Trail with others on April 28 or by donating directly to HOME on (02) 6284 2409. Ask for Anne Pratt. Non riders are welcome to support cyclists on the day. The event is not a race. To find out more go to the Facebook page 'Pedal HOME' or send an email to [AusFilRiders@gmail.com](mailto:AusFilRiders@gmail.com)

Small aims big at the Games

SIXTEEN year old St Clare's College student Keely Small will compete at this month's Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast. The Year 11 student earned the right after winning the 800 metre run at the national championships which coupled as the Australian Commonwealth Games trials. Australia will have 111 athletes will competing at the Games. Miss Small is considered to be the fastest under-18 female in the world after registering 2:01.46 minutes last year. The Commonwealth Games will be held between April 4 and 15. For more, go to <https://www.gc2018.com/>

Oz Rosary 53

PARISHES in the Archdiocese and throughout the nation have signed up to Oz Rosary 53. Any parishes that are wanting to be a part of the national event on May 13 are asked to register at <https://www.facebook.com/OZROSARY53/>

New Wagga office for Marymead

MARYMEAD has a new Wagga Wagga office. The move was necessitated due to rapid growth and expansion of services within the region. The larger premises, located in Best Street, were officially opened by Neil Caldicott, Director Operations Murrumbidgee, at NSW Family and Community Services. As part of the official opening Mr Caldicott also provided an overview of recent changes within the out-of-home care sector including the implementation of the Permanency Support Program, one of the most significant changes to the child protection system in decades.

GOOD SHEPHERD

Appeal

Support the formation of our priests

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or email [giving@cg.org.au](mailto:giving@cg.org.au)



# Rosary trio will be back to pray

*Prayers ‘not a protest’*

THE THREE men charged on March 1 2016 after silently praying the Rosary near the Canberra abortion facility in Moore St Civic say they intend to continue praying in the area.

Emerging from the courtroom after their March 9 acquittal, Kerry Mellor and John Popplewell said they were pleased with the outcome and that commonsense had prevailed.

Mr Popplewell, said he was not surprised by the result which also involved Ken Clancy.

“We were doing nothing that would single us out from any other person on the streets,” he said.

“So to claim we were protesting was absurd. I’m relieved the magistrate agreed.”

He expressed disappointment at being charged in the first instance and said there had been up to six uniformed officers following them round.

“It did seem like we were being targeted to get us off the streets,” he said.

“When the protected area was first declared, we moved elsewhere to avoid problems, even though we believed we were not protesting – then the government expanded the area to cover where we’d moved to!”

Magistrate Theakston ruled the second ‘protected area’ did not comply with the legislative requirement that it be only big enough to protect the privacy of persons entering or leaving the facility.

Mr Mellor said the verdict meant their actions had been within the law, as the group had always contended and added that they are grateful for the prayers and support shown by many people in Canberra and elsewhere.

“We’re free to continue the prayers and we intend to do so,” he said.

“It was quite humbling to be told that hundreds of people internationally were following the



Kerry Mellor said the acquittal is a victory for Our Blessed Lady. Picture: Supplied.

case, and praying for us.

“That was very moving – and that’s what the case was about, in the end: being able to pray.”

Mr Mellor said evidence given in the court included a detailed account of the nature of prayer in general, and the Rosary in particular. He thinks this was helpful. He also emphasized that the acquittal is not so much a personal victory but more a triumph for Our Blessed Lady.

“We can go back to praying the Rosary, to beseech her intervention – and to make some small reparation for the great evil going on in our midst,” he said.

“The prayer is the thing.”

The trio’s court case also touched on some Constitutional questions regarding the implied right of political free expression.

But in the absence of a conviction these are likely to be resolved in relation to other cases before the courts, including convictions under similar legislation in Victoria and Tasmania.

## Ken’s earnest search

Ken Hawke, 22, hasn’t missed a beat since knocking on the door of Garran’s St Peter and Paul’s Church just over 12 months ago.

The Latin Mass devotee, who was received into the Church at the Easter Vigil, is a former atheist and says what led him to the Catholic faith was an earnest search for the truth.

“After a couple of months of study into both Christ’s life, and the beliefs of various churches claiming to be His, I came to a conclusion that it was down to either the Orthodox or Catholic Church,” he said.

“I attended the Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday last year, and followed that up with the Latin Mass on the same day.

“After entering the Latin Mass, I never quite looked back.”

Mr Hawke, who completed a Bachelor of International Studies at University of Canberra says he knew that he wanted to become a Catholic from the moment he arrived.“Waiting these 12 months of my Catechesis has been incredibly difficult,” he said.



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## Five things to remember regarding abortion

BY JOSEPH DOYLE

- The Catholic Church holds a strong position against abortion**

The Catholic Church considers abortion to be “gravely contrary to the moral law.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, para 2271). The Church holds this position because, “Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception.” (CCC, 2270).
- The Catholic Church has always held a strong position against abortion**

Since the very beginning of Christianity, the Church fathers spoke against the termination of the unborn. The Didache, an early Christian tract, states that, “You shall not procure [an] abortion, nor destroy a newborn child” (Didache 2:1–2 [A.D. 70]). The Bible itself reads, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you.” (Jeremiah 1:5)
- Catholics need to engage with injustices in politics and society**

It is a necessary component of the Christian life that Catholics engage with the moral and political issues of their time, as it is a Catholic’s “direct duty to work for a just ordering of society.” (Deus Caritas Est, 29 [2005]). In cases of political and societal injustice, “it is legitimate for [Catholics] to defend their own rights and those of their fellow citizens against the abuse of this authority.” (Gaudium et Spes, n. 74 [1965]).
- Catholics need to stand up for freedom of religion.**

The Catholic Church holds that “the right to religious freedom has its foundation in the very dignity of the human person.” (Dignitatis Humane, 1 [1965]). Religious freedom must, thus, “be recognized in the juridical order and sanctioned as a civil right.” (Compendium of Catholic Social Doctrine, 422).
- Prayer is a fundamental part of engagement against injustice**

Prayer is a legitimate and necessary response to societal injustice. Prayer has the effect of opening people “to an encounter with others marked by respect, understanding, esteem and love.” (Compendium of Catholic Social Doctrine, 519). It cannot be dispensed with as “prayer and Christian life are inseparable.” (CCC, 2745).



# Tat Down bu

## 70 homes lost in Tathra bushfire

**COME and visit us. That is clear message from the Sapphire Coast Council and the people of Tathra after a savage bushfire ripped through the community on March 18.**

**No lives were lost in the blaze but the popular seaside tourist town is reeling after 70 homes were burnt to the ground leaving a trail of destruction.**

### Phillip McDonald and Caleb Shaw

LAST year Phil McDonald, a well-known Catholic in the Bega-Tathra area lost his wife suddenly. Then 27 days later his 93 year old mother passed away. A few weeks ago he nearly lost his home in the Tathra Bushfires. The fire came within a metre of the home.

Many know him as the former owner and manager of the Bega Village Motor Inn. He retired in 2012.

Caleb Shaw, a former Canberran came to live with the McDonald's two years ago and was home on the day of the fires.

"I remember it was a very hot, windy day with the temperature reaching 48 degrees Celsius," Mr. McDonald said.

"I had been out to a Church Family Group luncheon and arrived home at 3pm.

"In less than an hour emergency services were advising everyone to evacuate.

"Eventually we learnt that three close neighbours had their homes destroyed and they lost everything."

Mr Shaw said it was a terrifying experience.

"By that stage there was thick black smoke everywhere and the vision was at about 200 metres," he said.

"But the fire was close and it was starting to get really hot.

"We were trying to decide whether to stay and fight the fire or go to the Surf Lifesaving Club like many others.

"There were cars going everywhere and everyone was panicking."

To read the full article go to <http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/>

### The McRae's

TATHRA parishioners Colin and Pat McRae, cannot believe they still have their house and they are extremely grateful for the efforts of the firefighters. The couple managed to escape the blaze but they had embers on their veranda and the side of their house is singed. Their shed and backyard however were scorched.

"The heat was coming and

I could see the fire up the back [towards the scrub on the edge of the town] and a gumtree took off and I was trying to fight the fire at the houses here," he said.

"Embers were flying around on the deck and a fire started at our shed." Mr McRae had his two vintage cars in the shed, one which had been passed onto him by his grandfather. He said he tried to put out a couple of spot-fires at the house next-door and got one of the cars out to the front.

Then in the panic and confusion he lost the keys to his Valiant Charger.

"It sat out there (the front of the house) for three days," he said.

"I then thought everything's gone, I've lost the shed."

Mr McRae said he couldn't sleep because he thought the house would be gone.

"The next morning, my son from Canberra saw [the house] on the television and took a photo of [it] still standing," he said.

"He sent it to Pat on her phone and I woke up in Bega there on Monday morning and the house was still there. It should've gone to the ground. I don't know how [it didn't]."

The McRae's three children, Murray, Philippa and Erwin all live in Canberra and have been tremendous support for their parents. Family is so important," Mrs McRae said.

To read the full article go to <http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/>

### Parishioners giving of themselves

'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink' (Mt 25:35)

TIGHT-KNIT is how you would best describe the Tathra parishioners. Each Sunday and Wednesday after Mass they come together for morning tea at Joe and Queyan's bakery in the town. This has continued in the weeks after fires came through. Collectively they have given of themselves becoming involved with preparing meals as well as helping with clothing and sheltering for those who lost everything. The small wooden Star of the Sea



A sign at the town entrance thanking the firefighters. Picture: John McLaurin. / TOP LEFT: Pat McRae scans the damage to her home. Picture: John McLaurin. / RIGHT: Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr Luke Verrell with Quyen and Joe Nguyen at the bakery. Picture: Supplied.

Parish Church which is based near the headland has been constantly used for prayers in addition to holding a few supplies. Merimbula St Vincent de Paul Conference President, Christine Mabbott and Danni Koenigkamp from Bega 'Vinnies' have been going non-stop organising supplies since the fire broke out on March 18. Warwick Fulton, the president for Vinnies in the Archdiocese also spent time at Tathra and Bega to show support.

### Local circus

Tathra parishioner, Les Maley, said that the local circus at Bega had offered free tickets to any Tathra children who have been affected by the fires.

### Vinnies receive overwhelming support to victims

'Your gift to the Tathra Bushfire Appeal enables the St



Vincent de Paul Society to support people struggling with the aftermath and the devastation caused by the recent fires.'

St Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese say financial donations are the most effective way to quickly provide the right kind of



# Tathra it not out but community unites to rebuild

## FIND THIS ARTICLE ONLINE

Fr Luke Verrell's letter to parishioners

<http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/> to read

Archbishop Prowse's letter to parishioners

<http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/> to read

Videos available at [www.cg.org.au](http://www.cg.org.au)



TOP: Caleb Shaw, Joe Nguyen, Phillip McDonald and Quyen Nguyen making donuts to raise funds. Picture: Supplied. / ABOVE: Tathra residents Picture: Supplied.

supported by other Society centres within the Archdiocese, has also made available a large amount of quality clothing to the Tathra community.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have been deeply affected by the Tathra bushfires," the statement continued.

### Charitable act amid the despair

TATHRA Catholics, Joe and Quyen Nguyen, generously used their town bakery to host a fundraising initiative on March 24. The event was aimed at providing members of the Tathra community with a relaxed venue to congregate

and talk about events of the past few weeks.

Residents were offered free coffee, pies, sausage rolls, donuts, hot cross buns, croissants, bread and bread rolls.

"This is an opportunity for our business to give to the people of Tathra," Mr Nguyen said,

"It's a time for people to come together and support one another at this tragic time.

"Sometimes you just need a place to sit and share your thoughts"

Approximately \$3,000.00 was raised through donations made by visitors and Tathra residents during the Saturday morning and early afternoon. This money will

be further donated to assist community members who have suffered significant loss as a result of the fire.

Participants in 'Breakfast at the Bakery' consumed 400 pies, 200 sausage rolls, 52 loaves of bread, 450 bread rolls, 350 donuts, 120 bottles of water, 330 hot cross buns, 150 croissants and 326 cups of coffee!

Tathra parishioner Marg Taylor said expressions of both heartfelt emotion and sincere appreciation were evident at the bakery.

"All agreed this was an amazing example of the good will and support that exists in Tathra," she said.

"Joe and Quyen are to be congratulated on their selfless initiative in bringing the people together at this special time."

To read the full article go to <http://www.cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/>

### A little girl's generosity

JENNY Mace, the deputy principal at Bega Primary School couldn't believe what she witnessed just days after the fire swept through the town of Tathra.

"I came across this little girl called Billie, whose dad was one of the firefighters," she said.

"I overheard her say that she wanted to give all her piggy bank money to the other children who are affected by the fires.

"That little girl's generosity almost brought me to tears."

### Lumen Christi College Fundraiser raises \$5000

SEVERAL teacher and students at Pambula's Lumen

Christi College call Tathra home. Fittingly the College held a fundraiser on March 28 where they raised \$3000.

Lumen Christi Religious Education Coordinator / Catholic Identity, Eileen Reckord, helped organise the event.

"It was a fabulous day," she said.

"The kids were involved in all sorts of things with cake stalls, book stalls, hugs for sale and people offering all kinds of good will."

### A message from the College

*"The Tathra community have been hit hard by the fires, but the support they have received has been amazing."*

*The students, staff and families of the Lumen community have been extremely generous and will continue to work hard to assist those most affected."*

### Archbishop's message and donation

The recent fires in beautiful Tathra has caused so much trauma and heartache to many. We offer our prayerful and practical support to all who are suffering.

Remarkable courage and faith has been shown by the close Catholic community of Stella Maris, Tathra, during the bushfire tragedy.

Working with the parish priest, Fr Luke Verrell, the St Vincent de Paul Society and even the local Catholic bakery shop (the Nguyen family), the parish is responding fantastically. Let us all support them with our prayers and practical charity. The Archdiocese has given an immediate donation of \$8000 to the Vinnies Appeal.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

## Please support the Tathra bushfire appeal

### RETIRING COLLECTION:

After each parish Mass on the weekend of April 7 - 8.

Vinnies website: <https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate#!state=act&appeal=74>

### QKR APP:

For those parishes currently using the Qlkr app, please refer to Vinnies Tathra Bushfire Appeal which will be listed under the "Special Appeals" option.

Others wishing to show their financial support can also visit any Vinnies shop in the Archdiocese. For a list of shops accepting donations please visit <https://www.facebook.com/VinniesACT/>

These donations support people affected by the fire with food, accommodation, counselling and much more.

assistance to people who need it most.

"We have received an overwhelming response in food donations which will be sufficient to serve the need of people affected by the Tathra bushfire," a recent statement said.

'Vinnies' Bega, which is



# Languages students set national standards



HOLY Family Gowrie, Sts Peter and Paul Garran and Rosary Primary School in Watson have been chosen to showcase the exemplary standards of their students' school work for The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) Languages Work Samples Project.

The schools' work samples displayed on the ACARA website will enable teachers from other schools to compare work samples with their own students' work to

assist when making judgements, planning for teaching, learning and understanding the scope and diversity for assessment.

Holy Family Primary School Indonesian teacher Arika Bassett and Sts Peter and Paul Primary School Japanese teacher Amanda de Jongh were fortunate to partake in the Work Samples Annotation Workshop coordinated by ACARA in Sydney with teachers from around Australia.

Mrs Bassett said that after

teaching Indonesian for the past ten years it was a privilege to take part in the project which has boosted her classroom morale.

"It was a great opportunity for my professional learning, and a 'wow' moment to be able to annotate students work from other schools and year levels," she said.

Amanda de Jongh volunteered Sts Peter and Paul Primary School to be a part of the Languages Work Samples project after introducing Japanese into

the school curriculum last year.

"The whole experience was very rewarding and affirming for me as a Japanese teacher," she said.

"I saw many samples that were similar to my own, which provided me with reassurance that my students, although only first-years, were able to meet the prescribed standards."

Mrs Bassett said that through learning languages schools are able to broaden students' horizons, and emphasise the

importance of respecting other people's differences and culture.

"Our school is lucky to have great resources, connections with the Indonesian Embassy and a partnership with a school in Jakarta to allow students to have authentic exposure to cultural experiences," she said.

"Exposing students to languages other than English in primary school embraces students to be responsible learners who are aware of their identity as global citizens."



## Merici College announces International Baccalaureate

PRINCIPAL Loretta Wholley announced that Merici College is a candidate for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Years Program during an Awards Ceremony celebrating academic achievements of students who are striving to reach their full potential.

Mrs Wholley said that Merici students are independent learners who take risks and challenge themselves to try new things while enjoying the learning journey.

"These goals and attributes are the principles of powerful learning that link in perfectly with the International

Baccalaureate Learner Profile," she said.

"The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who will create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect."

Mrs Wholley said that the challenging international educational program will be beneficial to all Merici students, encouraging them to be active and compassionate life-long learners.

"We all want you to be the best you can be by doing things that push you out of your

comfort zone," she said.

"Have a growth mindset, stand up for the values you believe in, act with integrity and have a strong sense of justice."

"Take responsibility for your own actions and the consequences that accompany them because this will be a life-long journey of understanding for yourself and others."

The introduction of IB curriculum will additionally provide Holy Trinity Primary School and Early Learning Centre students with a natural pathway from their IB Primary Years program into the Diploma Years Program at Merici.

## Sts Peter and Paul Garran 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

It was a momentous occasion on 4 March as Sts Peter and Paul Primary School Garran held their 50th Anniversary Mass with past and present staff, friends and students.

The school is now gearing up for their next celebratory event - a 60's themed Anniversary dinner held at the National Arboretum

on 19 May.

The celebration will continue in September with Founders Day featuring open classrooms, 60s songs, dress-ups, memorabilia and the release of a community recipe book.

For more information, please email [liliana.russel@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:liliana.russel@cg.catholic.edu.au)







# St Clare’s College NASA ‘dream come true’

Five St Clare’s College seniors described travelling to Houston to participate in the NASA HASSE Space School as a ‘dream come true’, transcending space and STEM to travel independently, learn to adjust to new situations and enhance leadership skills.

The students closely simulated astronaut training such as, rocket building, heat shield and habitat construction, robotics, neutral buoyancy training with SCUBA gear and sleep deprivation, all crammed into two weeks.

Highlights included seeing a plasma rocket engine up close, building a two stage rocket and launching it and meeting amazing people.

# Coast teacher is an ‘Unsung Hero’



Congratulations to Sallyann Burtenshaw from St Bernard’s Primary School who was shortlisted from more than 1000 teachers to be awarded EducationHQ ‘Technology Unsung Hero’.

Mrs Burtenshaw was recognised for her commitment to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education within the school, including integrating technology into the curriculum through the Makerspace and Outdoor Tinkering Studio.

The St Bernard’s ICentre Manager, Kindergarten and Science teacher has shown that all teachers with passion for learning, regardless of teaching experience and background, can successfully integrate STEM into the classroom.

# St Bernard’s teacher chosen for national science curriculum workshop

St Bernard’s Primary School teacher Jenny Smith has been selected to provide valuable input into the developmental process of the National Assessment Program Science

Literacy (NAP-SL) test through partaking in ACARA’s first three-day National Assessment writing workshop.

With Mrs Smith’s assistance, the items generated from the writing workshop will be added to the pool of items to be tested in the NAP-SL field trial in June, in which her school is participating.

The valuable and informative professional learning experience will equip Mrs Smith with the skills to write effective and valid diagnostic test items that can then be incorporated into online tests and into the classroom.

Year 6 students have participated in the NAP-SL test every three years since 2003 and this year will see the introduction of a Year 10 test to be delivered in an online environment.

# Lumen students’ Philippines immersion

A group of six students and two teachers from Lumen Christi Catholic College recently travelled to Ponteveda in the Philippines to immerse themselves in the local lifestyle, culture and religion.

Year 12 College leader Emma Reyneke was one of the students fortunate to spend two weeks living with the Franciscan Sisters of Anthony – six nuns who welcomed the students with open arms.

“The moment I was greeted at the gates of the convent by a crowd of cheering children, teenagers, parents and grandparents, I knew that every contribution I had ever made to those less fortunate was enough, whether it was big or small,” said Emma.

“I feel I speak for everyone who has visited when I say that the positivity and happiness of everyone in Pontevedra was overwhelming, and was such an admirable quality considering their circumstances.”

Emma said that visiting the homes and schools in the community was a profound experience, noting the vast difference between their education, lifestyle and influences, yet she never heard a single complaint of ungratefulness.

“Having the opportunity to even just be in the presence of such inspiring people was truly eye-opening,” she said.

“I will cherish this experience and encourage others to become involved with supporting Sr Rei and the Pontevedran community.”





# The Pope's peace-making gifts

THE LOVE and respect for Pope Francis was clearly evident when clergy and lay faithful gathered to celebrate five years of his papacy with a special Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral.

His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana, Papal Nuncio to Australia, was the principal celebrant at the Mass which was held on the Feast of St Joseph. Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Bishop Max Davis, Emeritus Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power and other priests from throughout the Archdiocese were on hand to concelebrate.

In his homily, Archbishop Christopher, Prowse drew parallels between St Joseph and Pope Francis, namely their humility and tenderness before then identifying three key images that point to the gift that the Holy Spirit has given the Church in Pope Francis.

The three images are as follows:

1. Pope Jorge Bergoglio for the first time on the Balcony of St Peter's on March 13 2013.

2. Pope Francis embracing a severely disfigured (boils) and

suffering man at St Peter's Square in the Vatican during one of the Wednesday general audiences on November 6, 2013. Pope Francis paused for several minutes to receive and embrace the sick man.

3. Pope Francis planting an olive tree in the Vatican gardens on 10 June 2014.

He was joined by the former Israeli President Shimon Peres, and the Palestinian President, Mahmoud Abbas, together with the Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

It demonstrates the extraordinary peace-making gifts the Pope generates – especially in his frequent overseas pilgrimages.

This charity plants seeds of peace, hope and joy in desert places [and] it also indicates how he shows incredible leadership of friendship and tenderness in regard to ecumenical and inter-religious relations.

To read the Archbishop's homily in full go to <http://cgatholic.org.au/about/our-archbishop/homilies/homily-mass-celebrating-fifth->



L-R: Altar server John-Paul Romano, Deacon Matt Ransom, Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana, Fr Warrick Tonkin, Sr Mary, Sr Mary Trinh and Peter Sutherland. Picture: Jeanine Doyle.

## Five Minutes with Fr Daniel Benedetti MGL

Parish Priest St Benedict's Narrabundah

**How long have you been in Canberra for?**  
Nearly 2 months.

**Where are you originally from?**  
Wangaratta, North East Victoria.

**You have come here from Darwin. How long were you there for?**  
Over 10 years.

**What do you hope to achieve at the parish in the near future?**  
A strong sense of Community and Family. A place of prayer and healing. A place where young people can be affirmed and develop their gifts. A place where the poor may find friends and support. Opportunities for people to grow in their gifts and the power of the Holy Spirit, especially developing lay leaders.

What first drew you to the Disciples of Jesus Community?  
A friend invited me to a Catholic Youth Weekend run by the DoJ's. The young

people, leaders and MGLS were really welcoming, encouraging and challenging.

**What inspired you to become a priest with the Missionaries of God's Love?**

I was in first year Uni in Melbourne and wasn't sure where I was headed. When I grew closer to God through MGL and DoJ I felt maybe I could share what I'd received. I was inspired by people who wanted to grow stronger in faith and who wanted to share that. I saw young men training to be priests who really wanted to follow Jesus and I was inspired and challenged.

**Which is your favourite holiday or pilgrimage destination?**

Friends took me to walk the Milford Track in NZ which was wonderful. I was also deeply touched by Galilee in the Holy Land and my mum's hometown is in the Dolomites in the Alps in Northern Italy where the



scenery and food are amazing. I've been blessed.

**What is your favourite sporting teams?**

The mighty Hawthorn Hawks in the AFL, Melbourne Storm in the NRL, Australia/Victoria in the Cricket, Bulls in the NBA, and Liverpool and Inter in the Soccer (World Game).

**What music do you most like to listen to?**

Matt Maher, Stephen Kirk, Fr Rob Galea, B2M, Yirmal Marika, Tracy Chapman, Les Miserables, MercyMe, Gurrumul, Emmanuel Worship, Paul Kelly, Pentatonix, Third Day, Ben Harper, Tobymac, Sting, Michael Jackson, Bon Jovi, Archie Roach

**What is your favourite food or beverage?**

Growing up it was Mum's homemade lasagne, ravioli, polenta or spinach gnocchi! Now I'm having Kale juice from our garden for breakfast.

**Are you a cat or a dog person?**

A dog person but I appreciate cats.

**What is the best piece of advice that you have ever been given?**

My dad: "Luganighe lunghe e prediche corte", which means long sausages and short sermons. Abbot Brian Keogh (Cistercian monk): "Do one thing well."

## PASTORAL MESSAGE FOR GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY ON APRIL 22

### Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B (Vocations)

DEAR friends on the 22nd April we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday.

It is in this Mass that we pray particularly for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

In regard to diocesan priests, we have been very blessed over the years with some wonderful vocations to the priesthood in this Archdiocese. Many of these priests are now serving you in our parishes. I make note that many of our priests actually joined the seminary as mature aged men. It's quite unique in this diocese to have up to 23 priests serving in the Archdiocese who began after pursuing a career.

At present, we have five seminarians preparing, please God, for the priesthood. In addition, news deacons Namora Anderson and Adrian Chan, will be ordained later in the year as priests of the Archdiocese.

Over this weekend you may hear personal stories and testimonies from our priests and seminarians about the deep and subtle call of Christ to the priesthood.

I do call on young men of this Archdiocese to seriously think about a possible vocation from the Lord to the priesthood and religious life.

For all inquiries please contact my Vocation Director, Fr Paul Nulley [paul.nulley@cg.org.au](mailto:paul.nulley@cg.org.au)

Let us pray for our present vocations and for an increase of vocations in this Archdiocese for the years ahead.

As your Archbishop, It is one of my highest pastoral priorities to encourage vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. I encourage all of you to pray and work with our wonderful priests in all of our 55 parishes.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Christopher Prowse  
Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

For the complete article please go to <http://cgatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/>



# St Patrick’s Day celebrations

## Many shades of green



*L-R: Singers, Geoff Twomey (Cootamundra), Oscar Smith (Harden), Geraldine Ryan (Cootamundra) Greg Jamieson (Harden) and Leigh Butt (Jugiong).*

ST PATRICK’S Day festivities returned to Cootamundra in a big way last month.

After many years absence in publicly honouring the feast day, the Sacred Heart Parish of Cootamundra enjoyed a significant celebration on March 17. The Country Club dinner event was eagerly welcomed and supported with more than 100 people present dressed in many shades of green.

Lots of fun was created by

a variety of categories of dress and games of ‘Heads or Tails’.

The entertainment began with Peter Hines singing Danny Boy. It was followed by Geraldine Ryan and her four Singers, Geoff Twomey, Leigh Butt, Oscar Smith and Greg Jamieson, belting out a host of Irish Songs, including Forty Shades of Green and Irish Eyes are Smiling.

There was plenty of dancing to be had. Audience participation was high with plenty of Irish

jokes being shared throughout the evening. In response to Fr Joshy Kurien’s suggestion to raise funds for a local community in need, a raffle was organised. Proceeds of which went to Adam Barnes, who is going to Russia for a cure of his illness.

During the dinner, Fr Kurien presented Adam with a cheque for \$2000. He also presented a \$500 cheque to Margaret Large, who was there representing Can Assist.

## Traditional sounds



*Madeleine Johnson flanked by Rev Alistair Christie (Uniting Church); Rev Stephen Pickard (Anglican) and Deacon Mick O'Donnell (Catholic). Picture: Supplied.*

THE CANBERRA Friends of Ireland Society held its annual ecumenical service in honour of Saint Patrick at the Australian Centre for Christian and Culture in Barton. St Patrick is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland in the fifth century. His familiarity with the language, the culture, and the legends, allowed him to incorporate his Christian teachings into the rich Irish traditions and myths of

the times. Well-known media personality, Genevieve Jacobs, was the guest speaker at the well-attended gathering. She delivered a presentation on ‘How our Irish heritage has influenced the Australian character’.

The Canberra Celtic choir accompanied vocalist who sang several songs in Gaelic, and Madeleine Johnson entertained the congregation on the traditional harp.

# Finding respect for feet-kissing Catholics

BY PENNY LUCAS

**I am married to a scientist who is incredibly practical and who was brought up in a non-religious household. His two older siblings were christened, but Charlie was not. I, on the other hand, grew up in a family who attended Mass very regularly and, being from a town of 300 people in total, my family played a large role in undertaking the various ministries. My mum organised rosters and she and I did a lot of the reading, my brothers were the altar servers and my dad was always the ‘plate’ collector.**

MY husband comes to Mass with us on important occasions in the Church season such as Easter and Christmas, as well as school Masses and the odd, ‘ordinary’ Sunday Mass.

I don’t recall ever asking him to do this, but I’m assuming this is his way of showing the respect he has for the decision we made to raise our children as Catholics.

Last year, Charlie came along for the Easter Vigil. I had already been to the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday where I was amongst one of the twelve to have my feet washed (and kissed) by our Parish Priest.

Recalling this ‘ritual’ to my germ-a-phobe husband involved tears of laughter as I convinced him that I was telling the truth (he was also very keen to know about the calibre of the other feet that Fr Joshy had to nuzzle!). I’m sure he came to the Easter Vigil with high hopes of witnessing another not-so-common Catholic practice. And that he did.

However, I’m not sure he gained as much amusement as he had from my feet-story!

We were welcomed into the Easter Vigil service with battery operated candles and took our seats. It was hot, and pews can be very tempting fortresses for toddlers so we sat up the front, to the left of the main centre pews to be near open doors and with a little more leg room. The congregation was then herded back outside for the Blessing of the Light service, around a fire. Back inside, Mass began and immediately children were called up for Children’s Liturgy.

Unbeknown to Charlie, I had offered my assistance to the lady who was rostered on, if it became apparent that there were a large number of children, due to it being Easter. As the number of children approaching the altar grew, I got up and headed off to help out.

We had organised for another parishioner to come and get us

during the Prayers of the Faithful as we knew it would be a longer than usual service. Picture this, my non-religious husband, now completely on his own, and a little unsure of where on earth I might be, sitting up the front, in full view, hot, unfamiliar with many of the gestures and prayers, ‘enjoying’ the Litany of the Saints, the Blessing of the Water, the Renewal of Baptismal Promises, a lengthy Homily and the ‘usual’!

When I returned to my seat with the girls, his eyes spoke a thousand words, and I wasn’t sure how to break it to him that we hadn’t yet begun the Liturgy of the Eucharist! I have been told there were a couple of times when he put his head in his hands, much to the amusement of people in the parish community who know Charlie’s religious background!

I am very grateful that my non-believing husband, who thinks that the connotations the word ‘atheist’ conjures up are harsh

and ‘pretentious’, appreciates the importance of my religion and what that means to our family. It’s not always easy to explain to the children why Daddy doesn’t kneel or explain to my darling husband that, yes, he does need to offer the Sign of Peace even though he finds it confronting (in his words, “it freaks me out”) but we’re fumbling our way through the explanations and not doing too badly so far.

My eldest is seven and, for now, content with the reasoning that, during summer Daddy has to mow the lawn and, during winter, he has to cut firewood, which is why he doesn’t attend Mass with us every Sunday.

I know that this will not always be a satisfactory ‘reason’, but I do feel secure in the fact that our children will not doubt the respect Charlie has for their Mum and her weird feet-kissing beliefs!

**This column was first published in My family My Faith, Volume 1: 2016**



# Pope affirms Plenary Council decision



Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB. Picture: Courtesy of Perth Archdiocese.

POPE Francis has given his approval for the Catholic Church to hold a plenary council, its most significant national gathering in Australia in more than 80 years.

Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge, chair of the Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council, said the bishops were deeply grateful to Pope Francis for affirming the decision.

“We ask all people to join in prayer as we embark on this journey together as God’s people in Australia,” he said.

“The Council will be a unique opportunity for people to come together and listen to God in all

the ways God speaks to us, and in particular by listening to one another as together we discern what God is asking of us at this time.”

He said the Church in Australia was facing “significant challenges”.

“We sincerely hope the preparation and celebration of the Plenary Council is a time when all parts of the Church listen to and dialogue with one another as we explore together how we might answer the question: ‘What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?’”

In approving the Plenary

Council, Pope Francis also endorsed the bishops’ nomination of Perth Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB as president of the Plenary Council.

Archbishop Costelloe said he hoped the Council would bring about “a period of authentic renewal”.

Plenary Council facilitator Lana Turvey-Collins said a process of listening and dialogue, beginning at Pentecost 2018, would help form the council agenda.

Visit the Plenary Council website at <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

# Australian lawyer elected to head international migration council

THE COUNCIL of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) has elected Dr. Anne Therese Gallagher as its president. The Council also appointed a 14-member governing committee and ratified its Secretary General Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo.

Dr Gallagher, a South Coast of NSW resident, was elected by the ICMC Council’s 53 members, who represent national Episcopal conferences in as many countries.

A practicing Catholic, she is an Australian-born lawyer, practitioner and scholar whose experience spans more than 25 years.

She began her international career in 1992 as a legal officer with the United Nations. From 1998 to 2002, she was a senior adviser to Mary Robinson, high commissioner for human rights – playing a key role in development of international laws and policies and coordinating UN agencies to that end.

Since 2002, she has continued to work closely with the UN while holding multiple leadership positions, including within the world’s largest criminal justice intervention against trafficking (2003-present). Her current posts include



Dr Anne Therese Gallagher. Picture: Supplied.

co-chair of the International Bar Association’s presidential task force on human trafficking; member of the international migration organisation’s advisory board; and an academic adviser to Doughty St Chambers (the UK’s leading civil liberties law firm).

She was involved, from the earliest stage, in the Vatican’s efforts to address human trafficking and is currently a member of the Archbishop of Sydney’s taskforce on modern slavery.

## Archbishop welcomes new abuse laws

MELBOURNE Archbishop Denis Hart has welcomed an announcement by the Victorian Government of its intention to introduce laws allowing victims of child abuse to sue institutions which may be responsible for their abuse.

“This is a reform which I welcomed when Betrayal of Trust was released in 2013 and for which the Truth Justice and Healing Council on behalf of the Catholic Church has advocated in submissions to the Royal Commission,” he said.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Path cleared for two canonisations

Vatican City, (CNA/EWTN News).- POPE Francis has recognized a second miracle allowing five people on the path to sainthood to be canonised, the most prominent being Blessed Pope Paul VI and Blessed Oscar Romero. With a second miracle approved, the path has been cleared for a date to be set for the canonisation of each of the five candidates, allowing them to officially be declared a saint. Though no date has yet been announced, both Paul VI and Oscar Romero are expected to be canonised

together during the Synod of Bishops in October.

### Paul the Apostle film timely reminder of suffering

Dallas, Texas, (CNA).- ACTORS and filmmakers at the red carpet premiere of “Paul Apostle of Christ” said the film’s portrayal of Christian persecution in ancient Rome is a timely reminder that people around the world continue to suffer for their faith. “I know about the Christian persecution that is happening to this very day ... I want the world to know ... the Coptic, the Chaldean, the Assyrian Christians who were murdered,” Jim Caviezel,

who plays Luke in the film, told CNA at the premiere.

“Here we are. We are on a red carpet, we are making a movie. It’s very nice, but right now there are people that are struggling and suffering,” reflected T.J. Berden, one of the film’s producers. The film is dedicated to people who are persecuted for their faith.

### Eugenic trend ending lives of the unborn

New York City, (CNA/EWTN News).- THE PROMOTION of targeted abortion and other practices mean United Nations member states and agencies are not serious about protecting

people with Down syndrome, the Holy See’s representative to the United Nations has said.

Archbishop Bernardito Auza decried “the eugenic trend of ending the lives of the unborn who show some form of imperfection.”

Despite international conventions protecting the disabled, including their right to life, “so many members of the international community stand on the sidelines as the vast majority of those diagnosed with Trisomy-21 have their lives ended before they’re even born,” he said. “Rather than stop it, some in the international community are abetting it.”



**APRIL 8 (12pm to 3pm):** Abo-  
riginal Spirituality in the Catholic  
Church talk by Aunty Elsie Heiss  
at the Shalom House of Prayer in  
Carcoar, NSW. Three course lunch  
with suggested donation of \$40.  
Contact (02) 6367 3058 or email  
shalomcarcoar@gmail.com

**APRIL 8 (12pm):** Canberra  
Regional AMICUS (meaning  
friend) Group will meet for a BYO  
Picnic BBQ lunch at Cotter Dam.  
Contact Patricia on 0412 351 548.

**APRIL 8 (2pm to 4.30pm):** The  
Feast of Divine Mercy at St Clem-  
ent's Retreat Centre, Galong.  
Contact Gus and Ellen Staunton  
on (02) 6385 5225.

**APRIL 14:** Australian Catholic  
Students Association, Canberra  
Chapter Dinner at Southern Cross  
Club Woden.

APRIL 14: Catholic Young Adults  
Dinner at Southern Cross Club  
Woden. Guest Speaker is Martin  
Iles from the Australian Christian  
Lobby. The group will meet for  
6pm Vigil Mass at St Christopher's  
before making their way to the  
Club for the dinner and talk. Cost  
is \$50. For more information or to  
RSVP by 5pm on Monday, April 9  
contact Tien on 0438 242 459.

APRIL 18 to 21: Jesus Youth  
is hosting 'Instagrace', a three  
day stay-in program for young  
people from Year 8 to Year 12.  
This program aims to help the  
teens to explore themselves  
and to relate to Jesus and to  
experience His unconditional  
love in their day to day life. The  
programme will be conducted

at Kambah ACT: Registration fee  
is \$300 which goes towards the  
expenses. For further enquiries  
contact eRoby: 0433 828 266 or  
Email:jesusyouthcanberra@gmail.  
com

**APRIL 21 (6.30pm):** Can-  
berra Regional AMICUS (meaning  
friend) Group will meet for dinner  
at Joe's Thai (Sangster Place,  
Wanniassa Shops). Contact  
Patricia on 0412 351 548.

**APRIL 25 (8am):** National  
ANZAC Day Mass at St Christo-  
pher's Cathedral, Manuka ACT.  
Guests are asked to be seated  
by 7.45am. The Ensign Party will  
enter the Cathedral before 8am.

**APRIL 28:** CANBERRA'S Filipino  
Cycling Community are pedal-  
ling for HOME in Queanbeyan.  
Support can be done by cycling  
the Centenary Trail with others on  
April 28 or by donating directly to  
HOME on (02) 6284 2409. Ask for  
Anne Pratt. Non riders are wel-  
come to support cyclists on the  
day. To find out more go to the  
Facebook page 'Pedal HOME' or  
send an email to AusFilRiders@  
gmail.com

**MAY 12 (12pm):** Canberra Re-  
gional AMICUS (meaning friend)  
Group will meet for lunch Pat  
Narrabundah Golf Club. A tour  
of the nearby historic homestead  
of Mugga Mugga will follow the  
lunch. Contact Patricia on 0412  
351 548.

**MAY 13:** Oz Rosary 53 – taking  
place in a number of parishes and  
locations throughout. For more  
information about a location near

you go to <https://www.facebook.com/OZROSARY53/> or call Jane  
on 0476 535 595.

**MAY 13:** Fatima Day Pilgrimage  
to Pauline Fathers Monastery at  
Penrose Park near Berrima, NSW.  
For bookings contact Judy and  
Joe on (02) 6254 6202.

**MAY 27 (12pm):** Canberra  
Regional AMICUS (meaning  
friend) Group will meet for lunch  
at 'The Baker' (Victoria St Sutton).  
Contact Rosemary on 0428 599  
342.

**JUNE 10 (12pm):** Canberra Re-  
gional AMICUS (meaning friend)  
Group will meet for lunch at  
Crowes Restaurant at Gundaroo  
Colonial Inn. Lunch to be fol-  
lowed by a walk around the town.  
Contact Patricia on 0412 351 548.

REGULAR GROUPS

**CANBERRA TAIZE GROUP:**  
Meets for prayer every second  
Sunday of the month at Weston  
Creek Uniting church at 5.30pm.

**CATENIANS in CANBERRA:**  
The Catenians meet on the third  
Thursday of the month at 6.45pm  
for the 7.15pm meeting which  
is followed by dinner at 8pm.  
Venue: The Southern Cross Club  
Woden.

**COMMUNITY OF THE RISEN  
LORD CANBERRA:**  
Meets at 7.30pm each Friday  
evening in St Brigid's Church  
parish hall (2 Bancroft St Dickson)  
for charismatic praise and worship  
with an anointed sharing of the

word. Contact Shan on 0412 310  
364 or Sean 0448 510 237.

**COUPLES FOR CHRIST (CFC)  
CANBERRA CHAPTER:** For more  
information contact Chris Carlile  
0414 938 831.

**GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER  
GROUP:** Meets each Wednesday  
from 7pm to 9pm in the parish  
room at St Peter Chanel's Church  
Yarralumla. Rosary, charismatic  
praise and worship, teachings,  
testimonies, prayer ministry, inter-  
cession and fellowship. Contacts  
Susanna on 0419 902 293, Neda  
on 0415 266 019 and Gabriel on  
0432 082 642.

**HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRAN-  
CISCAN FRATERNITY:** Meet on  
the third Friday of the month at  
7.45pm, St Augustine Church,  
262 Beasley St Farrer. Secular  
Franciscans try to follow Christ  
in the footsteps of St Francis of  
Assisi. Call Tony on 0407 072  
139 or Hélène on 0420 533 264.  
Email: sfo@fastmail.fm

**IGNATIUS GROUP OF CAN-  
BERRA:** Meets fortnightly for  
discussion and reflection. Based  
on the international movement  
Christian Life Community.  
Contact Steve on 0407 147 540.

**LEGION OF MARY:** Meets on  
the third Sunday of each month  
at St Joseph Church O'Connor at  
2pm.

**MAN OVERBOARD:** A monthly  
gathering of young men discern-  
ing priesthood. It is a time to  
gather, reflect, and commune in  
order to feel supported during

a time of such importance. Each  
gathering will be held on the first  
Friday of every month (public  
holidays excepted). Please RSVP  
to Fr Paul Nulley at paul.nulley@  
cg.org.au  
For catering purposes or follow  
the prompts at <http://www.manoverboard.org.au/>

**MARIAN MOVEMENT OF  
PRIESTS:** Meets to pray a  
Cenacle at St Joseph's Church  
O'Connor each Wednesday  
following the 8.30am Mass.  
Contact Maria on  
(02) 6247 4026.

**menALIVE:** Encouraging  
authentic Christian manhood,  
the Canberra chapter of 'Men  
Alive' meet on the first Monday  
of each month at St Christopher's  
Cathedral for Mass at 5pm. Mass  
is then followed by drinks at  
'Public Bar' in Manuka.

**MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY  
MARRIED:** A mentoring  
program for newly married  
couples or engaged couples  
soon-to-be married. Contact  
Debbie and Brian on (02) 6231  
3389 or 0414 878 167. Email:  
mnm@grapevine.com.au

**TAIZE PRAYER:** The Can-  
berra Friends of Taizé Ecumenical  
Group meets regularly for prayer  
every second Sunday of the  
month at Weston Creek Uniting  
Church at 5.30pm. Prayers,  
songs, Scripture readings and  
silence at Taizé, France. All  
welcome.  
Enquiries to Annemarie (0421  
492 554) or CBRTaizeFriends@  
internode.on.net



Marian Procession & Youth Pilgrimage 2018  
Sunday 14 October 2018



**TRADITIONAL  
LATIN MASS**  
Sts Peter and Paul, Garran  
Monday - Thursday - 7 am  
Friday - 7 pm  
Saturday - 9 am  
Sunday - 11.30 am (sung)  
St Thomas More, Campbell  
Sunday - 7.45 am  
FSSP Canberra: (02) 6161 5320  
[canberraltm.blogspot.com](http://canberraltm.blogspot.com)

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Email: [catholic.voice@cg.org.au](mailto:catholic.voice@cg.org.au)

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# Opening new horizons



**LEAD Mass and Rally on March 4 and 5**  
**What took place?**  
Youth Mass in St Christopher's Cathedral was celebrated by Archbishop Christopher Prowse. There were eight concelebrants including Archdiocesan Youth Chaplains. More than 350 young people attended including groups from Bathurst and Broken Bay Dioceses.

**Who led the event?**  
Fifty Youth Ministers, post-school young people on a year of mission and formed at the Youth Ministry International Equipping School.

**What were the highlights?**  
The opening procession a highlight, as each community brought forward an icon that articulates their identity in faith that they wanted to share with the broader Church. Powerful testimonies and drama at the rally were also well received.

**Why did they gather?**  
To celebrate their role in the life and mission of the Church.

*"Throughout this national Year of Youth, called by the Australian Bishops, the Archdiocese will focus on drawing young people into the life and mission of the Church through models of ministry*

*in schools, parishes and through 13 Youth Ministers in all parts of the Archdiocese. The exciting momentum from the Australian Catholic Youth Festival late last year could be felt as a number of the young people who were at LEAD Mass and Rally were also present at the festival."*  
*Huw Warmenhoven (Archdiocesan Youth Coordinator).*

The event was led by the 50 Youth Ministers who led the students through praise and worship, key inputs, personal testimonies and opportunities to respond to the challenge to 'Open New Horizons' in their lives.

## More youth ministers are equipped to lead

"Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt 28:19). This call was answered at the 2018 YMI Equipping School by Youth Ministers, students, teachers and leaders from across the Oceania region including Canberra-Goulburn, Lismore, Sydney, Bathurst, Broken Bay, Melbourne and Darwin Dioceses. There were also representatives from New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and The Solomon Islands.

Approximately 110 leaders, Youth Ministers, teachers and students participated in the school in Canberra this year.

The school was run by Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA), in partnership with the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, the Australian Catholic University and Catholic Super. The relationship with these partners opens pathways for those attending the school and supports them with their faith formation.

The Equipping School formed each participant for the mission of the Catholic Church. Participants were encouraged to engage with Christ and the Holy Spirit, in order to deepen their personal faith. The Equipping School's sessions then focused on presenting opportunities for spreading this personal faith and the Gospel through ministry positions, including placements in schools and parishes and on cross-cultural missions.

There is already incredible momentum felt across the Archdiocese and beyond resulting from the Equipping School. It will be incredible to see these leaders return to their communities, leading in the life and mission of the Church as we begin the Year of Youth.



Archbishop Christopher Prowse (centre) with delegates from the Youth Ministry International Equipping School. Picture: Loui Seselja

# Archdiocese welcomes its new youth workers



Lily Sarah



Hannah McMahon



Jake Wenger



Sam Stubbs

**New Youth Ministry Workers:**  
Sam Stubbs St Edmund's College  
Lily Sarah South Tuggeranong Parish  
Jake Wegner Belconnen Parishes and St Francis Xavier College Florey  
Hannah McMahon Gungahlin Parish and St John Paul II College Nicholls

**Executive Leadership Team:**  
Nathan Galea Catholic Education Project Officer for Youth Ministry  
Huw Warmenhoven Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator

**Second year Youth Ministry Workers:**  
Jarryd Atkinson Batemans Bay, Moruya, Bega and Merimbula Parishes. Includes Carroll Catholic College and Lumen Christi College  
Jordan Hodge Queanbeyan Parish and St Mary MacKillop College  
Alannah Hodge Merici College  
Katie Golding Belconnen Parishes and St Francis Xavier College Florey  
Chiara Catanzariti Narrabundah Parish  
Sarah Pearson Queanbeyan Parish and St Clare's College  
Rossen de Ramos South Woden Parish and Marist College  
Chris Beaton Yass Parish

## Praying in the Year of Youth



YOUNG people in the Archdiocese responded to the Australian Catholic Bishop's call for a 'Year of Youth,' by kick-starting 2018 with 24 Hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Cathedral. Groups of Catholics gathered to ask God's blessing on this special year, spending time in silence, praying the Rosary and in praise and worship. There were youth group leaders, employees of Catholic Education and parishioners were led by Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr Tony Percy VG.

Pope Francis has asked all dioceses throughout the world to spend 24 hours of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, to pray for the many needs that we are faced with.



# A weekend to last long in our memories

## Fr Martins' open letter of appreciation

FATHER Martins Aloga was inducted as parish priest of St Bernard's Batemans Bay by Archbishop Christopher Prowse on March 20. He penned the following letter to his parishioners:

Dear Parishioners,

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to you all for contributing in any respect to the visit of the Archbishop and Mass of induction last weekend. It was indeed an awesome weekend to last in our memories for a long time to come. The Liturgy and your level of participation together with children, parents, teachers and students across our schools remain commendable. Let's continue as a family, working together to build God's kingdom and as we begin the Holy Week leading up to Easter, may our lives be filled with hope and our hearts filled with Joy in anticipation of Christ's resurrection.



Fr Martins Aloga was inducted as parish priest of Batemans Bay on March 20. Picture: Supplied.

## Merimbula's Fr Pale, a priest with a view

Fr Pale Leota was installed as parish priest of Merimbula on March 19. Here he is at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Eden. Picture: John McLaurin.



## New PP for Corpus Christi Parish

AFTER having previously time spent time as administrator of Grenfell and also Pambula, Fr James Antony CMI, was installed as parish priest of Corpus Christi, South Tuggeranong by Archbishop Christopher Prowse on February 25.



## Bringing South Belconnen together

TAKING in the former parishes of St Matthew's Page and St Vincent's Aranda, the recently formed parish of South Belconnen has kept the two patrons in its new title. Fr Simon Falk who was inducted as parish priest by Archbishop Christopher Prowse on February 4 is one of the people tasked with bringing the two communities together.

Fr Simon Falk parish priest of South Belconnen on February 2. Picture: Supplied.



## It's business as usual for Fr Loi

IN ONE sense it is business as usual for Fr Loi Viovicente, who on January 1 took the reins of the newly formed Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish of North Belconnen.

The Filipino-born priest said he enjoyed his previous years as the Parish Administrator of both St Monica's Evatt and St Michael's Kaleen.

So when the opportunity came for him to apply to be leader of the combined parishes, he grabbed it with both hands.

Fr Viovicente has been instrumental in bringing the two former parishes together under the title of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

On February 18 he helped organise an inauguration liturgy in St Francis Xavier Florey College hall.

Led by Archbishop Christopher Prowse, the liturgy featured Fr Viovicente's installation as parish priest. Archbishop Christopher Prowse blessed five new Our Lady of Perpetual Help images. which were distributed to the parish's two primary schools and two churches.



Fr Loi Viovicente. Picture: Supplied.

## A reflection on the parish amalgamations

THERE are many factors that bring about the need for change. In fact, the season of Lent brings us into a deep reflection of changing our old self to new life in Jesus Christ. Lent calls us to turn away from sins and embrace God's love and mercy. Lent reminds us always

of the chance to change our hearts and choose God. Lent brings change. Change can cause great pain, and those most affected will experience grief. It can also bring excitement and present wonderful opportunities.

The merging of parish communities is a difficult process that

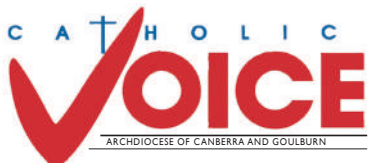
means the loss of what is familiar and much loved and uncertainty about what lies ahead.

The coming together of parishes brings with it the sharing of many gifts that are unique to each community, enriching all. It is also a moment of new birth and a time to rediscover the gift of being the

Mystical Body of Christ. Now more than ever the Church community is called to look to Jesus Christ for consolation, peace and guidance. For it is in Christ that the community is held together in love. As his disciples, we are confident that if we follow him, he will lead us to the new life he is bringing

about through the new parish community. During this time of transition, let us look to the Paschal Mystery of Christ. For it is in Christ's dying and rising that we find our confidence and hope, knowing that the pains of this transition will give way to the joy of new life in a new parish community.





# Classifieds

Cost: \$10 for the first 30 words, and 50c for each additional word. Payment by cheque or credit card. Deadline: 15th of the month.  
Email: catholic.voice@cg.org.au

## ACCOMMODATION

**BRUCE,ACT:** Full board available for a student in a caring Catholic home. Close to universities and amenities. Long term option only. \$250 pw (neg) plus expenses. Referees required. Phone: 0430 667 447.

**LAWSON,ACT:** 1 x furnished bedroom with ensuite, kitchen, laundry available to rent for female student / adult belongs to Catholic faith. Close to University of Canberra - \$250pw plus utility bills. Provide references. Phone 0415 205 826 for details.

## TO RENT

**HARDEN MURRUM-BURRAH:** Modern 2 b/r townhouse with a/c. L/U garage, private, easy access to shops, churches, doctors and club. Set in a complex of four. Apply with current references - \$180 p/w. Phone: (02) 6386 2700.

**GUNGAHLIN:** 1 b/r apartment in Flemington Rd. Furnished or unfurnished. Short walk to Gungahlin

## SERVICES

**BM SCRAP METAL:** Any scrap metal wanted - Unwanted cars, trucks, vans, bikes, bus etc. We pay cash \$\$\$.

With every sale we would like to donate a percentage into our parish. So let's clean up and support our local parish established in 1965. Call Matt Martin – 0422 050 553 or Bill Martin – 0412 210 245.

**COUNSELLING:** Things not going to plan? Sometimes we need to talk to someone who can help. Maybe it is time to contact a professional at Counselling Solutions ACT. Visit [www.actcounselling.com.au](http://www.actcounselling.com.au)

**GETIN2IT PLUMBING:** New homes, fix taps, toilet repairs, blocked drains. Min call out fee \$80.00 – discount for pensioners. Please call us for your free quote as well as some water saving tips. Call Matt – 0422 050 553.

**HANDYMAN & PAINTING CONTRACTOR:** Small jobs specialist. Services range from minor carpentry, plastering, tiling, fence repairs, painting, roofing, plumbing and much more. All in Canberra area. Free quotes. 10% discount for pensioners. No job too big or too small. Phone Luis Flores on 0404 605 687 or (02) 6140 1317.

**SINGING:** If you can talk then you can sing. Lessons make singing easier. Experienced teacher. Varied styles including classical, sacred, musicals and popular. Phone Rosemary on (02) 6297 2974 or 0414 228 618.

## HOLIDAYS

**BROULEE:** Spectacular views near beach. Six-bedroom, three-bathroom house. Two living areas, includes balcony with wonderful views, fully equipped. Great for family groups – sleeps 14. Phone: (02) 6257 1222. Visit [www.broulee-beachhouse.com](http://www.broulee-beachhouse.com)

**CURRAJONG, JERVIS BAY:** Fantastic house with six bedrooms, two bathrooms and rumpus. Sleeping 14, it's ideal for two families to share. Stylishly redecorated in mid-2010. Visit [www.currajongbeach-house.com.au](http://www.currajongbeach-house.com.au)

**TUROSS HEADS:** Ella May Holiday Flats. Renovated two bedrooms, walk to the beach. Fully equipped, available all year including weekends. Off-season rates ranging from \$150 p/n to \$350 p/n. Contact Deidre on 0414 597 619 or (02) 6278 5271. Visit [www.ellamay.com.au](http://www.ellamay.com.au)

## FOR SALE or REPAIR

**GARDEN:** Bags of garden manure cow and sheep, \$6 per bag. Minimum order is five bags. Free delivery around Canberra area. Phone Mark on 0427 053 988.

**KENWOOD:** Chef food mixer \$100, microwave from \$50. Warranty for six months. Will

trade-in or buy microwaves or Kenwood mixers. Glass trays from \$10. Phone John on (02) 6166 5512.

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**DALMENY, NSW:** Building site for sale. Great location with ocean views. Phone John on 0413 153 384 or 0417 200 153.

**GUNGAHLIN:** 1 b/r apartment in Flemington Road. Short walk to Gungahlin Market opposite to the future light rail. Phone 0421 544 878.

## SELF-HELP GROUP

**FREE:** Massage, hair-cut, nails, food, odd jobs etc as exchange or barter. Need new members so we can assist pensioners, low income, less fortunate etc. Join a parish friendship group – weekly activities, bus trips etc. Confidential. Phone John anytime on 0403 050 960.

## 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

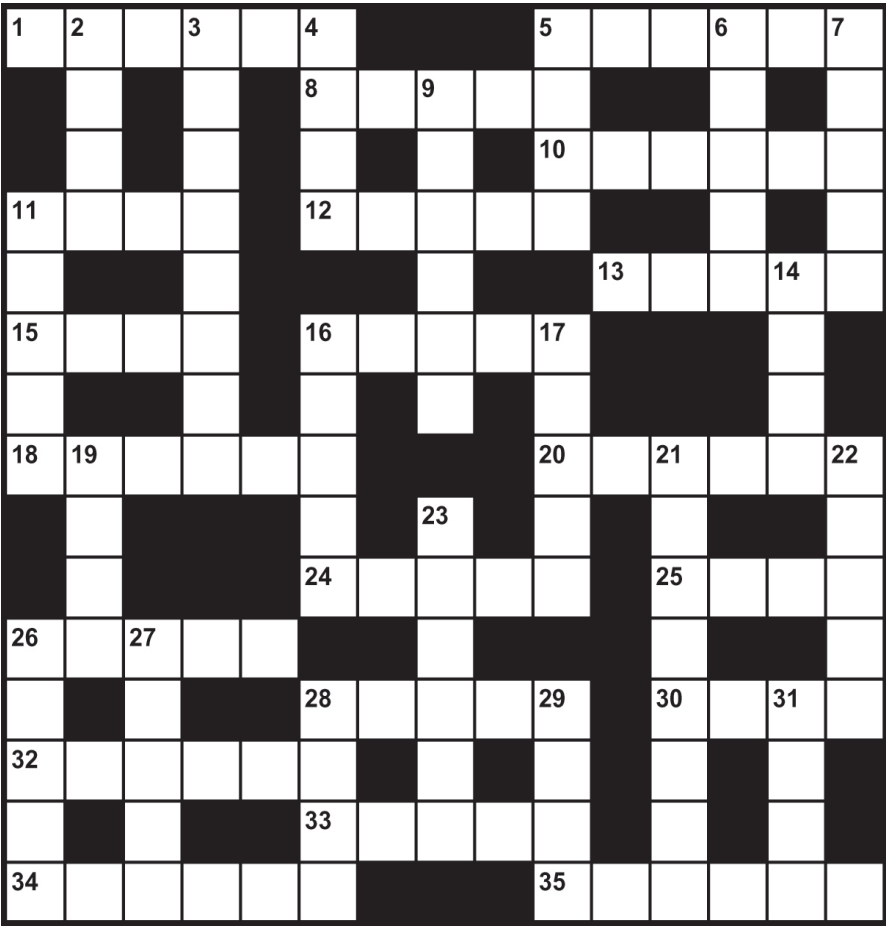
in my necessity. Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (pray this 3 times). I place this cause in your hand (x3). Thank you for mercy toward me and mine.

### VOCATIONS

Are you considering a vocation as a priest for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn?

If so please contact  
Fr Paul Nulley  
[paul.nulley@cg.org.au](mailto:paul.nulley@cg.org.au)

Great videos and more stories from around the Archdiocese can be found online at [www.cgatholic.org.au](http://www.cgatholic.org.au)



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

### ACROSS

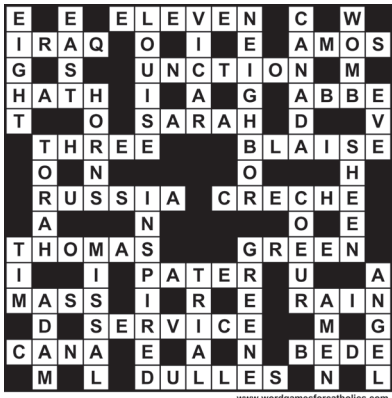
- 1 Advent foliage
- 5 Biblical wood
- 8 The table
- 10 The Catholic \_\_\_\_
- 11 Monastery chamber
- 12 Father of Abram
- 13 He spoke to the pharaoh
- 15 Season before Easter
- 16 "Let us \_\_\_\_ bread together on our knees."
- 18 He knocked down the Philistine temple
- 20 An epistle
- 24 A deacon wears this over his left shoulder
- 25 The \_\_\_\_ Sheep
- 26 Rod of \_\_\_\_
- 28 Along with Timothy, he was a disciple of Paul
- 30 Biblical instrument
- 32 The \_\_\_\_ Office
- 33 Paul said he would travel here after leaving Rome (Rom 15:28)
- 34 Mark with oil
- 35 Assisted at Mass

### DOWN

- 2 \_\_\_\_ of Christian Initiation
- 3 Sebastian is their patron saint
- 4 Elvis Presley co-star who became a nun
- 5 Opening of the largest diocese in a province
- 6 Catholic newsman and "Hardball" host Matthews
- 7 Burnt palms

- 9 Paul's hometown is found in this modern-day nation
- 11 People St. Patrick converted
- 14 Home of Adam and Eve
- 16 The \_\_\_\_ of matrimony
- 17 "\_\_\_\_ eleison"
- 19 Calais monastic
- 21 One of the three Magi
- 22 He entered Judas (Lk 22:3)
- 23 "O Salutaris \_\_\_\_"
- 26 John preached in the wilderness here (Mt 3:1)
- 27 Dominic who is patron saint of choirboys
- 28 "Do not put the Lord your God to the \_\_\_\_" (Lk 4:12)
- 29 Esau and Jacob, to Rebekah
- 31 Biblical epic starring Burton and Mature (with "The")

### MARCH EDITION CROSSWORD



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com



# Catholics discovering prayer with new book



THE CATHOLIC Enquiry Centre has launched a new prayer resource that can help people escape the busyness of their daily lives and find space to encounter God.

Discovering Prayer was developed as a complementary resource to other Catholic Enquiry Centre materials that serve as an introduction to the Catholic Faith.

Catholic Enquiry Centre Director Shane Dwyer said some other material seeks to engage the head of people who are searching for meaning. Discovering Prayer builds on that by engaging the heart.

He said the vision for the book was for it to be an introduction to prayer for those who are new to religion or new to Catholicism, but lifelong Catholics are also finding the resource valuable.

“We know that people can sometimes find obstacles to prayer, such as wondering ‘How do I start to pray?’,” Mr Dwyer said.

“This book fits into your pocket and can help those new to prayer and those who have grown up in a prayerful house to encounter God simply and humbly.

“It has been embraced by those who have wanted to either reignite their prayer life or those who wanted to enter into a journey where they could reflect and pray about the realities of life.”

Sharon Brewer, the book’s author, said it was important to produce a resource that would be digestible for people both in its language and in its format.

“While the book can be used every day for 30 days, it really is a little book that can be picked up at

any time when a person, especially a busy person, needs to take a moment out of their day for reflection and prayer,” she said.

“Hopefully these prayers will lead the reader to a deeper understanding of themselves, and a realisation of how much God loves them.”

Discovering Prayer can be purchased on the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website for just \$3, plus shipping and handling <https://www.catholic.org.au/shop/acbc-shop#!/New-resource-Discovering-Prayer/p/97351374>

Catholic organisations can request a free copy of the book by emailing [info@catholicenquiry.com](mailto:info@catholicenquiry.com)

For more information, call the Catholic Enquiry Centre on 1300 432 484.

## L’Arche in Canberra celebrates 40 years



L-R: Cindee Richardson, incoming L’Arche Genesaret Community Leader/CEO, Joanne Mitchell, L’Arche community member, David Treanor, National Leader of L’Arche, Kim Sinclair, Interim CEO, and Barry Sandison, L’Arche Genesaret Board President. Picture: Supplied.

TWO hundred guests from across Australia gathered at the Canberra Southern Cross Club to help the L’Arche Genesaret community celebrate its 40th anniversary in Canberra.

The milestone, also marked the foundation of L’Arche in Australia.

L’Arche Genesaret Board President, Barry Sandison said the organization was celebrating its 40th anniversary with a clear direction to open new homes for people with and without a disability this year.

“L’Arche has a unique story in shared

living and community building alongside people with an intellectual disability,” he said.

“L’Arche provides a place of belonging and welcome, in our four residential homes in Woden and through intentional and regular community gatherings at our Hub in Phillip.”

For more information about opportunities to join the L’Arche community in Canberra, please contact the L’Arche Genesaret office on 6282 9066 or email [canberra@larche.org.au](mailto:canberra@larche.org.au)

### DIVINE MERCY CHURCH Lower Chittering Western Australia

Thanks to the generosity of donors, progress has been made recently on the Divine Mercy Church in WA.

We aim to open the Church on “Divine Mercy Sunday” 8th April, 2018. Urgent fundraising is continuing to ensure that the Divine Mercy Church can be completed on time. The Church is 75% complete. However, all the interior still needs to be completed and completion of cladding on the exterior. Could you please assist with a donation to enable us to open the Church? It will be a most beautiful Church, a place of welcome and pilgrimage. Many tonnes of local stone have been collected by parishioners and devotees, with which to clad the exterior. Parish Priest, Fr Paul Fox



is now urgently appealing for donations and prayers, so the Church can be opened soon.

The letter endorsing this appeal can be seen at:  
<http://www.ginginchitteringparish.org.au/html/letter.html>  
[www.ginginchitteringparish.org.au](http://www.ginginchitteringparish.org.au)

#### DONATION FORM

I would like to support the work of building the new Divine Mercy Church with a one-off donation of:

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or ☐ I authorise the Divine Mercy Church Building Fund to make automatic monthly deductions of \$..... from my credit card until further notice.

Also, any bequests would be very gratefully accepted.

Donations can also be made by Direct Transfer to our Bank: **NAB (BSB 086 006 Acc No. 79586 3917)**

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Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form with your donation to: **DIVINE MERCY CHURCH BUILDING FUND**  
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Supporting parish initiatives

# Supporting parish initiatives



SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF OUR PRIESTS



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*Generously*  
Donations can be made at  
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or email [giving@cg.org.au](mailto:giving@cg.org.au)

**GOOD SHEPHERD** *Appeal*  
April 2018