

Coota seeks to counter the big dry

Parishioners of Cootamundra are aiming to provide practical help to members of the community who are hurting badly as a result of the ongoing crippling drought.

The parish has agreed on two initiatives to offer counselling to local people and to pay for water delivered to farms on a particular day of the week.

Parish priest Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter said the parish recognised that this time of global warming

was more serious and would last longer than the usual drought.

"This is already having a flow-on effect from farmers to the support services offered by our general community," he said.

With the help Centacare, the parish is setting up an office in the town business area to provide a personal, family and marriage counselling service.

"We hope to have a counsellor in town for two days a week,

one day for counselling for our students and the second day for members of the community. For those times when a counsellor will not be available, Centacare is also setting up a video-conferencing unit in the parish. These services will be available to all people, Catholic or otherwise."

In addition, the parish will provide water for domestic purposes to farming families depending on tank water.

"Some families have been buying water for domestic purposes for two or three years already," Fr Barry-Cotter said.

"Other families have been bringing their washing into town to friends' homes or public laundries. A family of four needs about 800 litres of water a week, or about 3000 litres a month."

The parish will pay for water delivered to farms on a particular day. Each week the parish priest will nominate a day and

inform the carrier, so that only they will know what day the water will be free. The parish will pay the carrier direct for the water delivered, so that only the carrier will know who gets free water.

Fr Barry-Cotter said the parish needed to raise money to pay for the initiatives. Donations may be sent to Cootamundra Parish Drought Assistance Fund, P.O. Box 441 Cootamundra, NSW 2590.



It's time to dig deep... Vinnies' collectors Nathalie Espinoza and Chelsea Gutterson get their first donaton from Kambah resident Mrs Pat Wilson.

Vinnies aims high for doorknock

Vinnies is aiming high in its annual doorknock appeal this month in an effort to raise \$750,000 towards the cost of helping up to 50,000 people in Canberra and Queanbeyan each year.

The target is triple the historical level reached in the St Vincent de Paul Society's appeal.

However, archdiocesan president Mr Tony Thornton said the higher amount was still far less than the \$1.5 million the society spends each year on its home visitation service. Food assistance alone costs \$800,000 a year.

A successful doorknock frees up money for the society to spend elsewhere, particularly on projects to expand its services with a new centre at Gungahlin and an expanded centre at Tuggeranong.

Chief executive officer Mr Bob Wilson said the growth of Gungahlin meant a centre was desperately needed to cater for the area's needs. In the

Tuggeranong Valley, the existing centre was set up 18 years ago and the valley population was now three times the size.

In an effort to increase the appeal takings, the society has asked former Governor General Sir William Deane to launch the doorknock at a business breakfast and charity auction. It will take place on Wednesday, 7 February, at the National Museum of Australia.

A feature of the launch will be a charity auction of work by artists including Paul Blahuta, whose works were on display at the National Museum of Australia, Jenny Blake and Monique Gonzcarek.

Mr Thornton emphasised that the success of the doorknock depends on the number of volunteers and the extent of coverage. Some areas including O'Malley, Isaacs, Watson, Braddon, O'Connor, Campbell, Dunlop, Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra had been difficult to cover in the past.

Doorknockers have most of February to visit homes. The appeal runs from the weekend of 10 and 11 February through to 24 and 25 February.

"There's no need to rush around for a couple of hours after Mass, for example," Mr Thornton said. "People have practically the whole of February to do it. The thing is, if we miss the doors we simply won't get the money."

Canberra businesses and some Catholic schools are getting behind the appeal this year. All cash donations collected by Vinnies in Canberra and Queanbeyan stay in the area, and 100 per cent of all cash donations collected through the appeal are spent on people who need help. Administration costs are fully borne by other society business activities.

● Anyone wanting to register to help in the doorknock may telephone Vinnies during working hours on 6282 2722.



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From near and far

GETTING to Mass a few weekends ago was a little more difficult than usual for parishioners of Sacred Heart, Cootamundra. An emergency in the town when police feared a wheat silo might explode resulted in an area of 800m around the silo being evacuated. The Catholic presbytery, school, church and convent lay within the exclusion zone.



FOR some years, a group of Catholics have been holding a prayer vigil (above) outside the ACT Health building in Canberra where abortions are carried out.

Age is catching up with some of the regulars, so the group is appealing for more support, particularly from younger Catholics.

The vigil is held from 8am to 9am every Friday, regardless of the weather. It isn't necessary to stay for the hour or to come every Friday, just a few minutes in prayer on the way to work would be welcomed.

Members of the group say their prayerful presence on the street has a positive influence, as they often receive compliments and encouragement from passers-by.

LAST WORD: Don't let your worries get the best of you. Remember Moses started out as a basket case.

CAFF PROGRAM
(Catholic Adult Faith Formation I)

LATE ENTRY! HURRY!!!

Program begins 3 February 2007
12 months program, 4 units:
Gospels; Faith Development; Theology I; Sacraments.

Rheinberger Centre now fully operational!
Inquiries and applications from Margaret Ryan
6163 4302 or
margaret.ryan@cg.catholic.org.au

CATHOLIC VOICE
ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

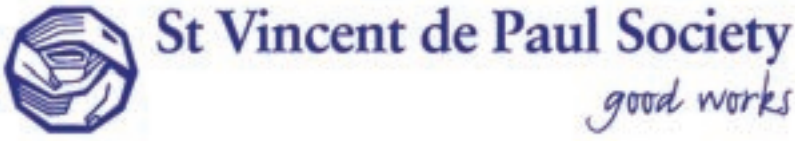
JOURNALIST

Catholic Communications in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is seeking a person to take part in an exciting new stage of development of the local Church as it reaches out to its own members and to the world at large. The successful applicant would help in the development and dissemination of the Archdiocese's electronic bulletins, maintenance of its website as well as write and take photographs for the well-established and award-winning diocesan monthly newspaper Catholic Voice. Recent qualifications in media studies or experience on the job as a journalist are essential.

Applications should be sent by e-mail to ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

Inquiries: Geoff Orchison, telephone 6201 9806, or at the above e-mail.

Applications close Monday, 19 February.



The St Vincent de Paul Society extends a very warm 'Thank You' to Canberra for assisting us with our Christmas Appeal. Because of your generosity our volunteers were able to pack and distribute over 1400 food and toy hampers and continued to carry out the core work of the Society in providing emergency assistance.

As well as our individual donors St Vincent de Paul is pleased to acknowledge the assistance of the following organisations in supporting our 2006 Christmas Appeal:

ABC 666	Catholic Parishes and Schools across Canberra	Hot Shot Photography
ACT Embroideries Guild	Centrelink Staff	Kowalski Recruitment.
ACTCOSS	Corporate Express	National Bank Australia
All staff and volunteers at Vinnies.	Coles Woden	Office of Jenny Macklin
Australian Customs Service Social Club	Curves	Parliamentary Press Gallery
Australian Federal Police	Deakin IGA	Santa Claus
Aviation Safety Authority	Dept of Prime Minister and Cabinet	Southern Cross Craft Group
Biztech.	Dept of Veteran Affairs Social Club	Supabarn
Blue Bell Pharmacy Ainslie	Dept Youth and Justice	Tuggeranong Arts Centre and Cast and Crew from Mad Women of Chaillot
Calvary John James	Duesburys Nexia	Tuggeranong Hyperdome
Calwell High School	Erindale Centre	Westfield Belconnen
Canberra Centre	Good Guys Tuggeranong	Westfield Woden
Canberra Hospital	Gungahlin Regional Community Centre	Woolworths Woden
Capital Pathology	Health Insurance Commission	Yarralumla IGA



Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn
Call for expressions of interest
World Youth Day Executive Manager/Coordinator

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is seeking expressions of interest from individuals for the position of Archdiocesan World Youth Day Executive Manager / Coordinator.

What is World Youth Day?

World Youth Day (WYD) is one of the largest gatherings of young people in the world. In 2008 WYD will be held in Sydney. The event will be held over two weeks and will be celebrated in city and country diocese around Australia, culminating in Sydney. The event is expected to attract over 250,000 young people. Due to the proximity of Canberra to Sydney many thousands of these young people will travel to WYD through Canberra.

What are we doing?

WYD will be a major event in Canberra and will impact people of all ages. In our Archdiocese we are seeking to implement a long-term strategy that will enable us to effectively capitalise on the immense opportunities for spiritual renewal that WYD08 provides. The Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn will:

- Host visitors and provide a program of activities for visitors from around the world
- Host the Days in the Diocese program providing activities leading up to WYD
- Coordinate a lead-up program covering youth, young adults, older people, parishes, schools and the wider community

What we are looking for

We are looking for a World Youth Day Executive Manager / Coordinator who will:

- Have demonstrated ability in effective project management including marketing, event management, delegation and empowerment
- Have demonstrated capacity to work independently and within a team environment
- Have the ability to work effectively with volunteers
- Have demonstrated Pastoral Sensitivity
- Be able to think strategically and work collaboratively across a diversity of Diocesan and community networks
- Have demonstrated ability to work effectively within the Catholic Church environment

The position is appointed by and accountable to the Director of Pastoral Support Services.

Please forward expressions of interest to:

Shawn van der Linden, Director of Pastoral Support Services, The Rheinberger Centre, Cnr Weston & Loch Streets Yarralumla, Canberra ACT 2600. Office: 02 6163 4301 Mobile: 0407 891 756, e-mail: shawn.vanderlinden@cg.catholic.org.au. Postal: P.O. Box 7174 Yarralumla ACT 2600.

Please forward expressions of interest by 23 February 2007.

Bishop acclaimed for his service to city

What do a war correspondent, a nurse, a botanist, a broadcaster and a bishop have in common?

They were all added to Canberra's Honour Walk late last year to mark their contribution to the lives of Canberrans.

Bishop Pat Power was recognised for "devoting his life to nurturing and caring for those in our community who seek spiritual, emotional and pastoral guidance", ACT Chief Minister Mr Jon Stanhope said when unveiling plaques to mar the occasion.

"Bishop Power has been providing a voice for those in the Canberra community who have difficulty speaking for themselves, and has always been prepared to speak out against prejudice and inequality, both within the Catholic Church, and within the community."

He said Bishop Power encouraged people to believe "we are capable of better".

Other recipients were Mr George Barlin, who introduced the city's first local television station, Mr Charles Bean, who wrote and edited the nation's official WWI history from his office at Tuggeranong Homestead, Ms Sylvia Curley, who was renowned for her lifelong commitment to health care and nursing education, and Dr Nancy Burbidge, who was a



ACT Chief Minister Mr Jon Stanhope with Bishop Pat Power at the unveiling of the plaques.

well-known botanist, conservationist and mentor for Australian plant taxonomists.

Mr Stanhope said the Honour Walk in Ainslie Avenue was an important opportunity to recognise the people who had made Canberra a great city.

Nominations may be submitted by anyone including individuals, businesses, organisations and community groups. New plaques will be added to the ACT Honour Walk each year.

Aged villas opened



A complex of 15 self-care villas for the aged under the management of the Archdiocese's Centacare agency have been opened at Aranda.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge blessed and opened St Vincent de Paul Villas, which are on land next to the parish church.

Inquiries on the villas may be directed to Mrs Gina Poulus at Centacare, telephone 6295 4304.

TOP: Archbishop Coleridge chats with resident Celia



Cooper as he toured the complex blessing individual villas. ABOVE: A view of some of the villas.



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

DOORKNOCK 2007 VOLUNTEERS

The Task

- To doorknock at houses in your area, to collect the funds Vinnies needs to help people in need in Canberra and Queanbeyan.

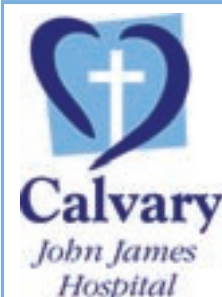
How long does it take?

- We are asking for only TWO HOURS of your time over the period 10-25 February 2007.
- Doorknockers are especially needed in the following areas: O'Malley, Isaacs, Watson, Braddon, O'Connor, Campbell, Dunlop, Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra.

How do you volunteer?

- Give your name to your local conference, or ring Vinnies on 6282 2722

Poverty is everyone's problem



Calvary John James Hospital

Calvary John James Hospital is a Catholic not-for-profit private hospital with 150 beds providing quality, responsive and compassionate medical, surgical, obstetric and oncology services to the Canberra community and surrounding region.

Calvary John James Hospital is part of Little Company of Mary Health Care, a national Catholic health, community and aged care provider in five States and Territories – NSW, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and the ACT.

DIRECTOR OF MISSION

Little Company of Mary Health Care (LCM Health Care) is seeking a Director of Mission to be part of the Executive team at Calvary John James. This is a new position. Reporting to the CEO and working collaboratively with the Executive team and staff, the successful candidate will be responsible for promoting and communicating the healing ministry of Jesus, as expressed in the philosophy, mission, vision and values of LCM Health Care.

The successful candidate will develop and promote the mission integration program through a range of strategies, including educational leadership and ensure that all staff receive appropriate orientation and ongoing education. You will liaise with other LCM Health Care Services, and participate in and contribute to the national LCM Health Care group and its overall effective performance.

To be successful in this role you will need to demonstrate a personal identity with, and strong commitment to, the philosophy, mission, vision and values of LCM Health Care. Integrity, professionalism and the ability to provide leadership at all levels of the Service is essential. You will have outstanding communication, leadership and relationship building skills.

An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated with the right candidate, on a fixed term appointment. The position is part-time, 30 hours per week.

For further information and to obtain a package to assist with your application please contact Wendy Prowse at LCM Health Care at wendy.prowse@calvary-act.com.au or 02 6201 6928. Applications accompanied by your curriculum vitae should be addressed to Paul Robertson CEO, Calvary John James Hospital and emailed to wendy.prowse@calvary-act.com.au by **Friday 9 February 2007**.

*A Service of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary
with values of hospitality, healing, stewardship and respect*

www.jjmh.com.au
www.lcmhealthcare.org.au

PO Box 131 Deakin West ACT 2600
173 Strickland Crescent Deakin ACT 2600

New translation of the Missal Latest phase of journey of Vatican II

Brothers and Sisters,
I'm writing this from a hotel in Cape Town. I look out through the window at the sea where Vasco da Gama once passed in a little ship that was crossing a huge threshold in history as he rounded the Cape of Good Hope. I'm here for a meeting of Bishops who are helping to make a new translation of the Missal from Latin into English, and our work is in some ways a new threshold.

In the not too distant future, we will have different words to pray at Mass, and they will take some learning. This is not a matter of just tinkering with words or fiddling while Rome burns. The language we use at Mass is a crucial factor in shaping our spiritual lives, our relationship with God in the Church, our mission in the world. The Bishops hope to provide in the new Missal words that are richer and deeper because they pass on

to us more of the vast treasures of the Catholic faith through the ages.

The whole point of liturgical reform at the Second Vatican Council was to generate new energy for mission. And at a time when the Holy Spirit is calling the whole Church to become more missionary, my hope is that the new Missal will be one of the key sources of the new energy that new mission requires. "New Missal for new mission" is not a bad motto for us all as we approach this new threshold in the ongoing journey of liturgical renewal in the Church.

When the Bishops of Vatican II gave their teaching on liturgical renewal, no-one really knew what would be involved. The whole Church was casting its boat, the barque of Peter, upon new waters where the tides and currents could take us anywhere. But the Church did this under the influence of the Holy Spirit,



since there is no other reason why the Church would or should do anything at all.

One thing the Council had permitted was the use of vernacular languages in worship - in our case, English. The Council Fathers imagined that this would only be for certain parts of the Mass, but that most of the Mass would remain in Latin. It was up to the Bishops' Conferences of the world to ask for permission from the Holy See to use the vernacular as they saw fit.

The surprise then was that the Bishops around the world asked for the whole Mass to go into the local language. This wasn't something the Council had foreseen, but the Holy See said "yes".

The Missal and all the other liturgical books were very quickly translated from Latin into English, and those first translations have been used since the late 1960s. But very early on, it was recognized that there would have to be a revision. The first translations were OK for the time being, but there was a need for much better.

A revision began in 1983 which led to a new Missal being presented to the Holy

See for final approval in 1998. For many reasons, Rome decided not to approve that revision and a new one was commissioned. The new project has worked on different principles of translation which are intended to ensure that the English is closer to the Latin original and that it offers more of the riches of the Catholic tradition. That's the project that has me now holed up in a hotel in South Africa.

There's no doubt that what we are producing is a different idiom. The language of the new Missal will be different from what we have known; and there will be some who say that because it's different, it's no good. But a little bit of patience through a messy transition time will show that the new Missal offers great riches.

We will have to learn new things, but it will be learning for a purpose. The Bishops have no interest in disturbing priests and people just for the sake of it.

The liturgical renewal called for by the Second Vatican Council was always going to be a long and winding road, and this is a new phase of the unfolding journey.

But this new phase, I am convinced, is no less under the influence of the Holy Spirit than was the first impulse that came to us from the Council decades ago.

I will do as much as I can in the Archdiocese to explain to everyone why the changes are happening and what the

new gains might be.

This year I plan to have both the Archdiocesan Assembly and the Clergy Assembly focus upon what that is involved in this new threshold of liturgical renewal in the Church. This is because I regard what is about to happen as a great opportunity for all of us.

Some regard this new revision of the Missal as a kind of plot to subvert what the Second Vatican Council sought to achieve. I can only say that that is absolutely not the way I see it. If it were, I wouldn't be sitting here in Cape Town right now. I am convinced that what is happening is faithful to the deepest impulse of the Council and is therefore being done in obedience to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Far from being a burden, these changes will prove to be the kind of gift that only God can give. Vasco da Gama took a huge risk in rounding the Cape, but the risk was supremely worth taking because it opened up a whole new world of possibilities. May Our Lady of Good Hope lead us all safely and joyfully across the waters we are about to cross in our own journey of faith.

+Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of
Canberra and Goulburn

your voice

Pointless and obscene

The terrible spectacle of the execution of Saddam Hussein should remind all Christians of the pointlessness and obscenity of the death penalty. The Church's teaching on this matter is clear: we do not have the right to take life as punishment, no matter who the criminal is or how terrible the crime.

Capital punishment degrades the authorities who impose it even more than the person who suffers it. This hasty execution obscured another point: Hussein was still being tried for other even more serious crimes, whose victims will now be denied their day in court.

The Australian Government rightly opposes the death penalty, and it is sad that it has not spoken out more strongly on this occasion. We pray for justice in Iraq, for Saddam Hussein's victims and for all those in Iraq who are dying every day.

Bishop Christopher Saunders, Broome, chairman, Australian Catholic Social Justice Council.

Taking gifts for granted

As we give our prayers of compassion for the poor souls affected by this devastating drought, we

might also pray for the souls of our administrators who may not be blessed with wisdom to understand the ways of the Lord. Whilst I feel for those affected by the drought, I rejoice in the Lord's lesson because in a country of extremes, it's enduring that brings us together as a community, it's hardships that bring us together in prayer.

May I respectfully suggest that instead of praying for rain, we should be giving thanks to the Lord for the lesson.

In giving thanks we might also rejoice in the knowledge that is being given to us through many individuals as they open their compassionate hearts to receive the Lord's grace and wisdom.

This wisdom has already created devices that can reduce our water usage by up to 50 per cent thereby facilitating the availability of more water to be released to the environment to sustain God's creation.

The lesson of this drought might be that man in his isolation from God may be taking for granted the gifts of the Lord and, therefore, may need to change his consumptive ways to become less demanding and more compassionate to environmental sustainability.

May God in his compassion reach out to those in need of compassion. May the Lord through his followers enlighten our administrators on their holy obligation to manage the environment for the

Letters to the editor are welcome. Those of 300 words or less on topical issues will be given preference. Letters may be edited without reference to the writer. Letters published do not necessarily represent the views of the

Archdiocese. Names and addresses must be provided. All letters will carry the name of the writer and the suburb or town in which they live. Send your letters to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

good of all living things both under and on the land and within the seas that surround the lands of God's holy creations.

Terence Kiernan, Captains Flat NSW.

Should be free choice

In reply to Noel Cook's letter (Harness All Resources, CV, December 2006), it is obvious that the notion of celibacy or whether priests should marry is still highly debatable in the Catholic forum.

At one level, the secular progressives regard mandatory priesthood celibacy as a primary cause in the declining numbers of candi-

dates for the Catholic priesthood. They believe that allowing priests to marry, or married men to become priests, will bring a surplus of priests. At another level, traditional warriors argue that a celibate priest is a quest for personal sanctity and the sanctification of the world.

What is surprising is both sides of the debate seem to hinder on celibacy as a primary cause in the shortage of priests. Among Orthodox and Oriental Christians, celibacy takes on another dimension. Both my aunties are married to orthodox priests and surely their marriage does not undermine the holiness and the sacredness of the vocation of priests.

In fact, it is precisely the holiness of marriage that makes celibacy precious. As John Paul II emphasised, "celibacy is not just a matter of renouncing married life, but rather it presupposes the goodness of marriage".

Its deep significance lies in chastity and virginity, in supreme union with God. So taking lightly celibacy is thus to undermine marriage itself. Celibacy should be made as a free choice rather than a disciplinary rule.

To be able to make a free choice often bears a powerful witness that the chosen value is superior to all the other ones. Often what is regarded a disciplinary or mandatory rule becomes the preferred choice.

We need also to question other hidden factors that seem to affect vocations to the priesthood, such as capitalism, individualism, relativism, the breakdown of families, the division between Australian secular and religious spheres, the lack of sense of community in parishes, the unreal expectations and the heavy burden placed upon priests, the nature of priesthood vocation.

As Fr Ron Rolheiser and Noel Cook have suggested, we need to take new directions. How we define or decide on these is another facet. We need to learn to see the world from God's eyes and not from ours. Be still and let God be God.

Georgette B Kanaan, Batemans Bay.

No surprise

I am writing to express my outrage at the announcement of the new head of the Catholic Education Office for the Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese..."Woman to head Catholic schools". Surely we have reached a stage where it should not be a surprise to find that a woman is appointed as head of a department. Surely in deference to Mrs Najdecki and her undoubted abilities the headline should have more appropriately read New head of CEO appointed. - **Janet Ryan, St Mary's School, Moruya.**

Tragedy underlines hardships of poor rural life

The tragic death of a father in Bangladesh has highlighted the hardship of rural life in that developing nation. Farid Pathang (pictured) was to be the face of Caritas Australia's Project Compassion feature about a program helping villagers in Bangladesh.

On the eve of this year's Project Compassion launch, Farid died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of only 43. Villagers in rural Bangladesh suffer malnutrition, lack of health services and the demands of physical labour, all

of which take a heavy toll on the lives of many.

Having improved the situation for his family, Farid was active and excited about helping others in the community to improve their lives. His legacy will live on. The hope that was provided through assistance from Caritas Australia in the last years of Farid's life made them some of his happiest.

The Caritas network will continue to support the local community of which Farid's widow Alpona and their son Homar, are members.



Before Caritas Australia established a women's savings group in the village of Samuniapara in Bangladesh, Farid Pathang and his family struggled to grow enough food to eat. The community has built a fish pond and a vegetable garden where they grow a variety

of vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes and green chilies.

In the past, villagers would grow only one crop a year. Now they are actively saving money so they can access Caritas' low interest loans to buy a cow or fish food.

Project Compassion 2007 will be launched on 21 February and finish on April 8, Easter Sunday.

This year the Archdiocese will host two guest speakers, Graeme Mundine and Peter Sabatino, as part of the Project Compassion Lenten program. They will visit schools and parishes across the Archdiocese.

Mr Mundine is the head of the Make Indigenous Poverty History campaign, a project of the National Council of Churches in Australia. He is a member of NAT-SICC and the executive secretary of National Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander Ecumenical Council.

Mr Peter Sabatino, a Torres Strait Islander, has had an extraordinary career in indigenous affairs in administration, policy development, budgeting, community liaison and education. His list of employers include State and Federal governments, the Catholic Church, National Council of Churches, private training organizations and now Caritas Australia, as the indigenous program coordinator.

Caritas Australia aims to raise more than \$8.5 million to help communities across Asia, Africa, Latin America and Australia have more sustainable livelihoods through projects which focus on agriculture, health and community empowerment. The theme for 2007 is Fair Play Today.

A helping hand - from coast to coast

Bega and Pambula parishes are building a primary school for religious sisters on the south coast of East Timor.

The parishes on the far South Coast of the Archdiocese have undertaken to raise \$40,000 to build three classrooms, an office, storeroom and toilet block to replace the Franciscan Sisters' old school at Natarbora, which has dirt floors, bamboo walls and a leaky roof.

Last year \$28,000 was raised, most of which has been sent to East Timor where building was started in November.

A ceremony was held on the site and parish priest Fr Tiago blessed the foundations. The local community is helping build the school.

The work by the parishes is being done in conjunction with the Bega Valley Advocates for Timor Leste. Bega Valley Shire, which covers Bega and Pambula parishes, has signed a friendship agreement with the Natarbora sub-district in the Manatutu district of East Timor.

Bega Valley Advocates for Timor Leste began in 2004 after a visit to Bega by Sr Susan Connelly, of the Mary MacKillop Institute for East Timorese Studies.

The first project undertaken was re-building Natarbora Agricultural College, which was left devastated by the withdrawing Indonesians.

Eden, Pambula, Merimbula and Bega Rotary clubs undertook repairing and renovating dormitories, shower and toilet blocks. In all, more than \$200,000 in cash and materials has gone into the project.

The advocates have installed a water supply, built the boundary fence and facilitated food production in the college.

Political unrest in East Timor's capital Dili last year caused the Rotary clubs to suspend their activities at the college, but they hope to complete the project this year.

Since the advocates began reviving the college the German Government aid organisation GTZ has also started projects, and will largely take over the work the advocates started.

This leaves the advocates free to look at the needs of people in the villages of Natarbora, in particular education and food security.

A number of educational projects are being undertaken by the advocates in addition to building St Francis' School.

These include producing education material in the Tetum language in co-operation with the Sisters of St. Joseph and the MacKillop Institute; provid-



Headmistress Sr Paula in an old classroom at the school with Bernard Taylor from Bega and translator Zildo.

ing educational supplies and sports equipment to the junior high school; arranging in-service training for teachers; and providing 12 secondary and one university scholarship.

In answer to serious food shortages in two hill villages, Barique and Manehaat, the advocates have organised and distributed 17 tonnes of emergency food mainly rice.

Rats are a major cause of food shortage, and the advocates have been in contact with government and non-government organisations to help find a solution.

Malnutrition is obvious in many children especially after weaning. In co-operation with the Bega Anglican Ladies, the advocates are setting up an infant food program at the Natarbora Health Clinic.

The women of Natarbora identified lack of seeds for planting and shortage of appropriate hand tools as a serious need. The advocates are attempting to supply both seeds and tools.

The total value of goods and services provided by the people of the Bega Valley Shire to those at Natarbora now exceeds \$400,000 but much more is needed. Anyone wanting to support the Bega and Pambula parishes to build the school at Natarbora may contact Jim Collins, telephone 6494 7986, Bernard Taylor 6494 1179 or Len Phillips 6495 0496.



HARVEST PILGRIMAGES

MEDJUGORJE SPECIAL

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Book tells of inspiring lives

By Debra Vermeer

A collection of stories from people with disability, their families and faith communities has been described as an inspiration and a blessing for the Church in Australia.

Bishop Max Davis officially launched the book, entitled "We Have a Story", in Canberra, following Mass at St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla, which was attended by many people with disability, their family, friends, carers and parish priests.

Chief celebrant was Bishop Eugene Hurley, chairman of the Bishops' Commission for Pastoral Life, assisted by Bishop Davis, the commission's delegate for disability issues.

A key feature of the Mass was the participation in the liturgy of people with disability from many parts of Australia.

The Mass featured the national launch of a hymn to celebrate the gifts of all members of the Church.

Entitled "One Body in Christ", it was written and sung by Amanda McKenna, of the Parramatta Diocese, accompanied by the Faith and Light ACT Signing Choir.

Many people who attended the official launch had given their own story to the project.

Anthony Succar, from the Croyden Park parish in NSW, spoke of the importance of hope, saying he had found hope again after returning to his Catholic faith.

"I thank God every day for my parish and pray that disabled people everywhere find hope in the Catholic faith.

"It is in my parish that I find hope and am truly at peace," he said.

Bishop Davis described the book as a treasure. "Every one of these stories is a great, exciting little glimmer of a real jewel in life.

"It is inspiring for the rest of the Church, inspiring for each other - a real collection of

blessings."

Bishop Hurley also thanked those present and those whose stories feature in the book, saying: "We want to thank you for the gift you are to the Church".

"We want to listen carefully to your experiences so that the tragedy of anyone being excluded from our Church community might be avoided," he said.

"May this just be the beginning of a wonderful journey together as we learn from one another."

Others special guests present at the launch included Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Msg Jude Thaddeus, representing the Apostolic Nuncio.

The book follows on from the "I Have a Story" pastoral document for parishes, released in 2004.

The project was co-ordinated by Canberra woman Mrs Patricia Mowbray, disability consultant to the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life.



Emmalee Mowbray, 17, speaks about being Confirmation sponsor for her younger brother Paul (also pictured), who has Down Syndrome. Her story is featured in the book.

● Copies of the book may be ordered from the bishops' Secretariat for Pastoral Life at disability@catholic.org.au or by telephoning 6201 9868.



Retiring director of Catholic Education Mr Geoff Joy (second from right) chats with Bishop Pat Power, Fr Ken Heffernan and archdiocesan financial administrator Mr Herbie O'Flynn at the dinner at Parliament House.

Schools head farewelled



Top educationists from across Australia, community heads and principals were among those who packed the Great Hall at Parliament House to farewell retiring director of Catholic Education Mr Geoff Joy.

Among those to pay tribute to Mr Joy, who retired after 14 years in office, were Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Bishop Pat Power, chair of the Catholic Education Commission Mr Daryl Smeaton, his successor Mrs Moira Najdecki, who spoke on behalf of the Archdiocese's principals, and assistant director of the Catholic Education Office Mr Mark Hogan.

Archbishop Coleridge said Mr Joy would forever be a part of the success story of the Archdiocese. "I thank you in the name of countless people."

In a message, former Governor-General Sir William Deane said Mr Joy had achieved so much in his role as education head.

He described Mr Joy as an outstanding headmaster and inspiring leader. "I have followed your life and professional career with admiration," he said.



Mr Joy thanked all those who had supported him. He said he had been constantly inspired by the holiness of former Archbishop Francis Carroll. Archbishop Carroll sent a letter paying tribute to Mr Joy's contribution to the Church and to society. At the dinner, tribute was also paid to Mr Joy's wife Kate and daughter Catherine for the way in which they supported him.

The youngest of seven children to Irish parents living in North Queensland, Mr Joy had a teaching career stretching back to the 1950s. He was headmaster at several Marist schools, including St Joseph's, Hunters Hill before he came to Canberra in 1993. The Joys will continue to live in Canberra.

ABOVE LEFT: Mr Geoff Joy responds to the many tributes at the farewell dinner in the Great Hall at Parliament House.

ABOVE RIGHT: Rose Nuttall plays as part of a string group from St Clare's College who entertained guests before the dinner.

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ABOVE: The Faith and Light ACT Signing Choir performs a reflection hymn at the Mass.
RIGHT: Bishop Eugene Hurley speaks about the book.
LEFT: Bishop Max Davis launches "We Have a Story" at a ceremony in the Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla, after Mass.



Parishes offer friendly hand

Catholics Returning Home is growing across the Archdiocese with St Vincent's, Aranda, the latest parish to plan a program in Lent.

It is an approach that invites people who are baptised Catholic, but who are not part of an active faith community, to reconnect.

Those interested may attend a series of six information sessions run in a welcoming environment by groups of parishioners. They cover topics such as the Church today, life journeys, liturgy, forgiveness and peace, and faith.

The program takes up the call of Pope John Paul II on a visit to Australia 20 years ago when he proclaimed that the Church had a place for each "which only you can fill". Tens of thousands of people have taken part in Catholics Returning Home in parishes across Australia and overseas for many years.

In the Archdiocese, Catholics Returning Home is available at: St Vincent's, Aranda, starting 20 February, St John the Apostle, Kippax, in May/June and October/ November, Mary, Queen of Apostles, Goulburn, in May/ June and October, St Anthony's, Wanniasa, in April and June, and Holy Rosary, Watson, in May.

Sessions at Aranda parish will be held in the parish meeting room opposite the church door beginning at 7.30pm on Pancake Tuesday, 20 February 2007. A cup of tea will be served at 9pm. Depending on the outcome, St Vincent's will consider other sessions on Thursday evenings shortly after Easter. People interested are welcome to telephone 6251 3030, e-mail stv.aranda@cg.catholic.org.au or come along on the first night.

One person who took part in Catholics Returning Home was a young mother. Natalie had been a student at Catholic primary and secondary schools but, once she started work, she dropped her Church participation. She had been looking to reconnect with the Church for some time.

Having been through the program she now has a sense of hope that she is not alone. "I felt rejuvenated. (CRH) awakened all these things that I've put on hold for a long time. The whole aspect of my personality when I was growing up - like, I was involved in the liturgy committee at school - it was all packed away in a box, not looked at for years. I've rediscovered what I got out of (going to Mass) and out of being a Catholic. I'm happy to start going to Mass every weekend and meeting the people."

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

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Historic Mercy celebration

The two oldest Mercy Sisters in Australia, both aged over 100, were in the congregation as the sisters in the Archdiocese marked 175 years since the foundation of the order by Catherine McAuley in Ireland.

Sr Madeleine Lawrence, who celebrated her 104th birthday on 8 December last year, and Sr Brenda Twomey, who was 102 on 27 July, attended Mass on 12 December celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at Mt St Joseph's Chapel, Young. Fr Richard Thompson and Fr Geoff Lloyd concelebrated.

In her welcoming address congregation leader Sr Marie Duffy said it was an occa-

sion of "grateful prayer and celebration not only for us but also for our partners in ministry, families and friends, as the particular way of apostolic service which Catherine McAuley began in 1831, continues in 39 countries.

"This joyful time in our history coincides with the strengthening of the process for the canonization of Catherine McAuley, who, in 1990, was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II. We recognize with deep gratitude that this process is a public acknowledgement of the Holy Spirit's activity in Catherine's life and of her consistently faithful cooperation with it.

The sisters first came to Australia in Perth 150 years ago. Goulburn was the first NSW foundation of the sisters in 1859. Next year marks 125 years since the sisters arrived in Boorowa, Cootamundra, Murrumburrah-Harden and Tumut.

In Sydney, a Eucharistic celebration, attended by 300 Sisters of Mercy from NSW, including 35 Sisters from the Goulburn Congregation, and more than 500 friends and associates was held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

RIGHT: Sr Madeleine Lawrence with Archbishop Coleridge and Sr Marie Duffy. Picture: Young Witness.



Vinnies take special care of their own

A new special work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, called Baillys in tribute to an early leader of the society, is operating at Holy Family Parish, Gowrie.

The Baillys are experienced members of the society with a sound knowledge of its rule and a deep commitment to the society and its spirit. Theirs is a service to society members rather than to the poor who are their usual concern.

Founding president Mrs Laraine O'Shea said experienced members, having worked in the society for many years, often found themselves unable to continue active involvement.

"This may be because they are unable to drive or cannot afford the luxury of a car, or because they are slower on their feet or suffer from the stress sometimes involved in their charitable endeavours.

"Guilty about not being able to carry on the active work, many of these resign and lose contact with the society. These are dedicated Vincentians with a wide knowledge and experience as well as the wisdom and compassion that come from long service to the poor.

"Their faith and generosity are evident in the way in which they live in the spirit of our society; they are a blessing to us all and part of the Vincentian family."

Members of the group meet weekly at the local parish centre after 9.30am Mass. They are members of the St Vincent de Paul family and follow the existing Rule with the exception of visitation or other



An early meeting of Baillys (from left) standing: Mary Daly, Sam Palma, Greg Hogan, Carmel Crowe, Jenny Knee, Erle (visitor). Seated: Carmel Dunn, Peggy Rose, Sr Jeanette Fox, Laraine O'Shea, Judith Huthnance, Daphne Herzog, Margaret Brady.

contact with clients.

Their meetings may involve activities such as prayerful and moral support to each other and to any member brought to their attention; mentoring of stressed members or those in temporary crisis or needing counsel; and social activities.

The term Bailly has a particular resonance for Australian Vinnies. Originally used 20 years ago for a senior member who helped to guide beginners, particularly students, it is a tribute to Joseph Emmanuel Bailly (1791-1861), first council general president of the society. A professor of philosophy at the Sorbonne, he was the inspiration and mentor of Blessed Frederic Ozanam and the other young men who were the founding members of the Society. It was Bailly who gave them a place to meet, sound advice and good example.

It is expected that other Baillys groups will be set up across the Archdiocese. For further information, telephone Mrs O'Shea 6291 9140.

Health ministry transferred

The Goulburn Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy has reached an agreement to transfer their health and aged care ministries to Mercy Health and Aged Care (Victoria).

As a result of the decision, the Goulburn Congregation's health and aged care facilities in Albury and Young will become part of the Mercy Health and Aged Care group which already operates a number of public and private health and aged care facilities.

The decision was reached after a four-month examination concluded the long-standing tradition and work of the Goulburn Congregation would be continued and extended under the ownership and stewardship of Mercy Health and Aged Care, auspiced by

the Melbourne Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy. The transfer is expected to be completed by April.

Staff in public health facilities will remain employed by their current employer on the same terms and conditions.

Staff in aged care facilities will transfer to Mercy Health and Aged Care Inc., but will retain current terms and conditions and continuity of service.

The facilities operated by the Goulburn Congregation which will be affected by the change are:

Mercy Care Centre Young, Mt St Joseph's Nursing Home, Mercy Health Service Albury, and Marianella Nursing Home, Albury.

On way to priesthood

Archbishop Mark Coleridge installed 10 Missionaries of God's Love brothers as acolytes and eight brothers as lectors in a celebration at St. Benedict's Church, Narrabundah.

The ceremony was in recognition that the brothers are making initial steps towards priesthood through being installed in ministries of word and sacrament.

Chris Eaton, Michael Steele, Simon Alua, Vincent Clementine, Vincent Widi, Izak Belyanan, Alex

Nolasco, Albert Pastera, Jerry Augustin and Bony Abraham were installed as acolytes.

David Fannon, Corey Payton, Wenceslaus Edy, Matheus Wuwu, John Kiak, Benny Joe, Jeffery Nori and Al Habigat were installed as lectors.

In his homily Archbishop Coleridge encouraged the brothers to witness to the truth that the genuine "good life" is found in Christ, and not in the prestige, wealth, glamour or pleasure which the world has to offer.

Progress on reconciliation

Twenty five women met with the Sisters of St Joseph at their convent at North Goulburn to reflect on and discuss the material in "The Hour has Come - Working Towards a Justly Reconciled Australia".

During his visit to Australia in 1986 Pope John Paul II visited the people of Alice Springs with a message of hope and encouragement for all indigenous people.

The Hour has Come - Working Towards a Justly Reconciled Australia gives the opportunity to reflect on progress in indigenous affairs since then.

The kit is made up of five sessions: "Your Culture, your dreaming"; Culture Clash - "You have endured the Flames"; The Church and Aboriginal People - "The Gospel Esteems and Embraces all Cultures"; The Future - "The Hour has come for you to take on new courage and hope"; and The Ongoing need - "Address the Deep Underlying Causes of their Plight".

Sr Laraine Crowe RSJ, who was responsible for preparing the kit, helped the group with the activity. Kits are available from Sr Laraine at Josephite Leaders' Social Action Office, P O Box 326, Curtin, ACT 2605.

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background



'Chalk and talk' makes for special moments for the Mintys

By Len Minty

"Does the school have white boards, overhead projectors and computers?" I innocently asked program co-ordinator Tina by e-mail.

Just how ingenuous were my questions was revealed when we arrived at Christ Outreach Orphanage and Preparatory School in Kasoa, Ghana.

The school had none of these aids which are taken for granted in Australia. How could it have them, for it has no electricity. In fact, it doesn't even have running water.

My wife, MaryLou and I last year spent a month of our long-service leave in Ghana as volunteer teachers. The school in which we worked, we were informed in advance, was poor.

This we found to be an understatement; it was very, very poor. There were no doors to the classroom: only door openings. No windows: only window openings. The tin roofs leaked and created hot boxes at noon. But, there were blackboards, and chalk.

So it was back to chalk and talk for these wizened (or wisened?) teachers.

And what of the kids? They were bright with hope, with enthusiasm. They hung on every word we uttered or wrote on the board. Like sponges they soaked up everything they heard, everything they saw. School education is not taken for granted in Ghana.

We walked most of the 3km to school each morning and would arrive dripping wet from the humidity, knowing that's the way it would be for the rest of the day. But such discomforts were quickly forgotten as students ran enthusiastically to meet us, vying to carry our bags to school.

When we arrived the school had no library books. But it has books now. We approached Jacaranda Educational Supplies for shop soiled books and they donated about \$1500 worth. With the assis-

tance of the Canberra-Woden Lions Club we landed them in Ghana.

We soon had the whole school involved in a 20-minute daily reading program called Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). We are told it's still going with the whole library intact.

The St. Edmund's College community and Erindale College staff and our family worked vigorously in the months before our departure, raising over \$4000 for us to spend as we saw fit. After consultation with the headmaster we opted for his highest priority of an extra classroom, the "Eddies Room".

Why did we volunteer? Was it to create waves of change on the lake of learning in Ghana? We are realistic enough to know that would not happen. But enough people saw us as instruments through whom small changes could be effected and a difference made.

We are not finished with Christ Outreach Orphanage in Ghana. We intend to return, again at our own expense, to do a little more. The school needs so much and if, with the support of people in Canberra, we can build another room, a well, or have electricity put on, we know it will make a difference.

Anyone wanting to help may send a donation to "The Ghana Account", St Edmunds College, Canberra Ave, Manuka. If you would like to contact the authors by e-mail, at lminty@stedmunds.act.edu.au

* Len and MaryLou Minty have between them 80 years of teaching experience. Mary Lou has just retired from teaching economics at Erindale College while Len is teaching) in curriculum support at St Edmund's College. In his earlier days as a teacher, Len worked as a volunteer in Malaysia.

Pictured from left: A step into the past ... Len Minty teaches the eager children with the aid of blackboard and chalk; wife MaryLou at work with the children; the very basic facilities of the "kitchen"; the "Eddies Room", an extra classroom added to the school as a result of the generosity of school communities in Canberra.

BELOW: The entire community at Christ Outreach and Preparatory School in Kasoa, with the Mintys.

St Edmund's College teacher Len Minty and wife MaryLou last year spent a month in Ghana as volunteer teachers. They learned a whole new meaning to the word "poor" as they engaged with their enthusiastic young charges.



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Pioneer sisters' 150 years of blessings

The Good Samaritan Sisters, who have links with today's Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn going back nearly 130 years, celebrate a remarkable milestone this year.

It marks the sesquicentenary of the sisters, the first Australian congregation of religious women.

On 2 February, 1857, a small community of five sisters was gathered by their founder, Archbishop John Bede Polding, the first bishop of Australia. Polding, a man of vision and compassion, was concerned about the many needs of a fragile, broken convict colony.

He envisioned a group of women who would go wherever there was need and who through their compassion and service would foster a new spirit of faith, hope and love among the people.

A Benedictine monk, Polding firmly planted the new institute within the Benedictine tradition, but at the same time radically adapted it to serve the particular needs of a new time in a new place. The core values of this tradition: simplicity, humility, obedience, community, hospitality and service of others, gentleness and compassion, and prayer have always been central to Good Samaritan life.

The original focus for the ministry of the first sisters was the Pitt



ABOVE: Local Good Samaritan Sisters (from left) Elizabeth Delaney, Rita Reilly, Joy Edwards, Beverley Caffery and Suzanne Hallams.

RIGHT: The Sisters are being challenged anew by the question: "Who is my neighbour?"

Street Refuge, the House of the Good Shepherd, where they served and cared for destitute and abused women of the colony. The sisters "walked the streets and back lanes of inner Sydney visiting the sick and poor in homes and hospitals, catechising and comforting. The Good Samaritan tradition of integrating compas-



sion with the educational development of the whole person; of striving to know and respond to the individual's context and circumstances and of reaching out inclusively and preferentially to the poor was begun early and has never been lost" (Margaret Walsh, historian).

Since those days the sisters

have lived and worked among the people throughout Australia. After World War 2, communities were established in Japan and later in the Philippines and in Kiribati.

The Good Samaritans came to Braidwood and Queanbeyan in 1879, and Moruya in 1883. They arrived in Canberra for the opening of St Christopher's School in January 1928.

As the population of Canberra grew more schools were needed. Good Samaritan Sisters taught at St Patrick's, Braddon, St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Catholic Girls' High School Braddon (Merici College), Griffith Regional High School (St Clare's College), St Bede's, Red Hill, and St Francis of Assisi, Calwell.

In addition to teaching, other ministries of the Good Samaritans in Canberra and Queanbeyan have included parish pastoral associate, ministry to indigenous people and to those with a disability, tertiary education, palliative care, service to the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference and pastoral work.

The Good Samaritan story continues today through the ministry of the sisters in the Queanbeyan and Red Hill communities.

The Sesquicentenary provides an opportunity to celebrate 150

years of Good Samaritan life and mission and to give thanks for the rich blessings received. It is a time to reconnect with, and to give thanks for all those who have been part of the Good Samaritan story, ex-students, and their families, colleagues and friends.

The sisters are also called to explore new ways of being Good Samaritan, to be challenged anew by the Gospel question: "Who is my neighbour?"

In responding to this question everyone learns that the concept of "neighbour" is not simply a tag or a label that we may or may not apply to another. It becomes a quality or a vocation for all Christians to take upon themselves and actively live out. Only effective compassion makes us neighbours. The Sisters of the Good Samaritan see themselves as women of hope, called by God to listen with the ear of the heart. Compassion and justice are at the heart of their mission to be neighbour.

The sisters invite ex-students and their families, colleagues and parishioners to join them for a Mass of Thanksgiving to be celebrated in St Christopher's Cathedral at 2pm on Sunday, 18 March, followed by afternoon tea at St Clare's College, Griffith.

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ABOVE: Sr Zita Barron, chaplain at Long Bay jail.



Mother John Synan led the first group of Brigidines to Australia in 1883.

Wide ministry for 'little bush sisters'

The Brigidines, who continue to have a presence in the Archdiocese, this year celebrate the bicentenary of their foundation in Ireland. In the past, the Sisters have taught in Cooma as well as in Braddon and Dickson in the ACT.

The Brigidines were founded in the tiny town of Tullow, County Carlow, in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin in the lush midlands south of Dublin. It was its Bishop Daniel Delany who had long cherished a dream of refounding the ancient Order of St Brigid's nuns of Kildare to bring spiritual and secular education to the dispossessed rural poor of his diocese.

On the feast of St Brigid, 1 February, 1807, six young women made their way to the parish church in Tullow where the bishop welcomed them and planted a sapling from St Brigid's oak tree in Kildare.

In 1882, Bishop Murray of the sprawling diocese of Maitland NSW invited the Brigidines to Coonamble where they were assured of nothing "save hard work and lack of facilities in a hot climate."

So the first six Brigidines to venture beyond Ireland's shores made the journey from County Carlow to Coonamble arriving on 21 June, 1883, and only 18 days later opened primary and high schools. Some of their feelings as they boarded the Chimborozo are recorded in the diary kept by their leader Mother John Synan: "I never felt so lonely in my

life"; "we went to our cabin and had a good cry"; "we mingled tears with our dinner".

Three years later another group of four Brigidines made their way to Echuca, a bustling river port on the Murray River, but on the very edge of the Sandhurst Diocese. No wonder the early Australian Brigidines referred to themselves as "little bush sisters".

From these beginnings the Australian story began to unfold and schools staffed by Brigidines were to be found in country towns in NSW and Victoria as well as in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Queensland, Adelaide, Perth and New Zealand.

Meanwhile the Irish province extended to England, Wales and the US. Missionary schools were later to be founded in PNG, Mexico and Kenya. Education remained the main thrust until after Vatican II when Brigidines extended their ministry to parish work, hospital and jail chaplaincy, counselling, assistance to the handicapped and indigenous people, migrant and refugee advocacy, legal aid and inner city ministry.

On Saturday, 5 May, a bicentenary Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Randwick, and another in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, on Thursday 14 June. Inquiries: The province office, telephone 9398 9935, or website www.brigidine.org.au

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Dear Children
The beginning of a new year is always a very exciting time. We have lots of new things to get used to - new teachers, new classes and sometimes new schools. But one constant thing in our lives is the love of mum and dad; we have a very special place in their hearts.
The 14th February is St Valentine's day. He was a man who loved God very much and through God healed a blind girl and restored her sight.
Before he died he sent her a note signed - "your Valentine". In Austria there is a custom of baking valentine cookies in symbols telling of God's love - the fish, the cross, the heart. You can probably think of others also. The cookies are thin, wrapped in red tissue paper and have a pretty bow.
We all have lots of people we love and who love us - our parents, sisters and brothers, grandparents, friends and teachers. Remember children, Valentine's day is about showing God's love in the world today. And you can show his love with a special cookie and card signing it "God loves you, and so do I. Your Valentine."
God Bless you
Sue

RIGHT: Florance McGufficke, aged 7, of St Patrick's School, Cooma, shows us some of the beauty on her farm.
BELOW: Erin Grimes, of St Joseph's School, Eden, was all dressed up when she went to last year's Melbourne Cup.



LEFT: Theresa Tran, aged 10, of Rosary Primary School, Watson, has a very important message for all of us.

BELOW: Courtney Love, aged 12, who attended St Benedict's Primary School, Narrabundah, last year has a theme we should listen to, too.



ABOVE: Now that's a big whale! Mel Kerrison, aged 8, of St Joseph's School, Eden, drew this after the Eden whale festival.
LEFT: Monica Tran, aged 7, of Rosary Primary School, Watson, was trying to think cool in this hot weather.

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One man's uneasy crusade to do it his way

God on Your Own: Finding a Spiritual Path Outside Religion. Pub. Jossey-Bass, 2006, 249pp, rrp \$35.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle

In another life I was a primary school teacher. On occasions a parent would announce that she intended to withdraw her children from class and to home-school them. Without exception we were dismayed by this decision. We felt that we were professionals committed to quality education. We also examined our own praxis for any perceived deficiencies. But, of course, we had to let the children go.

Having read God on Your Own, I am left with the same feelings.

Joseph Dispenza is a writer, spiritual counsellor and co-founder of LifePath Retreats in Mexico. Four decades ago he was a member of a religious order. After eight years he walked away, not only from the monastic life but also from the Catholic faith. He says that the beliefs that he had held since child-



Books

hood had become blocks to his spiritual growth.

He claims that leaving the confines of organised religion allowed him to create his own spiritual life, one that gives direction and meaning in all that he does and is.

It hasn't been an easy road for Dispenza. He admits to wandering in a spiritual no-man's-land without a road-map for many years.

Along the way he has used psychotropic substances, been treated for depression, worked with a shaman, recovered memories of a past life and has undertaken re-birthing.

He tells all this with a practised ease which is breath-taking.

More confronting is his calculated torpedo-ing of core Christian beliefs. Thomas Moore, who wrote the foreword, says he was a bit shocked at Dispenza's words against religion. I was too.

Nonetheless there are some things that resonate. Dispenza re-works and expands on the three monastic vows,



poverty, chastity and obedience. He re-names them detachment, innocence and responsibility to apply in contemporary culture.

On prayer he writes, "There is only one prayer: the prayer of thanksgiving". That's good too.

Dispenza sees himself as a guide to the Seeker searching for the Source outside organised religion.

He has opened himself to, embraced and integrated many experiences and teachings to fashion a satisfying belief system for himself. But has he really done it on his own?

Try our
Catholic Voice Classifieds -
 see Page 18

A Lenten look at living like Jesus

An ecumenical program of reflections based on the gospels is being offered once again this Lent.

"Daring to be Christian" is the theme for the series, which is in its eighth year.

Church leaders Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Bishop George Browning (Anglican), the Rev Norman Wakefield (Uniting) and the Rev Lyn Thow (Baptist) said Jesus often found himself in difficult circumstances, meeting incomprehension and active hostile opposition as he sought to bring the love of God into the hearts, kinds and lives of people.

"The call to live a Christian life, seeking to respond to God's calling, may well bring us into the same sorts of situations," they said.

"As you gather to read, reflect on and discuss this material, we pray that the word of God will speak to you, and that the Holy Spirit will strengthen you to live out your faith in these days, just as Jesus and his disciples lived out theirs."

The reflections begin with the second Sunday of Lent and are based on the gospels according to the Catholic lectionary for Year C.

"Daring to be Christian" costs \$6 a copy and is available through the Rheinberger Centre, behind St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla, telephone 6163 4306, the Catholic Bookshop Braddon, the CEO Bookshop Manuka, and the Woden Christian Bookshop.

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THIS MONTH'S MOVIES

Apocalypto: Definitely a Mel Gibson movie. MA15+.

Breaking and Entering: Watchable.

Pan's Labyrinth: A powerful drama.

The Fountain: Appealing to the mind rather than the heart.

Rocky Balboa: A surprising film. M.

Reviews by Fr Peter Malone MSC, who directs the film desk of SIGNIS: the World Association of Catholic Communicators, and is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

All reviews at www.catholicvoice.com.au

Films

Stellar Stallone

A surprising film. Rocky Balboa has made a better fist (and fists) of his life than his creator. Rocky is now grieving the death of Adrian (and Stallone has written quite tenderly of this marriage love and commitment).

He runs a successful restaurant, well patronised, where he recounts his tales of the ring to eager customers who also want a photo opportunity. He loves his son who feels that he has been overwhelmed by his father's reputation and lives in his shadow. Paulie is still his close friend.

In his late 50s, Rocky still has the urge to fight another day. TV pundits speculate how he would have fared had he fought a bout with the current world heavyweight champion - and they provide a computer game to illustrate this. A challenge for an exhibition fight is offered. It is a redemptive challenge for Rocky.

Is it wishful thinking? Is it his ego? Has he the physical stamina to endure? And so, with great feelings of nostalgia for the Rocky movie fans, the training (adapted to his age and condition) begin again.

After this, the training and bout are very much for boxing fans. Others will look at the punishing fight more as the will of a warrior striving for victory with his talent.

The screenplay, as with the other Rocky movies, is by Stallone himself. This is quite a literate screenplay considering that Rocky himself, unlike the real life Stallone, is rather inarticulate: "Yo, Paulie!" And it is not without some humour

Rocky Balboa
Starring Sylvester Stallone, Burt Young, Pedro Lovell and Geraldine Hughes. Directed by Sylvester Stallone. M.

and pleasant self-mockery. Needless to say, Stallone does justice to the performance.

Burt Young is back as an older and scruffier Paulie. Talia

Shire appears in photos and flashbacks to the earlier films as Adrian. The supporting characters this time are Robert Balboa - with some effective scenes between father and son, frankness in resentment and reconciliation. "Living in my shadow is not an excuse for blaming someone else for underachieving."

A local woman and her teenage son provide an outlet for Rocky's kindness and warmth and friendship in return.

There are some specific Christian references and images indicating Stallone's own spiritual journey.

Breaking and entering is a burglary theme but it can also be used as a metaphor for entering into relationships and breaking them.

At least, this seems to be a key to Anthony Minghella's latest film, a London drama set in the district around Kings Cross station, taking advantage of the building projects going on there in the middle of the decade, especially for the extensions for the Eurostar.

Jude Law and Martin Freeman are two architects who are capitalising on the situation and designing modern precincts for the area. A gang, refugees from the

Brutal, not appealing

With a name like Apocalypto and a director like Mel Gibson, this film could be about anything. As it is, it is an immersion of the audience in the last, dying days of the Mayan civilisation.

The film itself offers no background explanation as to the Mayans and their history. Obviously, much of the history is speculation, information coming from archaeology and conclusions drawn from what remains of a civilisation which, except for its buildings and ruins, is lost.

Gibson has decided to tell the story of a hero, a hero who is a victim, a hero who has to endure almost unendurable torture and suffering.

This means Apocalypto is definitely a Mel Gibson film in terms of subject and treatment and the visual, visceral presentation of pain. William Wallace and his execution, Jesus and his passion and death, were not exceptions to Gibson's concerns.

We can see now how Mel Gibson's sensibilities are strong, male, suffering-oriented, focused on heroic endurance with some kind of hope that the heritage is redemption and freedom.



Dalia Hernandez and Rudy Youngblood in a scene from Apocalypto. Picture: Andrew Cooper. © Icon Distribution, Inc.

Apocalypto.

Starring Dalia Hernandez, Mayra Serbulo and Gerardo Taracena. Directed by Mel Gibson. MA 15+. 137 mins.

The language of the film is Yucatec. Gibson's films contribute to a mainstream's acceptance of sub-titles.

The first part of Apocalypto shows the peaceful and happy hunting villagers.

It opens with a chase and a division of the meats - interrupted by an ominous appearance of some displaced tribes people. However, there is cama-

raderie, respect for elders, strong leadership and earthy jokes about sex and families.

Then comes the attack in all its brutality, massacre and the enslavement of the warriors, their trek through forest, river and cliffs to the centre of 'civilisation' with its temples, priests, sacrifices and atmosphere of superstition and appeasement of the Gods.

This is not a particularly appealing film. Rather, it is one that can be admired on a storytelling and technical bravura level - an example of cinematic ethnography.

Ambitious but watchable

Breaking and Entering.

Starring Jude Law, Juliette Binoche and Robin Wright. Directed by Anthony Minghella.

This is not too hard as the mother is played by Juliet Binoche (who won her Oscar for her performance in Minghella's The English Patient).

Law finds himself in emotional tangles, fidelity tangles, police investigation tangles and business tangles.

The film is ambitious in its scope, in its frequent use of more philosophical musings on the meaning of life, and in its starry cast.

Besides Law and Binoche, Robin Wright Penn plays the Swedish mother and Ray Winstone plays the local detective.

While the film is in no hurry, it is still watchable until the final confrontation between families, criminals, police and business partners in an effort to effect some kind of reconciliation and acceptance of responsibility.

What might have been simple to achieve in practice becomes a major melodramatic sequence with rather hard to believe manipulations of the truth for noble purposes and what, at least one hopes, is a happy ending.

Lives of remarkable young women

DVDs

Bernadette (120 mins, ages 10-adult)

This motion picture recounts the true story of St. Bernadette who, in 1858 saw a spring bubble up from a grotto and was blessed by a visit from Our Lady, who left the world a message of health for body and soul. The production was filmed on location in France.

Eileen (26 mins, ages 12-adult)

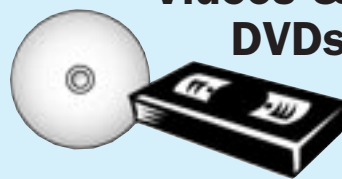
The life and accomplishments of Eileen O'Connor, founder of the Order of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor (Brown Nurses), is depicted in this Australian docu-drama. Eileen O'Connor was born in

Sydney in 1892. Despite physical disability, Eileen had a desire to work to help the sick and the poor. She inspired others to commit their lives to serving the sick-poor. Eileen O'Connor died at the age of 28 in 1921.

Stanley the Stinkbug Goes to Camp (Hermie & Friends - Max Lucado series, 60 mins, ages 4-8)

The garden's summer camp is on again, and stinkbug is going to camp for the first time. He is afraid of this environment, but his garden friends soon teach him that God created each of us for very special reasons and that, even though people are different, we need to be

Videos & DVDs



friendly to other people and show respect for differences.

Noah's Arc (50 mins, ages 12-adult)

This documentary looks at the life of Noah Snyder, following his journey from childhood on the outer banks of North Carolina to becoming a world-renowned professional surfer. The real story, however, involves the strength of Noah's character, and the

many lives that have been affected by it.

VHS VIDEOS

Introduction to the History of Christianity (6 videos, each with 2 x 20 min. episodes, ages 13-adult)

This series explores the history of the church from Jesus to the modern day, using expert commentary from church historians and historical artwork. Titles in the series are: The story begins: Jesus, Paul and the early church; Persecution and social acceptance; The age of Christendom: Crusades and reformation; The new world and revolution; Christianity challenged.

SOUND RECORDINGS
Shout Praises! Kids 3 (CD, ages 7-11)

A collection of upbeat contemporary songs suitable for worship.

The Catholic Education Office Resource Library has been relocated to the Rheinberger Centre in Weston Street, Yarralumla on the site of St. Peter Chanel's Church. Open weekdays 9am-5pm.

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Online catalogue is link on the CEO's website: <http://ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au/> and option: CG Online.



Back in town after 60 years

Fr Michael O'Brien, who endeared himself to the people of Boorowa and district more than 60 years ago in his first posting from Ireland, has returned for a celebration.

Fr O'Brien celebrated Mass in St Patrick's Church, and later 80 friends, some of whom were pupils at the town's schools 60 years ago, joined him in a celebratory lunch.

His appointment as an assistant priest in Boorowa was the beginning of his ministry in Australia. He was ordained in Ireland on 24 June, 1945 and came to Boorowa in April 1946 where he joined the then parish priest Fr Sheehan and Fr Coffey.

During four years in Boorowa, Fr O'Brien performed 100 baptisms, 17 marriages and 35 burials.

Five couples he married still live in the district: Ron and Kit Bryce (married 59 years); Tom and Ruth Glover (58 years); Harold and Lexie Woodbridge (57 years); Don and Dulcie Roberts (57 years); Jim and Thora Corcoran (55 years).

Besides visiting the parish schools of St Joseph's, Boorowa, and Sacred Heart, Murringo, Fr O'Brien used to visit many small country schools in



the area including Breakfast Creek, Fisher's Creek, Frogmore, Graham, Grassy Creek, Kangiara, Reid's Flat, Rugby, Rye Park and Tangmangaroo.

Fellow priests, including Fr Greg Beath (Boorowa), Fr Pat Corbett and Fr Don Kennedy (Galong), Fr Frank Keogh and Fr Pat Kenna (Harden), Fr Peter Murphy (Crookwell) and Fr Phil Harding (Temora) attended the celebration. Fr Murphy and Fr Harding were former altar boys for Fr O'Brien.

ABOVE: Fr Michael O'Brien (left) with current Boorowa parish priest Fr Greg Beath and parishioner Win Ryan. (Story, picture courtesy Boorowa News).

New married deacon from Canberra



A former Canberra man, Matt Ransom, was ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop James Foley in Cairns.

About 600 people packed St Monica's Cathedral as Mr Ransom became the first married deacon for the Cairns Diocese. He will continue to minister to St Mary's College community, where he has

been campus minister for the past six years. He is also co-ordinator of the Cairns World Youth Day Committee. Deacon Ransom has been married to Cathy for 15 years, and they have two children Ruth, 14, and Patrick, 13.

LEFT: Bishop Foley ordains Matt Ransom, assisted by Fr Neil Muir.

Latin Mass choir program

The February program for St Caecilia's Choir is: Friday, 2 February: Purification of the BVM. (Candlemas). Sung Mass 7pm. Sunday, 4 February, Anniversary of the Dedication of St Christopher's Cathedral: Propers for the Dedication of a Church, Ordinary: Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Motets; Locusts (Bruckner), Ave Verum (Mozart), Hymns: Processional: All People That On Earth Do Dwell, Recessional; Praise my Soul The King Of Heaven. Sunday, 11 February, Sexagesima Sunday, Ordinary: Missa Cum Jubilo (Chant Mass), O Bone Jesu (Comper) Hymns: Processional: Sing All Creation, Recessional: Praise The Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him. Sunday, 18 February, Quinquagesima Sunday, Ordinary: Missa Cum Jubilo (Chant Mass) Motet: Ave Verum (Wilton), Hymn: Processional: Sing All Creation, Recessional: Guard And Guide Me Great Redeemer. Wednesday, 21 February: Ash Wednesday: Sung Mass 7pm. Sunday, 25 February, 1st Sunday of Lent: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Mass 17 for Lent and Advent, (Chant Mass), Hymns Processional: Attende Domine, Recessional: Forty Days and Forty Nights.

25 years' service to clergy

Long serving Australian Catholic Bishops Conference staff member Elisabeth Cowie, of Canberra, has been recognised for her dedication to Australia's clergy. Ms Cowie received the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" papal medal at a dinner in Canberra.

It was awarded in recognition of outstanding contribution to the Catholic clergy of Australia over the past 25 years. Ms Cowie worked at the St Peter Centre from May 1981, the Ministry to Priests program from 1985, and the National Commission for Clergy Life and Ministry from 1993. Chairman of the Bishops Commission for Church Ministry Bishop Michael Malone said Ms Cowie had cared for the well-being of literally hundreds of priests, bishops and deacons.



Tom ordained for Jesuits

By Beth Doherty

Queanbeyan man Tom Renshaw was ordained late last year to the diaconate by Bishop Pat Power at Immaculate Conception Parish in Hawthorn, Victoria. His ordination is for the Australian Province of the Jesuits.

He thanked family and friends and his former parish priest Bishop Pat Power for the faith formation he received and the support for his decision to enter religious life. He also thanked brother Jesuits for how they had walked with him throughout his time in the order. He said the greatest gift his parents had ever given him was baptism into the Catholic Church.

After completing high school at St Ignatius College, Riverview, and studying law at the Australian National University, he worked in a prestigious law firm before entering the Jesuit novitiate in the late 1990s. Nicaraguan-born Sacha Bermudez-Goldman was ordained for the Australian province and In Young Cho for the Korean province in the same ceremony.

Tom Renshaw will be ordained to the priesthood in June by Bishop Power in Queanbeyan.



Tom Renshaw (middle) with Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ and In young Cho SJ.

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These days, coffins and caskets are made of either particle board (chipboard), timber (including pine, oak, cedar, and mahogany) or metal (these are imported from the US).

The lining is made from materials ranging from understated calico to hand ruched satin.

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How to get something for nothing

By Zilla Lyons, Regional Manager, Catholic Super-annuation and Retirement Fund

It is rare to get an incentive to boost your savings such as that offered by the Government via its super Co-contribution Scheme. For those of you not already taking advantage of this incentive, you could be missing out on up to \$1500 of tax-free super money given to you merely for investing in your own super account, for your own retirement.

There are no catches, but there are some conditions and these relate to your assessable income level and the amount that you personally contribute to super. The conditions are as follows.

- You must be eligible to contribute to super.

- You must be under the age of 71 at the end of the financial year.

Anyone under 65 is eligible to contribute to super, whether working or not. You can open a super account with a fund such as CSRF (which now has a public offer licence), by completing an application form and appending your contribution or rollover. If you are aged 65 to 70, to be eligible to make a super contribution you must be employed for at least 40 hours in a consecutive 30-day period of the financial year in which you make the contribution.

- You must be an employee.

Being an employee means that you do perform some work and are not self-employed or totally unemployed. To determine if you are classed as an employee, you should check whether your assessable income and reportable fringe benefits from your employer is more than 10% of your total assessable income plus reportable fringe benefits. If not, then you are classified by the ATO as substantially self-employed. From

1 July, 2007, the scheme will be widened to include eligibility for the self-employed and from that date, the lower threshold of \$28,000 will be indexed in line with the growth in average full-time earnings.

- Your contribution to super must be made on an after tax basis.

Salary sacrifice contributions do not qualify for the Government Co-contribution Scheme as they are pre-tax contributions, however, they do reduce your assessable income.

- Your assessable income and reportable fringe benefits must not total more than \$58,000 per annum to gain some benefit from the scheme.

- You must submit a tax return for the financial year of contribution.

- You must not be a temporary resident.

You do not need to take any other action to claim the Government co-contribution other than to submit your tax return and be a permanent Australian resident.

The Government matches the assessable income levels on your tax return with information reported by your super fund on contributions received. Depending on when you submit your tax return, the money will be added to your super fund account and the ATO will notify you in writing of the amount of the co-contribution.

The Government Co-contribution Scheme is a valuable incentive for people of all ages to save for their future. If you meet the conditions for the scheme and can save up to \$1000 over a financial year then don't stick it in the bank. The bank may give you \$50 in interest at most, but in super, with the Government partnering your savings, you can turn \$1000 into \$2500. You really do get something for nothing.

Eric Liddel, the Olympic gold medallist and runner whose story was told in the movie, *Chariots of Fire*, once made this comment: "When I run, I feel God's pleasure." That's good theology. We feel God's pleasure in us whenever we do something well.

If that's true, and it is, then we know something is good for us if God takes pleasure in us doing it. But how do we discern that?

Donald Cozzens, in a recent book, relates this to the question of loneliness and asks: Does God take pleasure in our loneliness just because loneliness invariably deepens us?

What kinds of loneliness are good for the heart and what kinds aren't? He cautions that we must discern this carefully. Not every kind of loneliness deepens us in the right way.

He's right. There are kinds of loneliness that beset us which are neither good for us nor pleasing to God.

Sometimes the restlessness and emptiness we feel are there because we are doing something wrong or because something is wrong in us. Selfishness, self-indulgence, infidelity, betrayal, sin, or sickness all can trigger a fierce loneliness, but this doesn't necessarily mean that we will benefit from the pain.

Sometimes, too, loneliness and restlessness are caused by something we are not doing, like entering enough into solitude and into our own silence.

In these cases, while the loneliness might still teach us something, God takes no pleasure in it. Rather the loneliness indicates that something is wrong.

However there are kinds of loneliness, whose sting is just as painful, that are signs of health, signs that we are doing something right, signs that we are we should be.

When we suffer these types of loneliness, we feel God's pleasure in us, not because we are suffering but because we are doing something right.

In what kinds of loneliness do we feel God's pleasure? The loneliness of Gethsemane, of having to sweat blood in order to be faithful, of self-sacrifice, lets us feel God's pleasure, as too does the loneliness that comes from entering healthily into our own solitude and silence.

These kinds of loneliness beset us not because we are doing something wrong or because there is something wrong in us. Rather, in these instances, we are lonely because we are doing something right and are being healthily sensitive and faithful.

Loneliness of this kind stretches the heart, makes us more empathic, shows us where the threads of compassion lie, and makes us deeper as persons by putting us in touch with the immensity of God, of others, of the world, and of our own souls. In this kind of loneliness we intuit the deeper meaning of things.

Indeed nothing is more beneficial to us in terms of coming to depth and maturity as is the right kind of loneliness. Our successes may bring pleasure and glory into our lives, but they rarely bring depth. Loneliness is what makes us deep. But it can make

Loneliness and God's pleasure

Ron Rolheiser

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



us deep too in the wrong way.

This is the algebra: Loneliness will make us deep, but it can make us deep, too, in anger and bitterness just as easily as in gratitude and compassion.

And God does not take pleasure in this. God takes pleasure only when our loneliness deepens us in the right way. And loneliness can deepen us in that way:

"Every tear brings the Messiah closer." "It is with much groaning of the flesh that the life of spirit is

brought forth." "The person who loses his or her life will find it." "Unless a grain of wheat falls in the ground and dies, it cannot bring forth new life."

Each of these axioms teaches us that there is certain kind of loneliness that is not only beneficial to us but is in fact the only route to depth, empathy, and selflessness. But, as we shall see, that

depends upon how we undergo that pain.

In the Gospels, we see an incident where two disciples, James and John, come to Jesus and ask him if they might have the seats of glory at his right hand and at his left hand.

Jesus asks them in return: "Can you drink of the cup (of suffering)?"

They answer, "Yes, we can." Jesus then tells them something to this effect: "Indeed, you will drink the cup of suffering - everyone will! But you might not get the glory! Suffering will make you deep, but it can just as easily make you deep in bitterness. You will only get the glory if you undergo your suffering in the right way!"

God takes pleasure in us when we do things right, when we exercise the talents He gave us and find satisfaction and fulfilment in that.

When we do well what God meant for us to do, we feel God's pleasure.

But God, like a good parent watching a child mature, also takes pleasure in us when loneliness and suffering open and stretch our hearts in ways that make us deeper, more compassionate, and less selfish.

'Our successes may bring pleasure and glory into our lives, but they rarely bring depth'



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Living with the net



Paul Jenkins

There's more to TV at a cost

Television is an industry that has taken advantage of the improvements in technology to provide viewers with a wider variety of programs to choose from each week.

It used to be a case that when you turned on the television there was nothing to watch. Now when you turn on the television, the problem is that there is too much to watch.

Many different television channels are available in Australia and around the world.

Free-to-air television channels such as SBS, the ABC and Channels Seven, Nine and Ten are available in Canberra and surrounding regions, and offer a wide variety of programs for all ages.

Pay television is available through Fox and Transact and can be accessed at a cost to the consumer. Pay TV enables the viewer to access a wider variety of sports, entertainment, finance and documentary channels, and hundreds of other interesting programs as well.

The technology to provide these television channels and programs has and will continue to improve. LCD and plasma television sets can now receive signals from cable and satellite sources so people can watch television programs from around the world.

The Catholic Church has taken advantage of this technology to produce EWTN Catholic Television. Eternal Word Television Network was founded by Mother Angelica, mother superior of the Poor Clare Order of Sisters.

"The spiritual heart of the EWTN mission is to bring the Eternal Word of Jesus Christ to all," it says.

EWTN was launched on 15 August, 1981. It has become the largest religious media network in the world, transmitting programming 24 hours a day to more than 122 million homes in 125 countries and 19 territories.

EWTN has a wide variety of religious television and radio shows for all ages. Some of the television programs available for children are: Adventures in Odyssey, Bible Treasure Chest, Image of God, Angel Force and Virtue Storybook.

● 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
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.hop.org.au/prayer.htm
A Quiet Place	aquietplace.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.au
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	www.camminoneocatecumenale.it/
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/
Silver Wattle House of Prayer	www.hop.org.au
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

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

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

Business Ethics Research Centre	www.berc.com.au
Calvary Hospital ACT	www.calvary-act.com.au
Catholic Music Network	www.catholicmusicnetwork.com
Central, Southern Tablelands Weather Weather	www.hop.org.au/weather.htm
Drought, floods and prayer	www.hop.org.au/drought.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.actrtl.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

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

Corpus Christi Parish, South Tuggeranong:	www.corpuschristi.cg.catholic.org.au
Holy Spirit, Gungahlin	www.holyspiritgungahlin.catholicau.com
Mary Queen of Apostles Goulburn	http://goulburnparish.catholicau.com
Mary Help of Christians, South Woden	http://mhoc.cathparish.com.au
St Anthony's, Wanniasa	www.users.bigpond.com/stanthonys.wanniasa/
St Christopher's Cathedral	www.stchristophersact.catholicau.com
St John the Apostle, Kippax	www.stjohnkipfax.org.au
St John Vianney's, Waramanga	www.stjv-waramanga.catholicau.com
St Jude's, Holder	www.stjude-holder.catholicau.com
St Mary's, Young	www.stmarysy.cg.catholic.org.au
St Matthew's, Page	www.stmatthewspage.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

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
Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart	www.olshaustralia.org
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
Pallottines	www.pallottine.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, 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

H2O News
www.h2onews.tv/

According to reports, this Vatican-approved TV news service will provide trials of its programs this month. Although not formally associated with Zenit, H2O is headed by Zenit's founder and is modelled on the Rome-based agency's editorial format. Its preview website says it was created by a group of journalists in response to the need identified by the Pontifical Council for Social Communications of an authentic source of information for 2000 Catholic television channels around the world. *(Courtesy Church Resources)*

More to TV at a cost

● From Previous Page.

For younger adults the following programs are available: Life on the Rock, New Testament Studies, Backstage and Knights of St Michael.

For general viewers of all ages, these are some of the programs that are available: Lives of the Saints, Mother Angelica Classics, Seven Sacraments, Book Reviews, Mass Twice Daily, Daily Rosary, Spirituality and Church History.

Mother Angelica, who suffered a stroke about four years ago is still an active participant on EWTN, praying the Rosary everyday together with her nuns in their chapel.

A full program schedule is available for download from www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule_index.asp. EWTN provides programs in English and Spanish to its viewers and listeners.

EWTN also has a webpage www.ewtn.com/ for people interested in accessing more information about this service. It can be viewed in English, Spanish and German. The front page of the EWTN website has a picture of a statue of Mary holding baby Jesus in her arms.

At the top of the page is a menu bar that contains the following topics: Faith, Television, Radio, News, Libraries, Multimedia, Religious Catalogue, Pilgrimages and General Information. An example of the content in one of the links is the multimedia link that permits you to access live video and radio directly from EWTN.

This also gives you the opportunity to view some of the content from EWTN to help you decide whether to subscribe to the Catholic Television Network.

If you are interested in finding out more information about or subscribing to EWTN in Australia, contact Mrs E. Sculli, telephone 1300 663 502, e-mail esculli@bigpond.net.au

Classifieds

For Sale - Coastal

BROULEE

\$280,000. Two-bedroom townhouse situated in a quiet street in Broulee, within easy walking distance to beach and shops. Lock up single garage and enclosed courtyard. It is a great investment opportunity. Telephone 6281 2349 (ah) 0413 624 847 (bh).

For Sale- Canberra



HARCOURT HILL, ACT

Tri-level home. Fully established, one year old, 5 bedrooms, triple garage. Short walk to golf, tennis and country club. Class and size everywhere. POA. Finance available (conditions). Owner Kevin, telephone 0414 445 164 or 6286 4454 anytime.

To Let - Coastal

BROULEE - Holiday home. Excellent location near beach and shops - well appointed, sleeps 8. Available year round for that winter getaway or summer vacation - weekends too. Telephone Tony 0419 257 881.

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 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, games room, sleeps 8-10, close to shop, beach and boat ramp, VCR, DVD, m'wave, d'washer, BBQ, great for 2 families. Book with owner and save. Telephone 6231 2026.

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.

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To Let - Coastal

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 - Sydney

STORMANSTON HOUSE - 27 McLaren Street, North Sydney. Restful and secure accommodation operated by the Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney. Situated in the heart of North Sydney and a short distance to the City. Rooms available with ensuite facility. Continental breakfast, tea/ coffee making facilities and television. Separate lounge/ dining room, kitchen and laundry. Private off-street parking. Telephone 0418 650 661, e-mail lnsstorm@tpg.com.au

To Let - Queensland

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 - Natalie Parkin, telephone 07 5474 4447.

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

GARAGE roller door \$185 (matching pair \$350). Toilet pan and cistern \$60. Internal doors, wardrobe doors, laundry door frame/ half window. Bargain prices. Free fill - broken bricks/ tiles etc. Telephone John 6286 4454 anytime.

KENWOOD Chef food mixer \$100. Will buy faulty Kenwoods, bowls etc. Sales, repairs and parts for TV, microwave, electrical appliances - low prices with warranty. trade-in or free removal. Telephone John 6286 4454 anytime.

Tuition

MUSIC Tuition: violin, piano and guitar lessons for beginners. Small group, or private lessons. Adults welcome. Telephone Pauline Griffiths 6251 9227. Studio located in Cook. www.pgmusic-tuition.com.au

PRE-SCHOOL Music Classes: from aged two upwards. Kodaly method. Beginner Recorder classes from aged four upwards. Telephone Pauline Griffiths 6251 9227. Studio located in Cook. www.pgmusic-tuition.com.au

PRIVATE School tuition. Professional home tuition by qualified teacher. Primary School Tuition - All Subjects. High School Tuition - English. Exam preparation. Homework Assistance. All Canberra suburbs. Katie, telephone 0401 924 204.

Prayer

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruit of the vine, splendorous of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me 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 succour me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me here you are my mother. 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). E B.

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

CATHOLIC ADULT FAITH FORMATION - Program begins February, 2007, applications or expressions of interest by 15 December. Inquiries: Margaret Ryan, Centre for Faith and Ministry, telephone 6201 9802, e-mail adult.ed@cg.catholic.org.au

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish, Goulburn, each Wednesday, 7.30pm- 9pm. Inquiries: Telephone 4821 4754 after 5pm.. St Anthony's Parish, Wanniasassa, each Monday, 7.30pm-9pm 23 April to 4 June. Inquiries: Parish office, telephone 6231 7310, e-mail sta.wanniasassa@cg.catholic.org.au, website www.users.bigpond.com/stanthony.wanniasassa

COURAGE CANBERRA - Group for those experiencing same-sex attraction and desiring to live sacramental life of the Church. Meeting 7 and 21 February. Confidentiality assured. Inquiries: Telephone 6254 2408, e-mail couragecanberra@hotmail.com

CURSILLO - Ultreyas: Southside Corpus Christi Parish Centre, 167 Bugden Avenue, Gowrie, 8pm, Tuesday, 27 February. Northside Marian Hall, St Matthew's Church, 12 Chewings Street, Page, 8pm, Thursday, 22 February.

DAY OF PRAYER AND FORMATION - Josephite Associates of ACT/NSW. Led by Sr Bridie O'Connell, RSJ, subject Hoping for Heaven. St Joseph's parish, O'Connor, 10am-3.30pm, Saturday, 3 March. Cost \$15 each, including lunch and morning, afternoon tea. All welcome. Inquiries: Maureen Carey, telephone 6254 1645, Lois Billings 6281 0154, Sr Helen Saunders, RSJ 8741 2334.

GOOD SAMARITAN SISTERS 150TH ANNIVERSARY - Thanksgiving Mass, 2pm, Sunday, 18 March, St Christopher's Cathedral, followed by afternoon tea at St Clare's College, Griffith. Ex-students and their families, colleagues and parishioners welcome.

KAIROF FUND-RAISER- "Set My People Free" jazz, country and gospel concert for Kairos Prison Ministry, 7pm, Friday, 23 February, Belconnen Baptist Church.. Acts Carter & Carter, Matt Baker, Katie de Veau, Matt Lucas and more. Tickets \$25 adults, \$22 groups of 10 or more, \$16 for under 16s, available from Koorong and the church.

LIGHT TO THE NATIONS - Youth Easter pilgrimage to Redemptorist Monastery, Galong, Thursday, 5 April to Sunday, 8 April. Inquiries: Daniel Foster, telephone 6297 7922; 0402 033 074; info@ltn.org.au or rego@ltn.org.au website www.ltn.org.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Weekend getaway for married couples, 30 March - 1 April, Merroo Christian Centre, Kurrajong. Bookings: Telephone 9345 5402; information www.wmme.org.au

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

NEW BEGINNING - Two weekends 9-11 March, 10-12 August 2007. The Beginning Experience is a weekend program for those who have experienced loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce. Aim is to help participants deal with grief, then work towards a new beginning. Inquiries: Kath, telephone 6292 6195 or message on 0419 210 543, e-mail be_canberra@yahoo.com.au

PRAYER IN THE CRYPT - Lectio Divina, a contemplative praying of Scriptures, 2.30pm-3.30pm each Thursday, in crypt of St Christopher's Cathedral. Inquiries: Parish Office, telephone 6295 9555 or e-mail stchris@velocitynet.com.au

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

RAPHAELS - Singles social group for Catholics and Christian-minded people, aged 24-40. Meet people for social activities, including dinner, movie, social sport, coffee and Mass every two months. Inquiries: Telephone 0401 918 717, www.catholicssocialgroup.com, e-mail raphsgroup@yahoo.com.au

RCIA WORKSHOP - Lent and Mystagogy, 7.30pm, 28 February, Rheinberger Centre, Weston Street, Yarralumla. Inquiries: Margaret Ryan, telephone 6163 4302, e-mail margaret.ryan@cg.catholic.org.au

ST PATRICK'S DAY SERVICE - Annual ecumenical service, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton, 12.30pm-1.30pm, Friday 16 March. Organised by the centre and the Friends of Ireland Society. Includes Irish music and song and a liturgy in Irish and English. Refreshments. Inquiries: Angela Devlin, telephone 6231 9104.

ST VALENTINE'S EVE - Celebration for married and engaged couples, St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah, 6.30pm, Tuesday, 13 February. Mass followed by supper. Bring plate of cold finger food to share. Drinks provided. All welcome. Inquiries: Tracey, telephone 6231 9219, Trish 6231 8468.

● Written entries are invited for the March issue to:

Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

by Thursday, 15 February. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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Lifetime of service to people, clergy

Olive Maree Mulholland (Hunt) OAM
22 July 1919 - 26 November 2006

The death in Canberra late last year of Olive Mulholland marked the passing of one of the most significant figures in the history of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Remembering that the Archdiocese came into being only in 1948 (previously it had been the Diocese of Goulburn), Olive began work in its service in 1950. At that time the Chancery was located in the presbytery behind Sts Peter and Paul's Cathedral in Goulburn.

Archbishop Terence McGuire was the first Archbishop and Mgr Edward Favier was the Vicar-General and "general factotum" in the Chancery. It was not long before Olive, who was a native of Goulburn, became an integral part of the life of the Chancery and of the Archdiocese.

When the second Archbishop, Eris O'Brien, moved to Canberra in 1960, Olive was "part of the furniture". She played a key part with Mgr Favier, Fr George Weissel and Fr Eddie Bourke in establishing the Chancery in the Archbishop's House.

Olive laboured skillfully on a manual typewriter and produced diocesan circulars on a gestetner machine. She kept a watchful eye on the account books, but, most of all, acted as a very important and trusted person especially in relation to the priests of the Archdiocese. They recognized her great integrity and saw her love for the Church and the Archdiocese.

She was privy to many secrets but all knew she always held them in the strictest confidence. The clergy were always treated with hospitality, but Olive made it clear that there was work to be done and she certainly never took undue time in entertaining visitors to the Chancery.

These were the days following Vatican II (1962-1965) and there were monumental changes taking place. Olive was secure in her own faith and open to the adjustments which were needed in those times. Often she provided a shoulder to cry on for some who found the challenges too much to handle.

Every Archbishop has his own particular style and personality, so when Thomas Cahill succeeded Eris O'Brien in 1967, Olive worked for a man who had definite ideas and was probably more hands-on than his predecessor in running the office.

Olive played an invaluable role in providing continuity and a great store of knowledge of the Archdiocese and the people and offices associated with it. A few months later, Archbishop Cahill chose another Goulburn person, Fr Ron Flack, as his secretary. He and Olive were a powerful combination

bringing their experience, wisdom, good humour and executive skills to bear.

Fr Pat Power, fresh from three years study in Rome, succeeded Fr Ron Flack in mid-1975. He greatly benefited from the gentle guidance provided by Olive. With the death of Archbishop Cahill in 1978, the leadership of the Archdiocese passed temporarily to Bishop Morgan who relied on Mrs Mulholland for background and advice.

Edward Bede Clancy, the fourth and last Archbishop Olive was to serve, came to Canberra at the beginning of 1979. Olive did three more years before deciding that full-



Olive Mulholland (right) and sister Betty McAlister.

time work was getting beyond her. She officially retired in February 1982 and was given the Papal award Benemerenti (well-done) in April 1982.

Olive had a life outside her career, raising three young children in Goulburn and being part of the life of the community in Canberra. She and good friend, Iris Sloane, set up a women's conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Dickson in 1961 with Olive maintaining her membership until failing health in 2003 forced her to give it up.

She was also a member of the Catholic Women's League for a time and active in other community work. She was awarded an Order of Australia medal in 1999 for her work for the Church, the St Vincent de Paul Society and the community.

Her home was always "open house" where visitors experienced her unconditional love. Eventually, she had to give up her trusty Volkswagen and independent living and spent her last days in Ginninderra Gardens in Page. Olive's sister, Betty McAlister, who had worked for many years at Sts Peter and Paul's parish in Goulburn died on 16 November after a long illness.

Despite her own frail health, Olive insisted on attending Betty's funeral Mass at Goulburn on 24 November. In typical fashion, Olive showed her loyalty and love right until the end. She died suddenly, but not alone, two days later.

Olive Mulholland is survived by her daughters, Terri (Wilson) and Robyn (Ryan) and son Peter and their families. Her funeral Mass was celebrated in her old parish church, St Brigid's, Dickson, by Fr Joe Staunton and concelebrated by Fathers Ron Flack, Paul Rheinberger, Geoff Lloyd and Kevin Brannelly. - **Bishop Pat Power.**

Conscientious priest ever the soldier



Fr Paul Francis Stack
4 January 1924 -
13 December 2006

Paul Stack, the elder son of Francis and Edna Stack, was born at Portland NSW and undertook his secondary education at St Patrick's College, Goulburn.

His contemporaries from those days speak of him reveling in the boarding school environment and excelling on the rugby field and at athletics.

He did not enter the seminary immediately on leaving school but worked in dentistry and pursued his rugby talents with the Northern Suburbs club in Sydney. It is said that rugby league great, and later, broadcaster, Frank Hyde tried to poach the young Paul Stack for his old club, North Sydney, but Paul retained his "lilywhite" status in rugby union.

When he entered the seminary at St Columba's College, Springwood, he was thrown in with students seven or eight years his junior. Two of them, Kevin Flynn and Adrian Cork, were ordained in 1955, the same year as Paul Stack.

Another seminary contemporary was Patrick Dougherty, later to become Auxiliary Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn, and since 1983, Bishop of Bathurst.

The newly ordained Fr Stack served from 1955 to 1962 as assistant priest in Bombala, Cooma and Braddon.

In many ways these were his golden years in the Archdiocese, especially in Braddon where he served with Mgr Favier, Fr Frank Prendergast and Fr Terry Pigram. Parishioners from those years still speak of him with much affection.

From February 1962 to February 1971, he served with distinction as a chaplain in the Australian Army.

Fr Paul Bateman points out that although many chaplains gained their captain's rank by virtue of ordination, Fr Stack happily undertook full military training. This was to equip him well for service which extended to Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam. He lived to tell the story of falling out a helicopter on one occasion.

His return to the Archdiocese saw him experience some of the difficulties occasionally faced by priests after a period in the foreign missions.

In his time in the army Vatican II had taken place, and after its conclusion in 1965 priests had the aid of in-service training and the opportunity to adjust gradually to the challenges coming not only from the Council but from more liberal attitudes in society.

Without such help and breathing space, Paul Stack found this new climate difficult, to say the least.

In many ways Fr Stack remained the soldier, the military man even after his discharge from the Army. He was always 100 per cent conscientious in his duties, but found it hard to let people get close to him.

He was appointed parish priest of Barellan in 1971, Bega in 1974 and in 1977 he became the first Canberra and Goulburn priest to be parish priest of Batemans Bay after that parish returned from Wollongong Diocese.

From 1983 to 1989, he joined his friend, Fr Jim McNeill, a former Army chaplain, working on the Matrimonial Tribunal in New Zealand.

On his return to the Archdiocese, he was appointed parish priest of Bombala until his retirement with ill health in 1992.

In many ways, his retirement to Boorowa and being relieved of the responsibility of office meant a happy and productive ministry.

The small community of Frogmore welcomed his ministry which also extended to Boorowa itself and elsewhere when needed.

It was during this period that he became actively involved in the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund for the Archdiocese, serving a term as its chairman.

A further deterioration in his health led him to his final home in Young. During all those times of ill-health he was brave and even stoic in his acceptance of his crosses.

In 2005, he celebrated his golden jubilee of ordination, but in typical fashion he insisted that it be a very low-key celebration with only his immediate family present.

He never lost sight of his priestly identity and the words of his patron saint used at his funeral Mass summed up the last period of his life: "I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith." His death at his home on 13 December was sudden if not unexpected.

Archbishop Coleridge was principal celebrant at his Requiem Mass at St Mary's Church, Young, on 21 December.

Bishop Power preached the homily and the Mass was concelebrated by Archbishop Francis Carroll, Bishop Dougherty and 30 of Fr Stack's brother priests. Rev Joseph Blackwell was deacon of the Mass.

Fr Stack is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Ian and Margaret Stack, and their children, Michael, Christina, Megan and Gregory.

- **Bishop Pat Power.**

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PROPERTIES

MOVING AHEAD WITH YOU



Elderly are 'just as precious to Jesus'

Aged care accommodation in Canberra received a boost with the official opening of the \$20 million Southern Cross Village at Garran, and more beds are on the way.

Development approval was received late last year by Southern Cross Care (NSW and ACT) to build another 40 supported living apartments on the old Ozanam site at Campbell, with work likely to start mid-year.

Residents from Ozanam transferred to the large Garran complex when it was opened.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge performed the official opening and blessing, supported by North Woden parish priest Fr Tony Frey, the Rev Rex Hunt, of the Uniting Church, and Fr Tony Parkinson, of the Anglican Church.

Southern Cross Village provides 70 supported living apartments - large bed-sitters with a kitchenette, en-suite and patio - 14 new two and three-bedroom villas and 20 existing villas.

Completion of the village

realised the dream of the original Southern Cross Homes ACT board of management which for decades provided accommodation in 44 units across Canberra.

The then board transferred its work to Southern Cross (NSW) in 2003.

In opening the village, Archbishop Coleridge said everyone opened a new facility but not everyone blessed it. Christians perform a blessing because "we say this ground is in fact holy ground, like the ground Moses trod on his way to the burning bush".

Archbishop Coleridge said Christ was "young, old and in between. Christ makes his home here, not just you".

He said the elderly were no less precious and important to Jesus than anyone else in the community.

The period following full-time work, when people became senior citizens, was a gift that "we should gratefully accept from God. Older people can share with us the riches

of their experience and of their goodness."

Southern Cross Village is one of 34 facilities Southern Cross Care operates across NSW and the ACT.

TOP: Archbishop Mark Coleridge unveils a plaque to mark the opening, flanked by Southern Cross Care chief executive officer Mr John Ireland, the Rev Rex Hunt, Southern Cross Care (NSW and ACT) chairman Mr Michael Thom, Fr Tony Parkinson, management committee chairman Mr John Pola and Fr Tony Frey. TOP RIGHT: Archbishop Coleridge greets a resident in the village with manager Mrs Narelle Holt.

ABOVE RIGHT: Resident Mr Frank Smith welcomes people to the opening. RIGHT: A view of the complex in Garran.



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