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FREE

No. 211 June 2006

Circulation 21,000

Warm clothing a winter lifeline for some

Warm clothing for adults and children is a priority as the St Vincent de Paul Society's Winter Appeal gets under way.

Giving through Vinnies provided a lifeline to those in crisis during the most difficult cold months of the year, Vinnies' archdiocesan president Mr Tony Thornton said.

Although there were many reasons people found themselves in a crisis, the underly-

ing problems most often manifested in the form of financial crisis, impacting on their ability to buy food, clothing, housing and health care.

"Vinnies person-to-person assistance helps restore hope by helping people in need to know that they are not alone when the going gets tough."

In addition to parish assistance, Vinnies also has six services for homeless people,

a six-night-a-week night patrol van, an active migrant and refugee conference and an extensive youth program.

The homeless persons' services are funded by government, but in most cases this funding was inadequate to cover the extensive needs of these most vulnerable people in the community so the society subsidised them.

"Extending friendship and compassion to homeless and isolated people, treating them with dignity and respect, earning their trust and encouraging them to make the journey back from life on the streets is the mission we commit ourselves to as Vincentians," he said.

Donations to the St Vincent de Paul Society's Winter Appeal may be made through local parishes and Vinnies

shops, or by mail to PO Box 642, Mawson, ACT 2607. All donations are tax deductible.

Mr Thornton said Vinnies was also looking for volunteers to help keep its services operating. "You don't have to give a whole day; for example a young mum might like to give a couple of hours a week to help sort clothing," he said.

Vinnies is spreading to reach the needy

Vinnies is planning a multi-million dollar expansion to its services in Canberra's fastest growing suburbs in Gungahlin.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is waiting on the ACT Government to agree to provide an already identified large block of land in O'Brien Close, Gungahlin, for the organisation's eighth centre in the Canberra-Queanbeyan region.

Archdiocesan president Mr Tony Thornton said he hoped the centre, which is likely to cost about \$2.5 million, would be completed within 18 months, but progress depended on the ACT Government.

Another project in the pipeline is expansion at the Tuggeranong Vinnies centre which is likely to cost about \$500,000 and will service the southern suburbs of Canberra. No government assistance is likely on this project.

"We simply have to be out there providing services in areas where we believe peo-

ple need us," Mr Thornton said. "Last year, we provided \$900,000 worth of food, for example, to people across the Archdiocese, of which \$500,000 was in Canberra. Some people say that can't be true, but it is. That's the sort of need there is."

Mr Thornton said the centre in Gungahlin was a priority because there was no facility there at present in an area of 30,000 people, which was tipped to increase to 90,000. "Many of those people will be young people with families and large mortgages. They will need a Vinnies shop."

The society intended to approach Canberra businesspeople to help finance the Gungahlin centre.

Vinnies has centres at Belconnen, Dickson, Phillip, Curtin, Tuggeranong and Narrabundah in Canberra, and a centre in Queanbeyan as well as in many country towns.



Getting ready for winter ... sorting clothes in the Vinnies shop at Narrabundah are volunteers (from left) Helen Fahey, Luzana Majsikova and Sharon Crouch.

Central schools in our Archdiocese - see Middle Pages

Winners of the Pope John Paul II DVD, offered in conjunction with Universal Pictures, are:
Ms M L Spiteri, of Kambah; Mrs Helen T Price, of Batemans Bay; D Cesnik, of Bega; Margaret Webb, of Goulburn; and Barbara King, of Young.
The prizes will be on their way to the winners soon.

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contact us

EDITOR and ADVERTISING
Geoff Orchison

ADDRESS
Postal - GPO Box 3089, Canberra
ACT 2601.
Street - Favier House, 1 Ballumbir
Street, Braddon
E-mail - ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au
Internet - www.catholicvoice.com.au

TELEPHONE
(06) 201 9806 or mobile 0407 008 563.

DEADLINE
Editorial and advertising 15th of the
month before publication.

Catholic Voice is published by
the Archdiocese of Canberra and
Goulburn and printed by Capital
Fine Print, Fyshwick.. It is a member
of the Australasian Catholic Press
Association and the Australasian
Religious Press Association. Every
month 21,000 copies are distributed.

Print Post Publication No. 238684/00009

What are you doing now?
I am a married deacon living at Tuross Head and working in the Batemans Bay-Moruya parishes and as an auditor with the Archdiocesan Marriage Tribunal. Jo and I will have been married for 40 years this year; we have three children and six grandchildren.

What made you realise your vocation?
I had retired from work because of injury and was helping in the Page parish. One evening when I was serving Mass for Fr John Hoare I had an experience when reading the first letter of John's gospel where he describes the humanity and the divinity of Jesus. I felt called to proclaim the humanity of Christ, and that calling just got stronger. Some years later I saw it as a call to be a deacon.

What have been the greatest challenges for you in your vocation?
I have just had one of the biggest, the funeral of a baby stillborn at 36 weeks. Funerals for children are always a challenge and I realised how inadequate I felt as a clergyman in this particular circumstance. On the other hand, precisely because I am married and a father I was probably

my life

In this fifth in a monthly series on vocations of all kinds, we speak to South Coast married deacon Paul Rummery.



a good person to officiate. The biggest challenge was to walk away from the 19 year old mother after the service. Another challenge that I relish is spending time preparing a homily each week.

What are the best times for you?
Every Sunday liturgy is a great experience because of the sheer joy that comes from being a part of the summit of our faith. Sometimes I think I haven't hit the mark, but then I am heartened when someone comes up to me and says it was a good homily. Another good time is praying with people in hospitals and nursing homes, people who are approaching the end of their lives. It's the cutting edge of my ministry.

What leisure interests do you enjoy?

I play golf and ride a bike. I enjoy walking on the beach in the afternoon, sometimes just sitting and experiencing the wonder of creation that is the ocean and its movement.

What would you say to someone considering your vocation?
I would urge them as husband and wife to talk about it, to pray together about it. With the vocation of married deacon, it is about the couple first of all. The ministry is a challenge for both as each gives up something of their lives. I am blessed with a wife who is utterly faithful to me and who helps me to get the balance right.

Your hopes for yourself, your Church in 2006?
I hope I can remain relevant to the people I am serving. I hope I can still enjoy the respect of people for the ministry and promote the ministry in the Archdiocese and the wider Church. Like many other people I would like to see more vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, and for people to fully realise more their relevance to the Church in their communities. The future of the Church is in the hands of the people, and I don't think they fully realise that. It is this commitment to community that brings growth and is the real energy in the Church.

Kevin's help still flowing

Marist Brother Kevin Murray (pictured right) continues his work to help bring water to villagers in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. In September last year, Catholic Voice reported Br Kevin had managed with the help of villagers to get one water ram pump installed to service the remote village of Norba, 100km from Mt Hagen.

Br Kevin reports all has not gone smoothly since then. "The pump was smothered in sand and stones when the river rose during a heavy downpour higher up in the mountains. This pump had been sending water to the health centre for nearly four months before nature cut it down. The pump has been cleaned and is ready to be set up again."

A second pump would be installed at Kuruk, a health centre about 30 minutes drive from Mt Hagen and a third was on its way by ship.

Br Kevin has spent more than 26 years teaching and working in PNG and has devoted much of his time in recent years to tapping the fast-flowing rivers for villagers. As he recounted: "I saw women washing sweet potatoes, which is the main food, in puddles on the road. Water is a basic need for people; they deserve to have running water."

Anyone wanting to help Br Kevin may contact his sister Sr Barbara Murray, telephone 6201 9800.

ROSS FOLLOWS HIS DAD: Former headmaster of Marist College, Pearce,



Ross Tarlinton has taken over at Sydney's most prestigious Marist school which broke with a 125-year tradition to appoint its first lay headmaster. St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill - or "Joeys" -appointed Mr Tarlinton to replace Br Paul Hough. Old boys at Joeys include Chief Justice Murray Gleeson, former governor-general Sir William Deane and Mr Tarlinton's father, Frank, who attended in the 1920s. Mr Tarlinton made another bit of Marist history in 2001 when he became the first lay headmaster at Marist in Canberra. He said he was glad Joeys did well at rugby, but "there are other things that are emphasised equally and in many cases more so than rugby, particularly the teaching and learning".

CALLING ON MARY AGAIN: Australia's Catholic bishops were meeting for their May plenary session at the Mary MacKillop Centre in North Sydney when little Sydney girl Sophie Delezio was cruelly injured for the second time when a car hit her pram at a pedestrian crossing. The bishops were

among many who gathered in Mary MacKillop's chapel and at her tomb to once again pray for Sophie's recovery. Sophie's parents believe Mary MacKillop helped her recover the first time, and that she will take care of their daughter again.

HIDDEN NEEDS:
Elsewhere in this issue, the fine community service of students from Canberra Grammar School is recognised for their support of the annual Vinnies doorknock. As reported, Sheaffe House at the college has doorknocked each year since 1984. In a speech to the school assembly Vinnies conference treasurer Stephen Brown said society members in the St Christopher's area last year made 700 visits to 220 households giving food and other help. Most people wouldn't think there was much need for Vinnies' aid in one of the most affluent areas of Canberra, but that's not the case. The needs of our communities are sometimes hidden, but they are everywhere, as today's followers of Frederic Ozanam's example can attest.

GOOD NEWS, GOOD PEOPLE: Australian Catholic composer Peter Kearney will perform his major creative work "Good

Morning Good People!" at several venues in the Archdiocese this month. The performance weaves music and song and story to tell the life of St. Francis of Assisi. Kearney's best-known compositions include such favourite songs as "Fill My House", "The Beatitudes" and "Where Is Your Song, My Lord?". With the support of the Canberra fraternity of the Secular Franciscans, performances will be held at 7.30pm on Friday, 9 June, in St Gregory's Church, Queanbeyan, 7.30pm, Friday, 16 June, in Holy Family Church, Gowrie, and 2pm, Sunday, 8 October, in St John's Church, Kippax. Kearney will be joined by Canberra singer Claire Parkhill, who is heard on all his recordings. For more details, telephone 4871 2284 or e-mail kearney@hinet.net.au



EVERYONE WON: A team of priests is reported to have beaten a squad of imams 12-1 to win German's first soccer cup between religious leaders. After the match, Muslim captain Imam Taha said: "We have tried for such a long time to strengthen contact between Judaism, Christianity and Islam. I think we can say we achieved that today". The linesmen were Jewish.

CWL has its say on world stage

Archdiocesan Catholic Women's League member Mrs Eileen Hogg is one of eight delegates from Australia attending the assembly of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations in the United States.

"Women as Peacemakers, United in Faith and Action" is the theme of the assembly.

Trafficking in women and children, combating HIV-AIDS, improving maternal health and ensuring environmental sustainability are among the social justice issues to be discussed during the assembly's workshops.

Melburnian Mrs Brenda Finlayson is one of three nominees accepted by the Vatican for election as the new president-general of WUCWO.

CWL Australia has had a motion accepted to be put to the assembly proposing that the Vatican be asked to proclaim St Maria Goretti patroness for the protection of the innocence of children.

It is asking that her feast day on 6 July be set aside throughout the universal Church as a day of prayer for all who are being sexually abused, and a day on which to pray for healing of those who have suffered sexual abuse as children.

Bishops elect a new leader

Australia's bishops have elected Adelaide Archbishop Philip Wilson as the new president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. He succeeds Archbishop Francis Carroll, 75, whose term as president expired.

Archbishop Wilson, 55, was previously Bishop of Wollongong and was ordained a priest of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese.

The vote was taken among the 42 bishops present at the plenary meeting of the bishops' conference in Sydney. Archbishop Barry Hickey, of Perth, was elected vice-president, succeeding Archbishop John Bathersby, of Brisbane.

Archbishop Wilson said he was "particularly honoured to follow in the footsteps of Archbishop Francis Carroll

who has led the conference with such dignity, faith and wisdom for the last six years."

Archbishop Carroll congratulated Archbishop Wilson and wished him well in his new role. "Archbishop Wilson has given great service to the Church in Australia throughout his priestly and episcopal life," he said.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is the body through which the bishops act on matters of national concern. The president and vice-president are elected for two-year terms and can serve a maximum three terms. Also elected were members of the Permanent Committee: Cardinal George Pell, Archbishop Bathersby, Archbishop Denis Hart, Archbishop Adrian Doyle, Bishop Michael Putney and Bishop David Walker.



The bishops leave Mary MacKillop chapel in North Sydney after celebrating Sunday Mass. Archbishop Carroll is towards the rear of the line.

Young Catholics prepare for action

Young people in the Archdiocese will begin training this month in preparation to going out on mission to places as diverse as India and Bourke in central Australia.

More than a dozen young people, from Year 12 to 35 years, are expected to sign up for the inaugural Catholic School of Action, which will be run by the Archdiocese's Catholic Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

The focus of the school, which will run through to November, was on developing leaders, ministry co-ordinator Mr Adam Morris said.

"We are looking at forming future leaders in our parishes and movements, and giving young people an experience of mission they would not normally have," he said.

The program will be co-ordinated by Mr Morris and Ms Hannah Walcott.

At the end of their training the participants will have the chance to go for a month from mid-December to India to take part in a project started by Fr Francis Kolencherry before he came to the Archdiocese this year, or Bourke where they will work with the Missionaries of Charity.

In India, they will help build houses for the homeless and visit small villages to experience the poverty and simple lifestyle of local people.

In Bourke, they will work with the indigenous population in local missions, go on home visitation and experience the prayer and way of life of the Missionaries of Charity.

"The school aims to help young people develop a three-dimensional image of their Christianity; not only do they need to develop a relationship with God and be a part of a worshipping community, but they also need to reflect their Christianity in their everyday life," Mr Morris said.

"It will help them to be more open to going out and interacting without fear with all peoples and particularly with other charisms within our church community.

"The School of Action has been set up to provide an opportunity for young people to explore what it is to be Catholic and to develop a contemplative, a communal and a missional spirituality."

The school will be held from 6pm to 9pm every Thursday at the Archdiocesan administration offices in Favier House, Braddon, from 1 June to November.

The program will include a communal meal, prayer, workshops and lectures by diverse speakers, and an opportunity for participants to share their personal faith story with the community at large.

Parishes to get new PPs

New parish priests have been appointed to several parishes in the Archdiocese.

Fr Peter Gannon will move from Cooma to Pambula to replace Fr Peter Cronin. Fr Joseph Tran will move from Murrumburrah and Jugiong to become parish priest of Cooma. Fr Simon Falk has been appointed parish priest of Murrumburrah and administrator of Jugiong. Fr Allen Crowe will move from Ardlethan and Barellan to become parish priest of Grenfell and administrator of Bribbaree. Fr Ben Macajes will leave the Cathedral parish to become parish priest of Ardlethan and Barellan.

Three parish priests of the Archdiocese have been re-appointed to their parishes. They are Fr

Bill Kennedy (O'Connor), Fr Tony Frey (North Woden) and Fr Dermid McDermott (Queanbeyan). Fr Mick Burke has been appointed administrator of Bega and Fr Paul Huthnance administrator of Evatt, extending the time both priests spend in the parishes. Melkite priest Fr Fayeze Assaf has been appointed part-time assistant priest in South Tuggeranong parish. Fr Peter My will leave the Cathedral parish to become assistant priest in Gungahlin and will continue as chaplain to the Vietnamese Catholic community. Fr Peter Doai will leave Grenfell and Bribbaree to become chaplain of Canberra Hospital, living in the Cathedral presbytery. Fr Varghese Vavolil will become assistant priest in the Cathedral parish.

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Islamic leaders visit Blessed Mary's tomb

Islamic leaders lunched with the bishops and visited the tomb of Mary MacKillop.

In a landmark meeting, Bishop Issam Darwish, the Melkite Bishop in Australia, welcomed the Islamic delegation. He said the luncheon and dialogue meeting was one of the fruits of the Australian Christian-Muslim Friendship Society, formed some years ago.

The Islamic delegation also met with the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.

The delegation included Sheikh Yahia Safi, Sheikh Kamal

Mouselmani, Dr Moustapha Alameldin, Dr Khalil Moustapha, Mr Houssein Hajj and Mr Ahmad Kamaledine. They were received by both the outgoing president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Francis Carroll and the incoming president, Archbishop Philip Wilson.

Sheikh Mousselmani, the Australian representative of the Supreme Islamic Shiite Council of Lebanon, said face to face meetings with people of different faiths was important.

"When we meet is when we dialogue," he said. "We must believe that we are not doing this



for our benefit, but for the sake of Allah, of God, and the benefit of the people. "This is what God has requested of us."

Mr Kamaledine, president of the Lebanese Muslim Association, said the meeting with the bishops had been a good experience. "It is good to get together with fellow

religious faithfuls," he said. "We must be united and be seen to be united."

Mr Kamaledine said he hoped such dialogue would concentrate on encouraging people to return to the practice of religion in order to help fight anti-social behaviour in the community.

Bishop Kevin Manning, of Parramatta, said the gathering was a cordial and happy encounter. "The representatives of Islam manifested a kindly attitude to the Church and its role in society, in bringing people together. It was all most positive."

LEFT: A group of the bishops and the Islamic leaders (from left): Bishop Ted Collins, Bishop Geoffrey Jarrett, Mr Ahmad Kamaledine, Dr Moustapha Alameldin, Bishop Issam Darwish, Sheikh Kamal Mouselmani, Bishop Michael Putney, Sheikh Yahia Safi, Dr Khalil Moustapha, Bishop Jeremiah Coffey, Mr Houssein Hajj and Bishop Kevin Manning.



New president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Archbishop Philip Wilson. He succeeds Archbishop Francis Carroll.

Pope's 'emerging style'

The emerging style of Pope Benedict XVI as a pope of dialogue could offer a model of reaching out which had relevance for all episcopal ministry, Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Ambrose De Paoli told the bishops.

He said that two of Pope Benedict's public encounters with priests in Italy gave a clue to his style. At one, he had no problem in stating that as Pope there was the danger that he could be somewhat removed from everyday life, even from the life of priests

who were on the front lines in their parishes. "It is a wonderful, warm, human conversation, sharing with the priests and their bishop their hopes and sufferings and struggles for the kingdom."

The second meeting "became a dialogue with the Pope fielding questions from his clergy. At one point he even mentioned that he was not quite sure if he understood the question which was posed. Again, a warm, human, open conversation borne on the wings of his strong faith."

Conference revamp aims for flexibility

Australia's bishops have agreed to revamp the structure of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in an effort to be more flexible in their response to the needs of the Church.

In a pastoral letter, they said they had been seeking to create more opportunities to discuss pastoral issues of national significance during their twice-yearly plenary meetings.

At their May plenary at Mary MacKillop Place in Sydney, they voted to reconfigure the operations of the conference to help them "consider in depth the major pastoral issues facing the Catholic community in Australia".

It will also provide for greater collaboration in dealing with these issues by creating a mode of operation where bishops' commissions work closely with lay men and women, religious and clergy.

The work of conference and the responsibility of the bishops will be spread more evenly among members of the commissions. Committees and agencies which serve the conference will be streamlined.

The restructure replaces 19 committees with 12 bishops' commissions.

They are: Doctrine and Morals; Liturgy; Mission and Faith Formation; Catholic Education; Pastoral Life; Relations with Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders; Justice and Service; Church Ministry; Caritas; Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations; Administration and Information; and Canon Law.

The bishops said the fact that an area of pastoral care may no longer be the subject of an individual committee in no way devalued its importance.

Each bishops' commission would be served by advisory bodies, providing for the appropriate expertise and ensuring a balance between clergy, religious, lay men and women.

For example, the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office will continue in its current form, providing advice to the new Commission for Pastoral Life.

The Commission for Australian Catholic Women will become the Council for Australian Catholic Women, a permanent advisory council to the Bishops' Commission for Church Ministry and the Bishops' Commission for Pastoral Life.

As part of the new structure, all commissions will have access to more stable executive support.

"We trust it will allow us as bishops to respond creatively to these needs, in close collaboration with clergy, religious and lay people.

The chairmen of the commissions are: Doctrine and Morals Cardinal George Pell; Liturgy Bishop Mark Coleridge; Mission and Faith Formation Archbishop John Bathersby; Catholic Education Bishop Gerard Holohan; Pastoral Life Bishop Eugene Hurley; Relations with Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders Archbishop Barry Hickey; Justice and Service Bishop Christopher Toohey; Church Ministry Bishop Michael Malone; Caritas Archbishop Adrian Doyle; Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations Bishop Michael Putney; Canon Law Bishop Peter Connors; Administration and Information Archbishop Denis Hart.

Asylum plea to PM Stem cell boost

The bishops have written to Prime Minister Mr John Howard urging him to reconsider proposed legislation to process all boat people asylum claims offshore.

Bishop Joseph Grech, the bishop who has responsibility for refugees and migrants under the Bishops Committee for Pastoral Life, said the letter acknowledged the Government's need to safeguard national security. But it urged the Government not to sacrifice compassion for those who are in genuine need of help and asylum. "The letter expresses our concern about the decision to process refugee claims of boat people at detention centres beyond Australia's shores, where they will have no access to proper legal advice," he said.

The Federal Government's announcement of a \$22 million grant to Griffith University to establish a dedicated adult stem cell research centre was a wonderful boost for cutting edge, ethical science, the Catholic Church said. Chairman of the Bishops' Committee for the Family and for Life Bishop Eugene Hurley said government funding was recognition of excellent work being done in adult stem cell research at Griffith University.

The centre last year showed that adult stem cells from the nose could be grown into many types of cells, including heart, muscle, liver, kidney and blood cells.

They could ultimately develop treatments for brain diseases.

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Let us glory in being Great South Land of Holy Spirit

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Clergy appointments to take effect at the end of June have just been announced (see Page 3). As I write, there has been no similar announcement of a new Archbishop. The recent meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference saw my handing over the presidency of the conference after six years in office, to Archbishop Philip Wilson, of Adelaide. But I still await word from Rome as to the local handing over to my successor, as Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn.

My final meeting of conference - I have taken part in about 75 of them - finished on a positive note. The bishops accepted a number of recommendations about the structures and proceedings of the conference. The process of re-configuration carried out over many months, seemed to generate considerable energy and a spirit of hope.

The Bishops' Conference is probably something of a mystery to most Catholics, but it does play an important role in the life of the Church in Australia. Bishops find fraternal support and encouragement and the opportunity to share pastoral initiatives and concern. The new changes should strengthen the bond of unity and give scope for discussing major pastoral issues at greater depth in a spirit of openness and trust. They should strengthen the public voice of the Church and better coordinate activities at national level.

The spirit of hope was notable too in a presentation of the World Youth Day preparations during the conference. Two of the young people who took part in the handing over of the WYD

Cross on Palm Sunday spoke with great enthusiasm. The cross will be brought in pilgrimage right across the length and breadth of Australia prior to the World Youth Day, much as did the Olympic and Commonwealth Games torches.

While World Youth Day in July 2008 is primarily the responsibility of the Sydney Archdiocese, it is a challenge and unique opportunity for the whole Church in Australia. WYD is for young people but it is also the responsibility of every member of the Catholic community.

While the preparations and celebrations will focus on young people's evangelization and faith renewal, all parishes, schools, movements, diocesan groups and agencies, should be involved as from now. If the next two years are used well and are full of prayer, we can hope for new life for the Church and restored hope to many who have grown disillusioned and apathetic.

Ultimately, as everything in the life of the Church, it is to be the work of the Holy Spirit. Pray this Pentecost for a renewed and powerful outpouring of the Spirit on the young people and on the whole of our Church. Pray, too, for the unity of all Christians and the reconciliation of our nation, especially between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians.

Let's stand together under the sign of the Southern Cross and glory in the title of the Great South Land of the Holy Spirit.

May the Spirit of God's truth guide us and the Spirit of God's Love embrace us all into the unity of God's family.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+Francis P Carroll

Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn.



Criticism shows ignorance

Lay pressure to allow priests to marry is not surprising. It's ironic that it comes at a time when the institution of marriage is itself under attack by the secular world.

The redefining of public morality has influenced the Church. At the same time the Church has lost its self-confidence.

The art of self control is an unpopular calling in a world hostile to Christian sexual morality. Our lust-filled culture is intolerant to limiting freedom for the good of all. Abortion, rape, adultery and the like are strongly linked to our culture's inability to promote responsible sexual ethics.

Criticism of the celibate priesthood as being "unnatural" reveals ignorance. It assumes we have no more power than animals to make choices. Jesus and the Virgin Mary were both celibate. Jesus said, "If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world- therefore the world hates you." (John 15:18-19)

The Church is called by Jesus to be counter-cultural. Christ prophesied the creation of the celibate priesthood; "eunuchs for the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 19:12) Now is the time to pray for and encourage the call to priestly vocations in our churches and in our schools.

Dale Moore, Goulburn.

We need to pray

I was disappointed to read Noel Cook's letter, "Priesthood and Marriage" (CV, April) again focusing on life, duty and the apostolic mission of the Roman Catholic Church. It is a cheap and unfounded attempt to describe celibacy of priests as

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obscure, not natural and a barrier for priests, bishop (and Pope?) to enjoy "normal" life, as married with wife and children.

Mr Cook should remember his ordination to the priesthood and service to the Church's founder, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. There is no compromise or negotiation in this. Priests, all religious and others including bishops, cardinals, even the Pope, have to serve and give their lives totally and unconditionally to Jesus Christ.

What we really need is to pray for new vocations, pray in families to support out priests to become more holy, active to fully serve Our Lord and His Church on earth.

Jaroslav Cernanec, Tuross Head.

No one superior

When I read J L Smith's letter (CV March) "Called but not recruited", I thought this writer is having a joke at our expense. But then, as a person who spent many years teaching religious education and also as a catechist, I thought, suppose someone who has not had as much religious education in catechetics and theology as I have had, may take the sentiments in this letter seriously. And I became concerned.

For instance, to write that "Christ made it clear that virginity for the sake of the kingdom is the superior vocation..." Where is the reference? And again, that "I think that to propose a married priesthood alongside a celibate priesthood belittles both the priesthood and marriage".

The seven sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ and they all lead to the Eucharist. To suggest that any one sacrament is superior to another or that one sacrament would/could "belittle" another sacrament is nonsense.

I wonder how the several married catholic priests and their families in Australia and elsewhere react to this statement? Were not some of the apostles married men/priests? Is it not the case that the celibate priesthood is a fairly recent phenomenon like the 11th or 12th century?

Anne Blake, Griffith.

Tales of crisis

Calling all Catholic women who have overcome crises in their life. I am compiling a collection of stories about Catholic women who have experienced deep pain in their life and who have overcome their circumstances through faith.

You may have experienced an abortion, marriage breakdown, sudden death of a loved one, mental illness, depression, domestic violence, abuse, self-harm, same-sex attraction, addiction. If you feel you can share your victory with others, I would be glad to hear from you.

As women we can feel isolated and embarrassed when we are just hanging onto life while everyone else seems to live effortlessly, but the truth is that all of us experience times of deep loss, loneliness, sadness, madness, confusion, whatever it may be.

Many topics are difficult to discuss with our best friend, let alone our parish priest, so this book is intended to bridge the gap. Through it I hope to provide a source of comfort and inspiration, to show women who are currently struggling with their own personal crises that no matter what, they are loved, the Church embraces them, other women within the Church understand them, there is hope.

For more information please contact me at email llcox13@yahoo.com.au or on mobile 0404 931 031.

Linda Baraciolli Cox, Randwick.

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in brief

MUST prison, drugs and mental illness always go together, Jesuit Fr Peter Norden will ask at a public forum in Canberra for Drug Action Week. The forum, organised by the Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform, will be held at 12.30pm on Wednesday, 21 June, in the reception room of the ACT Legislative Assembly. Inquiries: Telephone 6254 2961.

THE Catholic Women's League of Australia has a new communications officer in its Canberra office. Aileen Solowiej returns to the position after a stint in 2002 and 2003 to succeed Helen Keogh, whose legacy includes a newly designed and widely acclaimed CWLA website.

MORE than 30 members from CWL branches throughout Central Region, including Batemans Bay, gathered for the region's annual meeting. Marie Gallagher, of Watson parish, was elected president, Angela Devlin, of Kambah, secretary, Anne O'Neill, of Watson, treasurer, and Anne Rosewarne, of O'Connor, and Meicke Foley, of Kippax, vice-presidents.

Cursillo marks 40 years of service

The Cursillo community gathered to mark a significant milestone in its history, the 40th anniversary, with Mass concelebrated by Archbishop Francis Carroll and Cursillo priests, and a lunch and bush dance.

The first Cursillo weekend was held in January 1966 at St Michael's Agricultural College, near Goulburn. Thirty-six men participated, including 11 team members, led by John Cooney, now of Sale Diocese.

He and Fr Bernie Maxwell had been involved in the first Cursillo in Armidale in 1965 and wanted to bring the new movement to the Archdiocese. Among the participants were Tim Cobham, who became a driving force in the establishment of the movement, as well as Eddie Pook and Laurie O'Neill.

For 40 years, Cursillo has been a significant movement of renewal in the Archdiocese. It has been the catalyst for other movements such as Kairos Prison Ministry, Kairos Outside, Marriage Encounter and Antioch.

Canberra/Goulburn Cursillo has sent teams to outreach to Wagga Wagga, Wollongong and Bathurst dioceses and has been part of teams introducing Cursillo to Darwin, Perth and Auckland.

Members were also involved in the first Anglican Cursillo in Australia held in the Archdiocese in 1979.

Special guest speakers at the 40th anniversary celebration were Fr Bernie Maxwell, Laurie O'Neill, current national president, Peter McMahon from Brisbane, as well as long time cursillistas, Mary Moran and Michael Doherty. Members of the Vietnamese Cursillo secretariat and their families also attended.

Cursillo continues to be vibrant and active in the Archdiocese with five Cursillo weekends being held this year. Information may be obtained from president Mr Ted Streatfeild, telephone 6226 3396.



Fr Bernie Maxwell and Mr Laurie O'Neill, both still living in Watson parish, attended the first Cursillo held in the Archdiocese 40 years ago. They are chatting with Anne O'Neill at the 40th anniversary celebrations.



Top marks, Grammar

Many volunteers come to the aid of the St Vincent de Paul Society to doorknock for its annual major appeal. None has a prouder record than the young men of Sheaffe House at Canberra Grammar School. Each year since 1984, students have joined in the doorknock collecting a total of \$65,000. This year 80 students covered parts of St Christopher's parish. To mark the school's dedicated support over more than two decades, the St Christopher's conference of Vinnies presented a certificate of appreciation to the students at a school assembly. LEFT: Treasurer of the St Christopher's conference of Vinnies Mr Stephen Brown (second from left) congratulates the two doorknock co-ordinators of Sheaffe House Jeff Sohn and Chris Chynoweth, watched by house master Mr James Cameron and the rest of the house.



Trees

*I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree...
A tree that looks at God all day
And lifts its leafy arms to pray*



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A new life and death struggle looming

Attacks on the sanctity of human life in Australia are increasing. Recently Federal Parliament surrendered control over abortifacient drugs like RU-486 which kill a developing baby and cause miscarriage. Now a new struggle is looming.

IVF procedures usually produce more human embryos than can be implanted in their mother. These tiny "left-over" humans are discarded, rejected after genetic screening, or destroyed in experiments. This reckless disrespect for human life may soon expand to change radically our society's respect for human beings.

In 2002, Federal Parliament passed the Research Involving Human Embryos Act (RIHE Act) and Prohibition of Human Cloning Act (POHC Act). Regrettably the RIHE Act allows destructive research on embryos left over from IVF. Sydney IVF (which promotes itself assiduously in Canberra) performs these experiments.

A human being can be "copied" by placing one of their body cells in a human egg which has had its nucleus removed; this cell is stimulated to develop as a normal

embryo does. Though the resulting "clone" has only one genetic parent, he or she is a human being. The POHC Act also prohibits barbarous practices like using animal egg cases to house the clones.

The two Acts ban deliberate creation of human embryos, either through IVF or cloning, to be used for experimentation. States and Territories have passed similar legislation: in the ACT, the Human Cloning and Embryo Research Act 2004; in NSW, the Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2003 and the Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Act 2003.

In 2005, the Lockhart Review Committee considered whether the creation of human beings specifically for experimentation and other banned practices should be allowed. Most submissions opposed such changes.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference stated: "Respect for human dignity ... would not allow cloning of a human and would require that the human dignity of the most vulnerable in our society be respected. ... Many of the claimed scientific

Kath Woolf, spokesperson for the Australian Federation of Right to Life Associations and president of the ACT Right to Life Association, looks at the prospect of governments lifting bans on cloning and other anti-life practices.

advances resulting from the use of embryonic stem cells are still unproven and most such advances are achievable via other means without the destruction of human embryos." (Submission 481*)

The Australian Federation of Right to Life Associations opposed the creation of embryonic humans, through IVF or cloning, to be destroyed in research. (Submission 599*)

Submissions from some research scientists argued that what can be done should be done, the "scientific imperative", a view indistinguishable from that of the Nazis who used humans as fodder for medical experiments. Their claims were accompanied by inflated promises of cure-alls and fear that Australia would lose out economically unless bans were lifted.

Disappointingly, the Lockhart Committee in its report of 19 December, 2005, to Federal, State and Territory governments endorsed virtually all changes pushed by such scientists. It recommended that a variety of abhorrent and currently prohibited practices be allowed, including: cloning, including using human genetic material in animal eggs; making human and animal hybrids; developing an embryo from an unfertilised egg.

These recommendations have been strongly condemned by pro-life groups and churches.

Cardinal Pell, Archbishop of Sydney, commented: "The [Lockhart] report takes it for granted that human embryos are merely a 'resource' to be exploited like an inferior animal or plant ... It is never 'therapeutic' to destroy human life, and creating human life for the sole purpose of killing for disputed scientific reasons makes a mockery of the therapeutic purpose of medical science."

The Church has consistently defended these principles. In 2001, the Pontifical Academy for Life said cloning human embryos

is "a cruel, exploitative way of treating human beings. In any case, such experimentation is immoral because it involves the arbitrary use of the human body as a mere research tool."

In 2003, Pope John Paul II said human cloning was "a denial of the being and the dignity of the person."

In March this year, Pope Benedict XVI said protection of life was one of the non-negotiable principles for the Church and Christians in public life, and should be a focus of public interventions by the Catholic Church.

This month the Council of Australian Governments will consider the Lockhart proposals. It would be tragic if they recommend removing the current ban on cloning and other anti-life practices. Every Australian parliament will have to decide whether to retain or remove these bans.

ACT supporters of the current bans should contact Legislative Assembly Members, Federal MHRs and Senators. NSW residents should contact State and Federal MPs.

*Submissions may be found at www.lockhartreview.com.au

Historic link for all Josephites Religious pay tribute to Archbishop

Eight-five sisters from both groups of Australian Josephites have come together in an historic gathering at Perthville in NSW where 130 years earlier the first diocesan Josephite congregation began.

Members of the five branches of the Federation of Sisters of St Joseph, from Goulburn, Perthville, Lochinvar, Tasmania and Whanganui, were joined for part of their annual conference by the congregational and NSW leadership teams of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. ABOVE: Josephite leaders at the



historic meeting (from left) back, Sr Katrina Brill, Sr Marie Roach, Sr Jill Dance, Sr Patricia Egan, Sr Noelene Quinane and Sr Judith Sippel. Front: Sr Anne Lane, Sr Carmel Moore and Sr Mary Comer.

More than 120 religious priests, sisters and brothers from 16 congregations gathered to farewell Archbishop Francis Carroll at a Mass and dinner.

Sr Noelene Quinane spoke of the way Archbishop Carroll had been a companion to all in the Archdiocese over his 23 years of service. She said he was a man of God, authentic, compassionate, committed and convicted of the love of God for all. He had a deep love of people, and concern and interest in local church communities, rural schools and children of all ages.

She said Archbishop Carroll had given inspiration and hope and a sense of pride in god's church today. He had been resilient in times of trial and had shown spiritual leadership in national affairs, especially in times of tragedy.

"We in this Archdiocese are losing a great archbishop and a man who carried the Archdiocese forward by using the outstanding talents of the laity," she said. Archbishop Carroll had an outstanding gift of preaching and his words were always Christ-centred, spiritually challenging and practical.



Archbishop Francis Carroll (middle) with Br John O'Shea and Sr Noelene Quinane at the farewell by religious of the Archdiocese.

In his homily at the farewell Mass, which he celebrated, Archbishop Carroll encouraged the religious to rest in the warmth of God's love. He challenged everyone to respond to the Father's love and invited them to be a presence for others, to pray for others and to be servants of others.

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Christianity on the move

The centre of gravity of Christianity today was not Europe but Bangkok or Kinshasa, an ecumenical gathering was told.

President of the National Council of Churches in Australia Prof James Haire said one third of World Council of Churches representatives came from countries with people living on less than \$2 per day.

He was reporting on a meeting of the world council in Brazil last year. At the meeting, there was a keen commitment to social justice, and a passionate plea on this topic from Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Some decades ago, Prof Haire said, the World Council of Churches had been an avant garde organisation, leading national churches' thinking in many ways. Today, it is more cautious and conservative, operating as a council of church federations, but still going strongly.

The Catholic Church had a significant role, he said. It tended to occupy the central ground among delegates and was sensitive to its position and potential influence as a large universal church.

In 1991, the World Council of Churches held its once-in-nine-year assembly in Canberra.

in brief

JESUIT human rights advocate Fr Frank Brennan will address a dinner in Canberra in support of East Timor. The dinner and auction will be held at the National Press Club on 23 June to aid the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation and the Canberra Friends of Dili, which support health and education in East Timor. Inquiries: Dennis Sleight, president of the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation, telephone 6258 3470 or on dwsleight@tpg.com.au

A FESTIVAL of Irish music will be held in Goulburn on 9-12 June, starring members of the Turloughmore Ceili Band from County Clare. Inquiries: Kevin Doyle, telephone 9181 3365.

A WORKSHOP facilitated by the Archdiocese's Commission for Women to allow consultation on its draft statement of vision and mission will be held this month. The workshop will be held from 4pm-6pm on Thursday, 8 June, at the Narrabundah In-service Centre, Sturt Avenue, Narrabundah. Inquiries: Carolyn Heath-Devitt, e-mail cheathau@hotmail.com or Margaret Ryan, telephone 6201 9802; e-mail adult.ed@cg.catholic.org.au or contact the Commission for Women at c-g.acw@hotmail.com

background

A 'dream run' for Burma rail veteran

Michael Dwyer tells the story of Evatt parishioner Jack Dando who, despite a few setbacks in life, believes he has had a "dream run".

Sixty-three years ago, John Edward (Jack) Dando, while a prisoner-of-war in a Japanese camp during World War 2, had his left leg amputated below the knee.

A severe setback you may say, but apparently it didn't daunt a man who says his life has been "a dream run".

Just one week before his surgery, performed by Dr Albert Coates in primitive conditions, his brother Rowland, also in the Australian Army Ordnance Corps, had died.

Jack Dando had enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces in 1941 and was based in Singapore when it fell to the Japanese army.

He was transported to Burma by prison ship and worked on the infamous Burma-Thailand railway construction.

The immune systems of many of the men, malnourished and exhausted from long hours of physical work, were impaired and consequently they developed tropical ulcers.

These would rapidly turn gangrenous, and death would inevitably follow. The affected men were in a predicament; their gaunt bodies lacked the capacity to fight the ulcerating sores, but for the body to repair itself after surgery was just as big a problem.

In September 1943 Dr Coates successfully operated on Private Dando.

In later life Dr Coates, a medical orderly during World War I, described the medicines and equipment available in the camps as not much better than those supplied to military surgeons who had sailed with the early convict fleets to Australia.

Yet he performed 120 amputations on Australian POWs and is credited with saving more lives than any other prison camp

doctor in World War 2.

He, and the other POW surgeons, operated in a bamboo lean-to using home-made anaesthetic, a knife, two pairs of forceps and a saw used by camp butchers and carpenters. (The Sunday Age, 9 April, 2000).

Jack Dando's determination to overcome his disability, to become a husband and father, and to enjoy a successful career in the Department of the Navy, would no doubt have pleased the doctor.

Fittingly, Dr Coates' home town of Ballarat has honoured the gifted surgeon by erecting a bronze statue of him.

When it was unveiled in 2000, the local newspaper ran a story on its front page with a picture of Jack Dando who made this comment about Dr Coates: "I was very lucky. He was a marvellous man. He was strong-minded and took control. I loved him". (The Courier, 15 May, 2000).

It's pleasing to know that Ballarat has also constructed an Australian ex-prisoners-of-war memorial and the motto of these brave prisoners reads: "When you go home, tell them of us and say that we gave our tomorrow for your today."

As a boy Jack experienced country life in Victoria and enjoyed the popular activity of rabbiting.

He still loves the bush and only recently sold his property at Adaminaby where he spent many peaceful weekends - and where he caught the occasional fish.

Jack and wife Kathleen are regularly



TOP: Evatt parishioners Jack and Kathleen Dando. ABOVE: Jack Dando (far right) back in Australia wearing a prisoner-of-war camp-made leg which he is sorry he gave away as he knows that the Australian War Memorial would have prized it for their collection.

seen at the 9.30am Sunday Mass at Evatt sitting at the back of the church.

They have good reason for doing so: they need to park their various contrivances to get them back to their car. Indeed, their lifestyle is an outstanding example of independent living of a senior couple.

Furthermore, Jack continues to grow vegetables and maintains a very well-kept garden in Evatt.

Jack proposed to Kathleen in the Australian National Botanic Gardens and they married in St Thomas More's Church at Campbell in 1979.

Previously, Kathleen had married Frank Linehan, but when he died she found herself a widow bringing up six children. Jack's wife, Mary, also died, and he became the sole parent of six children.

After 27 years of marriage, Jack and Kathleen are enjoying watching the progress of their 12 children and 26 grandchildren.

A wartime letter home

Jack only recently discovered a poignant letter he wrote to his mother. The following are excerpts from the letter:

Bangkok 'Drome
17/9/45

Dear Mum,

I don't know when this will reach you, whether before I get home or not. Anyway, I left Nakom Paton where we have been for approximately 18 months under the Japs, and went to Bangkok hospital, a truly wonderful place, set out in the most beautiful grounds, though a little unkempt at present, as is most of Bangkok. Incidentally the capital is the most picturesque city I have seen, fairly clean, and wonderfully laid out. The hospital is full of little Thai nurses, some quite pretty and all with very graceful figure and walk, but bad luck, our party was not under their care.

Now we are at the emergency hospital at the aerodrome, 20 kilos out and quite isolated, but waiting for our plane to Singapore. Planes are going and coming all day, and with luck I might have a flight round part of Siam today.

I am very well, but am very sorry (and reluctant) to inform you all that I lost the lower part of my left leg two years ago. However, I am about 10 stone odd in weight and walking everywhere on a jungle-made wooden leg, so have no fears either for my health or my outlook on things. Incidentally, I was only one of about 500 amputations, rather less than half of whom survived, including approx. 80 Aussies; so you can see that I haven't been altogether a spoiled child.

We have a swimming pool outside the door and believe me I am enjoying it; just as well, because the dirt took a bit of shifting, although I seem to be, to myself anyway, a couple of shades whiter over the last week.

I hope you are all well and not too anxious. May God bless you, mum, and grant me the grace to be two sons to you in atonement for not bringing home my big brother, the finest man I have ever met and the greatest pal in ups and downs. Perhaps I might tell you all that never had I been as close to him, nor him to me as in our joint misfortunes. I'm very, very proud of Rowly.

Your baby, Jack.

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Geoff Joy
Director



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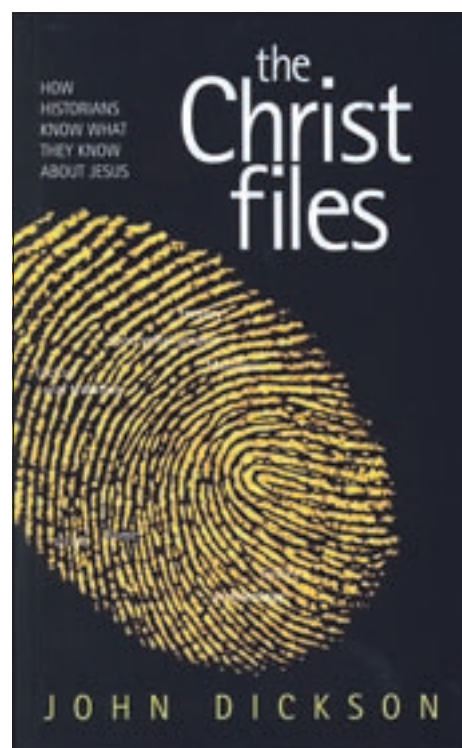
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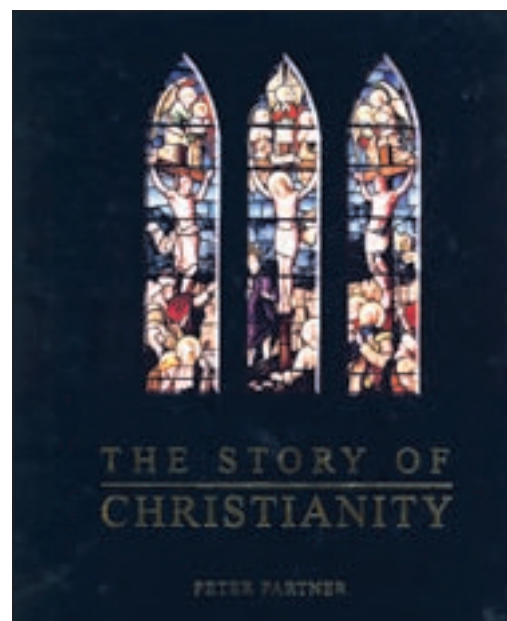
Sane counter to current theories

The Christ File. How historians
know what they know about Jesus.
John Dickson. Bluebottle books,
2006. rrp \$14.95. 100 pp.Have you ever had a sneak-
ing worry that maybe Jesus
was a figment of the early
Christians' hopes?Do you suspect that some
of The Da Vinci Code is cor-
rect? What about the "Gospel
of Judas"? How do we learn
about the factual basis of Jesus'
life and work?The Christ Files explores how histo-
rians discover what we can learn about
Jesus.The author places himself square-
ly within mainstream (as opposed to
sceptical and apologetic) scholar-
ship, and keeps within the bounds of
the historically possible and plausi-
ble.Dickson offers an explanation of the
basic data upon which historians build
their understanding of Jesus.He examines the mixed value
of Greco - Roman texts, the cursory
value of independent contemporaryJewish writings, the
many independent and
sometimes overlapping
sources within the New
Testament books (here
he offers a number
of useful criteria for
assessment), the influ-
ence of the oral tradition
in a aural culture andthe impact of the Old Testament and
archaeological evidence on an interpre-
tation of Jesus.The findings of these inquiries lead
Dickson to urge readers to pursue the
gospels for themselves.Jesus is clearly a man of history, yet
transcends a particular history, culture
and period, and beckons us to belief.Dickson is an historian (Macquarie
University, Sydney), teacher, writer,
musician and Anglican priest.

His scholarship is disguised as

**Books**simple, clear argument, where he
critically reviews ancient texts,
presents possibilities and posits
objective conclusions "beyond rea-
sonable doubt".The book could be a sane counter to
several rampaging current theories that
are not based on fact.

Waiting to be explored

The Story of
Christianity. Peter
Partner: ABC Books,
2006, rrp \$75, hb,
385pp.The Story of
Christianity is big and
glossy and deserves bet-
ter than to lie abandoned
on a magazine table top.Both text and
sources of colour plates
seem to have emerged
from a 20-part British
TV series celebrating
the dawn of the third
millennium and cover-
ing the 2000 years of
Christian history.The author paints
the kaleidoscope of
centuries in broad brush
strokes that establish
the big picture clearly
and well. Many of uswould know something
of the Church's com-
mitment to charity,
the great persecutions,
Constantine, the desert
hermits, the crusades,
the Franciscans, the
Inquisition, reformation
and religious wars.What about early
Christian house church-
es, the gnostics, her-
esies, the holy Roman
empire, the great East-
west schism, the Sel-
juks, medieval reforms,
the Cathars, church
councils, missions of
Asia, and modern-isms
and Christianity? The
book reveals all!The generosity in
numbers, and lavishness
in scope, of the illustra-
tions are noteworthy:mosaics and architecture,
paintings and carved reliefs,
manuscripts and coins, syna-
gogues and basilicas, stat-
ues and sculptures, portraits
and frescoes, landscapes and
ruins.It's all waiting to be
explored. Knowledge of
our history both enriches
our present and can prevent
duplication of error and evil.
The text here is very acces-
sible and inviting.Partner is a journalist,
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The 'Code'? Weak, uninspiring and far too long

The Da Vinci Code book has been a mixed blessing for Catholicism. On the one hand it has started people talking about the origins and history of Christianity at the pub, over dinner and around the barbie. No-one else I know has been able to achieve that laudable outcome.

On the other hand many people have taken the novel far more seriously than it deserves. It is filled with errors, half-truths, absurd conspiracy theories and appalling religious stereotypes.

It is no surprise, then, that the film is a mixed blessing too, but for different reasons.

The Da Vinci Code movie is overly long, the direction is uninspired and the acting from Tom Hanks and Audrey Tatou is surprisingly weak. And, what's worse, with 20 minutes still to run in this 149-minute marathon, the film completely runs out of puff.

The general story in the film is, of course, that of the book.

Before he was put to death, Jesus consummated his relationship with Mary Magdalene and she conceived a child. The code name for the bloodline of Jesus and Magdalene is the Holy Grail, not the chalice used at the last supper, but a symbol for his issue, and the woman who carried his child.

The Church has always known about Christ's descendants, and worked to suppress all knowledge and memory of them. But they have survived through a line of medieval French aristocracy.

During the Crusades, the Knights Templar uncovered the secret of Jesus and Magdalene's family, and in 1099 founded the Priory of Sion to maintain the secret, pass it on in code and protect the known descendants. Isaac Newton and Leonardo Da Vinci were among the Priory's many notable members. Opus Dei is now charged by the Roman Catholic Church to do all it must to make sure the secret stays that way. Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon (Hanks) and Sophie Neveu (Tatou) are drawn into discovering who is the last living descendant of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene.

As Sir Leigh Teabing (McKellen) grandly observes in the film, "You asked what would be worth killing for. Witness the biggest cover-up in human history... We are in the middle of a war. One that has been going on forever to protect a secret so powerful that if revealed it would devastate the very foundations of mankind."

There are a number of modifications from the film to the book. There needed to be. Dan Brown's prose is not the best, the plot of the novel was unnecessarily complicated, and the characters underdeveloped.

Akiva Goldman's script cleans

Films

The Da Vinci Code
Starring Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou, Ian McKellen, Alfred Molina, Paul Bettany and Jean Reno. Directed by Ron Howard. M. 149 mins. Reviewer: Fr Richard Leonard SJ*.

up Brown's work considerably, but I guess there was only so much he could do. The script remains didactic, the dialogue clumsy in parts and the drama in the last act is as illusive as the Holy Grail.

There are, however, some welcome changes from the book to the film. Principally the way the theories are discussed in the film is much more speculative and contested than in the novel. This film is trying to be more conciliatory. But hosts of serious errors remain. Here are some of them.

The Church did not "suppress" the memory of Mary Magdalene, but has venerated her throughout history as the "apostle to the Apostles". Thousands of Catholic churches, colleges and communities are named in her honour. In recent times just as she was rightly throwing off her prostitution tag and emerging as one of the Christ's pre-eminent disciples, in this film, sadly, she is back defined as a lover and mother, sexualised all over again.

The Gnostic gospels do not emphasise the humanity of Jesus. Almost all of them portray him as God parading around in human form.

Constantine was not a "pagan Emperor" until his death bed, but a Christian catechumen who worried that he could only make one confession in his lifetime, as was the liturgical law of the period.

The Priory of Sion was not founded in 1066 but in 1956 by the convicted conman Pierre Plantard.

The execution of 50,000 women as witches during the Inquisitions was a criminally dark chapter in our history, but is not "the worst killing spree in human history". Hitler, Stalin and Pol Pot vie to take out that honour.

The figure to Jesus' right in Leonardo's Last Supper can be more accurately read as the beloved disciple - a fresh-faced, unshaven, gold-locked Renaissance teenager.

The biggest loser in the film, however, is Opus Dei. They should sue for defamation. They are not a Vatican prelature, but a personal prelature of the Pope. They do not have monks, but a very small number of ordained priests within a more general lay movement. They don't wear habits, cowed or otherwise. They did not invent the cilice and flagellation whip, and do not demand that everyone use them. They do not recruit their priests from prisons for the criminally insane.

Be warned, there are two scenes of sado-masochism and a couple of violent moments that will shock you.

Throughout the film the Catholic Church is called "the dark con" of history. I know who is conning whom, so save your money and your time.

* Fr Richard Leonard SJ is director of the Australian Catholic Film Office.

Two great lives on film

DVDs

Mother Teresa. (DVD, 111 mins, aged 12 -adult)

The life of Mother Teresa, who dedicated herself to showing the love of Jesus to the poor, sick and forgotten in India, is portrayed in this 2006 new release motion picture, starring Olivia Hussey as Mother Teresa. The movie depicts Mother Teresa's work as a teacher in a convent school in Calcutta and her efforts to found the Missionaries of Charity order of nuns and facilities for orphans and the poor.

Karol. A Man Who Became Pope. (DVD, 186 mins, ages 15 - adult)

This feature length film portrays the life of Karol Wojtyla from his youth as a university student in Poland, to his surprise election as Pope John Paul II in 1978. The story follows the dramatic struggle of the Polish people against Nazi occupation during WWII, and the consequent Communist take-over of the country.

The Polish actor Piotr Adamczyk, sensitively portrays Pope John Paul's extraordinary journey to the papacy and in particular his great faith in God and love for humanity. For more details and about the film, visit the website www.cbc.ca/karol/

St Margaret Mary - Devotion to the Sacred Heart. by Fr Jean-Rodolphe Kars. (DVD, 127 mins, ages 15 - adult)

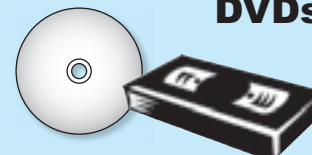
This DVD was made when Fr Kars, a Jewish convert to Catholicism, accompanied the relics of St Margaret Mary to Australia in October 2005.

Fr Kars begins the first part of the program with a personal testimony, followed by an explanation of the mystery and theological background of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the



life and revelations of Margaret

Videos & DVDs



Mary. The second section is a lecture given on 20 October 2005 at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Sydney, in which he discusses the theological and spiritual relationship between Judaism and Christianity.

Millions (DVD, 94 mins, ages 8 - adult)

This British motion picture stars Alex Etel, Owen McGibbon and James Nesbitt. It contains multiple themes of following Christian values, coping with grief and having faith in people.

Seven-year-old Damian and his brother have lost their mother and have to move house with their father (James Nesbitt). Damian is innocent and rather naïve.

He knows all about saints and actually sees and speaks to them in his imagination.

Damian finds a quarter of a million pounds in cash beside the railway lines and wants to give it away to those in need. His brother is somewhat more practical, however. The money causes many problems as Damian has to cope with criminals and the police, while doing the right thing.

VHS VIDEOS

Sisters of Charity (video, 30 mins, ages 14 - adult)

This ABC Compass program looks at the work done by the Sisters of Charity in contemporary Australia.

Despite the declining numbers of vocations and an ageing membership, the sisters channel their energy and passion into addressing some of society's greatest social problems. Through their outreach programs to migrants and victims of domestic violence and others in need, the sisters live out the gospel values of love and compassion in the community.

SOUND RECORDINGS

Pope Benedict XVI. Deus Caritas Est: On Christian Love. (2006) (CD, 111 mins, ages 16 - adult)

This CD is an audio recording reading of Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical letter Deus Caritas Est: On Christian Love. The CD was produced by the Archdiocese of Melbourne and is narrated by Peter Byrne a freelance Catholic broadcaster in Melbourne.

All parishioners may borrow resources from the Catholic Education Office Resource Library for a small annual membership fee. The library holds an extensive collection of VHS videos, DVDs, sound recordings and books for all ages.

ONLINE CATALOGUE

The library catalogue can be accessed on the internet at <http://vision.cg.catholic.edu.au/teaching/library/catalogue.htm>

Visit our web site

Catholic Voice carries a comprehensive and up-to-date guide to movies on its web site.

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MISSION TALK



Over the coming months Catholic Mission will be promoting the work of Propagation of the Faith. This work seeks to assist faith communities within dioceses of developing countries and remote areas of Australia to be present as well as have an effective presence with their community and the wider community.

While some travel to these foreign or remote regions, there are many more who are indigenous to their communities. They rely on Catholic Mission funds for their survival and ministry, service and outreach. Our contributions enable others to offer the life-giving message of Christ and en flesh this message amongst them.

The work of mission equally needs our prayers. This gift of our ability to pray is empowering, effective and supportive for those engaged in face-to-face mission situations. Please keep especially those we know and their communities, such as Fr Frank Jones and Sr Brenda Nash, in your prayers.

A professional addition to your cooking shelf is our new cookbook 'Food for Life', at \$30, or \$40 with postage and handling. Available from our office it represents great value and top quality with most of this amount going to Catholic Mission. Contact Kate, Ruth or myself. God bless.

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65 years devoted to the service of others

Fr Marcus Joseph Crowe
1916-2006

Fr Marcus Crowe had two special interests, the welfare and friendship of Aboriginal people and the spread of devotion to Our Lady.

Fr Crowe, who was born in Bega on 8 October, 1916, served the Archdiocese as a priest for 65 years before he died in April.

The son of Percy Crowe and Stella Millington, he was part of a family of ten children.

He was educated at the Bega parish school and St Patrick's College, Goulburn, where he gained a reputation as a footballer.

His priestly education at Propaganda College in Rome was interrupted by World War 2.

Along with other Australian students he made a perilous return by ship to Australia via

the United States.

He resumed studies at St Patrick's College, Manly, and was ordained on 25 July, 1941 in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, by Archbishop Norman Gilroy.

Fr Crowe's education in Rome helped him to speak Italian, which served him well in the post-war migration boom.

He served the Goulburn Diocese from 1941 to 1948 and in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn from 1948 to his retirement in 1991.

He was assistant priest at Boorowa, Crookwell, Ardlethan and Goulburn and editor of the publication "Our Cathedral Chimes".

He became the first pastor of the new parish of Captains Flat in 1952 when it was a thriving mining town.

His next appointment was to Jindabyne as pastor in 1957 when

the Snowy Scheme was at its peak. He became the first pastor at Dickson in 1962. Next appointments were parish priest at Ardlethan, Gooloogong, Koorawatha, Taralga, Bega and Michelago.

He served as part-time chaplain for Woden Valley Hospital from Michelago.

His health was declining, but he acted as administrator at Campbell parish until he took long-service leave in 1991 and attended the renewal course at the St Peter's Centre after which he retired to Maranatha Lodge, Batemans Bay.



Later, he moved to the retirement presbytery at Garran.

In 2000, he moved to Villaggio Sant' Antonio at Page for full-time care and died there on 21 April.

His cousin Helen (Crowe) and her husband Philip Carberry attended him faithfully in his declining years.

In late life Fr Crowe visited Medjugorje and other Marian shrines in Europe.

He never failed to exude a face filled with joy and loved wit and humour. He was a simple man in his style of life, and lived poverty like his Master.

Archbishop Francis Carroll was principal celebrant of a Requiem Mass in Sts Peter and Paul Church, Garran.

His funeral Mass was celebrated by Vicar-General Fr Joe Rheinberger in St Patrick's Church, Bega. He was buried in Bega cemetery.

Priest was a champion of poor

Fr Peter Sheridan
1929-2006

The Bishop of Leeds described Fr Peter Sheridan as a champion for the poor and the marginalised in a tribute read at his funeral Mass.

Fr Sheridan, 77, died in April. He was a priest of the Leeds Diocese in England before he came to Australia in 1998 to look after his sick brother. He returned to England for a short time then returned to Canberra and took up chaplaincy at Canberra Hospital. He retired because of ill health in 2001.

Bishop Arthur Roche said Fr Sheridan was never happier than when he was working as a full-time prison chaplain or as a chaplain to the homeless.

"His life was firmly founded on the words of Jesus, 'as long as you did it to the least of these little ones you did it to me'.

"Within this diocese he was well known for the courteous and caring respect he gave to everyone, acknowledging in so practical a way the dignity that was their right.

"Whenever he visited any of our parishes he would come away laden with clothing and shoes which were then distributed to those most in need. He never judged by appearance and had the gift of seeing into the heart.

"Peter lived simply and was utterly non-materialistic. He had

a great sense of humour and fun and his many stories were based on incidents that happened in real life.

"He was well read and kept abreast of world events, and was famed for having had one of his poems read out on the BBC."

His sister Kathleen said steadfast was a word that described him well. He was steadfast in his belief in God, honouring his father William and mother Annie as well as the rest of the family, and in loving his neighbour as himself. All his friends were important to him, but top of the list were the poor and homeless who were his special friends.

Another constant in his life was the special bond he had with his brothers Joseph, the eldest, and Donald, the youngest. After his brother Joseph was declared missing, believed killed, during World War 2, Peter declined to leave his mother and go on with plans to study for the priesthood. He joined the St Vincent de Paul Society and worked for the poor and the sick. After national service and two years working as a



telephone engineer, he said he was ready to begin studying for the priesthood. His father died in October 1962, six months before Peter's ordination.

First in Bradford and then in Leeds, besides his parish duties, he continued working selflessly for the homeless and with prisoners. Later he became chaplain of Holloway women's prison in London, where he stayed for many years. He returned as parish priest to Bradford where he started a credit bank with the help of the church stalwarts. It is still operating, helping poor people manage and understand their own small cash flow.

At Howeth where he was parish priest in a fairly affluent area, he worked for the homeless. He taught himself sign language and celebrated Mass for the handicapped and deaf once a month.

Fr Sheridan received permission from his bishop to come to Australia to be near his ill brother Donald. He was present when Donald died and gave his brother the last sacraments and buried him in Queanbeyan cemetery.

Fr Sheridan worked as a chaplain at Canberra Hospital until 2002 when he suffered a series of strokes. Archbishop Francis Carroll was principal celebrant at his funeral Mass in St Raphael's Church, Queanbeyan. He was buried alongside his brother.

Latin Mass choir program for June

The program for St Caecilia's Choir for June:

Sunday, 4 June, Pentecost Sunday: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), Motet: Loquebantur (Tallis), Hymns: Processional: Holy Spirit, Lord of Life, Recessional: Come Holy Ghost. Sunday, 11 June, Feast of the Blessed Trinity: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (chant Mass) Motet: O Beata Trinitas (Palestrina), Hymns: Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional: God Whose Almighty Word. Thursday, 15 June, Feast of Corpus Christi. Sung Mass 7pm.

Sunday, 18 June, 2nd Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (chant Mass) Motet: Benedic Anima Mea (Sermisy), Hymns: Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional: Guard and Guide Me, Great Redeemer.

Sunday, 25 June, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (Chant Mass), Motet: Adjuva me Domine (Conseil) Hymns: Processional: Lord of all Hopefulness, Recessional: Praise to the Holiest. Thursday, 29 June: Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. Sung Mass 7pm. Saturday, 1

July: Feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Sung Mass 9am. Thursday, 29 June: Feast of Sts Peter and Paul. Sung Mass 7pm. Sunday, 2 July: 4th Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Mass for Five Voices (Byrd), Motet: Ave Verum (Penalosa), Processional: Lord of all Hopefulness, Recessional: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.

The choir is in recess until 6 August. The choir sings at the 11.30 am Traditional Roman Rite Mass on Sundays at Sts Peter's and Paul's Church, Garran. Inquiries: Maria Henry, telephone 6249 6278 (h).

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FACTS ON FUNERALS

What is a Hospice?

The word "hospice" originally meant a "house of welcome", and usually referred to religious houses where travellers (e.g. Pilgrims) could rest and enjoy some hospitality during their journey.

A hospice is now not so much a place but rather philosophy of care. The goal of hospice and palliative care is the achievement of the best possible quality of life for patients and their families. The hospice approach strives towards creating a feeling of acceptance and a level of preparation for death. Hospice and palliative care affirms life and attempts to reduce feelings of powerlessness and hopelessness by involving the person and their family in the decision making, whether the care is provided in the home, hospital or hospice.

It is a holistic approach to the care of a person living through the latter stages of a progressive illness and closely involves the person's family and carers until the time of death and thereafter as required. This care acknowledges the uniqueness of each person and will vary according to individual physical, emotional, social, spiritual and cultural needs.



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Big benefits in super splitting

By Zilla Lyons, Regional Manager, Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund

Legislative changes to the Superannuation Industry Supervision Act allowing the splitting of superannuation contributions will assist families to maximise their collective superannuation benefits, where otherwise an imbalance in accounts could have resulted.

The benefits of superannuation splitting will be obvious where there are disproportionate account balances due to a low-income earning or non-working spouse. Contributions made after 1 January 2006 will be "splittable" annually under certain circumstances between a member and their spouse.

The conditions

Contributions may only be split with a spouse who is under preservation age, or between preservation age and age 65 and not permanently "retired". Superannuation funds may choose whether they wish to offer this service, as it is not compulsory.

Members may split up to 85 per cent of employer and salary sacrifice contributions and up to 100 per cent of voluntary (ie after-tax) member contributions in any given year. The election to split must be made after the end of the financial year.

If you are self-employed, you need to complete the appropriate paperwork to claim a tax deduction before electing to split a contribution as your notice of intention to claim a deduction will not be accepted after the split.

Rollovers and transfers into a super fund cannot be split.

The benefits

Superannuation invested in two names rather than one offers the couple significant ongoing tax benefits:

Each member of the couple will have access to the low-rate post June '83 tax-free threshold which stands at \$129,751 for this financial year.

Two retribution strategies (ie, one each - withdrawing up to the tax-free threshold and re-contributing that amount as a voluntary contribution) could be exercised for the couple prior to the retirement of the members.

This could result in a larger tax-free component in the couple's

income streams than if only one retribution was exercised.

Two Reasonable Benefit Limits (RBLs) are available. This is the amount that can be accessed from the superannuation system tax concessionally. By both members not exceeding the RBL, large amounts of excessive benefits tax could be saved. This will also be an incentive for a member who was previously in danger of exceeding their RBL to increase salary sacrifice contributions. Salary sacrifice is now even more attractive following the abolition of the super surcharge tax on high-income earners.

There can be ongoing income splitting using two income streams in retirement. By accessing two moderate-sized allocated pensions rather than one large and one small, each member of the couple could draw the minimum and each of their superannuation pensions should last longer.

A couple will usually pay less combined tax if the allocated pension amounts are both within the lump sum RBLs, rather than one member having an excessive benefit and the other a much smaller allocated pension.

In many cases, by splitting the contributions and resultant pensions, many couples will have both members enjoying the lowest marginal tax rate of between 0 and 15 per cent.

It is a great benefit to start saving early in the tax-friendly environment that superannuation offers, for it is advantageous to let compound interest weave its magic over a lengthy period rather than waiting until close to retirement to save. Superannuation contribution splitting is an attractive incentive to save in super which the Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund strongly supports. Although some super funds will choose not to offer contribution splitting, CSRF will allow the splitting between spouses of contributions made after 1 January 2006, when first available after 30 June 2006.

Disclaimer: This superannuation article is for general information only. It does not take into account your personal objectives, financial situation or needs. As a result, you should consider its appropriateness to your own situation and obtain independent financial advice before making any decisions about your superannuation.

All of us know the humiliation of being rejected, over-looked, ignored, left for another.

As well, we know what it feels like to be unable to actualise our persons, our talents, and our dreams in the way that we would like. And there are times too when we compromise ourselves, betray what's best in us, sin.

Our lives forever fall short of our dignity, our dreams, and our ideals, just as our capacity for self-expression forever falls short of our inner riches.

Inside each of us, there's always a frustrated artist, musician, poet, writer, athlete, politician, lover, and saint. It's never a question of "Are we hurt?" but only of "Where are we hurting?"

And so we all carry a lot of disappointment, frustration, and sadness inside. What we feel in that, really, is wounded pride, but that's no small, or ungodly, thing.

In making us, God gave us a great dignity and we sense that dignity. Our hearts, minds, and dreams are huge, wonderful, and incurably restless. In them, we intuit the divine, its hugeness and its mystery. So we don't easily absorb limits, humiliations, indignities, rejections, and disappointments. And we don't easily absorb sin either. We hurt and that does something to us.

When we turn away in coldness from someone or something we once loved, perhaps even from God and religion, we usually do so out of hurt, wounded pride, out of the need to protect ourselves and keep our dignity intact.

While that's understandable, it isn't life giving. What is?

What can we do with wounded pride? With disappointment? With jealousy? With the sense of having been wronged? What can we do with all those feelings that invite us to become cold, bitter, angry, and cynical? What can we do when we've sinned and betrayed our own dignity and dreams?

The natural temptation is to deny, to lie, to pretend that none of this is happening inside us. And so when we're asked how we are, we generally say we're fine, even when our hearts are bleeding, our jealousy is raging, our faces are tense, our eyes are sad, our dignity is compromised, our fists are clenched.

Whenever we deny that we're wounded, we prepare the perfect breeding ground for bitterness, anger, cynicism, coldness, and rage. When we don't recognise and accept our wounds and frustrations, we easily grow cold, grow hard, and toughen our skins, minds, and hearts. We turn away in bitterness from what's soft and life-giving to what's hard so as to put a protective shell over our wounded pride. It seems the only way to preserve ourselves.

But there's another option - grieving, mourning, tears. We can mourn our losses and cry the kind of tears that rip open our feelings of security and safety and bring us face to face with the painful truth that we are broken, not whole, disappointed, and unable to actualise our dreams. When we grieve, we soften, rather than harden, our hearts in the face of loss and humiliation.

Dealing with hurt and disappointment

Ron Rolheiser

Oblate Fr Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher and award-winning author, is president of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas.



Some months ago, I went to a wake service for a friend. For his vigil service, his family had prepared a wonderful collage of photographs of him in various, mostly happy, poses. One photo, in particular, triggered a strong reaction in me. It was a picture of the deceased man holding his grandchild and beaming with a pride, joy, and happiness that can only come from holding your own grandchild. I was unexpectedly stung to the quick, knowing that as a celibate I would never know that particu-

lar deep, holy, unadulterated joy, that there would never be a photo of me looking like that, that my face would never radiate that particular kind of happiness and pride, and that one of the deepest, holiest experiences given in this life would never be mine.

I was suddenly very sad and as I walked out of church, mostly ignoring friends around me, every-

thing inside of me was drawn towards coldness, bitterness, anger at my loss, jealousy of others, and frustration at my choices in life. I also felt fiercely restless.

I tried eating, phoning friends, taking a walk, but nothing helped until I finally sat down to pray. Tears began to flow and I began a free-fall, literally, into my own chaos, brokenness, inadequacies, restlessness, and pathologies.

It's not pleasant, but scary, to enter into your own brokenness, into all those places that you've denied exist inside of you.

I felt scared, but strangely at peace, and the feelings I had then, while still painful, were no longer cold or hard because when we cry we learn that salvation lies not in our capacity to be strong enough never to be broken, but in the opposite, namely, in a surrender in helplessness to a God who can fill in all those places where we are helpless, lost, jealous, restless, and broken.

"The person who doesn't have a softening of the heart will eventually have a softening of the head." Chesterton said that. He's right.

● Fr Ron Rolheiser can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com

I tried eating, phoning friends, taking a walk, but nothing helped

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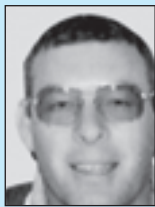
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Paul Jenkins

Make the most of hi-tech marvel

One of the best adaptations of old technology to new is the digital camera. Versatile, compact and with an extensive range; digital cameras can be found in mobile phone and PDAs as well as the traditional camera form.

No longer do you have to carry around rolls of film to take a photo or series of photos at a picnic or sporting event. No longer do you need to make sure you have the right film for the right conditions such as action shots or moving people.

The right digital camera can do all of these things and more for you, without taking up huge amounts of space in your camera bag.

In the next couple of months I will talk about digital cameras and what to look for when buying one or using one more effectively. Digital cameras operate using the same principles as film cameras except instead of using light-sensitive film, digital cameras use light-sensitive sensors which absorb the light particles from light waves and convert them into an electrical charge which is recorded onto the camera's memory device (usually a disk or card).

The camera or computer converts these electrical charges into pictures that can be stored or printed out. Depending on the quality of your digital camera or the amount of megapixels it uses (megapixels refers to the resolution), you can take digital photos that are indistinguishable from photos taken with a film camera, in other words, the more megapixels you have the better the picture will be.

An example of this can be seen in comparing mobile phone camera pictures to digital camera pictures. Some modern mobile phones have cameras with a 1.2 megapixel resolution. This means they take small-sized pictures that look reasonably clear when they are small, but when they are enlarged they become very grainy.

In contrast, a digital camera with 5.1 megapixels or larger will take medium-to-large-sized pictures that look clear small, medium or large. They will also appear larger on your computer screen. ● **Cont Next Page.**

Links to the sites on these pages may be found on the Catholic Voice website: www.catholicvoice.com.au
Let us know your favourite websites so we can improve this comprehensive guide even further.

CARE AND WELFARE

Aid to the Church in Need	www.aidtochurch.org
Aust Cath Migrant and Refugee Office	www.acmro.catholic.org.au
Aust Faith Community Nurses Assoc	www.afcna.org.au
Amnesty International	www.amnesty.org.au
Catholic Health Australia	www.cha.org.au
Catholic Mission	www.CatholicMission.org.au
Catholic Social Teaching	www.coc.org/cst/
Catholic Welfare Australia	www.catholicwelfare.com.au
Centacare Australia	www.centacare.com.au
Karinya House	www.karinyahouse.asn.au
L'Arche	www.larche.org.au
Mary Philippa Brazill Foundation	www.mercy.org.au/brazill/index.html
Meeting Catholics	www.openplanet.com.au/meetingcatholics/
Sovereign Military Order of Malta	www.smom.org.au
St Vincent de Paul Society	www.vinnies.org.au/national/
St Vincent de Paul, Canb-Goulburn	www.stvincanb.com.au
Young Carers	www.marymead.org.au

CHURCH

Adelaide Archdiocese	www.adelaide.catholic.org.au
Anglican Diocese Canberra-Goulburn	http://members.tripod.com/~angchcbr/index.htm/
Anglican Province of NSW	www.anglicanmediasydney.asn.au/nsw/
Aust Catholic Bishops Conference	www.acbc.catholic.org.au
Aust Catholic Defence Force Diocese	www.military.catholic.org.au
Aust Conf of Leaders of Relig Institutes	www.aclri.catholic.org.au
Brisbane Archdiocese	www.bne.catholic.net.au
Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese	www.cg.catholic.org.au
Cath Bishops Conf of England, Wales	www.catholic-ew.org.uk
Catholic Church in Australia	www.catholic.org.au
Catholic Hierarchy	www.catholic-hierarchy.org
Catholic Women's League Aust	www.cwla.org.au
Commission for Aust Catholic Women	www.cacw.catholic.org.au/
Darwin Diocese	www.darwin.catholic.org.au
Eparchy for Ukrainian Catholics	www.catholicukes.org.au
Geraldton Diocese	www.geraldtondiocese.org
Hobart Archdiocese	www.hobart.catholic.org.au
Maitland-Newcastle Diocese	www.mn.catholic.org.au
Maronite Diocese of Aust	www.maronite.org.au
Melbourne Archdiocese	www.melbourne.catholic.org.au
National Council of Churches in Aust	www.ncca.org.au
New Norcia	www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au/
Parramatta Diocese	www.parra.catholic.org.au
Perth Archdiocese	www.perth.catholic.org.au
Pope John Paul I	www.johnpaul1.com
Sale Diocese	www.sale.catholic.org.au
Sydney Archdiocese	www.sydney.catholic.org.au
Townsville Diocese	www.tsv.catholic.org.au/
United States Catholic Bishops	www.nccbuscc.org
Wagga Wagga Diocese	www.wagga.catholic.org.au
Who are the Cardinals?	www.insidethevatican.com/Cardinals.index.php
Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese	www.wil-frbs.catholic.org.au
World Day of the Sick	www.worlddayofthesick.org.au
Vatican	www.vatican.va
Voting Cardinals	www.catholic-hierarchy.org/bishop/scardc2.html

EDUCATION

ACUweb	http://acuweb.com.au
Australian Catholic University	www.acu.edu.au/
Bullying: No Way	www.bullyingnoway.com.au
Catholic Education, Canberra-Goulburn	www.ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au
Daramalan College	www.daramalanc.act.edu.au
Daramalan Online Alumni Directory	www.daramalanc.act.edu.au/ourcollege/alumni.htm
MacKillop Catholic College	www.mackillop.act.edu.au
Holy Family Parish School, Gowrie	www.hfpps.act.edu.au
Marist Australia	www.maristoz.edu.au
Marist College Canberra	www.maristc.act.edu.au
Merici College	www.merici.act.edu.au
National Catholic Education Commission	www.ncec.catholic.edu.au



ONLINE

Ongoing Formation for Priests	www.auspriest.org
St Anthony's Primary, Wanniasa	www.stanthonys.act.edu.au
St Bede's Primary, Red Hill	www.stbedes.cg.catholic.edu.au
St Clare's College Canberra	www.stclaresc.act.edu.au
St Edmund's College Canberra	www.stedmunds.act.edu.au
St Francis Xavier College	www.sfx.act.edu.au
St Gregory's, Queanbeyan	www.stgregorys.cg.catholic.edu.au
St John the Apostle Primary, Florey	www.sjaps.act.edu.au
St John Vianney's School	www.stjohnvianney.act.edu.au
St Joseph's Primary, O'Connor	www.sjo.act.edu.au
St Michael's Primary, Kaleen	www.stmichaelsps.act.edu.au
St Mary's Primary School, Young	www.stmarysprimary.com
St Matthew's Primary School, Page	www.stmattps.act.edu.au
St Vincent's Primary School, Aranda	www.svdp.act.edu.au
School Aid Trust	www.schoolaid.org.au
Virtual Interdependent Schooling through an Interactive Online Network	http://vision.cangoul.catholic.edu.au

FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY

A Prayer Experience	www.ozemail.com.au/~sjhop/pe-intro.htm
A Quiet Place	quietplace.info
Australian Christian Coalition	www.acc.net.au
Australian Theological Forum	www.atf.org.au
Bede Griffiths	www.bedegriffiths.com
Bible Gateway	http://bible.gospelcom.net/bible
Catalyst for Renewal	www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au
CathLINK Australia	http://cathlink.acu.edu.au/
Catholic Charismatic Renewal Melb	www.ccr.org.au
CDF Canberra and Goulburn	www.cdf.cg.catholic.org.au
Catholic Enquiry Centre	www.catholicenquiry.com
Catholic Information Centre on Internet	www.catholic.net/
Catholic Institute of Sydney	www.cis.catholic.edu.au
Catholic Online	www.catholic.org
Catholic Prayers	www.yenra.com/catholic/prayers/
Catholic Truth Society	http://cts.pamphlets.org.au
Cursillo	www.cursillo.catholic.org.au
Easter Dating Method	www.assa.org.au/edm.html
Edmund Rice Family	www.edmundrice.org
Emmaus Productions	www.emmausproductions.com
EWTN Global Catholic Network	www.ewtn.com/
Fish Eaters	www.fisheaters.com/
Flame Ministries International	www.flameministries.org
Focolare Movement	www.focolare.org.au
Lay Spirituality	www.lay-spirituality.com
Legion of Mary	www.legionofmary.org
Little Company of Mary retreat info	http://www.womenreligious.org/~retreats/
Lochinvar Resource Centre	http://users.hunterlink.net.au/~dnsb
Lumen Verum Apologetics	www.lumenverum.com
Mt St Agnes Theological Centre	http://msawomen.org/
Neo-Catechumenal Way	http://members.aol.com/fatherpius/neo.html
New Advent	www.newadvent.org
OnceCatholic.org	www.oncecatholic.org
Online Christian Network	www.onlinechristian.com
Our Lady of Mercy Penrose Park	www.paulinefathers.org
Padre Pio	www.abol.it/padrepio/inglese
Passionist Family Group Movement	www.pfgm.org/
PetersNet	www.petersnet.net
St Clement's, Galong	www.stclement.com.au
St Joseph's House of Prayer	http://members.ozemail.com.au/~sjhop/index.html
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre	www.ozemail.com.au/~towersretreat
Shrine of Mary MacKillop, Scotland	www.gaeldom.com/mmk
Shroud of Turin	www.shroud.com/
Society of the Little Flower	www.littleflower.org/
The Internet Padre	www.internetpadre.com
The Lectio Divina Page	www.club1.ie/shalom/lectio
Virtual Rosary	www.virtualrosary.org

Catholic Voice welcomes your suggestions of favourite web sites. Please e-mail us your top sites and we will try to include some of them on this page. These sites are also accessible through the Catholic Voice website www.catholicvoice.com.au

GENERAL

Anthony J Kelly CSsR Homepage	dlibrary.acu.edu.au/staffhome/ankelly
Australian Catholic Discussion Board	http://vox.sparks.to
Australian Christian Lobby	www.acl.org.au/home/index.stw
Ave Maria Singles	www.avemariascol.com
Australian Political Ministry Network	www.polmin.com.au
Business Ethics Research Centre	www.berc.com.au
Calvary Hospital ACT	www.calvary-act.com.au
Catholic Music Network	www.catholicmusicnetwork.com
Drought, floods and prayer	www.ozemail.com.au/~sjhop/prayer.htm
Fr Andrew Greeley	www.agreeley.com
Fr Mac’s Heavenly Puddings	www.frmac.org.au
John Michael Talbot	www.johnmichaeltalbot.com
Kevin Bates SM	www.kevinfbates.com
Knights of Southern Cross Aust	www.ksca.org.au
Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney	www.marymackillopplace.org.au
Military Christian Fellowship	http://mcf-australia.com
National Church Life Survey	www.ncls.org.au
National Gospel Happening	www.nationalgospelhappening.org/
Russian community in Canberra	http://members.xoom.com/Ruscan/
World Prayers	www.worldprayers.org

LIFE

ACT Right to Life Association	www.actrtla.org.au
A Decade a Day	www.adecadeaday.cjb.net
Billings Life	www.woomb.org
Family Group movement	www.pfgm.org/main.htm
Focus on the Family	www.family.org
Getting Married	www.gettingmarried.ie
Jesus in Australian Art	www.mcauley.acu.edu.au/~yuri/jesus/jesus.htm
National Drugs Campaign	www.drugs.health.gov.au
Queensland Bioethics Centre	www.bne.catholic.net.au/qbc
Southern Cross Bioethics Institute	www.bio-ethics.com
Teams: A Married Couples Movement	www.tol-oceania.catholic.org.au
The Humanita Foundation	www.humanitafoundation.org
The Truth Decoded	www.thetruthdecoded.org.au

MARIAN

Centre for the Queen of Peace	http://home.earthlink.net/~marianland/index.html
Family Rosary Movement	www.familyrosary.org
Fatima Network	www.fatima.org
Garabandal	www.garabandal.com
Medjugorje messages	www.medugorje.org/weiblep.htm
Our Lady of Good Health Shrine	www.annivailankanni.org
The Mary Page	www.udayton.edu/mary

MEDIA

Annals Australia	www.annals.com.au
Catholic Leader	www.catholicleader.com.au
Catholic Voice	www.catholicvoice.com.au
Catholic Weekly	www.catholicweekly.com.au
Christian Media Association	www.ChristianMedia.asn.au
Ignatius Press	www.ignatius.com
Independent Catholic News	www.indcatholicnews.com
Jesuit Publications	www.openplanet.com.au/home/
Kairos	www.kairos.com.au
Majellan Publications	www.majellan.org.au
Marist Messenger	www.maristmessenger.co.nz
National Catholic Reporter	http://ncronline.org
NZ Catholic	www.nzcatholic.org.nz
One Way FM Canberra	www.1wayfm.com.au
Pacific Islands Religious	www.relpac.org.fj/
Pakistan Christian Voice inet magazine	www.pakistanchristianvoice.net
Radio Notre Dame	www.radionotredame.com
The Far East	www.columban.org.au/TFE/TrevorTrotter/FarEast.htm
The Pastoral Review	www.thepastoralreview.co.uk
The Tablet	www.thetablet.co.uk
The Universe	www.totalcatholic.com
The Word Among Us	www.wau.org
Wel-com(NZ)	www.wel-com.org.nz
Zenit	www.zenit.org/English/

E-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

Internet www.catholicvoice.com.au

PARISHES

Mary Queen of Apostles Goulburn	http://goulburnparish.catholicau.com
Holy Family Parish, Gowrie	www.webone.com.au/~hfcp
Holy Spirit, Gungahlin	www.holyspiritgungahlin.catholicau.com
Notes for Active Church Participants	www.giant.net.au/users/murphy
St Anthony’s, Wanniasa	www.users.bigpond.com/stanthonys.wanniasa/
St Christopher’s Cathedral	www.stchristophersact.catholicau.com
St Francis of Assisi, Calwell	http://act.antioch.org.au/calwell/stfranc.htm
St John the Apostle, Kippax	www.stjohnkippax.org.au
St John Vianney’s, Waramanga	www.stjv-waramanga.catholicau.com
St Jude’s, Holder	www.stjude-holder.catholicau.com
St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood	http://site-manager.homemail.com.au/
St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah	www.kambahparish.catholicau.com
St Vincent’s, Aranda	www.svdp-aranda.catholicau.com
We Believe	www.webelieve.cc

SEXUAL ABUSE

Time of Crisis, Time of Faith	www.daughtersofstpaul.com/church/index.html
Voice of the Faithful	www.voiceofthefaithful.org

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Amnesty International	www.amnesty.org
Aust Cath Social Justice Council	www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au
Aust Council for Overseas Aid	www.acfoa.asn.au/
Aust Fair Trade and Investment Network	www.aftinet.org.au/
Caritas Australia	www.caritas.org.au
Catholic Commission for Justice, Development and Peace	www.melbourne.catholic.org.au/ccjdp
Edmund Rice Centre	www.erc.org.au
Jesuit Social Justice Centre	www.vicnet.net.au/~cardoner/uniya.html
PALMS	www.palms.org.au
Refugee Council of Australia	www.refugeecouncil.org.au
Sr Helen Prejean	www.prejean.org
Timor Today	www.easttimor.com/
UNIYA Jesuit Social JusticeCentre	http://uniya.org/

VOCATIONS

Assoc of Religious Vocations Personnel	www.godknowswhere.org.uk
Augustinians	www.augustinians.org.au
Aust-NZ Federation of Srs of St Joseph	www.josephitefederation.catholic.org.au
Australian Catholic Deacons Assoc	www.deacons.asn.au
Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo	www.jamberooabbey.org.au
Blessed Sacrament Congregation	www.blessedsacrament.com.au
Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia	www.ozvocations.catholic.org.au
Catholic Vocations	www.catholicvocation.org.au
Columbans	www.columban.org.au
Discalced Carmelite Friars	www.carmelite.com
Disciples of Jesus Community	www.disciplesofjesus.org
Dominican Sisters of Eastern Aust	www.opeast.org.au
Dominicans in Aust, NZ, Solomon Is	www.op.org/australis/welcome.htm
Jesuits in Australia	www.jesuits.org.au
Little Company of Mary	www.lcm.org.au
Loreto Sisters	www.loreto.org.au
Marriage Encounter	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~marriage/
Missionaries of God’s Love	www.mglvocation.org
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart	www.misacor.org.au
Passionists	www.passionists.com
Poor Clare Nuns	www.poorclare.org
Redemptorists	www.rc.net/redempt.au/vocations.htm
Serra Club of Canberra	www.serracanberra.org
Serra International	www.serrainternational.org
Sisters of the Good Samaritan	www.goodsams.org.au
Sisters of Mercy	www.mercy.org.au
Sisters of St Joseph of Sacred Heart	www.sosj.org.au
Vincentians	www.vincentians.org.au

YOUTH

Antioch Youth, Calwell	http://act.antioch.org.au/calwell
Antioch Youth, Canberra	http://act.antioch.org.au/
Antioch Youth Wanniasa	www.users.bigpond.com/stanthonys.wanniasa/antioch home page.htm
Here For Life	www.hereforlife.org.au
International Movement of Catholic Students Aust	www.imcsa.org.au
Kids Helpline	www.kidshelp.com.au
LifeTeen	www.lifeteen.com
Reach Out	www.reachout.asn.au
The Cardijn Site	www.cardijn.net
YCW of Australia	www.adelaide.net.au/~aycw

insites

The Truth Decoded
www.thetruthdecoded.org.au
Carnivale Christi launched its response to The Da Vinci Code in time for the film's worldwide release. This site is a collection of articles and media files debunking the book's claims. It adds to the growing collection of Christian web resources on the topic.

The Melanesian Institute
- www.mi.org.pg
Initiated by the Association of Clerical Religious Superiors of the Catholic Church in 1968, the Melanesian Institute - based in Goroka, PNG - is an ecumenical organisation focusing on training and research. Its latest publication Alive in Christ tells the story of Catholic Church in PNG since the Special Synod for Oceania in 1998.
- reviews courtesy CathNews

Hi-tech marvels

● From Previous Page.
To be able to take good quality pictures with a digital camera it is important to look for the following features:
The resolution or number of megapixels it has. Most digital cameras have a range of settings so that you can change from smaller resolution pictures to larger ones. More megapixels means clearer pictures.
The zoom features of the camera. This refers to the digital zoom and the optical zoom. Digital zoom magnifies the pixels in the picture to make them bigger, similar to making a picture bigger on your computer screen. Optical zoom makes use of the multifocal lens of the camera to magnify pictures and make them bigger. Most good digital cameras will have 3x optical zoom as well as 4x digital zoom capabilities. Higher-end digital cameras have even better optical/ digital zoom capabilities.
LCD or Liquid Crystal Display screens on the camera allow you to see your pictures instantly. They also allow you to frame pictures better when you are taking them. These screens can be much more accurate than the viewfinders that you find on film cameras and some models of digital cameras.
LCDs provide you with a clear picture that is usually in colour. The size of LCD screens on cameras is measured in inches and usually range in size from 1 to 2 inches. It is important to buy a digital camera that has a screen that you can comfortably see without straining your eyes.
For more information on digital cameras, try the Choice website (www.choice.com.au)

Classifieds

For Sale- Real Estate



BEGA - 3 bedroom with office or extra bedroom, double brick and tile home. Double garage. Split level with bedrooms, bathroom and toilet on upper level. Floor to ceiling built-ins. Lower level office, toilet, laundry, separate dining, kitchen and large lounge, balcony with excellent views. Backs on to hospital garden, close to schools, churches and town. Fresh paint and carpet. Great neighbours. \$295,000. Telephone 6492 0026.

To Let - Coastal

BROULEE - Spectacular views near beach, 6 bedroom 3 bathroom house, newly renovated. Telephone 6257 1222. www.brouleebeachhouse.com

DALMENY - Comfortably furnished house in the gum trees. Sleeps 6-8. VCR/DVD, slow combustion fire, carport, large deck overlooking reserve for outdoor entertaining. Walk to beach. Weekends, school hols, short/long term. Telephone 6248 5236.

MALONEYS BEACH Batemans Bay - Modern two-storey home, absolute waterfront, uninterrupted views. Sleeps 10. Telephone 0408 697 108, or view www.montalbano.worldstays.com

MALUA BAY - Spectacular beach/ ocean views, new 2 br apartment sleeps 6. Two minutes walk to beach. Linen, private courtyard, bbq, fully self-contained, DVD, TV, m'wave, laundry, cot. Telephone 0425 226 120 or 4471 2676.

MERIMBULA - Fabulous Fishpen Merimbula NSW, 2-bedroom fully self-contained, ground-floor unit with off-street parking. Flat, easy 5-minute walk to shops, lake, beach, park and town. Quiet and peaceful. Excellent value. Telephone 6495 7635 or 0427 069 662.

MOLLYMOOK - Birchgrove Apartments. 200m to beach, water view, lovely quiet location opposite reserve. Fully self contained 2 BR, lock up garage and plenty of extra parking and easy walk to Golf Club and Ulladulla shops. Please phone Craig or Kathy 0428 318 156 or 6230 3034.

SURF BEACH - Clean, modern, spacious 3 bdrm, 2 bathrm, fully s/c t'house. Sleeps 6, TV, VCR, DVD, m'wave, dishwasher, washing mach, BBQ. Available year round, no groups or pets. Telephone Trish 6291 8342 ah.

TOMAKIN - Spacious 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, holiday house for rental. Magnificent ocean views. Short walk to beach, club and shop. Fully equipped. Sleeps 8-10. Great for families. Telephone 6285 2817.

TUROSS HEAD - "Ella May Holiday Flats". Renovated 2br, walk to beach. Heaps parking, fully equipped. Avail all year \$350-\$600 per week, weekends available. Telephone 0414 597 619 or 6161 7793.

TUROSS HEAD - 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house, close to beach, spectacular views, large verandah, sleeps 6. Telephone 0418 627 750.

To Let - Qld

NOOSA - Spacious 3 bdrm, 3 bath townhouse. Sleeps 6. River boat fish, 3 pools. Spa, BBQ, gym, sauna. Mod kitch, balconies, linen, u/c parking, cable TV, DVD, CD. Cafes. 3 min beach. Nat park, lge shopping complex. Owner, telephone 6258 5962 - Maree Rodgers, telephone 07 5447 3577.

To Let - Qld

NOOSA - Stylish 2bdrm fsc townhouse by river and cafes. R/c aircon, tennis court, BBQ, heated pools/spas, VCR/video library, stereo, linen, modern facilities. Book with owners and save. For brochure, telephone (07) 3289 7178.

For Sale

KENWOOD Chef mixer from \$100. Wanted faulty units, bowls, attachments etc. TV, microwave, electrical appliances/parts - low prices with warranty. FREE repair quote. Trade-in or free removal. Telephone John 6286 4454 any time.

SPA BATH, Stylus brand, corner unit with Davey pump \$500. Valet VM1200 intercom, house lot \$150. Vanity unit 900w 455d 825h \$100. Color TV 80cm serviced/ warranty \$350. Telephone John 6286 4454 any time.

Position Vacant

PART-TIME position available for serviceperson or handyman to repair TV, VCR, DVD, microwaves etc. Telephone John 6286 4454. Anytime.

Prayers

PRAYER to the Blessed Virgin. O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to help me in my necessity. (make your request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 days.

PRAYER to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you who make me see everything and show me the way to reach the ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me, and who are in all instances in my life with me, I, in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and to confirm once more that I never want to separate from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved one in your perpetual glory. Amen. This prayer should be said for three consecutive days. Thank you Holy Spirit.

For Hire

LYNEHAM - Rooms and Hall available for hire in the Ukrainian Community Centre (varying sizes). Competitive rates for community organisations, businesses. For more details, telephone 6247 2141 or 6239 6779.

CATHOLIC Voice Classifieds cost \$5.50 for the first 30 words, then \$1.10 for each additional 6 words or less.

THE closing date is the 15th of each month.

PLEASE note: Advertisements may be altered by the publisher. References in Prayer advertisements to promised publication and guarantees that prayers will be answered are not acceptable.

PAYMENT should be sent by cheque with the advertisement if it is posted. Credit card details are also acceptable.

Coming Events



BAPTISM TO BURIAL - A community vision for RCIA teams, pastoral associates, sacramental teams, readers, hospitality teams, catechists, pastoral teams. With Dr Sheila O'Dea rsm, director of liturgy, All Hallows College, Dublin. 4pm-9pm, Wednesday 14 June, 9am-5.30pm and 7.30pm-9.30pm Thursday, 15 June. Registration: Sr Mary Corkeron 0427 473 290, e-mail mary.corkeron@cg.catholic.org.au

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION - St Matthew's Chapel, Page, Tuesdays 10am-11am. Inquiries: John Keen, telephone 6254 2118, e-mail keenbavay@aol.com

COURAGE CANBERRA - Group for those experiencing same-sex attraction and desiring to live sacramental life of the Church. Meeting 14 and 28 June. Confidentiality assured. Inquiries: Telephone 6254 2408, e-mail couragecanberra@hotmail.com

CURSILLO - Coastal men's Cursillo, Karinya Retreat Centre, Batemans Bay, 22-25 June. Inquiries: Peter Hofman, telephone 6254 5204.

CURSILLO ULTREYAS - Northside, Marian Hall (St Matthew's Church, Page), 8pm, 22 June. Southside, Gowrie Parish Centre, 8pm, 27 June.

DRUG ACTION WEEK FORUM - 12.30pm-2pm, Wednesday, 21 June, Reception Room, ACT Legislative Assembly, Civic Square, organised by Canberra Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform. Speaker Fr Peter Norden, policy director of Jesuit Social Services. Topic: Prison, Drugs and Mental Illness: Must they always go together? Inquiries: Telephone 6254 2961.

GUIDED RETREAT - Reflective six days "Gospel Women", "The Hermitage", Marist Brothers, Mittagong, 20-27 August. Presenter Sr Lorraine Cupitt RSM. Telephone 6262 8974.

HEALING LITURGY - Our Lady of Fatima Church, North Goulburn, first Friday of month 7.30pm-9pm, including scripture readings, homily, prayer, blessing, Sacrament of Penance, adoration, ending with benediction.

HEALING OUTREACH - Signs and Wonders, 7.30pm-9.30pm, Thursday, 29 June, St Edmund's College hall. Speaker Damian Stayne, founder Cor et Lumen Christi Community, England. Presented by National Service Committee of Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Inquiries: Telephone 0408 685 004.

HEALING WEEKEND - With New Zealand Marist Father John Rea, 5.30pm healing Mass Friday, 2 June, and healing seminar and Mass, 10am-4.30pm, Saturday, 3 June, St Benedict's Church and in-service Centre, Narrabundah. Inquiries and registration for seminar, telephone 6295 7879.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Weekend getaway for married couples, Mt Schoenstadt, Mulgoa, 23-25 June. Inquiries: Maureen and Jim Willson, telephone 9345 5402, website www.wmme.org.au

MEDITATION ON JESUS - In style of Fr Gilbert Carlo, Thursdays 7.30pm, St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah. Inquiries: Trish Jarzynski, telephone 6231 8468.

NEW BEGINNING WEEKEND - Program for those who have lost

partner through death, separation or divorce. Canberra Beginning Experience Team weekend 11-13 August. Inquiries: Kath, telephone 6292 6195, or leave message on 0419 210 543. E-mail be_canberra@yahoo.com.au, or website www.geocities.com/be_canberra/index.htm

PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE - 8pm 1st Friday of month, St Alban's Anglican Church, Lyons. Ecumenical gathering. Inquiries: Annemarie Nicol, telephone 6232 7173(bh).

PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS - 2.30pm, Sunday, 11 June, St Joseph's Church, O'Connor. Celebrant Bishop Pat Power. Filipinos, partners and friends invited, organised by Fil-Care and Filipino community. Potluck, parish centre after Mass, share a plate. Inquiries: Mother Angelita, Sr Siony, telephone 6278 5551, Alma Obedoza 0432 819 520, Nellie Peiponen 0404 319 249.

RAPHAELS - Canberra-based singles social group for Catholics and Christian-minded people, 24-40. Meet people for social activities, dinners, dancing, movies, social sports, coffees and monthly Mass. Inquiries: E-mail raphsgroup@yahoo.com.au

ST JOSEPH'S JUBILEE - 50th anniversary, St Joseph's School, O'Connor. Register interest in jubilee dinner, other events, e-mail school.secretary@sjc.cg.catholic.edu.au or Dilys Ketley, telephone 6247 9609.

ST THOMAS MORE'S FORUM - Second annual lecture, 7.30pm-9pm, Thursday, 22 June, by Fr Frank Brennan SJ, Professor of Law, Australian Catholic University. St Thomas More's School hall, 30 White Crescent, Campbell. Topic: Public Ethics in Bioethics.

SERRA CLUB - Mass, 6.30pm, Thursday, 8 June, Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, followed by dinner in private dining room, Southern Cross Club, Phillip.

STUDY OF CATHOLIC CATECHISM - With Fr Michael Fallon MSC. Tuesdays 10am-noon, Spirituality Centre, Weston Street, Yarralumla, repeated 7.30pm-9.30pm Parish Centre, St John's Kippax, Part One: The Creed, to 18 July. www.cangoul.catholic.org.au Go to Our Newsroom, What's On.

WEDDING REUNION - Couples married St Mary's, Murrumburrah, St Anthony's, Harden, before 1980. Reunion weekend Harden, 28, 29 October. Inquiries: Marie (Shea) McCarthy, telephone 6386 8233, Deane (Quinn) Cooper 6386 2389, Marcie (Shiel) Quinn 6386 2867.

WOMEN'S CURSILLO - Western deanery, 22-25 June, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong. Inquiries: Elaine Gruber, telephone 6385 3147.

Written entries are invited for the July 2006 issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Thursday, 15 June. Entries which are accepted for this section are free.

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First Communion



First Holy Communion candidates from St Patrick's School, Boorowa, with Parish Priest Fr Greg Beath are: Michael Croker, Blake Grocott, Johnno Davies, Vincent Ryan, Jack Stanley Jack Fahey, Issac Clark, Ben Carnell, Simone Boyd, Lauren Jenkins, Kimberly Taylor, Emily Berry, Claudia Stokehill, Mick Hinds, Karlee Barton, Shelley Prosper, Maddy Howard and Kirsty Taylor.

Couple takes lead



Canberra couple Wanda and Jim Kaucz have taken on a leadership role in Marriage Encounter. Members of the Marriage Encounter community from Sydney region travelled to Canberra for a weekend of celebrations with their counterparts in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

The two communities are part of a bigger Marriage Encounter family which covers NSW and the ACT.

After Mass celebrated by Fr Ben Macajes, a commissioning ceremony attended by 16 couples was held for the unit coordinating team couples.

Cheryl and Eugene Gabin, of Campbelltown, are continuing in their role for another year and were joined by the Kauczs, who took over from Wollongong couple Ardell and Bill Sharpe as joint coordinators.

The Canberra-Goulburn Marriage Encounter community will host their first weekend for four years on 8-10 September.

Other weekends will be held at Mt Schoenstatt (Mulgoa) in June and November.

ABOVE: Cheryl and Eugene Gabin, Fr Ben Macajes and Canberra couple Wanda and Jim Kaucz.



Catholic special religious teachers were reminded to not undervalue their role serving their local state schools. At a meeting in Young - one of several regional meetings of parish CCD co-ordinators - a public school principal told them, "The children need you."

Wombat Public School principal Mr Michael Ostler supported the training program undertaken by the SRE teachers. It was important that they be confident and well prepared when they entered the classroom. "You need to be able to go and enjoy what you do with the children," he said. This could only be achieved through training, use of a structured curriculum and careful preparation.

The regional meetings of parish CCD coordinators were well attended. Ms Margaret Ryan, co-ordinator of the Archdiocese's Centre for Faith and Ministry, shared with them the Ministry and Liturgy package. It provides a liturgy for each season of the Liturgical Year and is available in every parish.

ABOVE: Ms Margaret Ryan talks to parish CCD co-ordinators from the northern region at a meeting in Goulburn.



Director of research at the Sydney College of Divinity Dr Gerard Moore focused on the beatitudes when he visited Canberra as a guest of the archdiocesan Social Justice Commission to speak on the justice of Jesus.

In the ancient world, beatitudes ("Blessed / happy are you ...") were precious, sometimes inscribed in gold and placed on the bodies of the dead, he said.

"Though the second part of the beatitudes sounds like fulfilment of a promise, it's not, it's stronger. The beatitude is an announcement of something that is already true, that is already taking place, even if we can't see it or understand it."

People came from Cooma, Queanbeyan and Canberra for the talk. There will be more social justice talks during the year.

ABOVE: Dr Gerard Moore (third from left) with Mike Cassidy, Josie Gregory, and Adrian, Kaitlin and Caroline Barry.

young voices

RIGHT: A tribute to Mary, the mother of Jesus, by Kiaria Anastasi, year 4, St Francis of Assisi School, Calwell.

BELOW: Jesus has risen ... by Mel Kerrison, aged 7, of St Joseph's School, Eden.



PARENTS

Parents love us
Always love us
Are respecting us
Every mum and dad
loves us
They need us
Tell us they love us
They smile!

- by Thomas McTavish,
aged 6, St Jude's
School, Holder.



More kids stuff next page!

ZVUE 200A portable digital media player; 2.5 inch active matrix full colour TFT display, USB, ear-phone jacks, 200MHz processor, rrp \$189. World Technology Distributors. Reviewer: John, aged 14.

The ZVUE MP3 and movie player is a new addition to the market of MP3 players.

Pros: the ZVUE has a great large screen for viewing and good volume range. It has a removable memory stick so you can put more or less megabytes into it the way you like. It also had two headphone jacks so it's great for sharing with friends; it has a screen protector which you can pull up while you use it and put down when you're done so the screen doesn't get scratched. The movie quality is pretty good as well.

Cons: It could be a bit less heavy and bulky. Besides movies, music and pictures, it doesn't have

reviews

very much else on it to actually do, whereas iPods would have games and song shuffles etc. It can't play everything you put onto it, and we found sometimes it was difficult getting songs onto it. Also it doesn't have a rechargeable battery which can get annoying as you have to buy new AAs all the time.

Overall, the ZVUE is a great price considering it has music, pictures and video. An iPod video is noticeably better but much more expensive, so if you aren't on the budget for a \$400 iPod, you could happily go for the below-\$200 ZVUE MP3 player.



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CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

HOURS OF BUSINESS
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9AM TO 4:30PM

By Jarrett Anthoney, 10, Holy Spirit Primary School, Nicholls.

There are many women I admire; my Mum, my sisters, my best friends Mum and teachers but a Catholic woman who is like a shining star and has had a huge influence on my life is Sister Genny Ryan.

I remember the first time I met her, she came up to my family with the biggest brightest smile and welcomed us to Holy Spirit Parish.

She was there like a guardian angel when I started school, she came to the classroom with an excited twinkle in her eye and welcomed me to Kindergarten. She walked around the playground talking, listening, guiding and encouraging children.

Sister Genny's speciality is running the Fete Tombola Stall she shows so much enthusiasm and passion and at Christmas she expertly and lovingly creates the Children's drama that many children enthusiastically take part in every year.

Lots of young people don't think its cool to go to church, if they met Sister Genny perhaps they'd change their mind.

I truly admire Sister Genny for the way she cares, affirms, and guides young people. I am inspired by the way she is so tolerant and dedicated.

When it rains and a rainbow appears in the sky, you won't find a pot of gold you'll find something better - Sister Genny - because she is a true treasure.



Jarrett and Dainere Anthoney pictured with Sr Anne Cogle (left), Sr Genny Ryan and CWL president Mrs Judith-Ann Sjustedt.



By Joshua Hickmann, of St Joseph's School, Eden

Mrs Betty Pease (pictured above) is the Catholic woman that I most admire.

Mrs Pease was born in 1924 and was brought up in a Catholic community in Sydney. There were eight children in her family, four boys and four girls. Her family was always happy and they never fought each other.

Betty lived not too far away from the church and as a result Betty used to walk one and a half miles from her house to church everyday.

When she was twelve years old she helped to clean the altar and at fourteen she was making the breads for Mass.

At twelve years old she remembers getting a doll that she always wanted.

As a child, Mrs Pease was taught to always respect others especially her elders. She was always helping others and was caring for people from a very young age.

As she grew up Betty was learning more and more about God and more about the Catholic Church. Family life was everything to Betty.

people from other countries.

At home she is always doing what she calls acts of love and is always motivating us to do the same in all circumstances.

She is always trying to empty our dishwasher when my Mum is not looking.

When she's caught my Mum tries to make her stop but doesn't succeed very often.

My Grandma is very calm and is a great motivator for my whole family.

She always encourages me to do my best in all circumstances. My Grandma is always happy when I see her.

She was acting calm when her mother died. But I know she was sad at the burial.

My Grandma takes great care of the environment where ever she is.

She cleans up stranger's litter in parks and helps others with their gardens.

She also takes great pride in her garden for she spends good hours every week pruning bushes, watering plants and weeding the lawn.

My Grandma is a great person. She has a fantastic personality and does everything she can to make the world a better place.

That is why she is the Catholic woman I most admire.

Catholic woman I admire most is ...

Five young readers from Canberra and country NSW won prizes in a competition run jointly by the Catholic Women's League and Catholic Voice on the theme "The Catholic Woman I admire most".

The competition marked the centenary of the foundation in England of the Catholic Women's League and also the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the CWL in the Archdiocese.

The winners are:

Best entry from the ACT - joint winners Jarrett Anthoney, aged 10, and Dainere Anthoney, aged 8, from Holy Spirit Primary School, Nicholls.

Best entry from NSW - Joshua Hickmann, year 4, St Joseph's School, Eden.

Second prize - Rhys Healy, year 5, St John the Apostle Primary School, Florey.

Third prize - Angela Davies, aged 10, St Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven.

The winning entries are published on this page.

Later Betty married a soldier and had nine children, six boys and three girls.

Betty moved to this beautiful place Eden in 1949 which means she has been living here for fifty seven years, which is more than my age times five.

All her children went to St. Joseph's school in Eden and probably had a lot of fun. Mrs. Pease has fourteen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

She has had many tragedies in her life and lost many family members including two sons who died in a shipwreck off the Eden coast. She is very caring to other people who have also lost loved ones.

Mrs. Pease is currently 82 years old and we hope she will live an even longer life.

Mrs Pease is the president of St Vincent de Paul and is always helping other people in need.

Mrs. Pease hopes that we children will go on to do brilliant things like she is doing.

That's why Mrs. Pease is the Catholic women that I most admire.

By Rhys Healy, of St John the Apostle Primary School, Florey.

The Catholic woman I most admire is my Grandmother Brenda Healy. She lives in Canberra and turned sixty last June.

She is a kind and loving person who cares for others and she is driven by God to always do her best at everything and in every circumstance.

My Grandma is always willing to give her caring help to people who need it.

If someone is having trouble with a task or is hurt, she will gladly help that person instead of doing something of her own interest.

She would do this for anyone in the world even if she just saw them in the street.

My Grandma is a very nice and happy person. She is the only human who I have not seen sad, no matter the circumstance.

She forgives people when they have done something wrong.

Once she forgives that person she acts like it never happened and doesn't bring it up in a conversation.

My Grandma is a person who truly believes in God.

She goes to Mass at least once a week and also participates in a small Mass with

By Angela Rose Davies, 10, St Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven.

My name is Angela Davies, and the most important Catholic in my life is my mum, Jane Maree Davies. My mum and I have a very close relationship.

I love my mum so much because she cares and looks after me, and keeps me healthy. My mum is one of four members in my family, which includes my Dad (Paul), my sister Emma and me.

My mum is always there for me and my family, whenever we need her.

My mum has always taught me to try my best at all times and to be a good Catholic by caring and sharing with others and to help others, especially those less fortunate than us. I have received my Reconciliation and First Communion.

I will make my Confirmation next year, and my mum has always been there to help me understand that these are some of the very important Sacraments that will help me through my life.

I love my mum!

