

Schools break Amnesty links



8 months to go

Worldwide human rights organisation Amnesty International has lost the support of most Catholic schools in the Archdiocese.

This follows Amnesty's decision to change its former neutral stance on abortion at an annual council meeting in August this year, approving abortion in cases of rape, incest or violence and where pregnancy jeopardises a mother's life or health.

President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Archbishop Philip Wilson, of Adelaide, said despite a long history of Catholic support for Amnesty, the bishops now urged Catholics to seek other avenues to defend human rights.

"This has been a great sadness for the many Catholic people, including hundreds of school students, who have been members of Amnesty International," he said.

Archdiocesan Catholic Education Office director Mrs Moira Najdecki has advised students in the Archdiocese who are interested in human rights to seek new groups to support. "The relevant principals have discussed the conflict in beliefs and values with their students and have decided that while social justice action groups will remain in the schools the groups will no longer support Amnesty International," she said.

Acting principal of St Clare's College in Griffith, Ms Sandra Darley, said although the school had had little involvement with the organisation, Amnesty would in future receive no support.

Principal of St Francis Xavier College, Florey, Mr Angus Tulley said the school had put Amnesty activities on hold and was seeking further clarification. "The group of students involved believe deeply in human rights issues and we are trying to discern a way forward," he said. "But obviously we don't support abortion."

Principal of St Thomas Aquinas Primary, Charnwood, Mr John Bourke said due to Amnesty's shift from a neutral stance on abortion, his school would not be involved with

the organisation.

Principal of St Anne's School, Temora, Mr Dennis Sleigh said although he regretted severing ties with Amnesty, he saw no option. "Social justice is not just about working for the release of political prisoners or about trying to effect regime change in totalitarian nations. It is above all about respecting the value of human life," he said.

"The letters we write, the candles we burn - at least metaphorically- and the prayers we say for political prisoners are all predicated on that fundamental creed: we believe in the dignity of human life."

The Archdiocese's congregational schools have also been facing up to the issue.

A spokesperson for St Edmund's College said the school would follow any requests from Archbishop Mark Coleridge and meanwhile would "continue to promote the Catholic teachings of the Church".

Marist headmaster Mr Richard Sidorko said student members of the college's Amnesty group were reassessing what would happen. "Amnesty has really compromised itself with its recent stance on abortion," he said. "It is in conflict with its founder's beliefs and it is also in direct conflict with what the Church teaches. However, the general essence of Amnesty is still good.

"Marist cannot support Amnesty in full, but we will continue to support those aspects of Amnesty that are not in direct conflict with the teachings of the Church."

Students at Daramalan College have had little involvement with Amnesty, although principal Mr David Garratt said his staff often supported the organisation.

"Our school does not support abortion, but I am happy for information on other matters within Amnesty to still be made available to the staff," he said. "Amnesty is still doing great work around the world."

Executive deputy secretary general of Amnesty International Ms Kate Gilmore said it was not promoting abortion as a universal right.



Try to walk in the shoes of the poor... that's the advice more than 900 students and teachers were given at this year's Archdiocesan Children's Mission Mass.

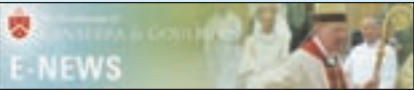
World Youth Day coordinator Mr Nathan Kensey told students to start small. "Ask yourselves, do you really need that new x-box game or that piece of cake at lunchtime," he said. Speaking of when he worked at a university run by the Brigidine Sisters in Bolivia, Mr Kensey said he swapped his comfortable shoes for the sandals made out of old car tyres the locals wore. "Unless I really understood what their lives were like, I could never help them. If you take time to meet those who are less well off than yourselves, you will meet Jesus," he said. "And you will never ever be disappointed."

Walk 'in shoes of the poor'

The theme of the annual Mission Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in St Christopher's Cathedral, was "Youth in Mission: Care for Creation, Care for Neighbour".

ABOVE: Performing during the gospel procession are Heather Milligan and Rachel Hourigan from Holy Spirit Primary, Nicholls, and Jessica Golding from Good Shepherd Primary, Amaroo.





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inside



Marist family's new member
PAGE 6



Keeping up with Jones'
PAGE 9

quick guide

- Archbishop's letter P 4
- Mates helping mates P 5
- Bishop takes leave P 6
- Man of great faith P 8
- Young Voices P 15
- School news P 16
- Voice Classifieds P 22

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From near and far

pregnant women who are without appropriate accommodation and support. The dream of Eddies' hospitality teacher Dean Parkes, the annual fund-raising dinner has helped a hospitality school in Vietnam, the Brain Injury Foundation and Home in Queanbeyan since 2004.



ABOVE: SFX College students (from left): Kayla Gasperski, Rachel Wilke, Alicia Robertson and Shannon Thompson.

NO-ONE'S REMOTELY BETTER: Year eight student Kaleb Baldwin is not old enough to have a driver's license, but that has not stopped him from racing fast cars at a state level. This year for the second year in a row, the St Francis Xavier College student was declared the ACT junior champion of remote control car racing.

"I guess what attracts me is the speed," he said "I like the speed." Kaleb races a 540 touring car and the championships take place in Canberra, although if he moves up a level next year he will have to start travelling to competitions. Fortunately Kaleb's father Mr Doc Baldwin shares his son's interest in remote control cars and they both took up

racing at the same time. "Well, I win sometimes," Mr Baldwin said.

They are able to practice against each another and also attend meetings at the ACT Model Car Racing Club.

HALF A CENTURY: Students who attended St Anne's Primary in North Albury since the 1950s are invited to attend the school's 50th anniversary celebrations. St Anne's will celebrate the anniversary from 7 March to 9 March next year and would like to see as many ex-students and staff members as possible. Anyone interested should e-mail names, current addresses and the year of graduation to info@sana.wagga.catholic.edu.au or telephone 6025 1281

TOP DUCK: A St Edmunds College cooking duo has taken out the International Culinary Federation Championship in Taiwan, beating the home team by one point. Hospitality students Ryan Spiteri from year 11 and Anthony Magro from year 12 competed against 10 other teams at the Taipei Kai-Ping Culinary School in Taiwan, preparing four main courses in an hour. The winning dish was an assiette of duck. Opposing teams came from Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, New Caledonia, New Zealand and the Gold Coast.



TALENTED CREW: The St Bernard's Primary School community at Batemans Bay enjoyed the skills of staff and students in the school production "By The Sea". Three teachers were involved in writing scripts, one for infants children and another for primary children. The infants production was based around the theme of conflict resolution and reconciliation. It was based in the octopus' garden. Puffer Daddy came to reeducate Ink Floyd about being friendly to the other ocean creatures. The production featured an art work of principal Mr David Casey with an octopus drawn by talented parish priest Fr Tom Thornton. The primary production was about children who travelled around the local beaches, and had an environmental and beach safety theme.



ABOVE: Some of the young actors (from left) back: Sophia Castrisios, Paige Sparks, Jennifer McGrath. Front: Tahnea Lacey-Clarke, Kayla Wowk, Meg McCallum.

DOLLARS DISHED UP: More than \$20,000 was raised for Karinya House when 75 students and their supervising teachers from St Edmund's, Marist, Merici, Daramalan, St Francis Xavier and MacKillop colleges hosted a dinner for 300 guests. Karinya House provides practical support to



GETTING WITH THE POWER: Robin Bartrum gets Canberra author Fr John Ryan to sign a copy of his latest book "A Spirituality of Relationships. The Power of Both/And" at its launch at a dinner at Ainslie Village. Executive director of the Australia Institute Dr Clive Hamilton launched the book. The dinner was also a fund-raiser for Home in Queanbeyan.

GET REAL: Women's Forum Australia will stage a "Get Real Forum", which will critically examine issues around body image, objectification of women and the sexualisation of girls, at the National Museum in Canberra at 7.30pm on Saturday November 17. The event will feature the launch of WFA's new magazine-style publication: "Faking It: The Image of Young Women in Young Women's Magazines". Ticket sales: Telephone 0448 597 114, womensforumaustralia.org

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Schools funded for chaplains

Thirteen colleges and schools in the Archdiocese are taking advantage of government funding for chaplains.

Grants from the National School Chaplaincy Program have been allocated to:

Daramalan College, St Francis Xavier College, Florey, Good Shepherd Primary School, Amaroo, Holy Family Parish Primary School, Gowrie, Holy Spirit Primary School, Nicholls, St Bede's Primary School, Red Hill, St Clare of Assisi Primary School, Conder, St Francis of Assisi Primary School, Calwell, St John the Apostle Primary School, Florey, St Thomas Aquinas Primary School, Charnwood, St Thomas More's Primary School, Campbell, St Patrick's School, Cooma, Trinity Catholic Primary School, Murrumburrah.

Much-loved Marist dies

Marist College in Canberra has lost one of its best-known brothers and former headmaster Br Mark May. Br Mark, who was described by current headmaster Mr Richard Sidorko as an exceptional man who had a significant impact on the college, was the second headmaster from 1970 to 1973. He died late last month. A large number of college students, staff and families packed St Christopher's Cathedral for the funeral Mass at which Archbishop Mark Coleridge was principal celebrant. Mark House at the college was established in 1986 and named in his honour.

Summit seeks the pulse of our youth

This month's archdiocesan youth summit is the first major response to an independent youth ministry review conducted this year.

The summit, which will be held on Friday, 16 November, and Saturday, 17 November, will be the first of what may become an annual event. Entitled "The Pulse" the youth summit will initiate the ongoing theme for the archdiocesan youth sector for the next 12 months: "Seeking the heart of Jesus".

"We are the body of Christ and the pulse of this Archdiocese is driven by the heart of Christ himself," Archbishop Mark Coleridge said. "So as 2007 comes to a close, I invite you to come together with me to seek the heart of Jesus as we move into the future."

Marist College will be the venue for the weekend's events, which will kick off with a barbeque and concert at 6pm on Friday. The concert will feature local band Mass Revival opening for Australia's leading Catholic rock group emmanuelworship.

Archbishop Coleridge and Brisbane youth ministry expert Mr Shayne Bennett will give presentations from 9:30am on Saturday. Participants will also split up into smaller groups to examine the themes of listen, learn and lead.

Director of the Archdiocese's Pastoral Support Services agency Mr Shawn van der Linden said ultimately the youth summit was focused on the future of the Archdiocese. "The Archbishop will be making a significant archdiocesan pastoral announcement," he said.

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

Pilgrims come to 'piece of Ireland'

When a group of Irish pilgrims are billeted in Boorowa for World Youth Day next year, they should feel right at home.

Fr Paul Dempsey is bringing about 150 young people from the Archdiocese of Kildare and Leighlin to stay in the town of Boorowa for the Days in the Diocese, before WYD.

As the archdiocesan youth ministry director, Fr Dempsey was in Australia for a week last month to organise the WYD itinerary for the Irish pilgrims. "I didn't realise there were so many Irish connections in Boorowa until I walked into the church," he said. "St Brigid comes from Kildare and she is in one of the stained glass windows."

Fr Dempsey said he was looking forward to his return in nine months to the "little piece of Ireland in the Australian bush. "I'm looking forward to meeting the community there and making connections with the parish and building relationships. The Parish Priest Fr Greg Beath is a lovely man full of life."

Kildare's pilgrims are also anticipating what will be for most their first visit to Australia. "There's a great excitement among them. There seems to be a similarity between the Irish and the Australians - there's a rapport between the cultures.

"There'll be a bit of fun and a bit of faith - I look forward to that. WYD is about so many things. Yes the Pope is coming and that is important, but it's not just about that, it's about the people you meet and the journey you make together."



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CATHOLIC VOICE November 2007 - 3

Let's open our ears to the silence

The term "new evangelisation" has become familiar - too familiar perhaps. At times it seems like some kind of mantra - say it often enough and, hey presto, it will happen magically. But there's nothing magical about the new evangelisation - at least not in that sense. It won't happen unless a number of other things are in place. So let me put before you a few interconnected claims:

- a new evangelisation presumes a new depth of prayer
- a new depth of prayer presumes a new kind of listening
- a new kind of listening presumes a new culture of silence

It's the last of these on which I want to focus here. We inhabit a very noisy culture; we are bombarded with endless din and burble. And the noise is not just external. There's also a noise of the heart, an inner noise that can be harder to quieten than any external noise. But unless we can cultivate a silence that is both inner and outer, it will be difficult for us to listen to Christ in a way that will make for a new contemplation and a new mission.

At the heart of things, the liturgy has become very gabby, and we may need to explore ways of building more silence into our worship. In fact, there are seven silences built into the Mass:

- 1) after the Greeting and before the Act of Penitence (when we recognise ourselves as sinners before the merciful Lord); 2) after "Let us pray" and before the Opening Prayer (when we pray in our hearts before our prayers are gathered into one voice by the priest); 3) after the First Reading and before the Psalm (when we allow God's word to echo in our hearts); 4) after the Second Reading and before the Alleluia (ditto); 5) after the Homily and before the Creed (ditto); 6) after the intention is stated in the General Intercessions and before "Lord, hear us" (when we make our prayers as a priestly people who have the duty to intercede); 7) after Communion (when we welcome the Eucharistic Lord).

These silences are often skipped over or are so brief as to be useless; they can also be dissipated by noise. One thing that might help is that we make these deep silences in which people are able to pray. The music in the liturgy can also nourish silence, though at times it too can be just more noise that makes deep silence difficult and prayer all but impossible.

There was a time when Catholic churches, with

their strong sense of the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, were places of prayer where the norm was silence. The whole church was an oratory.

For various reasons, this has changed in more recent times, as people feel free to talk aloud in church as they would in any other gathering place. The sense of being in a sacred place is not what it was, though it's true that some of our churches are hardly spaces which induce silence or generate a spontaneous sense of the sacred.

So I wonder if we don't have to think of new ways to make our churches places where, as a rule, silence prevails for the sake of prayer. This happens in some churches, so it can be done.

In such a noisy world, I wonder too whether our schools shouldn't be places where the art of silence is better taught and learnt.

Certainly our schools, like our parishes, need to be schools of prayer, and they can only be that if they nurture a culture of silence. In that sense, they need to be more counter-cultural. Would it be possible to build into the rhythm of the school day brief times and silence, teaching the students to be comfortable in silence in a culture which leaves a lot of people, especially perhaps the young, very uncomfortable with silence?

Many people find silence unbearable: they need noise, often loud noise, from the moment they wake to the moment they sleep. They find silence a threat. This is because they experience it as cold, dark and empty - the silence of the tomb.

But there is another silence which is warm and radiant and filled with the presence of God - the silence of the womb, the silence of God. Mozart was asked once what he liked best about his music and he replied: "The silences". This is because his music, like all great music, is a transfiguring of silence. The silence that threatens becomes the hush of ecstasy. It's that art that we need to learn and to teach in new ways.

With Advent approaching, I find myself asking whether it might be a time when, in our churches and schools - and even our homes - we might quieten the noise and open our ears in new and deeper ways to "the still, small voice" of God. With that, I return to the silence from which I came.



+Bishop Mark



Marymead changed Carmen's life



Carmen Webb balances a career and her family but she acknowledges she would not be where she is today without the help she received as a child.

Mrs Webb said the seven years she spent at Marymead Child and Family Centre in Canberra changed her life.

This year Marymead celebrates 40 years and Mrs Webb will be able to reminisce with former residents, staff, foster parents and carers at a reunion on Sunday, 4 November.

Mrs Webb and her four younger siblings were among the first children to be cared for by Marymead when it was opened in 1967 as a temporary care residence by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. "We were fortunate - I have nothing but respect for the nuns, I'm totally blessed," she said.

"If I had lived at home I would have been married off with three kids by the time I was 20, just to get away," she said. "I never would have been able to fulfill my dream of being a nurse."

Today Mrs Webb is a mother of three and a registered nurse and midwife. "Nursing was something I always wanted to do. I just wanted to give something back to the community and care for people," she said.

"We were loved, nurtured and cared for at Marymead. They had a lot of influence on my career choice and we were always guided to go with our feelings."

From the age of nine, Marymead became Mrs Webb's family and she gained her knowledge of family from the sisters who raised her. "At Marymead we were all treated with the same love and respect, and we lived in a family environment," she said. "It was just how I brought up my own children."

Mrs Webb is still in contact with several members of her Marymead family and many of the friends she made at school. "I made some lasting friendships I never would have been able to make if I hadn't gone through Marymead."

"Marymead was, and still is, there to support families. They helped to mature me in a special way and I was able to achieve things I never would have been able to do otherwise. They changed my life for sure, in a very special way."

Anyone interested in attending the reunion should telephone 6162 5800 or email programs@marymead.org.au

ABOVE: Rose Cameleri (left) and her sister Carmen Webb (right) reunite with Sr Aileen Crowe (middle) who took care of them both at Marymead.

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Mates get to help mates out west

A program, inspired by a western districts farmer, has been launched to help prevent people in rural communities sliding into depression.

"Mate Helping Mate" which has been produced on a DVD that runs for 11 minutes, was inspired by Mr John Harper, of Stockinbigal, and was developed to support farmers and graziers and their families hit by the drought in the western districts.

Mr Graham Fear, of the St Vincent de Paul Society's Rural Services, with the help of the NSW Department of Primary Industry, the Greater Southern Area Health Services and the local community, produced the DVD, which provides a self help program for rural communities to maintain and sustain their mental well-being.

Cootamundra parish priest Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter said he had got enough copies of the DVD to provide for all parishes in the Archdiocese.


"This resource can be shown in the church as a Power Point presentation before Mass to bring home to all Catholics the enormity of the drought, which may take six to eight years to get over even if it rains now," he said.

"It will also help to give some support to those in the bush or in the city who may be suffering poor mental health. It's the kind of resource you can give to a person and say, 'Here, have a look at this'."

The DVD was launched at the Stockinbigal hall with about 350 people from local towns and villages attending. Children from the Stockinbigal Public School led the audience with the national anthem and a song "Any Dream".

Mr Fear talked of the way poor mental health and depression was the cause of many problems in society. A viewing of the DVD was greeted with great applause from the gathering. Ms Wendi Gray, a farmer and mental health activist, read a poem from her new book.

Mr Ben Harper, a young man who lost the use of his legs and arms in an accident, told of the importance of having good mates, in both family and friends, to help him from sliding into depression. He also spoke from family experience on the uselessness of suicide, because while the victim saw it as a way out, it caused life-long distress to the loved ones left behind. Mr John Harper explained how the object of the program was for rural people to get together, have a yarn, a barbeque and a couple of beers.



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'People's House' facelift gets under way

Earlier this year the effects of a Canberra storm convinced Archbishop Mark Coleridge to renovate Archbishop's House.

Archbishop Coleridge said he was shocked when parts of the house started to leak and collapse with the weight of hail. "Water was pouring in everywhere and that is when I decided to bite the bullet and renovate," he said.

Archbishop Coleridge moved into the Commonwealth Park residence last year but has relocated to the Cathedral presbytery during renovations.

Discussions with the National Capital Authority about external adaptations to the house delayed the start of work. Due to its public location, Archbishop Coleridge hopes a wall can

be built around the house to increase privacy and security.

Archbishop Coleridge said renovations to the house would take about 36 weeks. "It's longer than I imagined," he said. "I'm very keen that the house be at least habitable by World Youth Day because I'd like to be able to offer international guests a place to stay. The purpose of the renovations is to be able to offer simple and dignified accommodation. My aim is to make the house more habitable, practical and economical. The Archbishop's House is not just my house, it is the people's house, which I live in,"

The first step of the renovations have been to demolish additions made to the original house. All rooms in the house



will be recarpeted and painted, and the bathrooms and kitchen will be renovated.

The chapel will be converted into a private dining room and the Archdiocese Tribunal's former offices will become a library. The exterior of the house will be painted the original colour of white.

The only addition planned for the house is a larger chapel placed in the middle of the courtyard connecting each arm of the house."

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- 5:15 pm** Benediction
- 5:30 pm** Mass celebrated by Archbishop Coleridge



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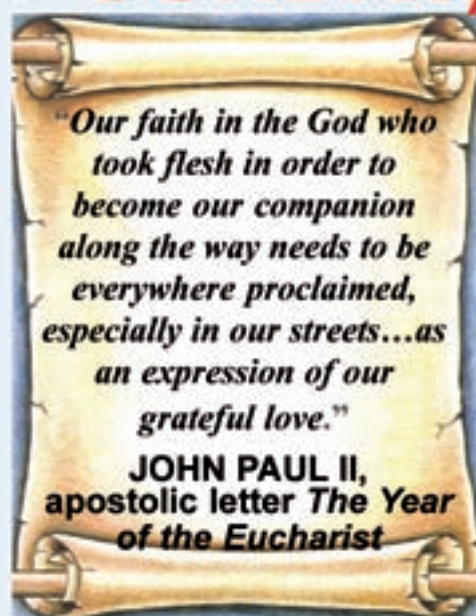
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A bus will be available to transport participants back to St. Benedict's

Long leave for Bishop Power

Archbishop Mark has agreed to me taking eight months long-service leave next year from February to September. I have been saying to people that is may not be well deserved, but it is much needed. I turned 65 last February and this will be my first long-service leave in 42 years as a priest. (I have been a bishop for 21 of those years.)

I am hoping to visit both my countries of origin, Lebanon and Ireland, have a little time in the UK and a couple of days in Lourdes before embarking on the pilgrim walk to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. I might also try to see a bit more of Australia, but I want to leave time for reading and reflection as well.

Each day I thank God for my vocation and I hope that after the time out I will come back with renewed vigour and some new insights into myself and my ministry. With that in mind I am to do an appraisal in the next few weeks. It is my hope that it will provide a focus for some renewal in my life. People who may wish to contribute to the appraisal should contact Fr John Armstrong, telephone 6291 6688, by 8 November.

I take this opportunity of thanking countless people who have helped to make my life as a priest and bishop a time of grace and joy.

- Bishop Pat Power.



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Fete a success**

PARKING NOTICE: To satisfy the local government parking authorities and to enable safer access to the Monastery, we request that your vehicle be parked on the Monastery side of Mugga Way. We respectfully ask also that care be taken in not transgressing any part of our neighbours' driveways or parking on nature strips as this has caused some angst to the monastery in the past. Thank You.

Marist family celebrates a new member

More than 80 Marist Brothers from Australia and overseas joined friends and family to celebrate with Br Anthony Robertson as he made his final profession in St Christopher's Cathedral.

Originally from Young, Br Anthony has taught science and religious education at Marist College in Canberra for the past two years.

Recently taking over as Patrick house dean, Br Anthony said he really enjoyed his work at the college.

Not only did his mother and three brothers attend the ceremony, but 83 Marist brothers travelled from as far away as Cairns and Brisbane, and even Papua New Guinea and Korea to be present.

Before his profession Br Anthony worked in Bougainville for a month where he made good friends. "The experience ties the international relationships between the brothers," he said.

Principal celebrant Archbishop Mark Coleridge said in his homily he had lived and worked with communities of Marist Brothers in various parts of the world.

"In my time among the Brothers,



I have come to think that each of them, for all his difference and frailty, is in some way a living portrait of the founder," he said. "It is Marcellin's face that shines through in all of them and Br Anthony is no exception."

Br Anthony's final profession was celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, which Archbishop Coleridge said was rightly so.

"Among the Marist Brothers she is revered and loved as 'our Good Mother'. Anthony, may Mary, whose name you bear, be for you always a Good Mother."

Among the clergy was Br Anthony's "great mate" and Young parish priest Fr Richard Thompson.

Provincial of the Marist Sydney Province Br John Thompson received the vows of final profession.

About 200 Marist College students attended the ceremony, serving the Mass and singing in the choir.

Marist Headmaster Mr Richard Sidorko said Br Anthony's final pro-



TOP: Br Anthony Robertson with Marist provincial Br John Thompson.

ABOVE: Cutting the celebratory cake, Br Anthony with (from left) his mother Carol and brothers Chris, Mark and Greg.

fession was a truly wonderful celebration. "It was a tribute to the esteem in which the Brothers here in Canberra are held as a very large number of boys, parents and staff attended the Mass and the refreshments that followed."

**Share your
Voice with
a friend**

CWL pushes ethanol

Ethanol use in Australian vehicles would be a step closer if the Catholic Women's League had its way. The archdiocesan CWL had two motions passed at the CWL national conference in Adelaide.

Earlier this year a CWL member from Bribbaree moved that the organisation lobby the Federal Government to provide more funds and research into the use and production of ethanol.

In another move, Young branch suggested the CWL request the Australian bishops to explore ways to include Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body in the Catholic school curriculum.

It is now up to the CWL national committee to approach the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and the Federal Government about the two motions.

Archdiocesan president Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell said she was not sure how the requests would fare. "We might get results from the bishops, but I think we will be just another voice to the Government," she said.

N Goulburn celebrates

Guests, past principals, teachers, students and their families shared morning tea when St Joseph's Primary School, North Goulburn, recently celebrated 125 years of quality Catholic education.

The festivities began on the Feast of Blessed Mary MacKillop, with Mass celebrated by Father Damien Styles at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

Guests, past principals, teachers, students and their families were invited to share morning tea which was catered by the members of the school staff.

President of the Parents and Friends Association Mr Guy Nicholson planted a commemorative tree which was blessed by Fr Styles. Guests were then treated to a display of entertainment presented by the students of St Joseph's.

Celebrations continued with the "Joey Idol Finale" which was won by the Stutchbury sisters who presented a lively dance. A bush dance and parish Mass ended the celebrations.

FACTS ON FUNERALS

Burial or cremation? What do I choose?

The decision to bury or cremate the deceased can be based on very personal ideas of what is appropriate for oneself or others. Some people are guided by their emotional reaction to either option when deciding what to choose, and others are guided by their own or the deceased's religious beliefs. For example, Hindus and Buddhists usually choose cremation, and Orthodox Jews, Muslims, Greek and other Eastern Orthodox Churches choose burial.

If you are undecided, how you answer the following questions may help you decide:

- Is there a family grave with room for another interment? Perhaps you would like to use this?
- If there is to be a burial, which cemetery would you want to use? Is it close enough to visit?
- If there was to be a cremation, would all of the close family members agree? If they do not, a cremation may not be allowed to occur.
- Will you want to visit a place of memory - such as a gravesite or a memorial (for example, a rose bush or niche at a crematorium)?
- Are these places close enough to visit?
- Would you like to create a memorial at home? A cremation would enable you to take the cremated remains home, and perhaps place them in a special urn in the house or garden, or scatter them in the garden.
- Is there a place you have always associated with the deceased? Perhaps a cremation and the subsequent scattering of the cremated remains at sea, in the bush or another place of significance would be appropriate.

If you would like any advice when making this decision, please call 6297 1052.



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Now after three years in planning we are proud to announce the opening of our new Residential Care Facility in October 2007. With our first residents moving into our low care wing in early October.

Offering low care, high care, dementia specific and Canberra's first purpose built 34 room extra services high care wing the new residential care facility seeks to meet the needs of all Canberrans. Continuing an ongoing commitment to care the Calvary Retirement Community is striving to set a new standard in residential care. Spacious single suites with feature walls and colour co-ordinated ensuites, light airy communal lounge and dining

areas and interior designed fixtures and fittings all wings create a lovely home for you or your loved one to reside in. State of the art computer and software systems help to streamline care and ongoing education and training for all staff helps to ensure you receive the best care available. Our staff are friendly and committed to ensuring your time at the Calvary Retirement Community is a positive one.

The state of the 34 suite extra services high care wing sets an exciting new standard in residential accommodation. More like a five star hotel, the suites are Interior designed with ensuite, hand crafted bed heads and furniture inclusions, luxurious linen and toiletries, plasma TV and phones in every suite, colour co-ordinated chair, window furnishings and bed coverlet, entertainment handsets and view to the gardens or hills these suites are a wonderful place to reside in. Complete with 6 communal areas,



business centre, 2 libraires, 2 fireplaces, table service, a selection of menus, wine with dinner and other options this extra services high care wings are like a tourist resort.

Nestled in the tranquil bushland setting of South Bruce, the Calvary Haydon Village is a natural haven to reside in. The carefully landscaped gardens provide many opportunities to relax and enjoy the peace and quiet. At the heart of the new residential care facility is the club house incorporating a library, lounge areas, business centre with internet access, a craft room, a hair salon, a gymnasium, a multi faith

chapel and a large auditorium. A café will also service residents, visitors and local residents, providing indoor and outdoor dining.

Whether you are looking for an Independent Living Villa or Apartment or require more support in the Residential Care Facility, the Calvary Retirement Community Canberra can meet those needs.

The Calvary Retirement Community is now accepting applications for the Residential Care Facility. Call now Libby Oakes-Ash (Residential Placement Manager) to discuss your requirements on 6264 7407.



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Don't miss your opportunity to experience the Calvary Retirement Community lifestyle with luxury apartment living.

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Our state of the art Residential Care Facility opens on October 1.

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Tobin Brothers Funerals' funeral director Ms Christine Walters, regional manager Mr Warwick Hansen, ACT senior funeral consultant Mrs Sandy Hunt and shared services manager Mr David Applegate (far right) met with Archbishop Coleridge.

Tobins becomes WYD supporter

Tobin Brothers Funerals has become a sponsor of World Youth Day in the Archdiocese. Representatives met with Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the Archdiocese's WYD team to present a donation of \$2500.

"The support of local community initiatives has always been a high priority for us," company funeral director Ms Christine Walters said. "It is a privilege to contribute to such a worthy project as WYD 2008 and the great work of the Church."

The donation will help fund the Days in the Diocese program held before WYD. Archbishop Coleridge thanked Tobin Brothers for the donation. "Tobin Brothers Funerals are to be commended for their community charity," he said.

* Anyone interested in supporting WYD in the Archdiocese should contact WYD executive officer Mr Brett Anderson, telephone 6163 4300. Catholic Church Insurances is a major WYD sponsor through a \$2 million gift to the WYD Organising Committee and \$50,000 grants to dioceses.

Nuncio man of great faith

By Debra Vermeer

The late Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Ambrose De Paoli, was remembered as a dedicated and highly experienced diplomat, a warm and personable man with a great sense of humour, and first and foremost, a man of great faith.

The Church community was joined by the diplomatic community in farewelling Archbishop De Paoli at a Solemn Memorial Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral. The 73-year-old Archbishop died in the United States of leukaemia.

Principal celebrant at the Mass was Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the homily was preached by the Charge D'Affaires at the Nunciature, Mgr Jude Okolo. Among those concelebrating were Cardinal Edward Cassidy, Bishop Pat Power and Bishop Max Davis. A large number of priests concelebrated.

Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Michael L'Estrange represented the Australian Government.

In his homily, Mgr Okolo spoke on the meaning of death

from a philosophical and Christian point of view. He said that when Archbishop De Paoli learned that he had only a matter of months to live, "he began to get ready, with a very, very serene attitude".

"In fact, most of his colleagues here wouldn't have even known that this man was dying," he said. "He enjoyed life intensely. He was very happy."

Mgr Okolo said that the way Archbishop De Paoli lived his life and particularly his last months, gave much meaning to his death.

"Death is not nothingness. It is something. It is passing from life to life. How we live is how we will die."

At the conclusion of the Mass, the congregation heard brief eulogies from the DFAT Chief of Protocol, Ms Lyndall McLean and the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Ms Karin Ehnbohm-Palmquist, Ambassador of Sweden.

Ms McLean said Archbishop De Paoli was "a dedicated and highly experienced" diplomat, whose appointment to Australia was welcomed.

"He left us much earlier



than we would've wanted, but not before making an indelible mark, not only here in Australia, but elsewhere."

Ms McLean said that the Archbishop would joke that after Australia, Antarctica was the only continent still to be included on his life's itinerary.

"Intelligent, thoughtful and reflective, he was also modest but not to be underestimated," she said.

"Underpinning all that the Archbishop did in Australia and elsewhere was the depth of his faith in God, his commitment to the Catholic values by which he lived his life, and his dedication to the welfare of others.

"He was open, engaged, tolerant and focused on working

with all men and women of goodwill to enhance the common good and to promote faith and values that endure."

Ms McLean said Archbishop De Paoli had been very much looking forward to World Youth Day next year.

Ambassador Ehnbohm-Palmquist told the congregation that the Diplomatic Corps had lost "a most appreciated colleague and a very dear friend".

"Archbishop De Paoli had a long and distinguished career in the diplomatic service of the Holy See. He always had a smile and a twinkle in the eye and a great sense of humour that I will never forget," she said.

"To all of us, he was, above all, a kind and trustworthy friend you could feel you could always turn to. Ambrose never spoke of his illness. Indeed I believe many of us were not aware of how sick he was and I believe that was how Ambrose wanted it."

At the conclusion of the Mass, Archbishop Coleridge read a message from Pope Benedict XVI for the family of Archbishop De Paoli, read at his funeral Mass in Miami, Florida.

Cursillo time to refresh

Men and women who have already enjoyed the Cursillo experience will have a chance to revisit it this month.

Cursillo Revisited gives Cursillistas a chance to refresh, renew and deepen their relationship with God.

The weekend will be held at St Clement's, Galong, from 30 November to 2 December.

The theme for Cursillo

Revisited is drought and revitalisation.

Fr Allan Crowe will be spiritual director, Hilda Fitzgerald lay director and Joe Jambor chief cha.

Inquiries: Hilda Fitzgerald, e-mail hildafitzgerald@netspeed.com.au, telephone 6257 0962 (after 6pm), Joe Jambor, e-mail jja19144@bigpond.net.au, telephone 6242 7332 (home).

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Not easy keeping up with the Jones'

A typical day in the life of Fr Frank Jones is rather different from that of an average Australian priest.

From when Fr Jones gets up around 5am, his day is spent giving medical attention at the nutrition centre, visiting the sick and dying in their homes and helping to build houses for his parish-ioners.

"I seriously don't have the time in the day to do what I need to do, but you can only do one small thing at a time, and do it well," he said.

About two years ago when Fr Jones was the parish priest of Yarralumla, the then Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn Francis Carroll sent him to help a poor parish in Ecuador.

San Francisco is a suburb situated on the northern limits of Guayaquil, the largest city in Ecuador, which Fr Jones describes as an area of invasion.

"Refugees from the Andes and the coast come to the big city to make a living, but can't afford to live there," he said.

Fr Jones serves about 60,000



people here in the Jesucristo Pan de Vida (Jesus Christ bread of life) parish, which is divided by an escarpment into what he refers to as San Francisco one and San Francisco two. During his time there, Fr Jones has built a child

care centre and nutrition centre in San Francisco one and a medical centre and presbytery in San Francisco two.

● Cont Page 10.



15 OCTOBER - 3 DECEMBER 2007



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Pope eases way for Catholics of China

On May 27, Pope Benedict released a letter "to the bishops, priests, consecrated persons and lay faithful of the Catholic Church in the People's Republic of China". Retired lecturer in the Department of Asian Languages at Macquarie University Dr Lance Eccles, of Goulburn, describes the circumstances that gave rise to the letter.

Christianity entered China in the seventh century with missionaries from the Church of the East (or "Nestorian" Church), whose centre is in Baghdad. In spite of various perse-

cutions, "Nestorian" Christians, mostly of Turkic ethnicity, were still to be found in the south-eastern city of Quanzhou in the 14th century during the Mongol dynasty. Today some of their tombstones can be seen in the Maritime History Museum in Quanzhou, as well as the Latin tombstone (dated 1332, and unearthed in 1946) of Andrew of Perugia, the third Catholic bishop of that area.

With the fall of the Mongol dynasty, a hostile reaction to foreign ideas set in, and Christianity disappeared from China until the arrival of the Jesuits late in the 16th century.

Other religious orders followed, and there was some progress in the spread of Catholicism until the so-called "Rites Controversy" of the 18th century. The Jesuits had incorporated various Chinese customs into their churches, including the use of Chinese in the liturgy, and the erecting of shrines to the emperor. When the Pope ordered the cessation of these practices, the Chinese court objected to what it saw as outside interference in Chinese affairs, and from this time the spread of the faith suffered a setback. It was not until the time of Pius XII that Chinese were again permitted in the liturgy.

During the 19th and 20th centuries there was intense missionary activity in China, both Catholic and Protestant, and even a modest Russian Orthodox presence, but with the establishing of the People's Republic in 1949 all foreign missionaries were expelled. During the Cultural Revolution of the late 1960s and early 1970s, religious expression was severely repressed.

Throughout history Chinese governments have had a deep mistrust of large religious structures that seem to be beyond their control. Even Buddhism went through a period in which it was discouraged. Popular religious or mystical movements have always been eyed with suspicion, as they have frequently turned into full-scale rebellion, and this explains the current government's attempts to suppress the Falungong movement.

The Catholic Church is particularly mistrusted, since its members owe allegiance to the Pope in Rome. The subtle distinction between rendering to Caesar what is Caesar's and rendering to God what is God's is not appreciated. To overcome the perceived lack of loyalty to China, the government has set up a state church, the so-called Patriotic Catholic Church, which does not recognize the authority of the Pope. It is to the problem of the existence of this schismatic church that Benedict's letter is principally addressed.

Benedict, using conciliatory language throughout his letter, yet presenting the Church's position clearly, appears to be preparing the way for some sort of concordat with the Chinese government, in which both parties would agree on their mutual rights and responsibilities. He touches upon the situation of bishops, priests and laity, and the ways in which the existence of the Patriotic Church affects them, an important subject to be dealt with in any treaty between the Vatican and China. The Vatican is

currently treating the topic of the Patriotic Church with extreme circumspection, and is offering no objection to the appointment of Fr Li Shan as the new "Patriotic" bishop of Beijing.


A concordat would not be something new. Notable concordats of the past, through which the Vatican sought to balance the rights of the Church with the claims of the state, have been the Lateran Treaty of 1929 with Mussolini's Italy, and the unsuccessful concordat of 1933 with Hitler's Germany. The letter does not mention Taiwan, but it is inevitable that in any bargaining with the Chinese government, the issue of the Vatican's relations with Taiwan will have to be dealt with. There is no possibility of the Chinese government agreeing to conditions that treat Taiwan as an entity separate from China.

Near the end of his letter, the Pope calls for a day each year on which Catholics worldwide unite in prayer with the Catholics of China. This day is to be 24 May, the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. He particularly mentions the shrine at Sheshan, near Shanghai, dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians.

This date has special significance with regard to another of China's Marian shrines, that of Donglu in Hebei province (in North China). It was at Donglu in 1900, when the town was being besieged by the forces of the Boxer Rebellion, that an apparition of Our Lady was seen in the sky. The local Catholics implored Mary to save them, and later, in thanksgiving for their safety, a church was built. The priest commissioned the image known as Our Lady of China, depicting Mary and the Child Jesus in Chinese imperial robes.

Since the 1920s, during May, thousands of pilgrims have made their way to Donglu. It is reported that on the eve of the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians in 1995, when 30,000 of the faithful were gathered there in a field for an open-air Mass, a repetition of the Miracle of the Sun, such as seen at Fátima in 1917, was observed. It occurred twice, once at the beginning of the Mass, and again at the Consecration. Since then, the Public Security Bureau has actively discouraged pilgrims from visiting the shrine in May, and has tried to force the local priests to join the Patriotic Church.

Unfortunately, the attitude of the Public Security seems to represent that of the government; but with careful diplomacy, supported by prayer, Pope Benedict may be able to improve the situation of the Catholic Church in China.



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Keeping up with Frank Jones

● From Page 9.

Unable to pay the doctor, Fr Jones closed the medical centre and as a registered nurse has found himself the only person providing health care to around 25,000 people in the area. "When I had to close the medical centre it really upset me," he said. "Women give birth without assistance and people die when they shouldn't be dying. They die of diabetes and parasite infections just because they can't be treated."

Adding to his workload, an eruption of the nearby volcano Tunguraga left many people homeless. "Some of the families have migrated to Guayaquil and into San Francisco in order to make a new start without anything in the way of possessions."

Fr Jones was also recently appointed vicar to the nearby prison where he gives human development and spirituality classes and counsels prisoners. "Seven thousand people are crowded into a space where they can only accommodate 1500. There's tremendous suffering and it's quite chaotic. There's no healthcare or food, there's a lot of violence and you often see rats."

Fr Jones is now thankful he can share his heavy workload between two people. A young Irish priest Fr Tom Bierney has joined the mission. "People need the Eucharist to keep the community together and having Tom there means we can celebrate it regularly. It also means I can spend more time in the jail." Fr Bierney's company is also much appreciated. "He's good fun," said Fr Frank.

After prioritising funds toward health care and education, the parish has been left without a church. Fr Jones said the large numbers of people attending Mass means it must be held outside where it is very hot and deterring to parishioners. "We really need to build a church; it would make a huge difference," he said. "In the middle of the slums, a church would



Parishioners outside their home in San Francisco, Ecuador.

represent something. It would be a place of refuge for the people because it's so loud and noisy there. They need that quiet space, that sacred place and the presence of Jesus."

Fr Jones feels the mission has made progress. "It's those moments of grace where you are actually touched by God, where you can see him in the people and you see joy. The children are so hungry and malnourished when they put on weight, it's a beautiful thing." During a recent return to Australia, Fr Jones launched Club Cientos (100 club). It aims to get 100 people to donate \$500 annually, which would keep the medical centre running.

"I really need a doctor. As a nurse I can do some things, but not everything. The people are very desperate, we live in crisis. We just live day by day over there and I need support."

● For more information on Club Cientos, to donate or volunteer, go to www.frfrankmission.org.au



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Centacare is a welfare agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and has operated in the Archdiocese for the past 50 years. During this time Centacare has grown from the grass roots of volunteering to the quite large welfare agency it is today. Centacare started with a very humble and noble premise, to help people. This has not changed or wavered in 50 years. We call it supporting, valuing, strengthening, but essentially we are still helping people.

Centacare has undergone many changes. It would be impossible to discuss its history without giving some account of the history of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. Centacare's place within the Church has shaped its growth, and is reflected in every area of its mission.



Centacare's Manuka Office.

Archdiocese is born

Centacare grew out of the need for more organized approaches to the delivery of some parts of welfare within the Archdiocese. Still today much of the welfare is delivered through the ministry of Parish life, from which Centacare finds its roots and its mission orientation.

The Archdiocese evolved from the Diocese of Goulburn, which was itself created on 17 November, 1862.

In 1928 Canberra was established as a parish. Monsignor Patrick M Haydon was appointed the first parish priest. In that year St Christopher's School, Manuka, was opened under the care of the Good Samaritan Sisters. For the next 10 years the school also served as a place where Mass was celebrated. The renovated school buildings and convent now house the Catholic Education Office.

On 8 May, 1938, the foundation stone of St Christopher's Church, now Cathedral, was laid. The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn was created on 11 February, 1948. The Archdiocese is one of 11 dioceses in NSW. In order to give a sense of the geographical size of the Archdiocese, it covers an area of 88,000 square kilometres, 30% larger than the State of Tasmania. There are 59 parishes and 165,000 Catholics within its borders. From the extensive coastline, to the Snowy Mountains, to the rolling hills and flat plains out west, the geographical diversity of our Archdiocese reflects the Church's self-understanding of 'unity in diversity'.

At the time of the creation of the Archdiocese, within the Church and wider society there was an air of confidence and excitement. Australia was on the move. There was rapid population growth in the Canberra-Queanbeyan and Snowy Mountains areas, and an increasing movement from country to town and city.

This increase in population and movement also resulted in the Archdiocese's Catholic community needing more support from the Church. Many individual services and programs through the Church operated independently of each other;

these programs were developed in relation to need and were a reflection of the current social climate. Some programs that were being provided by the Archdiocese and non-diocesan organisations were: family support services, natural family planning, children's homes and services, night shelters, homes for the aged, hospitals, migrant chaplaincy services, mental health and prison chaplaincy services and welfare and associated groups.

One program which was in operation around 1957 was the Marian Club. This club supported young Catholic people who had gathered in Canberra, who were far from family and friends and needed a group to meet and chat. They met regularly at the Hotel Canberra under the name "The Marian Club", organised by Fr Benedict "Barney" Lynch.

Another program which was started under more organised terms was The Marriage Guidance Bureau. It was started following the Matrimonial Causes Act (1959) which united all Australian states under the one matrimonial law, and one divorce law. Given its concerns surrounding the laws on divorce, the Catholic Church lobbied Government to fund early intervention methods to assist struggling family and marriages. The government of the day, responding to these representations saw fit to offer each Diocese £5000 a year to train people to become marriage guidance counsellors. Roughly six to eight dioceses accepted this unprecedented funding offer.



Sister Rita Reilly and friend.

The mission is seeded

It was with the princely sum of £5000 that The Marriage Guidance Bureau started in 1960. The mission of what was to become Centacare had been seeded, and even today family life remains a core value and program priority for the Agency. The Archbishop of the time Eris O'Brien quickly took advantage of the offer being it as it was the first time the Federal Government had given funding for anything to do with the Church. The bureau was reportable to the Attorney-General's Office. Fr Lynch became the director at a meeting held in the dining room at the Archbishop's House to discuss how to form and deliver marriage counselling. During the meeting, which involved some influential members of the community both secular and Catholic, Fr Lynch left to take a telephone call. When he returned he was informed that he was the new director of the bureau!

Fr Lynch may have had reason to think he had been put on the spot but he was the perfect person for the job. He displayed an enviable quality of dignity and a real passion for supporting and valuing individuals, and showed a flair for creating and supporting community. Fr Lynch was also familiar with the marriage counselling styles that were being used in Melbourne and these were adopted in Canberra.

He became the only staff member for the newly formed Marriage Guidance Bureau. When asked how many staff he had at the beginning he said, "Oh, there was just me." Fr Lynch approached other members of the Archdiocese to train as counsellors. Marie Carney, Catherine Crowe, Jack Walsh, Margaret Parker, Ethel Maguire, Bill McCue and Bryan Docherty were employed part time and worked mainly at night, possibly until the mid 1970s. Much of the tutelage and instruction came from Prof Pat Pentony, who started his training in psychology in Perth and had much to do with setting up therapeutic clinical training programs which were the first of their kind in Australia. Prof Pentony studied under Carl Rogers at the Cana Institute in Chicago. He then moved to



Former Centacare Directors.

Canberra and taught at Canberra University College (now the Australian National University). Prof Pentony supported the trainee counsellors and Fr Lynch in counselling techniques for marriage guidance and he made the comment that what the counsellors and Fr Lynch were doing was more real than what his students were doing. Dr Pentony's contribution to the shape of professionalism of Centacare cannot be overstated. In his memory Centacare's Board Room bears his name.

It was from this humble beginning that the Marriage Guidance Bureau started to take clients and hold regular counselling sessions. These were held out of a small room at Curtin Presbytery, in the Haydon Centre annex, at Archbishop's House and in the current Manuka Centacare office. This new program met with some resistance from some in the Catholic community, as it was seen as encroaching on their pastoral work, however referrals did start coming through. Centacare continues today to have as its understanding that it is there to undertake those tasks which would be difficult to manage at the local and Parish level.

During this time period of Centacare's development, changes were occurring; Vatican II was causing ripples throughout the Catholic community, and the economic and social structure of Canberra was changing too. The Vietnam War was fought, and

Australian society was being increasingly influenced by the rest of the world.

During this time Fr Michael O'Halloran and Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter acted as interim directors while Fr Lynch went on sabbatical leave to Ireland to visit family.

In 1972-73, Marie and Bryan Docherty instituted the Marriage Education Courses, for which they designed four two-hour sessions. These sessions were designed with a group of couples and in liaison with several priests to ensure the courses maintained church values and concepts. If couples wished to be married in the Catholic Church they were required to complete a marriage education course. For some years the courses were delivered at the Civic Health Clinic, chosen because it was believed that it was neutral ground for couples who were wary of marriage education and wary of the Church. It was during the early 1970s that a loose national body of Catholic agencies providing marriage education was established called the Catholic Society for Marriage Education, Bryan was the founding President of the Society and it was the only national body for marriage education for a number of years. Centacare continues to build on the work of those early pioneers, and still offers relationship education, including for pre-marriage.

Blessed man who worked tirelessly

In December, 1977 Fr Lynch stepped down as director of the Marriage Guidance Bureau. He continued his work as parish priest of Curtin and later Cobargo before retiring to Bermagui, a truly blessed man who worked tirelessly for his people. His contribution has a rightful place, written into the history of Centacare.

At this stage, the Archdiocese had a variety of programs working independently of each other. A report was published in May 1977 titled "Report with Recommendations to His Grace Archbishop T.V. Cahill, D.D., Ph. D., C.B.E., on the future of Catholic Social Welfare in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn"

Out of this report came 12 recommendations including:

1. Archdiocese appoint a Director of Catholic Social Welfare
2. Offices at Manuka are set up as a central Catholic family counselling and welfare agency
3. Manuka become the central office of the Catholic Marriage Guidance Council
4. Catholic Social Welfare be responsible for Natural Family Planning and the Diocesan Courses for Engaged Couples
5. Any future diocesan services however independent be responsible to the Archbishop through the central agency.
6. In line with an Australian wide movement the central agency be referred to as "Centacare"
7. The agency remain small and promote the development of family support centres, child care centres, Catholic hospitals and appropriate Catholic services
8. The Centre at Curtin be retained as an example of such decentralization.
9. The central agency should be made up of six staff
10. A board of directors is appointed, including a priest on this board.
11. A Chaplain be appointed
12. Priests were to be referred moral counselling referrals

A request for \$67,780 was made to support these changes. The Attorney-General's Department was expected to put in \$10,000 and the Archdiocese \$30,000.

The Archdiocese met most of the report's requests and it was following the report in December 1977 that Fr Tom Wright was appointed Director of Catholic Social Services and the Catholic Family Welfare Bureau. Fr Wright (or 'Tommy' Wright as he was referred to by those close to him), pulled together the fractured small programs that operated within the diocese, under the one agency. He ran his own, very individualistic style to human resource management. Tommy Wright holds legend status in the annals of Centacare including, some stories edging on the apocrypha eg leaving pay cheques at the bottom of the door of the office (no envelope) and appearing surprised when asked to put these in an envelope. He was protective and fond of the camel-

lias which are planted outside the Manuka office, so protective in fact that he supposedly set traps to stop people picking the flowers. The plants still stand today at the entrance of the Manuka office and are over 35 years old.

Catholic Social Services started working from Manuka with eight programs operating from or liaising with the office. This process was a very relaxed and open one with staff expected to perform a number of administration tasks either at home or in other employment. Nearly 100 generous volunteers, and six similarly generous part time staff who were paid a token income, were employed. In those early days, the nature of development meant the staff, who were mostly Catholic, had little opportunity for wider agency input except in their own program. They did however get together for a monthly reflection.

The following programs existed under a very loose Catholic Social Services Bureau

- Marriage Counselling: Provided Marriage Counselling to members of the Canberra Parish, referred by the Parish Priest.
- Natural Family Planning: Provided information to couples to assist them in the area of fertility. Information on both Sympto- thermal and Billings' methods provided.
- Pre-Marriage Education: A program run by volunteers to provide a course for engaged couples who were wishing to be married in the Catholic Church.
- School Social Work Service: School Counselling provided to Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese.
- Family Life Education: In early 1984 a course was run through all Catholic primary schools which looked at a holistic approach to the education of young children in relationships including sexual relationships. This program was run in the evening and parents had to attend with their children. It was funded by the Catholic Education Office.
- Canberra Homemaker Service: Introduced by Anne Laferty it was an outreach program caring for individuals and families in distress. They did cooking and sewing classes, supported people in relation to health, housing and care of children. A bed was provided for people if they were feeling unwell.
- Rainbows: Children of Parents who were separated and divorced.
- Catholic Church Insurances had office space.
- Refugee Resettlement: Following the Vietnam War Fr Wright assisted hundreds of Vietnam families to settle in Canberra, Young and Bega; later there was an influx of Polish refugees.

Tom Wright a pivotal figure

Fr Wright actively lobbied government and became a major driving force in expanding and increasing funding for the Catholic Social Services program. In the late 1970s, he was a pivotal figure in refugee resettlement, especially the Vietnamese resettlement movement. The refugee program continues to support new arrivals into our Archdiocese.

Fr Wright was a regular face at Parliament House (the original) during question time and made himself known to the more powerful community figures in the ACT community. Unlike Fr Lynch, he had gone to school at St Christopher's in Manuka and had grown up in Canberra and knew how the town operated. When Fr Wright went to be Parish Priest of Farrer in January 1991, he left a healthy expanding organisation that was becoming a force in the community. There was a drawing together of various services that were dotted around the Archdiocese and a cohesion that had been previously lacking. The Canberra community and Centacare will always be grateful to Fr Wright for his direction and vision for the Agency. Fr Wright is at Centacare where the counselors rooms are named the Thomas Wright Wing.

When Fr John Southwell became director in 1991, he took over an organisation that had previously had a total of nine full-time and seven part-time staff, and 80 volunteers and total funds of \$ 172,149, the majority coming from the Catholic Church services including the Catholic Immigration Office, the Archdiocesan Welfare Fund, Sustentation Fund, which is a fund of a religious body for support of its ministers, chapels, etc, Catholic Development Fund, Catholic Education Office and Catholic colleges. The Commonwealth or Territory contributed \$35,302.

Following a meeting of all the Catholic social services dotted around Australia a decision was made to unite the various agencies under the name of Centacare.

On 1 July, 1991, Centacare Canberra and Goulburn became the new name for Catholic Social Services and Catholic Family Welfare Bureau.

Programs auspiced by the new Centacare were:

- Marriage and Family Counselling:
- Marriage Education:
- Student and Family Counselling:
- Canberra Mediation Service
- Canberra Family Support Service
- Adolescent Mediation and Family Therapy (FACES)
- Family Life Education Program: Program was held in all Primary Schools
- Sexuality and Fertility Education: Delivered to High Schools and groups were run for couples
- Refugee Resettlement
- Protective Behaviours

The organization, with increasing growth took on a more typical management structure that is familiar today. During management meetings there were five people present, who directed and managed the various facets of the organisation. Information for all staff was in the form of paper memos and it was during this time that Centacare began to slowly grow into a force in the community, and programs were developed in service delivery.

Fr Southwell and Good Samaritan Sr Jeanie Heininger, who had been working with Centacare since January 1992, started lobbying the government for disability funding. They were successful in



Fr. Tom Wright.

gaining funds to purchase a house in Hearn St, Watson. The purchase was made through three groups – the ACT Government, Centacare Canberra and Goulburn and the families of people with a disability. This became Centacare's first initiative into group housing and by all accounts it was a great success. This also marked the start of Centacare's long and successful move into disability support and care.

It was also during this time that Fr Southwell stepped down as director. His contribution in establishing further again the professionalism of Centacare during these rapid growth years remains a wonderful legacy.

Sr Jeanie Heininger took over the directorship for a short period while a permanent Director was to be appointed. Programs continued to grow during that period, in particular in the area of disabilities of which Sr Jeanie was recognized nationally as an. Following the permanent appointment Sr Jeanie continued to work for Centacare in the Disability sections until 2000, when she moved to Camden, NSW, where she continues to work tirelessly with people with a disability and their families.



Sister Jeanie Heininger and staff.



Centacare staff around 1982.



Centacare staff, 1989.

A new era

Neil Harrigan, pictured right, the current Director, was appointed in February 1994. Neil's first commitment to Centacare was when he worked in central Queensland with the Commonwealth Public Service. Neil, a qualified psychologist, volunteered to provide sessional counseling to clients at the Rockhampton Office. He continued to do that, over the three year period of his posting. Neil states that this was a great introduction into the world of Centacare and credits the director at the time Anne Maree Kinnane as a huge influence. Neil has postgraduate qualifications in management and theology, as well as psychology.

Centacare entered a new period as governments commenced out-sourcing many of their traditional services. The ACT government started outsourcing services which had previously been the domain of health and housing to maintain, this was a huge boost for the community sector and Centacare, rose to the task ahead of sharing with other kindred welfare agencies in the sector the responsibilities of caring for those in the community who had been disadvantaged. The Agency moved into areas of housing, young people, brain injury, aged care and mental health. This expanded the organisations portfolio substantially.



During the next five years many programs were added to the organisation's portfolio including:

- Job Placement, Employment and Training (JPET) – Youth support
- Support and Independent Living Skills (SAILS) – Mental health support for adults
- Ainslie Village – Long term accommodation
- Open Employment – Disability Employment Service
- Disability Programs
- Dorothy Sales Cottages – Brain Injury
- Aged Care
- ACCESS Programs ACT
- Reconnect ACT and NSW
- The Lodge (previously called Special Care Unit)
- Community Support Program

Changing times

In 2000, Centacare Canberra and Goulburn received 66% of its funding from the ACT Government; 29% from the Commonwealth; 3% from the NSW Government and 2% from other sources. This is a marked difference to nine years ago when a major portion of the funding came from the Church.

With this ever increasing rise in responsibilities came new issues; particularly in maintaining the framework of faith based mission at the same time as moving towards a large bureaucratic structure. Centacare expanded to be much more of an organisation rather than a collection of programs, as a result of this expansion the organisation developed a strong strategic focus including developing strategic and corporate plans¹⁵

At the same time Centacare recognised the value of its traditions, especially its approach to service which was to deliver its care through very able and value filled people willing to work where others did not wish to go. It invested a great deal of time and resources into staff and valuing staff's needs. Centacare. Over time, has introduced a Look After Yourself Day, Maternity Allowance, a Centacare Collective Agreement which has a high staff value focus and the Agency is regularly reviewing how the staff

can be better represented and how Centacare can attract new staff in a competitive employment market. People are invited to come and work for a while in a faith based agency. Our staff are our treasure.

Recently, Centacare wished to test its standards of best practice in the way it assisted those in our community who suffer from disadvantage. It held the view that faith based principles should be realized in best practice. The decision was made for Centacare Canberra and Goulburn to become certified with the International Standards Organisation (ISO 9001:2000).

Over the last seven years Centacare has built up a portfolio of nearly 50 programs; 80% of its \$11 million income coming from government contracts and the rest from the Catholic Church itself, the Catholic Education Office and other non-government area.

The future direction for Centacare Canberra and Goulburn will be around holding firm on its mission of standing in solidarity with those less well off; of operating as a good citizen with all its stakeholders; of discerning new needs in the community; and enjoying the gift of staff willing to come and work in the way Centacare values.

Centacare notices the problems of alcohol and mental illness

which is besieging communities, especially amongst the young, throughout Australia including our own community; the lack of affordable housing; the difficulties that refugees face in entering Australia; the lack of attention and funding for those with disabilities and the ageing; and the almost impossible conditions being faced by rural Australia.

In achieving this we need to combine family and work for our staff through flexible approaches to work and more variety in work styles such as job sharing, part time work, working from home etc. and exploring more innovative uses of volunteers, such as using them in relation to more strategic tasks and not so much the more traditional service delivery tasks. Centacare will be pursuing more IT based supports, especially in assisting those in rural areas.

The past 50 years have brought huge change to the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and the wider community. Massive social change has occurred and needs have shifted. At this time in its history Centacare gives thanks for the many footprints left behind by such wonderful pioneers in the past. Our prayer for the future is that we will continue to build on those ideals and dreams for a better world; that we will strive to represent the values of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

That we will always be Helping People.



Opening of Reconnect program, West Wyalong, 2000.

Many thanks to:

Fr Benedict Lynch
Maree and Bryan Docherty
Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Archive area
Ms Judy Netting
Ms Anne Barwick

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of historical events reported in the booklet, any errors that may have occurred are unintentional and not intended to cause distress.



Dear Children

November is the month the Church remembers those people who have died - they are the saints and the holy souls.

People like my grandmother and brother, and those who died recently - Brother Mark, the Nuncio Archbishop De Paoli and Father Paul Rheinberger.

You would know some people who have died also who you would like to remember at this time.

It is a very good thing to do to pray for these people. During November you could add a special prayer for them at the end of your grace before meals.

The prayer is - *Eternal rest grant to them O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.*

We can pray for the holy souls and in turn they can intercede for us - how great is that!

God bless you.

Sue



ABOVE: Shai Bamford, of St Joseph's, Eden, is proud of her dad.

BELOW: What a beautiful flag from Patrick Cunneen, aged 10, of St Francis of Assisi School, Calwell.



Q. Where do sheep buy their groceries?

A. At Woolies.

Q. Where would you find a dog with no legs?

A. Where you left him.

Q. How do you move a seahorse?

A. In a horse float.

- from Grace Smith, of Trinity School, Harden.



ABOVE: Anna-belle Morton's family. Anna-belle is from St Francis of Assisi, Calwell.

LEFT: An important word, from Josie Ercikoff, of St Francis of Assisi, Calwell.



Help to restore our heritage

St Peter & Paul's Old Cathedral Goulburn Restoration Appeal



Recently I was delighted to visit for the first time the old Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul in Goulburn, which stands as a monument to a great story of missionary energy and deep faith.

As the green of the stone flashes in the sun, the Cathedral speaks of the Irish in the Antipodes who built it.

May the planned restoration give new life not only to a grand old church but also to the community of faith that gathers there still to celebrate the mysteries of Christ.

May the restoration work be a way of saying thanks for the past and saying yes to the future.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge,
Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn.

Yes, I would like to help restore Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral

(Donations are possible by cheque or credit card)

☐ Please accept my cheque donation of

☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$200 ☐ _____

Cheques payable to National Trust of Australia (NSW)

Sts Peter and Paul's Restoration Appeal (ABN 93 837 545 255)

PO Box 11 Goulburn NSW 2580

☐ Please deduct a monthly donation of \$_____ from my credit card until further written notice.

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Bankcard

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Please contact us to discuss a bequest or legacy in your will.

☐ Please send me more information about the Restoration Project

My gift is: ☐ Personal ☐ Business

Donations towards the Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral Restoration Appeal are tax deductible because the Restoration Appeal comes under the auspices of the National Trust of Australia (NSW).



SFX measure up as winners



Following strong attempts every year, a team from St Francis Xavier College have become the ACT titration champions.

The ACT schools division of the 2007 Royal Australian Chemical Institute titration stakes was held at the ANU's chemistry department.

Year 12 students Andrew Wrigley, Wayne Webb and Geethaka Fernando (above) made up

the winning team who will now go on to compete for the national title.

Two teams from year 11 also performed well placing 10th and 11th out of about 30 teams.

Amelia Withers, Emily Nguyen, Nilisha Fernando, Alex Carle, Jacqui Carle and Andrew Smith were the year 11 competitors.



Bob the Builder gone at last

After six years the staff and students at Good Shepherd Primary School, Amaroo, can finally say goodbye to the sound of construction.

The sixth and final stage of building added six new classrooms to the school and enabled the installation of ACTIV boards. The boards were funded by the Australian Government program "Investing in our small schools project".

Officially opening the final stage of construction, ACT Senator Mr Gary Humphries said the government was pleased to contribute part of the \$10 billion allocated to education to the further development of Good Shepherd. "It's wonderful to see a school like this grow and develop how it has," he said. "The Catholic school sector of Australia remains the least well resourced sector of Australian secondary and primary education."

Catholic Education Office director Mrs Moira Najdecki spoke of the long history of Catholic education in Australia. "Good Shepherd is one of the newest additions to the story," she said. "I can see there are going to be wonderful things happening in these buildings."

In blessing the additions to the school, Archbishop Mark Coleridge said, "The real teacher in this school is the Good Shepherd himself. He teaches us what it is to be a human being."



TOP: Archbishop Coleridge blesses the classroom crosses for Daniella Pavici, Jackson Sankey, Angelo Basili, Isaac Perticarto, Imogen Brady. ABOVE: Archbishop Coleridge, Ruby Carey, Ante Jurkovic (standing behind) and Fr Bernie Patterson prepare the holy water for blessing.

Assistant principal Mrs Collette McArdle thanked parents, friends and the Gungahlin parish for their patience and support. "One thing that has made our school such a great Catholic school is our sense of community," she said.

The school, which opened with 85 enrolments, has grown to one of the largest in the Archdiocese now educating more than 600 students.

Literacy gets lift at the Lake

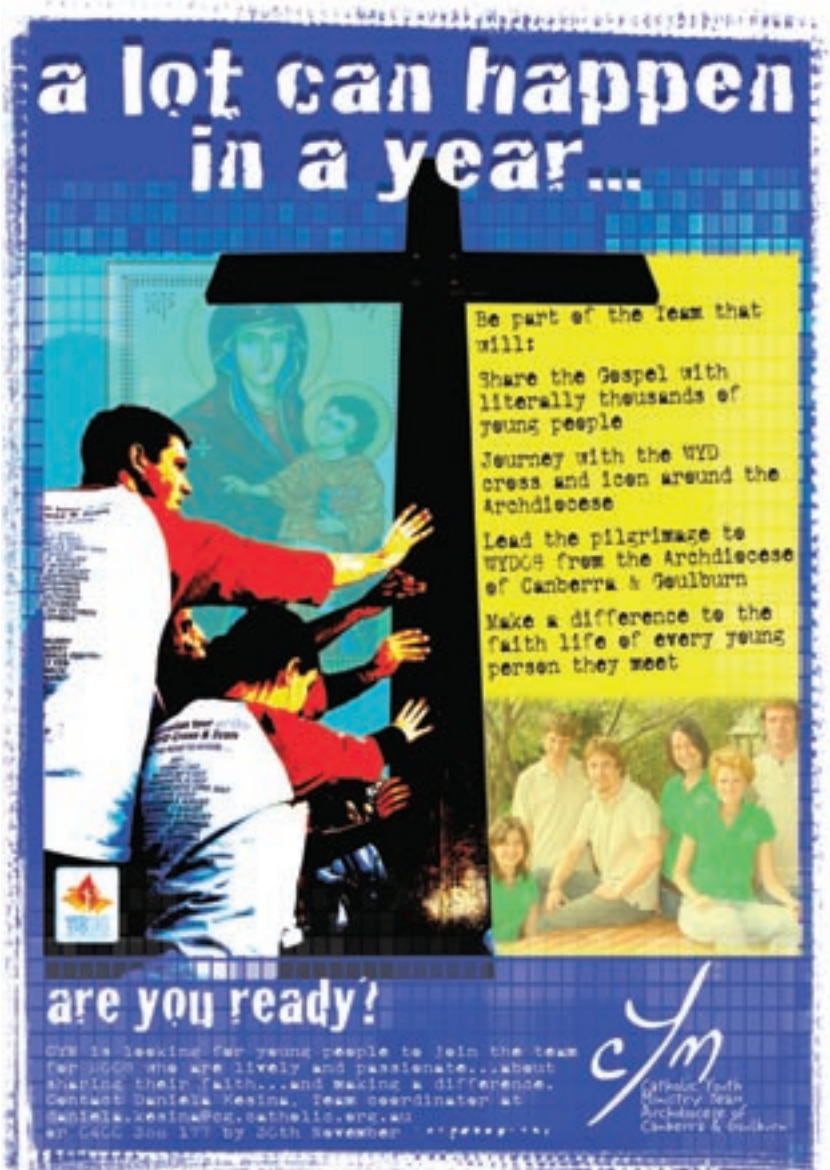
Aboriginal literacy has received a boost thanks to the creative efforts of three Lake Cargelligo women.

Joy Kelly, Sharon Thorpe and Irene Kelly are among the authors of a set of readers designed for Aboriginal primary school children, published by Sydney-based Indij Readers.

There are now more than 20 books in the series, which was launched in 2003. The three women travelled to Melbourne for the launch of the nine latest readers in the series.

Joy and Sharon's books "Min Min" and "The Emu Egg" were the first two books written for Indij Readers. It is expected that Irene Kelly's book about the life of her great-grandfather will be launched with the next series.

The occasion gave them an opportunity to meet other authors, designers and illustrators. Copies are available in the libraries at St Francis Xavier's School, Lake Cargelligo, and most schools. Each of the readers features the work of contemporary Aboriginal authors with design and illustrations from across many cultures and nationalities.



St Jude's are champs

St Jude's Primary School in Holder had success with its entries in Questacon's engineering games held during Science Week.

Year six student James Watson won first prize in the senior primary straw tower competition. The challenge was to create the lightest tower that held the greatest weight.

Celeste Huttley, Andrea McQuirk and Zoe McAlister (right) from year three won first prize in the junior primary enlightened timer competition with their timer which kept a light on for 30 seconds.



Tributes paid to former orphans These Aussies won...

Former residents of Goulburn's orphanages have been remembered with memorial plaques in Victoria Park and near the former Marian Chapel.

Two plaques adjacent to the former Marian Chapel in Clinton Street pay tribute to orphans from St Joseph's and St John's Homes, which were run by the Mercy sisters. The plaque was unveiled by Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power and St John's "old-boy" Mr Ken Doyle. An editorial in The Goulburn Post said "one of the more moving parts of Saturday's ceremonies was Bishop Pat Power's apology for any pain the former orphans might have suffered."

Goulburn Mulwaree Council also created a new Orphans Memorial Garden in Victoria Park. In the



centre of the garden a plaque details the four former Goulburn orphanages, the Gill Home run by the Salvation Army, St Saviour's Anglican Home, St Joseph's and St John's. This follows the Senate inquiry into children in institutional care, which recommended local communities pay tribute to such children.

Generous students donate computer

Students in Penola house at Merici College have given a computer to Marymead Child and Family Centre - after having won it at the Marymead walkathon earlier this year. Donated by Wizard Personnel, the computer was won by the students for having the most participants from a

school in the walkathon.

BELOW: Penola house coordinator Mr Michael Stinziani, year eight Penola student executive Olivia Geier, Penola vice captain Angie Crilley and captain Alice Peisley hand the computer to Marymead CEO Mr Dawson Ruhl.



The Australian team has taken out the rugby World Cup at St Clare's College.

Inspired by the actual World Cup, St Clare's College staged a similar competition with 20 college house teams made from a mixture of year seven, eight and nine students. House teams made bids to represent a country, raising \$600 for charities.

Organiser and physical education teacher Mr Karim Sedour, on exchange from England, said the competition was a great success. "There were three reasons for staging the event," he said. "They were pupil

enjoyment, inter-year co-operation and endeavour within houses and to raise money for charity." The game played was similar to indoor touch.

After three weeks of lunchtime matches, Australian Wallaroos rugby team members Lindsay Morgan and Megan Valler presented trophies.

ABOVE: Mr Sedour with finals teams Italy: team manager Caitlin Patat, Lauren Stephens, Amy Mulcahy, Catherine Brown and Paige Vaughan. They played France, Morgan Kennedy, Natasha Wilson, Brooke Haling, Nat McPhee, Stacey Laurent manager.



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Help keep Christianity alive in the Holy Land and Middle East

Moved by the desperate plight of Christians in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East, the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has been supporting the country's beleaguered Christian population.

Sadly, due to ongoing violence and oppression, the proportion of Christians in the Holy Land has plummeted from 20 percent to as little as 1.4 percent in the last 40 years.

ACN is helping to keep faith and hope alive throughout the region by providing urgent aid to priests, religious and lay people, offering subsistence help to refugees and building and repairing churches and convents. Please help us strengthen and rebuild the Church in the land of Christ's birth.

A beautiful, handcrafted crib, made of olive wood in Bethlehem, will be sent to all those who give a donation of \$20.00 or more to help this campaign.



Please tick the box below if you would like to receive the little olive wood crib*.

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Phone/Fax No: (02) 9679-1929 E-mail: info@aidtochurch.org Web: www.aidtochurch.org

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☐ Yes please send me the little olive wood crib*



Made of olive wood from the Holy Land, this delightful little crib scene is powerfully evocative of Christ's birthplace.

The cribs are lovingly, handcrafted by poverty stricken families in Bethlehem and your donation helps them survive.

(Size: 10.5 cm x 10.5 cm x 5.5 cm)

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CATHOLIC VOICE November 2007 - 17

Be transported to Assisi

Light in the Dark Ages: the friendship of Francis and Clare of Assisi by Jon M. Sweeney. Paraclete Press, 2007, 204 pages, rrp \$29.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Let me declare from the outset that I loved this book. I loved it for its clarity of writing, for its historical detail and for its sense of optimism.

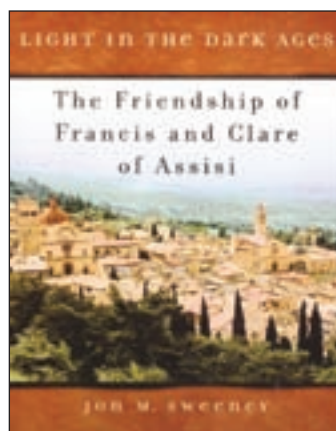
One only has to say Francis and Clare to be transported mentally to the little town of Assisi in Italy where the legendary pair lived in the late Middle Ages.

Sweeney has already written several books about these

two saints. In Light in the Dark Ages he documents the friendship of Francis and Clare, raising and then de-mythologising the assumptions that have surrounded their relationship.

The life of Francis is well known. Clare's is less so. They had much in common. Both rejected their wealthy families and embraced poverty. Both rejoiced in God's creation, both attracted followers rapidly. Sweeney's undoubted scholarship and knowledge of his subjects is very evident. Thankfully it remains accessible to the average reader like me.

He draws on the writings of



Francis' contemporaries and other sources and sketches for us the mind-set of medieval society. Best of all he avoids idealizing the saints.

Francis is fully human with doubts, fears, anger and illnesses as real as his unequivocal determination to live as Jesus did.

Sweeney concludes with some reflections on the relevance of living in the spirit of Francis and Clare today. He believes that in being a follower of Christ today we can get lost in the details of being a cultural Christian. Francis and Clare, with the help of the Holy Spirit modelled Christ without counting the cost and transformed the darkness of the Middle Ages. Such commitment, he believes, would be enormously attractive today.

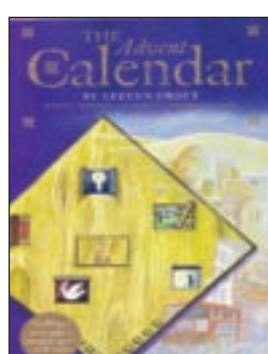
Help young prepare well in Advent

The Advent Calendar. Steven Croft, Darton, Longman and Todd, 2006. 254pp, pb, rrp \$31.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

How would you write a book to help young people, from five to mid teens, reflect on the meaning of Christmas and the importance of preparing well for it in Advent?

Anglican Steven Croft, an author who is also described as "Archbishop's Missioner," uses a combination of allegory and fantasy to achieve his purpose. The story revolves around Alice, teenager and only child in a separated family, and Sam, the younger brother of Alice's mother, who moved in with them, seeking a refuge while he sorts out his broken relationships. It is set in England.

Alice wins an Advent calendar, but it doesn't bring her the chocolates she anticipates. Instead, every day Alice and Sam step through the calendar (or its mirror companion) and have an experience that leads to reflection on their expectations, hopes, and attitudes. They respond to the invitations and experience gradual transformation.



ience gradual transformation.

The story moves from normal school, home and office life to fantasy episodes, which, in an age of Doctor Who and Harry Potter seem plausible enough. They are, in fact, observations of, and participation in, key themes of scripture: a city/ civilization in darkness seeking the light; weaponry being re-fashioned into beautiful objects; drinking life-giving water; experiencing anew the wonder of creation; becoming alert to life choices and sinfulness; the power of the Holy Spirit ...

At times, the day's experience/adventure borders on a literal interpretation of scriptural texts and a couple of passing references may imply a less than sympathetic understanding of aspects of the Hebrew scriptures.

On the whole, Croft has produced an interesting tale which can be read at a number of different levels, perhaps even by adults. There are hints about codes used in the book, and these can also be explored, along with other delights, on the Advent Calendar website: www.advent-calendar.co.uk/

Tales of heroism rather than horror

Unexpected Grace: Stories of Faith, Science and Altruism by Bill Kramer. Templeton Foundation Press, 2007, 243 pages, rrp \$ 34.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

By coincidence I started to read this book Unexpected Grace on the sixth anniversary of the destruction of the twin towers in New York. Therefore, I was intrigued to discover that the first section of this collection of stories is concerned with eye-witness accounts of that terrible event and its aftermath.

But these are not mere descriptions of the horror. Rather there are tales of extraordinary heroism and of the capacity of ordinary human beings to reach out to one another in love and service.

Operating from St Paul's Chapel on the edge of Ground Zero, a team of church volunteers responded spontaneously

to the needs of the relief workers. The exhausted workers needed a place to rest, receive medical treatment, a change of clothes and food. It was radical hospitality and it continued around the clock for nine months. To quote one of the helpers "from tragedy came transformation".

I found the rest of the book not as powerful. Based on a series of research studies from the Institute for Research on Unlimited Love in Cleveland, Ohio, Bill Kramer is subsequently granted interviews with some participants. He states that he is drawn to those who attempt to build bridges between faith, science and altruism. He calls them love's short stories.

The voices are authentic. Much of the writing is in direct speech. There are video clips and interview questions quoted verbatim. There is a section on racism with two university students, one black one white, discussing friendship, another on dealing with terminal illness and much on forgiveness.

Each section can and perhaps should be read on its own. However the divergent themes express hope, faith and compassion and what is most noble in the human spirit.

How serious are we about our ministry?

Guide for Lectors. V Meagher and P Turner. Liturgy Training Publications, 2007, 70pp, pb, rrp \$8.95.

Guide for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. K A Riley and P Turner. Liturgy Training Publications, 2007, 70pp, pb, rrp \$8.95.

Guide for Cantors. J K Breadlove and P Turner. Liturgy Training Publications, 2007, 88pp, pb, rrp \$9.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Do Catholics take their liturgical ministries (eg, sacristan, reader, welcomer) seriously? Do they read about their ministry and/or undertake formation courses to refresh or deepen their understanding?

A new series on liturgical ministry has been published by the quality publishers Liturgy Training Publications in Chicago. Already printed are small books on the ministries of reader, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and cantor. No doubt others will become available over time. The books presume ministers, as skilled craftpersons, will want to know and improve their ministerial capacities.

Each book is very reasonably priced, and contains a chapter on theology and history of, spirituality and formation for, each ministry, serving as the particular minister, including a section on frequently asked questions, resources for preparation and prayer, in written form and on websites and a glossary. There is space at the end of each chapter for recording personal, and sometimes group, responses to the information presented.

The style is informal, rather conversational. The writers also make constant reference to pertinent extracts from recent liturgical documents of the Church, usually in bite-sized chunks, followed up with good notes at the end of each chapter. The layout is clear and inviting, and the book functions rather like a series of tutorials.

One welcome inclusion in a book about ministry is that of ongoing spirituality. "The more you hear the Word of God, the more it can penetrate your very being." "Private prayer is essential in the life of any Catholic ... even more so for the one who serves the body and blood of Christ." "As a cantor, you become familiar with the liturgical calendar: seasons, and special days of the Lord, Mary and the Saints."

The authors are professional liturgists: Paul Turner, a priest with a doctorate in theology, Virginia Meagher, a diocesan liturgical coordinator with graduate studies in communication and ministry, Kenneth Riley, a priest with Masters studies in theology and canon law, and Jennifer Kerr Breadlove, a liturgical musician and conductor with a Masters degree, composer and cantor. Their approach is very pastoral as well as having a strong liturgical emphasis.

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Every effort to get you to laugh

The death of Daniel (Macfadyen) and Robert's (Graves) father brings their entire dysfunctional family together to mourn his passing.

On the morning of the funeral, the family and friends of the deceased each arrive with his or her own anxieties. Son Daniel knows he will have to face his flirty, blow-hard, famous-novelist brother Robert who's just flown in from New York, not to mention the promises of a new life he's made to his wife Jane (Keely Hawes).

Meanwhile, Daniel's cousin Martha (Daisy Donovan) and her dependable new fiancé Simon (Alan Tudyk) are desperate to make a good impression on Martha's uptight father - a plan that literally goes out the window when Simon accidentally ingests a designer drug en route to the service, leaving him prone to uncontrollable bouts of delirium and nudity in front of his potential in-laws.

Then comes the real shocker: a mysterious guest (Dinklage) threatens to unveil an earth-shattering family secret. It is now up to the two broth-



Andy Nyman (Howard) and Peter Vaughan (Uncle Alfie) Death at a Funeral (Icon Film Distribution).

Death at a Funeral.

Starring Matthew Macfayden, Rupert Graves, Alan Tudyk, Peter Vaughan, Peter Dinklage. Directed by Frank Oz. 90 min. M (frequent coarse language, moderate drug themes, moderate sexual references and nudity). Reviewer: Fr Richard Leonard SJ*.



Films



ers to hide the truth from their family and friends and figure out how to not only bury their beloved father, but the secret he's been keeping.

A dignified send-off for Dad erupts into chaos as romance, jealousy, in-laws, hallucinogens, dark

secrets, life-long yearnings and a spot of blackmail all collide in this irreverent British comedy.

There are some very funny moments in this pitch black comedy. But to get to them you have to sit through some very coarse language, sex jokes and extremely bad taste.

Death at a Funeral reminded me of the much more family-friendly British comedy, Love Actually. There are so many eccentric characters on the screen that we get tired of keeping up with them all. The plot is similarly busy, so we are not sure which one will win out in the end. On the way through the writers and director throw everything at the audience to get the laughs.

We are not meant to take any of it seriously. An old-fashioned British romp, which is just as well, because the values behind the story are deadly.

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

Clever action parody

Despite every inclination not to and every injunction in my head to loathe this film, I could not help but like it. Certainly, others may not. Many others did not.

Having disliked Sin City and, even much more, the two Grindhouse films, Planet Terror and, especially, Death Proof, I was wary of graphic novel adaptations which end up like live cartoons.

As can be gathered instantly, this is a shoot 'em up cartoon. Audiences straying into the cinema or starting the DVD will know immediately whether they will like it or not.

Clive Owen (not a great actor for comedy), obligatory black coat, carrot in hand or munching it, comes across a young woman who is about to give birth. She is being pursued by thugs who start a ding-dong shootout. Clive, with one hand on the gun and the other on the carrot, reminds biblically inclined viewers of the refrain, Saul killed his thousands, David his ten thousands (which doesn't sound like a PG section of the books of Samuel).

Actually, not all are dead because they have to make their way back to Mr Big to report what has happened and be ready to meet Clive again. Meanwhile, the mother is dead, so Clive has to replace his gun (not the carrot) and pick up baby with the other hand. This all has a guilty pleasure ironic appeal.

And so it goes. Mr Big is played

Shoot 'Em Up

Starring Clive Own, Monica Bellucci. Directed by Michael Davis. 86 min. Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC.

by Paul Giamatti with all stops out and over the top, exasperated as his henchmen bite the dust and

Clive continually frustrates him. But, there is an even Mr Bigger who, it seems, is running a scheme to harvest children for organ supplies, especially to Mr Biggest who is... but that would be giving it away.

Clive visits a prostitute whose professional skills enable her to suckle and look after the baby. The pair and baby are then pursued throughout the film. Shoot 'Em Up clearly does not ask to be taken literally or too seriously. Rather, it is a clever parody of the action film, using the exaggerated deadpan style.

Value of helping those in need

DVDs

Jesus of Nazareth Part 1: The Awaited Messiah (30 mins, ages 10 - adult).

Presents the early gospel incidents based on the most part on Luke's account - the betrothal of Mary and Joseph, the Annunciation, the Visitation to Elizabeth, the birth of John, and Joseph's dream.



Videos & DVDs

VHS VIDEOS

Preparing for Christmas II. (60 mins, notes, ages 7 - adult).

A four part video with each section exploring the meaning of Advent. Part one uses a series of brief vignettes that show how everyday life is a constant reminder of what Jesus' becoming human means. Part two shows how Fr Declan, by being a Santa Claus, brings to elderly people and to children his own special loving presence and helps them understand their own uniqueness. Part three tells the story of a child's simple faith who wishes for a daddy for a day. Part four tells the story of the nativity through the eyes of Aaron the donkey.

Advent (Celebrating the season) (12 mins, ages 7 - 13).

Using the four candles of the Advent wreath as the focus, this video examines how Advent is made up of waiting, kindness, joy and peace. Children tell how they find these qualities in their lives, as well as the people they remember from the Scriptures and today who exhibit Advent qualities. Other Advent activities are also shown, including the Jesse Tree, making a crib, and Advent calendars.

Advent : A Time To Hope (20 mins, adults).

Invites parents to discover the ways they celebrate Advent in everyday life. Encourages them to develop a different mindset for the activities they are already doing. Explores the spirituality present in such actions as Christmas shopping and card writing, and the "hoping" that is inherent to parenthood, while encouraging families to focus their attention on the coming of Christ in the world today.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Symbols of Advent (1 CD-ROM, ages 12 - adult).

The main scriptural Advent symbols are presented here in colourful illustrations, together with an interpretation of each, and the references for finding them in the Sunday Advent readings. There is also a description and explanation of the Advent Wreath and the Jesse Tree - traditional forms of Advent decoration.

SOUND RECORDINGS

Sacred Celebrations for Advent and Christmas Year A: Celebrating our Unexpected God. By Jim Cosgrove. (CD, ages 6 adult).

This music CD includes 9 songs and accompanying backing tracks by Jim Cosgrove following themes of Advent and Christmas. A book, written by Rina Wintour accompanies the CD. It includes ideas for Advent liturgies, prayer rituals, activities for children plus sheet music for songs on the CD.

Carey Landry & Carol Jean Kinghorn. How Beautiful is the Child: Music for Advent and Christmas (1 CD & Music book, ages 8 - 12). A compilation of 14 songs for children to suit the themes of Advent and Christmas..

* The CEO Library holds a good collection of videos, books, and music on Advent and Christmas.

The Ex

Starring Zach Braff and Amanda Peet. Directed by Jesse Peretz. 91 min. Rated M (infrequent moderate coarse language, moderate sexual references). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC*.

Some breezy slapstick

A brief, sometimes breezy, sometimes blustery, romantic comedy about marrieds. Zach Braff (Garden State, Scrubs, The Last Kiss) is a restaurant chef who stands up to his puffed up boss (Paul Rudd) and finds himself sacked just as he expected to be promoted. His wife (Amanda Peet) goes into labour and they have a son.

What is to be done? Go back to Ohio and work for his father-in-law in a sales company that has overdosed on New Age camaraderie and creativity. Dad is played by Charles Grodin and mum by Mia Farrow.

However, there is a demonic Iago at work who finds all kinds of insidious, sneering but surface respectable ways of putting down, undermining him. All of which comes to a comeuppance head but not until after some hard slapstick.

The film is in favour of marriage and love, shows the difficulties and the hardships in trying to work while continually under pressure.

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

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We gathered as one, whether as school communities or united as parishes across the Archdiocese, to celebrate and support Mission during World Mission Week. Bishop Mark lead our Mission Mass celebrations and Nathan Kensey shared with students, teachers and CEO staff about 'Youth in Mission and Care for Creation and Neighbour', this year's theme.

Many faith communities throughout the developing world and within remote Australia rely on our support to exist and to reach out to others. Supporting our Church's mission unites us to the labours of many.

Sr Maureen Elliott FMM, has returned to the Franciscan Ethiopian Mission following a decade caring for family and working in Catholic Mission's national office. For 25 years Franciscans have been working with the Ethiopian community. Sr Maureen passed through a number of refugee camps where people are working tirelessly to repatriate Sudanese people following the peace accord: 6000 by the year's end and 50,000 by the end of 2009.

Their presence has encouraged others to overcome depression and face each new day. Some have gained skills they intend to take back to Sudan.

God bless
Deacon Joe Blackwell

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Several years ago, I met a young man who was working through a very difficult time in his life.

He had graduated with a degree in business ten years before, worked successfully in a job for a while, but then decided that the corporate world was not for him. He quit his job a bit naively without a definite plan for his future, lived on his savings until they were gone, and then went into a painful free-fall where he found himself living out of his car, in friends' houses, or at the mercy and goodwill of whoever would take him in. The few dollars he now earned from dishwashing were spent on tuition, for courses in literature and theology.

But his free-fall wasn't just economic. It was emotional as well. His self-image, his confidence, and his relationships all took a massive beating. Family and friends were less than sympathetic and understanding. Their eyes, if not their words, spoke of their disappointment in him - the once handsome, successful young man, now going nowhere.

He had left his job with idealistic dreams of becoming a writer, but now lacked all self-confidence. He told me one day: "The hardest thing has been dealing with my own father, who had always been so proud of me. Now there is disappointment in him every time he looks at me. Recently he told me, 'You look shabby!' He didn't have to add: 'I'm ashamed of you!' and I didn't have to say: 'I feel shabby!'"

But right after saying this with real sadness in his voice, his voice suddenly became stronger and he added: "As painful as this is, I have one consolation: I'm growing up! I was a spoiled, rich kid, with no tools to handle frustration. This pain is eventually going to turn me into something else. I would have had to fall apart this way sometime to ever grow up; so, better it happen now when I'm still young. I look at my friends who aren't going through any of this, and I don't envy them. They will eventually have to go through something like this too!"

I had a sense of what he meant because something very similar happened in my own life, except that I did envy my friends who weren't as depressed as I was.

During the summer when I was 14, my inner world collapsed. It began with the suicide of a neighbor. A young man whose health and body I envied went out one night and hanged himself.

Then another young man from our small farming community was killed in an industrial accident, and the summer ended with a classmate, a close friend, dying in a horse-riding accident. I served as an altar server at each of their funerals. My outside world stayed the same, but inside, not unlike the young man whose story I just shared, things were dark, spinning, scary. I was in a free-fall.

The spectre of death suddenly coloured my whole world and, even though I was only 14, I was now an old man inside. A certain youthfulness and joie de vivre slipped away from me for good. It truly was a summer of my discontent. I envied everyone who wasn't as depressed as I was. I felt myself the saddest 14-year-old in the world.

But, as all that pain, disillusionment, and loss of self-confidence was seeping into my life, something else was seeping in too, a deeper faith, a deeper vision of things, an acceptance of my vulnerability and mortality, and a sense of my vocation.

I'm a priest today because of that summer. It remains still the most

Lost is a place too ...

Ron Rolheiser

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



painful, insecure, depressed period of my life. But it remains, too, the time of deepest growth. Purgatory on earth, I had it when I was 14.

Many of us associate Christina Crawford with the famous biography, Mommy Dearest, a book within which she shares what it was like to be the adopted and emotionally abused daughter of Joan Crawford.

It's a story worth reading and I heartily recommend her follow-up book, a further biographical work entitled, Survivor.

In it she chronicles her journey out of Hollywood and into spirituality and religion. And that journey, like the one of the young man whose story I shared, involved deep pain and soul-shattering disillusionment. Her story tells us what a dark night of the soul can look like. At one point, when things were at their darkest, she states that she was "completely lost", but adds: "Lost is a place too!"

She's right! Lost is a place too! And a very important one, humanly and spiritually.

Sometimes when the world is falling apart and we are haunted by the question: What is wrong? The real answer is that there is nothing wrong.

The necessary storm has finally arrived and it is a good thing too because our falling apart is the only thing that can break down and transform that spoiled, rich, self-centred kid that is inside us all.

More power to those portable hard-drives

Living with the net



Paul Jenkins

Over the past few months I have written about printers, webcams and scanners. All of these pieces of computer equipment are known as computer peripherals. This month I will take a look at external hard-drives and multi-card readers.

One of the most useful adaptations of existing computer technologies is the external computer hard drive.

An external hard-drive is exactly like your internal hard-drive or C drive inside the box or tower of your computer. Unlike your internal hard-drive that is permanently mounted inside your computer, external hard-drives are portable and can be plugged into other computers to share data and information.

External hard drives come in many different sizes from about 60 Gigabytes up to and including 1 Terabyte, equal to 1000 Gigabytes or approximately 2000 CD-ROMs or 130 Dual Layer DVDs about 9 Gigs each disk.

There are a number of advantages to having an external hard drive aside from its portability. These include: a) more memory than CDs, DVDs and Flash or USB drives, b) better protection of data files compared to CDs, DVDs and Flash or USB drives, c) the potential for using these drives for recovering the data from a broken or damaged computer, d) the ability

to share data to many networked and non-networked computers, and e) adding additional storage space to an existing computer and thus freeing up space for other programs to operate more efficiently.

External hard drives generally connect to your computer through a USB connection and need to be plugged into mains power to operate. Because external hard drives operate using a plug-and-play principle similar to USB drives, they generally don't require you to load separate software onto your computer in order to work.

There are many different brands of external hard drives on the computer market so it is worth shopping around for both quality and cost. Popular brands of external hard-drives include: Seagate, Iomega, Maxtor and Western Digital MyBook.

insites

Australian Catholic Cursillo Movement www.cursillo.asn.au

Cursillo is a Spanish word meaning short course. The movement's method focuses on living the Gospel in everyday life. It began in Australia in Armidale in 1965, but had been in existence in Spain much earlier. It was a reaction to the attempt of the Republican Government in the 1930s to "introduce atheism into all aspects of Spanish life". (Courtesy Church Resources)

For more information about external hard drives try the External Hard Drive Buying Guide (http://images10.newegg.com/UploadFilesForNewegg/itemintelligence/NI_Internal%20and%20External%20HDDs/NIC-Buy-External_Hard_Drive_Buying_Guide-v1.1e.doc).

Multi-card or Memory-card readers are devices used to read the information on flash memory cards that you usually use in digital cameras, but are now being used in a wide variety of computer accessories including PDAs and mobile phones.

Many newer PCs contain memory card reader drives for removable storage cards for digital cameras. Most new PC now leave out a floppy disk drive to have space for reader drives.

However if your computer doesn't already contain one, you can purchase portable reader drives for as little as \$50 from computer stores.

Better quality reader drives are more expensive and can "read" a wider variety of removable storage drives. You can have a reader drive installed in your computer or you can have a portable one that allows you to transfer it to other computers if you need to.

Reader drives usually cater for the popular types of removable memory storage including Sony memory sticks, Sandisk memory cards, Smart Media, SD memory cards and Compact Flash memory cards.

However when purchasing a reader drive, take your storage card with you, so you can make sure you get the right one for your needs.

For more information about flash cards and multi-card readers try the Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memory_card) and (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi_card_reader).

Award recognises Filipino women



Seven nominees are in the running for an award that recognises the achievements of Filipino-Australian women in the ACT and the Monaro region.

The nominees for the 2007 Filipino-Australian Women Achievers award have a list of achievements and qualifications including career professionals, public servants, artists, cultural performers and community leaders.

They are Mrs Delilah Bean, Mrs Volet Carolan, Mrs Socorro Cue, Mrs Fedelina Donaghue, Mrs Asuncion Finch, Mrs Elizabeth Remonde-Garrett and Mrs Elvira Snelson.

The awards committee, a panel of judges and the nominees met at the Philippine Embassy. Ambassador Mr Ernesto H De Leon said the awards were a good opportunity to raise the image of Filipino women especially those who had already become Australians.

The awards night will be held at 6.30pm on Friday, 2 November, at University House, Acton. Inquiries: E-mail vcarolan30@yahoo.com

ABOVE: The group is (from left): Mrs Socorro Cue, Mrs Cecilia Flores, Mrs Delilah Bean, Mrs Letty Thompson, Ambassador Ernesto H De Leon, Mrs Volet Carolan, Mrs Fedelina Donaghue, Mrs Elizabeth Remonde-Garrett and Mrs Asuncion Finch.

ACT makes up executive

Women from the ACT will make up the national executive of Australian Church Women for the next two years following the organisation's annual conference in Geelong.

Members of the ACT unit of Australian Church Women on the executive are:

President Mrs Jean Thomson, vice-presidents Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell and Mrs Helen Raymond, secretary Mrs Margaret Lawton, minute secretary Mrs Angela Devlin, treasurer Mrs Helen Lloyd, Fellowship of the Least Coin convener Mrs Jan Abrahamffy, social justice convener Mrs Judith-Ann Sjostedt, Winifred Kiek convener Mrs

Constance Aronsen, and publications editor Major Eileen Holley. Three members of Catholic Women's League in the Archdiocese are serving on the Executive, current Archdiocesan CWL president Mrs Hipwell, central region secretary and St Christopher's branch president Mrs Devlin and Mrs Sjostedt.

Mrs Marie Gallagher, vice-president of central region on the CWL executive, will take on the role of president of the ACT unit of Australian Church Women.

Choir's November program

The November program for St Caecilia's Choir is:

Thursday, 1 November, Feast of All Saints. Sung Mass 7pm. Friday, 2 November, Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed (All Souls). Sung Mass 7pm. Sunday, 4 November, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (Chant Mass), Motet: Sicut Cervus (Palestrina), Processional: Sing All Creation, Recessional: Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer.

Sunday, 11 November, 24th Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (Chant Mass), Motet: Cantate Domino (Croce), Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise. Sunday, 18 November, 25th Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the day, Ordinary: chant mass: Missa Orbis Factor, Motet: Benedic Anima Mea (Sermisy), Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.

Sunday, 25 November, Last Sunday after Pentecost: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Orbis Factor (Chant Mass), Motet: Verbum Caro (Walter), Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him.

The choir's annual carol service will take place at 7.30pm on Sunday, 9 December, at the Chapel of St John the Evangelist, Daley Road, ANU.



Robyn Moore (second from right) with Sr Noelene Quinane, McAuley Central School principal Patricia Mangelsdorf, and Sr Bernadette Mary Walsh.

Josephites' gift to youth

In their 125th year of service, the Goulburn Sisters of St Joseph wanted to give a gift to the young people of the Archdiocese and invited professional speaker Mrs Robyn Moore to visit schools.

St Francis Xavier College in Florey, Trinity Catholic College, Goulburn, McAuley Central School, Tumut and St Francis' de Sales College Leeton, were treated to a visit from Mrs Moore, funded by the Josephites.

Committed to communication, Mrs Moore's focus was on "the power of the word" and more than one student claimed the visit changed their life. Mrs Moore is the voice of Blinky Bill and other characters as well as national patron of the Make a Wish Foundation, the Ambassador for the Australia Day Council and has been named Communicator of the Year.

Jugiong makes impression

Author, radio presenter and "sculpture addict" Mrs Genevieve Jacobs will open an art exhibition on Friday, 23 November, at Jugiong Memorial Hall in support of St John the Evangelist Church, Jugiong.



Feature artist for the exhibition, which will run over the weekend of 24 and 25 November, is Ken Knight, who is regarded as one of Australia's master impressionists. He is a well respected landscape artist, who has exhibited widely in Australia and overseas and has won more than 50 major awards. Many local artists will also exhibit.

Parish priest Fr Joe Tran has again donated a painting to be raffled. Inquiries: Jackie Honner, telephone 6945 4244, e-mail benangaroo@bigpond.com

ABOVE: Stephanie Corkhill Hyles holds a painting to go on show, "Soul Mates".

Monks to visit for Mass

Two monks from a Benedictine community in France will celebrate Latin Mass in the traditional rite next month at Christ the King Church, Taralga. Fr Pius OSB and Fr John Mary OSB, from Flavigny Abbey in Burgundy, were invited by parish priest Fr Paul A McGavin and will celebrate Mass at 11am on Sunday, 2 December. Fr McGavin said the Mass would not be a solemn High Mass but a Missa Cantata. Music will be by a schola led by Mr Stephen Smith of Wollongong.

Those wanting to bring a picnic lunch will have access to the school conference room. Inquiries: Fr McGavin, telephone 4840 2061.



Harden, Jugiong Confirmation

Twenty one children from Harden and eight from Jugiong received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Archbishop Mark Coleridge was principal celebrant at Mass at both centres, assisted by parish priest Fr Simon Falk and Fr Frank Keogh. LEFT: Candidates from Harden. Back: Fr Keogh, Emma Perceval, William Fitzgerald, Alex Stewart, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Rose Henman, Kathleen Cusack, Joshua Quinn, Emma Murphy, Samantha Doolan, Fr Falk. Middle: Joshua Potts, Tyrell McCullagh, Bernie McGrath, Ebony Fuller, Gus Woods, Tom Stewart, Jade Kerrison. Front: Georgia Smith, Sarah McCarthy, Melanie Jenkins, Isabella Flannery, Clare Smith, Sam White.



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Closing date
15th of the month

\$5.50 minimum for first 30 words.
ADDITIONAL: \$1.10 for each 6 words or less

Name:

Address:

Phone:

ART SHOW & SALE - Yass parish, official opening, Friday, 2 November, 7pm -9.30pm. Entry \$25 includes light supper & drinks. Show and sale on 3 and 4 November, 10am-4pm. Entry \$5 includes light refreshments. St Augustine's Hall, Meehan Street, Yass. Inquiries: Telephone 6226 1086 Mon, Tue or Fri, or e-mail sta.yass@cg.catholic.org.au

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - St John the Apostle Catholic Community Kippax, 7.30pm-9pm, 16 October to 20 November. Inquiries: Parish Office, telephone 6254 3236, e-mail stj.kippax@cg.catholic.org.au Parishweb: www.stjohnkippax.org.au

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE - Led by St Caecilia's Choir, 7.30pm, Sunday, 9 December, at Chapel of St John the Evangelist, Daley Road, ANU. Featuring carols for choir and congregation with organ, trumpet, timpani, Gregorian chant, renaissance polyphony and instrumental solos. Inquiries: Maria Henry, telephone 6249 6278, e-mail mariamhenry@bigpond.com

COURAGE CANBERRA - Group for those experiencing same-sex attraction and desiring to live sacramental life of the Church. Confidentiality assured. Inquiries: Telephone 6254 9540, e-mail couragecanberra@hotmail.com

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

GOSPEL MUSIC CONCERT - "Music in my Soul", annual concert by Strange Weather Gospel Choir, 8pm, Saturday, 24 November, Canberra Girls' Grammar School Senior Hall, Melbourne Avenue, Deakin. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$16 concession, \$60 family. Bookings: Street Theatre Ticketing, telephone 6247 1223, www.thestreet.org.au

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS - First Saturday devotions, Saturday, 1 December, Holy Family Church, 167 Bugden Avenue, Gowrie. Devotions begin with Mass at noon, followed by a Cenacle with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession.

Devotions will conclude with Benediction. Afternoon tea in the Parish Centre. Inquiries: Fr Emil Milat, telephone 6291 6688.

MARYMEAD REUNION - Marymead Child and Family Centre reunion for former clients, staff, residents and foster parents, early November. If your life has been affected by Marymead over the last 40 years, register your interest at programs@marymead.org.au telephone 6162 5800 or www.marymead.org.au Reunion by invitation only due to confidentiality.

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

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

SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA - Thursday, 8 November, 6.15pm Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin; dinner afterwards at Canberra Southern Cross Club, Phillip.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND - St Clement's, Galong, 23-25 November. Open to all men who want to seriously reflection on their direction in life and how they can make God more a central part of it- and have fun in the process. A particular focus on the priesthood. Key presenters Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Fr Ed Travers MSC. Inquiries: Fr Emil Milat, telephone 6291 6688, e-mail emil@corpuschristi.insitec.com.au

WYD ADORATION VIGIL - Pray for World Youth Day in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, first Saturday of month, next vigil Saturday, 3 November, St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla. Exposition follows 6pm Vigil Mass, then adoration all night to 6am Sunday. Inquiries: Susanna Taylor, telephone 0419 902 293 or website www.wydin-canberra.org

Written entries are invited for the December issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Thursday, 15 November. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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Loving man of great generosity

Patrick Vincent Clarke

St John's Parish, Kippax, has farewelled one of its best known parishioners, Wicklow born Patrick (Paddy) Clarke. Mr Clarke, who died recently in Canberra, was 89.

Many from Canberra's Irish community joined his family and friends in a traditional farewell at the Requiem Mass celebrated by Fr Peter Woods.

Irish hymns were a feature of the Mass, with "I heard the voice of Jesus say" sung to the beautiful tune of The Dawning of the Day.

His coffin was draped with the green, white and gold of the Irish flag, and his prayer book and rosary beads were placed with seven white roses, one from each of his children.

Father Woods described Mr Clarke as a gentle, loving man who was known and respected in the parish for his great faith and generosity.

Paddy Clarke's death marks the end of a generation. He came from a large family, and grew up in rural Ireland. Although he did not endure the poverty that many of his mates knew, because he lived on a big English estate where his father was chief steward, he was conscious that many others lived in desperate circumstances. These early experiences taught him acceptance and tolerance. He was not one for the anti-English or anti-Protestant sentiment that was common in Ireland at the time.

He was thrilled that he lived to see Ian Paisley and Gerry Adams finally negotiate an enduring peace process in Northern Ireland, and one of the few regrets he expressed was that his wife Nell hadn't lived to see it too. They met during World War 2 when they were both working in Yorkshire, although they came from the same parish in Ireland. They married in 1944 and had seven children. In 1961, Pat, Nell and the children migrated to Australia, arriving in Grafton.

Mr Clarke was a positive and optimistic man, outgoing and made friends easily. As a mechanic, his work for Massey Ferguson took him around farms on the north coast, where his inventiveness and resourcefulness helped many cane farmers. His later working years were spent at the Department of Agriculture Research Station at Grafton. Following



his retirement, he and Nell moved to Canberra to be closer to family.

Throughout his adult life, Mr Clarke was active in the St Vincent de Paul Society, and his generosity knew no bounds. He always believed that whatever was his was anyone else's who needed it and that there was always room at the dinner table and the house for someone who needed a bed, a meal, or a hand up.

They included families arriving in Australia through the Colombo Plan, children from the local orphanage for Christmas and Easter holidays, and especially any young man who might be in danger of "going astray", or needed support. He once brought home seven Irish lads from a local building site who, he said, needed a home-cooked meal and who stayed for over a month.

Following his wife's death in 1996, Mr Clarke spent his time between his home in Canberra and Goulburn, where he visited daughter Ursula and her family, and was involved in the life of the Parish of Mary Queen of Apostles. He was particularly interested in the restoration of Sts Peter and Paul Old Cathedral.

As a staunch Labor supporter, he was also a familiar sight on election day, handing out how-to-vote cards, and celebrated Ursula's election to the Senate in 2001 with a great party. He was hoping to celebrate again at the upcoming election, but died peacefully at Calvary Hospital in Canberra on 21 September.

At his funeral, Senator Stephens spoke on behalf of the family, thanking parishioners for their love, care and respect for her father. She described him as a spiritual man, known for his simple faith, generosity and integrity. She said there were three pillars of his life - his family, his faith and his community - and that, in the words of Micah, he lived justly, loved tenderly and walked humbly with his God.

A fiddler played a lament at the graveside and the Canberra Irish Club hosted his wake, where friends and families reminisced and shared fond memories of Paddy and Nell.

Paddy is survived by seven children, 13 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Mercy Sister's deep love of God

Sister Germaine McCann

Gwen McCann, known in religion as Sr Germaine McCann, died in Canberra on 28 September.

Sr Germaine was born at West Wyalong 81 years ago and was in her 60th year of religious profession. During those years, she was involved in many ministries including teaching, care of boards (at Mt Carmel, Yass), the Motor Mission, administration and leadership - both as local superior and congregation leader.

Following her withdrawal from full-time active ministry, Sr Germaine worked for a number of years in a voluntary capacity at Favier House, the Pastoral Care Department of Canberra Hospital and, at the time of her death, was involved in ministering to sick and frail members of the North Woden Parish including Southern Cross Homes.

Much could be said about the impact she had on the lives of many through these ministries, but the important facet of Sr Germaine's life was her deep love of God, expressed in her devotion to prayer, her love of the Eucharist and her commitment to following the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, Catherine

McAuley, in living a Mercy way of life.

It was this relationship with God which, in the few weeks before her death gave her the inner strength of acceptance. During this time, she continued to show concern for others and demonstrated a deep sense of gratitude for the excellent care that was given her as a patient at the Canberra Hospital.

Mass of Christian Burial for the repose of the soul of Sr Germaine was held at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin. She had prepared the Eucharistic celebration last June, choosing the theme of trust.

At Sr Germaine's request, the emeritus Archbishop of Canberra Goulburn, Archbishop Frances Carroll, presided over the Eucharist, together with about 20 other concelebrants. Archbishop Carroll had a long association with Sr Germaine, beginning in the Wagga Wagga Diocese.

In his homily Archbishop Carroll said he held Sr Germaine in great respect and admiration, and counted her as a very dear friend.

"She achieved a great deal in her life of prayer and humble service, a service that often took the shape of leadership.

"As Bishop of Wagga, I knew her generosity when she was provincial leader and learnt to appreciate her large sense of church. At a time when a large number of religious institutes seemed to look to their own interests and saw the wider, especially the hierarchical church, to be in competition, Sr Germaine knew that she and her sisters were an integral part of the Church, the Body of Christ."

In her time working in the Archdiocesan Chancery at Favier House "what she did was substantial, but her greater contribution was her very presence.

"We thank God for the way Sr Germaine said her "yes" to God and lived her life and died her death."

Typical of her deep faith and concern for others, Sr Germaine sent the following message to the Congregation on the eve of her death:

"Although I would love to see you all, I know this cannot be at this time, but I hold each of you - who suffer loss of family, those who bear with ill-health or other heartaches - close beside the mercy of our Lord. Let us remember that in the end, all will be well."

"A donation will be made to the local World Youth Day office from the sale of clothing in November and December."



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May the saving grace of the birth of Jesus be with you at this time and in the New Year



Enter it into a blessing, Christ be with you.

May the many gifts of Christmas bring you much happiness and joy



Pack C

Wishing you every blessing for this Holy Season and throughout the New Year



Pack B

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Wishing you all the true gifts of Christmas and a very happy New Year

May the Christmas spirit of love light your way for the year ahead



With all the blessings of this Holy Season and serenity for the New Year

With best wishes in this Holy Season and contentment in the year ahead



May the guiding light of the Christmas star lead you to peace and happiness

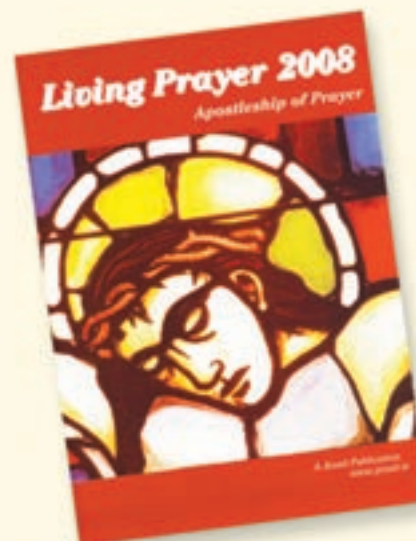
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