



# THE CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

Dear Catechists,

This will be the last mailout for 2018 and I would like to thank you again for the wonderful ministry that you have carried out throughout the year. It has been a time where we continue to bring the love of Jesus to many children by the lives we live and the lessons we teach. Well done!

As you'd be aware October, is the month of the Rosary, a prayer that is used by many Catholics. The Rosary is sometimes described as reflecting on the life of Jesus, in the presence of His mother, Mary. Some of our Catechists come from a Protestant tradition, and it may help you to know that Mary has a significant place in the Gospels and the early Church. If you would like to use the resources that are in this mailout, it would fit within a number of areas within the authorised curriculum.

Our NSW schools have all received some excellent brochures in recent times, summarising the wonderful work of CCD. These pamphlets are being sent to parents and teachers, with the aim to inform them of the all that is happening in Scripture. It is expected, this action will continue to strengthen our already positive position in NSW Government Schools. As my friend and colleague, Jude Hennessey, recently wrote "if you listen to some reports in the media, you'd be forgiven for thinking that Australians were a completely secular bunch...

The opposite is true, according to new independent research released in May 2018". Some of this information is in the mailout.

Please consider attending our end of year celebrations. They are always a great opportunity to celebrate all that we have done for God's Kingdom, and to catch up with friends. You are also most welcome to invite friends and relatives. It was suggested to me, by one of our coordinators to include a list of awardees, for 2018, which has been done. In addition, previous CCD Director, Sabina van Rooy will be honoured for her many years of service to our Archdiocese. I often come across many great things that Sabina has done, and felt that it was important to recognise her wonderful contribution at the Central Deanery Mass.

Lastly, as many of us participate in the 'Listening Sessions' for the Plenary, one area often comes up, and that is the place of women in the church. From my perspective, women are doing an incredible job. The majority of our Catechists are female and are bringing the message of Jesus, weekly to the young in our care. This is a significant mission, for which our Church is grateful.

Thanks again and blessings,

**Matt**



*Let the little children come to me  
(Mtt:19.14)*



Our Lady of the Snows, Perisher Valley



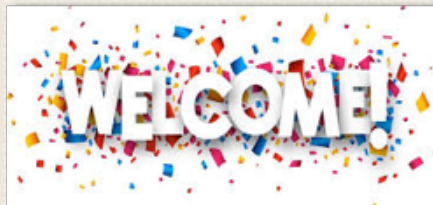
Deacon Matt Ransom

## In This Mailout

**Some information** on the history of teaching teenagers and a "Survey of Values" (thanks to CCD Sydney for these)

**Teaching Resources** - activities and information about The Rosary.

**Youth Magazine** - Thanks to the producers of 'Kingdom Revelator' for this great resource.



## To our new volunteers

Bryan Coleborne - Yass

Nicole Webb - Holy Rosary,  
Watson

## Claim the Date



## End of Year Masses

**Merimbula** - Nov 25 @ 10am

**Temora** - Nov 28 @ 12.15pm

**Cooma** - Dec 2 @ 10am

**Canberra** (Charnwood) - Dec 4 @  
6.30pm

Contact us at;  
02 6239 9832 or  
[matt.ransom@cg.org.au](mailto:matt.ransom@cg.org.au)



## From Pope Francis

### From Latvia

During an ecumenical prayer service in Latvia, Pope Francis warned Christians to not let the faith turn into another piece of history...

"This is a recurring danger for all of us," the pope said on Sept. 24. "We can take what gives us our very identity and turn it into a curio from the past, a tourist attraction, a museum piece that recalls the achievements of earlier ages... The same thing can happen with faith." "We can stop feeling like 'resident' Christians and become tourists," he continued.

### *Yet you remained steadfast*

"We could even say that our whole Christian tradition can run the same risk. The risk of ending up as a museum piece, enclosed within the walls of our churches, and no longer giving out a tune capable of moving the hearts and inspiring the lives of those who hear it."

At St. James' the pope recalled the many trials older Latvians have experienced... "Yet you remained steadfast; you persevered in faith," he said. "Neither the Nazi regime, nor the Soviet regime could extinguish the faith in your hearts. Neither could they stop some of you from becoming priests, religious sisters, catechists, or from serving the Church ([www.catholicnewagency.com](http://www.catholicnewagency.com))

## The 2020 Plenary Council

*The Plenary Council... it's a time to discern, decide and act. If we do that under the influence of the Holy Spirit, things will change in unexpected and hope filled ways* (Archbishop Mark Coleridge)

[plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

## Working With Children Check's

Throughout the year your Children's Check may need to be renewed. Could you please notify us when this occurs and remember that you must not work with Children unless the details are current.



## Great Websites

There are many excellent websites for Catechists. In this section, we will feature some of them;

### ALETEIA

[www.aleteia.org](http://www.aleteia.org)

Latest Catholic news from around the world



Me with the Missionary of Charity Sisters at Queanbeyan

## Some Humour

