

‘Biggest event’  
celebration  
for all ages

Preparations for the pre-World Youth Day Days in the Diocese are now in full swing with the "biggest event of its kind" for this Archdiocese set for Exhibition Park in Canberra on 12 July.

A festival and commissioning Mass will be held from 11am to 6:30pm.

Archdiocesan Days in the Diocese program coordinator Mr Nathan Kensey said the festival would be a celebration for Catholics of all ages.

In other World Youth Day news, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati will be in Sydney - the first time his body has left Turin, Italy, since his death in 1925. The charismatic Blessed Pier Giorgio is revered for his social activism, sporty nature, sense of humour and generous spirit.

Pope Benedict will arrive on Sydney Harbour in a 13-vessel “boat-a-cade” – a nautical adaptation of the traditional papal motorcade.

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Work begins on repairing the roof of St Joseph’s, O’Connor (above), and parish priest Fr Bill Kennedy on the front steps of the fire-ravaged church (below).

Early Christmas  
gift for parish

Parishioners of St Joseph's, O'Connor, hope they will be back in their church by Christmas.

They have been worshipping on weekends in the parish school hall since early morning fires deliberately lit last year on 8 August, Mary MacKillop's feast day, badly damaged the church and destroyed the parish centre.

Rebuilding and repairs costing more than \$2 million have begun and the scheduled date for the church to be handed back by the builders is 8 December.

"It's lovely to have a date," parish priest Fr Bill Kennedy said as he inspected the beginning of the work

with builders R&F Management.

"The people are wonderful; they're all turning up every Sunday and looking forward to the restoration," Fr Kennedy said.

He celebrates Mass daily in the adjoining convent chapel and twice on weekends in St Joseph's Primary School hall.

"The builders are using the original plans so the church will be restored precisely as it was on the opening day in October 1973."

Because the fires, which were lit in both sacristies and in the St Vincent de Paul Society meeting room, funneled up through the roof in a chimney-like

effect, much of the church was spared.

"Most of the art work is intact, the stained glass windows from Dublin, the mosaics and the wooden carvings are OK. The seating in the church as well as the altar and furniture around the sanctuary was also spared."

A treasured picture of Mary MacKillop, which had been moved from the parish centre to the church for her feast day, was saved.

The parish centre, which fronted Boronia Drive in front of the church, will be re-built between the church and the convent. It will include the addition of two parish offices.



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Town safeguards its history

Heritage-listed St Edmund's Catholic Church needs renovations to ensure Bodalla's rich history is remembered.

The church in the South Coast town was built in 1886 by Mr Laidley Mort, son of substantial land owner Mr Thomas Mort, for his Catholic wife Mary, who was educated in Bruges, Belgium, and requested the architect base his design on Bruges Cathedral.

Six years before, All Saints Anglican Church was also built by the Mort family, from the estate and in memory of Thomas Mort and his first wife Theresa.

Parishioner Mr Alan Shephard said a recent structural engineer's report had advised the 122-year-old church be elevated off the ground. "To ensure the church lasts another 122 years, we have to put some sort of height beneath it," he said.

Mr Shephard said work would cost \$20,000. "Both churches are heritage listed and therefore they should have funds allocated from the local, state and federal governments to maintain them." Mr Shephard said the local council had agreed to provide \$5000, but "to ensure past parishioners and the Mort family are respected and remembered" more money was needed.

Narooma Parish Priest Fr Michael Mullen said the church was important to local parishioners. "The location is really good. It's not far from Tuross and Narooma, so people who live there often travel to go to Mass in Bodalla," he said. "It is an important church from an historic point of view."

**CITY WITH SOUL:** The first Soul in the City conference will draw youth from across the ACT and NSW for worship, teaching and prayer. The conference, which has the backing of the ACT Council of Churches and participation of more than 25 Canberra Christian churches, will be held at EPIC on 15-19 April. Information is available at [www.soulinthecity.org.au](http://www.soulinthecity.org.au)

**OFF TO AFRICA:** Central Canberra parishioner Hilda Fitzgerald has been given the opportunity of her 45-year nursing career to travel to Africa to work alongside traditional medical doctors and midwives in a Christian health mission in Kenya. A fund-raising slide show will be held after Mass on Saturday, 5 April, in the parish hall at St Brigid's Church, Dickson, to raise funds. Inquiries: Hilda Fitzgerald, [hildafitzgerald@netspeed.com.au](mailto:hildafitzgerald@netspeed.com.au)

## Galong May Procession

### CHANGE OF DATE

## SUNDAY 18 MAY 2008

Archbishop Mark Coleridge  
Invites the Parishes of the  
Archdiocese  
To join this Marian Pilgrimage  
as a Day of Prayer  
in preparation for the Journey to  
The World Youth Day

Eden swimmers show their style



Students from St Joseph's Primary School, Eden, have been tough competitors in swimming. Hayden Skeers and Ronald Streater-Mason (above) both won their 50m freestyle races at the archdiocesan swimming carnival in Queanbeyan and are off to compete in the state trials in Sydney. During their regional swimming carnival, both boys came home as age champions. Hayden received the junior boys' champion trophy and Ronald the intermediate trophy. Year 6 student Jemma Danvers narrowly missed out on the senior girls champion title at the regional meet. She went on to place fifth in her 50m freestyle race in Queanbeyan.

CWL is 50 years Young

Catholic Women's League has celebrated 50 years of service in the Young parish with Mass and lunch.

At Mass, celebrated by parish priest Fr Richard Thompson, a tribute was read by Hennessy College student Emma Bear representing the youth of the parish, in recognition of their appreciation of support and guidance by CW L.

Later, Young branch president Mrs Win McKenna, hosted 50 guests at lunch. The official party included Fr Thompson, foundation member Mrs Joy Fowler, archdiocesan president Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell, archdiocesan international secretary Mrs Eileen Hogg, and Mrs Thora Regan, who had returned the day before from representing CWL Australia at the United Nations Commission for the Status of Women in New York.

Other representatives travelled from Canberra, Grenfell, Greenethorpe and Boorowa.

Mrs Fowler was a guest of honour. Other foundation members unable to attend were Mrs Anne Garland and Mrs June Rowe.

Families' milestone

St Monica's Parish, Evatt, has celebrated 20 years as a member of the Family Group Movement. The family groups marked the milestone with a barbeque, which was attended by many parishioners. Parish Family Groups co-ordinator Mrs Roslyn Chan cut an anniversary cake. Parish Priest Fr Paul Huthnance congratulated them on the anniversary. Each family group consists of about six to 12 families. They meet regularly for social occasions and enhance the sense of community in the parish.



Family Group leaders from St Monica's Evatt at their 20th anniversary celebrations.

New executive

CWL members were elected to the executive of the Australian Church Women's ACT Unit at its annual meeting. CWL archdiocesan president Jacqueline Hipwell is the new president; former archdiocesan president Judith-Ann Sjostedt takes on the secretary's job, and Cela Cooper, of O'Connor branch, and Marie Gallagher, of Watson branch, are the two vice-presidents. Helen Lloyd and Helen Raymond are treasurer and minute secretary respectively. Jacqueline and Judith-Ann are both members of the new national executive as vice-president and social justice convenor.

## HARVEST PILGRIMAGES

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# 'Biggest event' a celebration for all ages

Preparations for the pre-World Youth Day Days in the Diocese are in full swing with the "biggest event of its kind" for the Archdiocese to be held at Exhibition Park in Canberra.

The festival and commissioning Mass will be held from 11am to 6.30pm on Saturday, 12 July.

Archdiocesan Days in the Diocese program coordinator Mr Nathan Kensey said the festival would be a celebration for Catholics of all ages.

"It will be the biggest event of its kind for the Archdiocese and will be something to remember, showcasing the diversity of the Archdiocese and providing a myriad of spiritual, cultural and celebration experiences," he said.

Events including talks, animations, visiting speakers, eisteddfod performances, school choirs and other cultural performances will take place on three stages, along with live music featuring local and international bands and artists.

A jumping castle and face painting will be on offer for children, while a Catholic schools rugby match is expected to entertain the crowds. There will be reflective opportunities including adoration, reconciliation, prayer and veneration of visiting relics. Information stands for archdiocesan agencies, parishes, groups, movements and other organisations associated with World Youth Day will be set up.

Around the Archdiocese, parishes will host pilgrims for three or four days before World Youth Day, giving them experiences of spirituality, culture, service and wilderness. "As part of all this some country parishes are organising sheep shearing demonstrations and visits to local farms. Some parishes will be involving their visiting pilgrims in conservation and tree planting projects as part of the service element," Mr Kensey said.

"Others are looking to engage in service in communities for the aged and people with disabilities. Visits to local institutions, memorials, museums and other places of interest will also abound. There will also be kangaroos - to all those coming to Canberra-Goulburn from overseas, I promise,

you will see at least one kangaroo."

Mr Kensey said the Archdiocese expects to billet about 6000 pilgrims during the Days in the Diocese but hosts for some are still needed. "We have found about two thirds of those places, so we still need more."

Some of the pilgrims expected to arrive include 1100 Samoans, 180 Canadians, 700 French, 90 Germans, 300 from Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, 100 from Mexico and Nigeria, 500 from the Netherlands, 240 Italians and 150 Ugandans.

Due to Boorowa's strong Irish heritage, about 140 pilgrims from Ireland will be billeted there during the Days in the Diocese. Parish Priest Fr Greg Beath said pilgrims would be welcomed with Mass and a civic reception at the ex-serviceman's club. "Our local council has been very generous," he said. "They donated \$3200 so we can present each pilgrim with a Boorowa World Youth Day beanie on arrival."

Fr Beath said the pilgrims would visit local farms, the town hospital and day care. "We just want to give them a taste of Aussie life in Boorowa."

A major part of the Days in the Diocese program will be the International Youth Forum, which will be run by Goulburn Parish on 9 -12 July. The forum will be facilitated by the French Emmanuel Community and is expected to attract about 2500 Australian and international pilgrims.

Goulburn Parish Priest Fr Tony Percy said the forum was about new evangelisation and mixing the old with the new.

"The old part is the parish which needs a bit of vibrancy and this is where the Emmanuel community comes in," he said. "Hopefully this forum will help us to carry on after World Youth Day with more events like this."

Fr Percy said the program would be a balance of spirituality and fun with morning sessions of prayer and catechesis, and festivals and various workshops in the afternoons. "I think the forum will bring a great renewal of faith and an intermingling of cultures. The fruits of it will hopefully be the vision beyond World Youth Day."



Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto (left) is welcomed by Archbishop Philip Wilson.

the Sydney Archdiocese.

Archbishop Lazzarotto paid a courtesy visit to Cardinal Edward Clancy, and also met Cardinal Edward Cassidy, with whom he renewed old memories of their acquaintances.

## There's no stopping this speedy star

Paralympian Michael Milton took time out of his busy training schedule to come and talk to the students at St Clare of Assisi Primary school in Conder.

It was an inspirational visit, as Michael talked about a wide range of subjects, from his love of skiing and cycling, to his battles with cancer.

The children were fascinated in the many ways he compensates for the loss of his leg when he plays sport.

There was virtually no sport that he cannot take part in, and he amazed the children with his excellent break dancing.

His thoughts on leadership, courage and setting goals got the children thinking for themselves.

ABOVE: St Clare of Assisi students enjoying Michael Milton's company ...



(from left): Jeremy Guymer, Michael Schirripa, Joshua Pittaway, Jake Smith, Brianna White, Joshua Sims, Brooke Selkirk, Katrina Malnar, Tabitha Wormald and Ayla Beatty.

## New papal envoy here

The new Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto has arrived in Canberra.

President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Philip Wilson, of Adelaide, welcomed Archbishop Lazzarotto on behalf of the bishops, and expressed best wishes for his mission in Australia.

He was met at Sydney airport by chargé d'affaires of the Apostolic Nunciature, Mgr Jude Thaddeus Okolo, executive director of Catholic Religious Australia Br Laurie Needham cfc, and Fr Liem Duong of

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# New ways to tackle change

Early this year, I was faced with a difficult decision in the Western Deanery of the Archdiocese. Fr Ben Macajes, who had served for some time as Parish Priest of Barellan and Ardlethan, decided to return to his religious order, the Divine Word Fathers, and the question was what to do with the two parishes.

What was clear to me was that the area of Barellan and Ardlethan had suffered the fate of many of our rural districts. It was another case of what the Mayor of Temora, in conversation with me, called "the vanishing villages". In these areas, young people tend to leave the town or the farm for education and employment, and they rarely return to settle. The drought has probably aggravated this demographic change in the rural areas, but the change was under way before the drought took hold.

It means that the people just aren't there as they used to be, and the Catholic communities in these areas, though still wonderfully strong in many ways, are not as large as they once were. It was difficult, therefore, to think of assigning a fit, full-time parish priest to Barellan and Ardlethan.

That's why I decided to establish what I've called the Western Mission. It's a new model designed to deal with the changing demography and yet to provide pastoral care for the communities in these far-flung rural areas, especially at this difficult time when the effects of drought are still severe.

In some ways, it's a return to an older model in this Diocese when we had, for instance, the Yass Mission which had pastoral care of a vast area stretching as far as Port Philip. From Yass, priests went out on mission and the Catholic communities were served not only by the clergy but also by local lay leaders.

In the case of the Western Mission, Fr Troy Bobbin is the Mission Leader and lives in West Wyalong. In the early months of this year, he has been assisted on weekends by priests going out from the Cathedral in Canberra.

This will not continue beyond the middle of the year when more settled provision will be made. Fr Troy leads a Mission Team which comprises the Religious who have given such splendid service in these rural communities and also lay leaders, who

will need preparation for new responsibilities. Fr Troy has already met with members of the Team to begin to forge together the way ahead.

I will soon go out to the West to spend some time with the team, to share my vision with them and listen to theirs. I have to say, however, that I don't as yet have a fully articulated vision of what the Western Mission might look like. I don't have a ready-made package to deliver. For all of us, it will be a matter of learning as we go and shaping the package together. But one thing that is clear is that it will require sacrifice and adjustment from all concerned, and that for the

long-term good of all. In the middle of the year, I hope to send a second priest to work on the Mission Team, though that may not be as easy as it sounds.

Another thing that's clear in my mind is that the experience of the Western Mission will have implications for other parts of the Archdiocese, especially perhaps for the Monaro Deanery where again we will be faced with complex decisions in the not too distant future. The Monaro is in many ways a different world from the West, but it has common features demographically. It, too, is an area where changing demography will have to mean a new model of mission and ministry.

But none of this should be seen as a sign of terminal decay. It's a way of addressing a changing scene so that pastoral care can be offered and new energies for mission can be released. It's also a way of saying to the entire Archdiocese that we have to become more missionary - not just out West or on the Monaro but in every corner of the Archdiocese. The need is more apparent in some areas, but the call of the Holy Spirit is clear to all of us. To be Catholic these days is to set out on a journey like Abraham, a journey which will mean that we become both more contemplative and more missionary. World Youth Day will be a great stimulus along the way, which is why there is a close link between World Youth Day and the Western Mission.



+Bishop Mark



## Brothers drum up support for needy

Two young men have walked more than 320km to raise money and awareness for a poor community in the Philippines.

With the help of Apex Australia, Mr Steven Drum, of Temora, organised the walk from Canberra to Sydney to raise funds to help those who live around rubbish dumps in Cebu, Philippines.

Mr Drum and his brother Daniel walked the entire way to Sydney with friends Mr Thomas Redmond and Mr Joe Cham alongside them most of the way.

The idea of a charity walk occurred to Mr Drum after he went to the Philippines last August and visited several orphanages and the Cebu rubbish dumps with Fr John Iacono, the founder and patron of Bethlehem Communities Australia.

"My time there was amazing and what I experienced had a deep impact upon me, as it made me realise just how lucky my life has been," he said. "The poverty and suffering that I witnessed touched me deeply, but so did the joy and hope of the people."

Bethlehem Communities Australia contributes to the relief of poverty in disadvantaged and marginalised communities in the Philippines and is building a village to provide housing for up to 2500 people who live and scavenge on the rubbish dump.

A livelihood centre is also needed to help teach villagers life, work, and community skills which would allow them to be self-sufficient and not rely on scavenging to live.

"After coming back to Australia and sharing my experiences with everyone I know, it soon became clear that a lot of people wanted to also help in some way and this was something more than one person could do."

The walk raised about \$16,000 and Mr Drum said he was very happy with the result.

"The money raised will be given to the charity to help them realise the dream of constructing the livelihood centre that has the power to change people's lives in the Philippines."

This is not the last project for Mr Drum, who after recovering from the walk, intends to raise money for Filipino youth to attend World Youth Day.

Apex will run fundraising events to bring the total amount for the livelihood centre up to \$25,000. Anyone who would like to contribute may go to <http://users.tpg.com.au/yl88>



On the road... walkers Thomas Redmond, Joe Cham, Daniel Drum and Stephen Drum.

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**'You see young people go from indifferent to engaged to excited. They've been touched and that's great.'**

By Naomi Fallon

Although the cross and icon have moved on after their tour around the Archdiocese, former Narrabundah parish priest Fr Chris Ryan continues his journey with the "rock stars" of World Youth Day.

Missionaries of God's Love priest Fr Ryan has been travelling around Australia with the cross and icon since their arrival in Sydney last July.

"Bishop Anthony Fisher suggested the MGLs be involved in the Journey of the Cross and Icon (JCI) and it just went on from there," he said. "I was really flattered and I saw it as a great opportunity to be touched by World Youth Day."

As the national journey coordinator, Fr Ryan established the itin-

***The journey is long and challenging, but it's all worth it for...***

# The WYD cross' 'minder'

erary for Australia, Asia and the Pacific and coordinates the travelling team, a group of young people who accompany the cross and icon. "We as MGLs have a real focus on young people so this job goes right to the heart of what I am about as a person and as a priest."

Long days and nights, visiting sometimes several towns a day and living out of a suitcase might not sound appealing to everyone, but Fr Ryan has enjoyed the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. "It has had its

challenges, but I can honestly say I'm not tired of it. I love getting the chance to meet so many different young people every day."

A former Marist College student, Fr Ryan grew up in Canberra with his father John, mother Jean and sister Kate, who weren't entirely prepared for his decision to become a priest. "I sort of sprung it on them a bit, but like all parents they just wanted to make sure I was making the right decision and they were always very supportive."

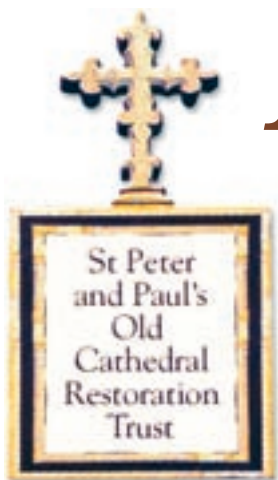
In 1994, he joined the MGLs and about five years ago was ordained a priest. "I can remember thinking about it as a kid, looking at my parish priest and thinking that someone would have to take over from him. I looked around Mass and thought there was no-one else there who would do it, so it would have to be me."

"I spent most of year 12 and my first year at university trying to ignore that God had spoken to me. My initial thought was, well, you

can pick someone else if you want! I was a typical young fella and I spent a lot of time running away from something I finally realised was actually rich and wonderful."

He left university after a year studying law and joined the MGLs. "I was attracted to the MGLs because they were young, enthusiastic and had a real sense of community. They wanted to do something big and countercultural."

● Cont Page 18.



## 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.

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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.*

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As an Edmund Rice school, we pride ourselves on serving the wide community.

Our teachers are inspired by the example and charism of Blessed Edmund Rice and wish to pass onto the boys, service as a vocation for all.

The tangible ways in which this is done is through the fund raising activities, the Big Brother program, and the social Justice program; help with St Vincent de Paul Society, Red Cross and night patrol.

College throughout Australia.

Over the last three years we have asked the boys to transfer the same preparation, dedication and desire they have put into their sport into their studies.

We are attempting to build a culture where whatever a student's ability, if he achieves, we as the College community, want to recognise, respect and applaud his efforts.

We want each boy to feel proud of belonging to St Edmund's.



Year 12 student Dane Hobbs was one of a number of year 11 and 12 students who caddied at the amputee open golf championship held at Federal Golf Club, Canberra.

We want our boys to benefit by giving to others. Our philosophy is that "the heart of education is education of the heart."

As a school community this year we have adopted a "restorative justice" model for dealing with discipline and pastoral matters and a new pastoral House system to enable each boy to learn leadership skills.

Why we exist as a Catholic school is to educate the boys to act justly and with respect.

We have found a framework for staff and students to build justice into our everyday interactions.

I very much look forward to the challenges and growth of St Edmund's College.

I am confident that over the next few years the school will become a centre of excellence producing educated young men motivated by Christian ideals to go out into the world and make a difference.

**- Dr Christopher Hayes, Headmaster**



## ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE CANBERRA

An independent Catholic boys' school (Yrs 4-12)  
living the Edmund Rice tradition.

### An Invitation to Prospective Parents and Families, Alumni and Friends of the College Open Day

Saturday, 3rd May, 11am until 2pm

St Edmund's College Open Day offers you an opportunity to visit the College and meet with staff and students who are eager to show you the facilities, grounds and spirit of the College.

Morning Tea Tours & Twilight Tours  
available on 20 May

Enrolments - 2009  
12th May - 30th May

Please contact our Enrolment Officer,  
Mrs Christine Carey. (t) (02) 6239 0660  
(e) [ccarey@stedmunds.act.edu.au](mailto:ccarey@stedmunds.act.edu.au) or visit our  
website (w) [www.stedmunds.act.edu.au](http://www.stedmunds.act.edu.au)



Educating Boys Since 1954

*Achieving today. Leading tomorrow.*

110 Canberra Ave, Griffith ACT 2603 (t) 02 6295 3598 (f) 02 6295 1356  
(w) [www.stedmunds.act.edu.au](http://www.stedmunds.act.edu.au)



# Building brighter futures for young women

As the longest established Catholic girls high school in Canberra, Merici College builds on a rich tradition of achievement and innovation in the education of girls, preparing confident and competent young women well equipped to contribute to the world beyond school.

Merici College is a vibrant, welcoming and energetic community with a rich and varied curriculum and an outstanding system of pastoral care.

Our Mission Statement is a lived reality within the College:

*"Merici challenges you to love life, have hope, be faithful and build futures more wondrous than you dare to dream".*

Our approach to all areas of college life - pastoral care, curriculum and our co-curricular program - reflects our commitment to this vision.

The theme for each year is chosen to provide a holistic focus linking an element of our Catholic Ethos and a significant pastoral aim.

The theme for 2008 - Truth and Love in Action - comes from the first letter of St John and focuses on our behaviour, particularly in our relationships with each other.

Merici College is a school at the forefront of technology, well known for our optional laptop program but equally committed to enhancing learning through technology for all students.

Our Powerful Learning Principles are testament to our desire to ensure that teaching and learning at the College is based on the most recent educational research.

Through our Powerful Learning Principles, we seek to work close-



ly in partnership with students and their parents to maximise student performance and success regardless of ability levels.

We are committed to innovation and continuous improvement. This, together with well-equipped facilities and a rigorous academic program in both the junior (Years 7-10) and senior (Years 11 and 12) school ensure that we are exceptionally well placed to guide students through their adolescent years into young adulthood.

A highlight in the improvement of facilities in 2008 will be the opening of the new library and administration area.

This \$2.8m investment will ensure the students are well equipped to access the resources needed to complement their learning.



## Outstanding Year 12 results in 2007

The College's outstanding Year 12 results in 2007 are testimony to the teaching and learning approach undertaken at Merici.

The results were indeed excellent, with three students receiving a University Admission Index (UAI) of 99 and above, 38% of the tertiary cohort with a UAI over 90 and 85% of them with a UAI over 65 - sufficient for entry into University of Canberra courses.

We were delighted at the success of all of our students and very proud of the fact that we were the College with the second highest percentage of students receiving nationally recognized vocational certificates - a step along the way in their post school technical training.





## OPEN DAY:

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 9:30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.  
come and see the College in action!



*Building Brighter Futures*

### Merici offers:

- a caring, Catholic environment with a rich, formal Religious Education program
- an educational setting tailored to the needs of girls where young women can achieve success in many arenas
- an innovative Pastoral Care structure, supporting students' individual needs
- a rigorous academic program based on principles of powerful learning
- excellent Year 12 results
- an optional laptop program
- formal computer skills training for all Year 7 students
- Information and Communications Technology skills integrated across the curriculum
- extensive foreign language programs: French, German, Japanese and Italian
- diverse sporting, cultural and social activities
- a comprehensive induction into senior college including a Year 11 Conference
- a diverse, successful vocational program
- academic, spiritual and sporting leadership opportunities
- well-resourced facilities, including the opening of the new library and administration wing later this year



### INFORMATION EVENINGS

**For YEAR 11  
Students in 2009:**  
**Monday 12 May 2008**  
**5.00pm - 7.30pm**  
formal presentation beginning at 6pm  
careers and subject information  
from 5.00pm

**For YEAR 7  
Students in 2009:**  
**Wednesday 14 May 2008**  
**7:00pm - 8.30pm**

Wise Street Braddon • Ph: 6243 4100 • Fax: 6243 4199

Visit our website at:

[www.merici.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.merici.cg.catholic.edu.au)



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

enrolling now for 09

celebrating communities of

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innovation

faith

knowledge

excellence

diversity

friendship

imagination

innovation

faith

knowledge

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knowledge

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diversity

friendship

imagination

innovation

faith

In this supplement, the Catholic Secondary and Central schools of the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese showcase some of the wonderful things they are doing in Catholic education.

Schools also depend on word of mouth for their promotion. All our Catholic Voice readers can become active supporters and promoters of our schools by letting friends, neighbours and workmates know just what is offered. I invite you to play a part in spreading the good news about the vibrant schools in your area.

I hope you enjoy what you learn in this supplement - it is a snap shot of a very lively school system. Please feel free to learn even more by visiting the schools in our area.

Moira Najdecki  
Director.

## ACT SECONDARY COLLEGES

BRADDON | Merici College  
(Girls Only) 6243 4100

DICKSON | Daramalan College  
(Co-educational) 6245 6300

FLOREY | St Francis Xavier College  
(Co-educational) 6258 1055

GRIFFITH | St Clare's College  
(Girls Only) 6260 9400

GRIFFITH | St Edmund's College  
(Boys Only) 6239 0621

PEARCE | Marist College Canberra  
(Boys Only) 6298 7200

TUGGERANONG | MacKillop College  
Isabella Plains Campus (Years 10-12)  
(Co-educational) 6209 0100

TUGGERANONG | MacKillop College  
Wanniassa Campus (Years 7-9)  
(Co-educational) 6209 0100

## NSW SECONDARY COLLEGES AND CENTRAL SCHOOLS (YEARS K-10)

BROULEE | Carroll College  
(Co-educational) 4471 5600

COOMA | St Patrick's Parish School  
(Co-educational) 6452 1721

COOTAMUNDRA | Sacred Heart  
Central School  
(Co-educational) 6942 2612

GOULBURN | Trinity Catholic College  
(Co-educational) 4822 2544

PAMBULA BEACH | Lumen Christi  
Catholic College  
(Co-educational) 6495 8888

TEMORA | St Anne's School  
(Co-educational) 6977 1011

TUMUT | McAuley Catholic Central  
(Co-educational) 6947 2000

WEST WYALONG | St Mary's  
War Memorial School  
(Co-educational) 6972 3003

YASS | Mt Carmel Central  
(Co-educational) 6226 3357

YOUNG | Hennessy Catholic College  
(Co-educational) 6382 5844

Faith in their Future – Learning for Life





# MacKillop Catholic College: Ten Years of Faith and Courage in the Tuggeranong Valley

MacKillop is a very big school with very many opportunities for its students. Our students become young men and women in a learning environment that has energy, dynamism and stimulation.

This century will be one of challenge and change. At MacKillop we understand that our students will need to be able to embrace and manage change, to think critically, communicate with integrity, clarity, and imagination. They will need to be able to recognise the spirit within themselves and others.

The world of the future will be a smaller one. At MacKillop we recognise that our graduates will need to understand their interdependence with those with whom they share the planet. This skill will be paramount to a successful life.

At MacKillop we believe in a Catholic education firmly founded on the teachings and example of Jesus Christ and the Church He gave us.

We welcome all who wish to be with us! We firmly believe in a co-educational environment that builds respect and understanding of gender differences.

MacKillop continues to develop and evolve an educational program that recognises a wide variety of learning differences and which challenges all students to achieve their best.

MacKillop works to ensure that no student will be left behind. An open relationship of trust exists between teachers, students, and parents. Innovative pastoral and academic care programs sustain students in their development and talent. Engagement and expertise are keys to teacher recruitment.



#### MacKillop students love their school!

Success in all its forms is celebrated at the College. The second-highest UAI in Catholic education in the ACT was achieved by a MacKillop student. The success of our stu-

dents in cultural, sporting, and academic life serve as a source of inspiration to the College community.

All of us at MacKillop are keen to be part of your secondary educational experience – it will last you a lifetime.

#### What you will find at MacKillop:

- A high-quality academic program tailored to the needs of each child.
- Excellent resources which foster learning.
- A wide range of courses that provide opportunities in anything your child chooses.
- An effective Pastoral Care program for the support of each child.
- Quality teaching and support staff.
- A rich community atmosphere, with many opportunities for cultural and social activities.
- Use of computers for every subject.
- Training in the area of Information and Communications Technology for all students.
- Vocational education for students' transition into the workplace in many different areas.
- Countless opportunities to take up a range of extra-curricular activities, such as debating, RoboCup, Science & Engineering Challenge, musical, school band, DanceFest, and more.
- Sports programs for elite development, and the chance to participate in over 40 sports from local to National level.
- Opportunities to extend education through the ANU College.
- A school that you care about and that cares about you.

## MacKillop Catholic College Canberra



# Nurturing the future

### Information Evenings

**Year 7 2009**

Thursday, 8 May 2008

6:30pm

MacKinnon Street, Wanniasa

Followed by campus tours

**Year 11 2009**

Tuesday, 20 May 2008

7:00pm

Ellerston Ave, Isabella Plains

Careers Expo starts at 7:45pm

Enrolments close 30 May 2008

Enrolment Officer: Libby Clarke

Phone: 6209 0100

[enrolments@mackillop.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@mackillop.cg.catholic.edu.au)



Years of Excellence



[www.mackillop.act.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au)



# It's a great place to learn

If you are looking for a school that will support your daughter to develop into a confident, capable young person, able to deal with the complexities of life in the 21st century, St Clare's College may be the school for you.

St Clare's College is a Catholic school for girls in Years 7-12.

The College caters for a wide range of students with its extensive choice of subjects as well as opportunities to participate in many extra-curricular activities.

There is a strong focus on providing students with formal academic learning as well as practical experiences to provide them with the skills and confidence to pursue further learning and employment.

There are academic support and extension opportunities for students to ensure that their learning needs are met in a positive and harmonious environment.

The College has excellent IT resources, a large library, very good sports facilities and grounds in addition to the many well-equipped specialist and general teaching spaces.

Almost every area of the College



has been refurbished in the last six years to ensure all the facilities are attractive and contemporary.

Students are able to participate in liturgies including Friday lunchtime Mass, reflection days and retreats as well as liturgies to mark key events in the school and the

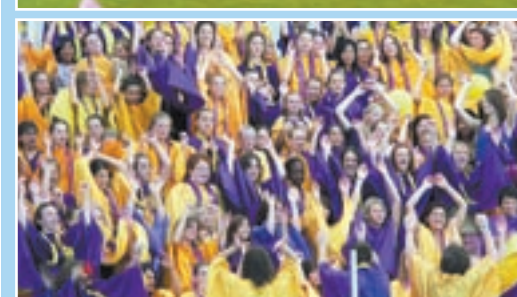
Church year.

The strong house-based pastoral care system provides students with opportunities for leadership as well as for working collaboratively with all year groups in the charity fundraising that is a tradition within the College.



The College is renowned for its Chorale, its sports teams, its involvement in all forms of the arts, debating, community and academic pursuits and particularly for the great school spirit that is so much a part of life at St Clare's College.

It is indeed a great place to learn.





## St Clare's College

### *Seek Wisdom*

*a Catholic school for girls in Years 7 to 12*

**Enrolments for 2009  
Open Evening  
Thursday 8 May 2008  
4.30pm to 7.00pm**



**INFORMATION EVENINGS:**  
 Year 7, 2009  
 Tuesday 6 May 2008  
 6.00pm to 7.00pm  
  
 Year 11, 2009  
 Monday 12 May  
 7.30pm to 9.00pm  
  
**ENQUIRIES:**  
 6260 9405  
 Website: [www.stclares.com.au](http://www.stclares.com.au)  
 McMillan Crescent, Griffith







# Seeking balance at one of city's leading schools

Marist College Canberra is an independent Catholic school for boys, under the care of the Marist Brothers.

The College accepts students from Year 4 to Year 12, with a total enrolment of approximately 1650. It consists of a Junior School (Years 4-6) and a Senior School (Years 7-12).

Situated on a large campus in the Woden Valley, Marist enjoys a reputation as one of the city's leading educational institutions.

It aims to promote the Gospel within individuals and the community by providing an education which is profoundly Christian, while being both broad and rigorous.

Its programs address the education of the whole person, contributing to spiritual, academic, cultural and physical development.

Marist fosters a school climate

which allows boys to pursue their studies with purpose and confidence, and which promotes their full human growth.

Curriculum at Marist seeks to maintain a balance between religious and moral education, scholarship, sport and physical pursuits, and creative and practical activities.

The College provides many opportunities for boys to develop physically and emotionally in line with their intellectual and moral growth.

It has a long standing commitment to organized sport, to outdoor education and to an array of cultural pursuits.

The College strongly encourages every student to avail themselves of as many of these opportunities as their time will allow and we welcome families as part of these endeavours also.



## Marist College Canberra A congregational Catholic school for boys

- A Catholic school in the Marist tradition
- A broad varied curriculum geared to the needs of boys
- Consistently high academic performance
- Outstanding professional staff
- Excellent all-round co-curricular opportunities

<http://www.maristc.act.edu.au>

**Open Day**

**Sunday 4 May 2008**

From 9.30 am-12.30 pm

College facilities will be open for inspection  
Senior & Junior Schools  
Marr Street, Pearce



**For Enrolment  
enquiries please call  
6298 7200**



# A long tradition of meeting needs

St Francis Xavier College (SFX) is a Christian school in the Catholic tradition. It is a Year 7 to 12 Coeducational College with an enrolment of 1180 students in 2008.

SFX, as it is often called, has a long tradition of meeting the needs of its students. We offer a strong academic program, a diverse range of electives and strong pastoral care.

Traditionally enrolments come from Belconnen suburbs but there are increasing numbers from Gungahlin and North Canberra.

The College has strong links with the local community. Students are encouraged to play sport for the Clubs of Belconnen and Gungahlin.

Many of the students hold down part-time employment in the local community.

The College is blessed with state of the art facilities. Classrooms are very different from those of the mid '70s when the

College began.

There is an emphasis on students taking responsibility for their learning and they are well supported with Smartboards or data projectors in classrooms and most specialist areas.

In the latest refurbishment the old corridors have been transformed into break-out areas to support an ICT rich learning environment.

The facilities have been designed to maximise the use of light, air and space and as such provide a learning environment in which the students feel valued, safe and secure.

The environment is conducive to different learning styles. Learning has also been

supported with an increase in the number of Teacher Librarians, supervised study lessons for Year 11 and AST preparation lessons for Year 12.

Initiatives in 2008 include:

- A focus on numeracy across the curriculum. Two numeracy support offi-



cers have been appointed within the staff and this year we also have the support of a dedicated Numeracy Support Officer from the Catholic Education Office.

- A program whereby four primary teachers have been seconded to teach in the Middle School - this has already achieved wonderful results in terms of curriculum development

- A targeted program to build student leadership density within the College.

- A World Challenge trip where 20 students and staff will visit Vietnam in

November and complete a community project

- Continued involvement in the University of Southern Queensland's IDEAS Project and the Quality Teacher Project

- Refurbishment of the College Chapel

- Air-conditioning of the Information Resource Centre

- Professional Development for Executive staff on Mindmatters.

The best ambassadors for SFX College are its present students and the many ex-students who look back fondly on their time at the College.



# St Francis Xavier College

*providing quality Catholic education for students in Years 7 - 12*

## YEAR 7 & 11 2009 INFORMATION EVENINGS



*Parents and prospective students are cordially invited to attend the following information evenings to be held at the college:*

**Year 7 2009**

**Wednesday 20 May 2008**

**6.00pm – 8.30pm**

**7.30pm Formal Information Session**

*There will be displays and tours throughout the evening and opportunities to speak with staff and current students.*

**Year 11 2009**

**Wednesday 14 May 2008**

**7.30pm**



**Principal – Mr Angus M Tulley**  
**Barnard Circuit, FLOREY ACT 2615**

**Phone: (02) 6258 1055**

**Email: [schooloffice@sfx.act.edu.au](mailto:schooloffice@sfx.act.edu.au)**

**[www.sfx.act.edu.au](http://www.sfx.act.edu.au)**





**St Anne's Central School in Temora is an exciting place to gain an education, with its emphasis on strong pastoral care, high academic standards and profound religious conviction.**

The students here experience the happy mix of rural living with its openness, initiative and mutual support, along with the advantages of modern technology-driven education.

Drawing on the inspiration of Blessed Mary MacKillop, whose Sisters have served the school and the community for over 120 years, St Anne's strives to present an integrated and coherent faith-based education that will serve the total needs of its students into the future.

The close links between school, parish and community support the needs of all involved in the school. The creative programs ensure that our students all

benefit from current pedagogy, meeting the needs of each individual.

Our school constantly seeks to become a part of the local community and has established links through community service, inter-school activities and a full program of sporting opportunities.

For enrolment information, please contact the Principal. There will be an Open Day at the school on Wednesday 21 May and all visitors are welcome.



**Applications for enrolment may be obtained from:**

**St Anne's Central School**

PO Box 68, DeBoos St, Temora NSW 2666

Phone: 02 6977 1011 Fax: 02 6977 4075 Email: [dennis\\_sleigh@stannes.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dennis_sleigh@stannes.cg.catholic.edu.au)

**Applications to be submitted by 30 May 2008.**



# ENROLLING NOW

Kindergarten to Year 10 -  
Compulsory years of education

## McAuley Catholic Central School Tumut

Capper Street,  
Tumut NSW, 2720

Tel: 0269472000

Fax: 0269473771

Email: [office@mcauley.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@mcauley.cg.catholic.edu.au)

Website: [www.mcauley.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mcauley.cg.catholic.edu.au)

**TAKING ENROLMENTS NOW**

*Flowing Together Through Faith and Learning*





## St Patrick's Primary School

Gipps Street, Bega. PO Box 292, Bega, NSW 2550  
Telephone 6492 5500

E-mail [office@spb.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@spb.cg.catholic.edu.au) Web: [www.spb.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spb.cg.catholic.edu.au)

**ST PATRICK'S** is a Catholic co-educational school from Kindergarten to Year 6. We are part of a cluster of schools providing quality Catholic schooling in partnership with Lumen Christi Catholic College. Enrolling your child at St Patrick's will provide them with a balanced educational experience. Your child will experience:

Catholic values  
Effective Literacy and Numeracy programme  
Broad range of subject areas in learning experience  
Specialist Music programme  
Peer support for students  
Family involvement  
Pastoral care based on our school values  
Strong resource and special needs programme  
Extension activities  
Modern technology facilities  
Well resourced library  
Dedicated staff in supporting your child  
Experience Catholic Education "learning for Life"



## St Joseph's Primary School

Calle Calle St, Eden.

PO Box 202 Eden, NSW 2551.

Telephone 6496 1682

e-mail [info@sje.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sje.cg.catholic.edu.au)

website [www.sje.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sje.cg.catholic.edu.au)



### Tennis AASC Program

St Josephs students enjoy the fun and varied Active After School Communities program, which provides a variety of sports and activities for students after school. To date the students have participated in tennis, beach activities, yoga and water aerobics. Next term golf and basketball will be offered. Pictured enjoying their tennis program are Mia Ruiz, Madison Young, Sophie Hickman, Eloise Morrow, Gemma Oliver, Shai Bamford.



### New Playground

The school community actively works together to provide a range of facilities and resources for the students, such as this new playground equipment in the senior field. Another set of new playground equipment will be installed in the junior field by the end of this term.

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL 31 Queen Street, Bombala

is also a feeder school to Lumen Christi Catholic College.

PO Box 200, Bombala NSW 2632

Telephone 6458 3776

E-mail [the.principal@stjbombala.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@stjbombala.cg.catholic.edu.au)

Web [www.stjbombala.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjbombala.cg.catholic.edu.au)

## Far South Coast K-12 Catholic Education Pathways "FAITH IN LIFE – FAITH FOR LIFE"



"Be The Light Of Christ"

Established 2001

388 Pambula Beach Road, Pambula Beach

PO Box 316, Pambula NSW 2549

Ph: (02) 6495 8888 Fax: (02) 6495 8887 Email: [www.lumen.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.lumen.cg.catholic.edu.au)

*Lumen Christi is a progressive Year 7-12 Catholic College that values a holistic Catholic education. The College, established in 2001, is a welcoming and pastorally supportive community serving families in the Bega Valley under the direction of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn.*

**To be the Light of Christ is to be Lumen.**

### We value:

- Using our God given gifts to be the light of Christ
  - Quality teaching and learning
- An integrated learning focus across all Key Learning Areas
  - Personal excellence and high standards
  - Inspiring hope and service to others
  - A dedicated staff who go that "extra mile"
- Pastoral Care where relationships and responsible decision making are core beliefs
  - A curriculum for the academic and practical student
  - A wide ranging extra curricular program providing ample opportunities for students to be enriched, accelerated and extended



**Lumen Christi works with families to assist our students strive to reach their full potential**

**OPEN DAY: Wednesday, 4 June 2008, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**





# TRINITY CATHOLIC COLLEGE GOULBURN

## SECONDARY BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL

*Set in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales, just 1 hour from Canberra, Yass and Mittagong, Trinity's 800 girls and boys enjoy a diversity of subjects, sports and extra curricular activities (e.g., this year we are pleased to have 100 Duke of Edinburgh Scheme participants). Boarders reside on the Junior Campus, and enjoy 60 acres of spacious grounds, which allow plenty of activities after school, such as a cross country run with staff some afternoons.*

*We believe we offer our students a surprising range of opportunities within a very reasonable fee structure, and invite you to visit our website for an overview of Trinity's curriculum offerings [www.trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au) Please see below, James' story.*

### TRADE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRINITY STUDENTS

Trinity Catholic College Goulburn student, James Martin, completed Engineering Production Certificate III, last year, whilst studying for his HSC, as a part time School Based Traineeship. This gave James, and his employer, Goulburn Engineering, a head start towards his 2008 apprenticeship.

James attended work each Monday, TAFE on Tuesday afternoons and Trinity Catholic College for the remainder of the week. James teachers helped him keep up with his study load and provided flexibility to meet assessment requirements.

Mr Robert Wallace from Goulburn Engineering noted "School Based Part- Time Traineeships give the employer an opportunity to get to know the



young person as well as recognise the need to complete their HSC. Young people from a rural background make excellent apprentices as they already know the value of a full day's work."

Mr Wallace is prepared to take on future students as part-time school based apprentices and trainees and appreciated the collaboration between James, Trinity, Group Training in the Trades and his business.

James is not the only student to have found employment through this programme. 2008 has seen the SBA programme expand to provide further pathways for students interested in working towards a trade eg. Automotive, whilst completing the HSC. Angus Brown, Year 11 signed just last week as a School Based Trainee with Ainsworth Engineering. Trinity Catholic College acknowledges the support Southern Tablelands Group Training and local employers give to the Trinity School to Work program. We look forward to continuing partnerships with our local community.



### SCHOLARSHIPS

**Enrolling and current students entering Years 7, 9 or 11 next year, have an opportunity to sit an academic scholarship on May 10. The exam is set and marked by Education Consultant- ACER.**

**Successful applicants receive free tuition for the remainder of schooling at Trinity.**

**Applications close April 11. Registration is via our website**

**[www.trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au)**

**Enquiries regarding any aspect of Trinity Catholic College Goulburn can be made by contacting the Principal's Office: 02 4824 1207 [pturner@trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pturner@trinity.cg.catholic.edu.au)**

**You will be warmly received.**



## Minding the WYD cross and icon

● From Page 6.

"They were real about the challenges but didn't see them as being negative."

Founded in Canberra in 1986 by Fr Ken Barker, the Missionaries of God's Love is a congregation of priests, brothers and sisters. "My involvement in the JCI means more people are hearing about us and it's great to be able to share that, but it's really about the cross and icon. They are the rock stars of World Youth Day, they are the main event."

Having spent so much time with the symbols, Fr Ryan said it would be difficult to farewell them after World Youth Day. "I think that will be a challenge. I still get moved by the response of young people to them and I still get moved when I pray before them. I think it will be a big shift in my life when I put them on a plane and say goodbye."

Fr Ryan said one of the most rewarding experiences has been to see young people who are not familiar with the cross and icon, have a moment with them. "Young people who haven't heard a lot about it, they are different. You see them go from indifferent, to engaged, to excited. They've been touched and that's great."

After World Youth Day many Narrabundah parishioners would be delighted to see Fr Ryan return but he is not making promises. "We're talking about that as a community at the moment. Part of my heart is most definitely still at St Benedict's."

Fr Ryan has no doubt World Youth Day will renew the Church. "I think it will change the church by making us who we are truly called to be. World Youth Day has the power to do that and we will see signs of life in the most surprising places."

"Young people's creativity and gifts will be unlocked for the Church and the service of God. The real change agent in the Church is always the spirit of God. It's not something we can contain or control - that is the movement and the great challenge is to embrace God."

### FACTS ON FUNERALS

## Working through your grief.

One very personal way of working through grief is to keep our own journal or diary. A journal is a safe place where you can express your feelings openly and privately, you can vent your feelings of pain, sorrow, sadness, fear, anxiety, anger, guilt, sense of hopelessness, helplessness or isolation.

Feelings of panic, yearning or emptiness are a normal part of the grieving process, and it is important to express them. "Bottling" them up quite often only makes things worse, and that's why a journal can help to ease the pressure.

What do I write in my journal?

- Whatever it is that you need to explore, express personally and privately that you would feel at risk to do so elsewhere.
- It can be happy, mad, sad or glad.
- An uninhibited personal journal allows you to be as beautiful or as ugly as you feel.
- There are no "shoulds" or "should nots" in a journal - it is a private place to learn who you really are and not who you think that you should be. It's a place to let your thoughts roam free.

In essence, Journal writing provides you with the opportunity to explore your own grief process.

For further information please call 6297 1052.



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## Scholarships go to student teachers

Teacher education scholarships have been awarded for the 11th year by the Catholic Education Commission and the Catholic Education Office to students studying at the Canberra campus of Australian Catholic University.

Scholarships were awarded to students who had graduated last year from an ACT or NSW Archdiocesan secondary college and who began full-time study this year at the campus in the Bachelor of Education program containing approved religious education subjects.

The students are Ms Rosemary Burgess (St Francis Xavier College, Florey), Ms Rachel Kelly (St Clare's College, Griffith), Mr Geoffrey Ryan (MacKillop Catholic College, Tuggeranong), Ms Rebecca Griggs (Trinity Catholic College, Goulburn) and Ms Clair Corkery (Hennessy Catholic College, Young)

With the launch of the Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) course at the campus in 2005, the commission and the CEO introduced scholarships for students who study religious education as one of their teaching specialisations.

The successful scholarship recipients are Ms Naomi Aigner, Mr Vince Barclay, Mr Tom Guinane and Mr Richard Sachse

The scholarships in both programs are each valued at \$3000.



ABOVE: Scholarship winners with Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Catholic Education director Ms Moira Najdecki (second from left) are: Ms Clair Corkery, Mr Geoffrey Ryan, Ms Rosemary Burgess, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Ms Rebecca Griggs, Ms Naomi Aigner, Ms Rachel Kelly, Mr Richard Sachse, Mr Vince Barclay, Mr Tom Guinane.

## People are 'ready to forgive': bishop

Over 20 years of social unrest in Uganda is coming to an end, according to a churchman who has been instrumental in bringing peace closer in the war-torn country.

During his first visit to Australia, Archbishop John Odama, of the Gulu Archdiocese, said he was enriched by his experiences here.

"I was impressed by the Prime Minister's statement on Sorry Day - it was inspirational," he said.

"He is a role model for world leaders and politicians, working together for unity and solidarity as a country. I will go back to Uganda more encouraged to participate in the peace talks by the reconciliation I have seen in this country."

Archbishop Odama was invited to Australia by international aid agency Caritas, who in 2006 had arranged a meeting between the Archbishop and the United Nations Security Council.

At that time Archbishop Odama requested the UN intervene in the war and



less than two years later Uganda had four peace agreements, the most recent of which enforced a permanent ceasefire.

Having thanked Australia and Caritas for their contributions to Uganda's progress, Archbishop Odama said there was still work to do.

"Part of my coming here was to build a relationship on behalf of my country. It needs sympathy and compassion from Australia. Caritas spearheaded some programs at the grassroots but they need

to be supported.

"I like to remind people, as a Christian, prayer should not be forgotten."

Despite his involvement in the peace process including talks with both the rebel group Lord's Resistance Army and the Ugandan government, Archbishop Odama said he was not a politician.

"I am a religious figure who cares about the integral human being. I don't want any more destruction of human life. The two sides are already sick of fighting. I can see an end to the war because people are ready to forgive one another."

Archbishop Odama encouraged Australia to support other suffering neighbours.

"I just appeal to the good of the human person. Not only for the people of my country but for the rest of humanity. Back at home I have been asking people to pray for all of the war-affected areas of the world, I told them they are not the only ones suffering."

## Highway church marks 150 years

St John the Evangelist, Jugiong, a familiar church to many who travelled the old Hume Highway, celebrates its 150th birthday this month.

Archbishop Bede Polding laid the foundation stone on 23 February, 1858, when Jugiong consisted of a few scattered dwellings and farms.

This event will be remembered with Mass celebrated in the church by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at 11am on Sunday, 13 April.

Designed by Fr McAlroy, the church is believed to be one of the few he designed still in use as a parish church. He celebrated the first Mass there on 23 December, 1860.

Jugiong was part of the Yass mission until 1874. That year Gundagai Parish was formed with

Jugiong as part of it for the next 76 years.

Jugiong became a parish in 1956 with Fr Dermot O'Hurley as its first parish priest.

In 1979 with the death of the last parish priest, Mgr Hugh Leonard, the parish found itself in a difficult position.

For a time it was supported by priests from the Archbishop's House in Canberra, Fr Tom Wright and the then Fr Pat Power.

It was eventually given permission to remain a parish, administered by Yass Parish, which had Fr Dermot O'Hurley as parish priest at that time.

He was succeeded by Fr Phil Buckley, whose guidance laid the foundation for Jugiong to remain a parish.

It has been administered since 1987 by successive Harden-Murrumburrah parish priests Fr Frank Keogh, Fr Joseph Tran and now Fr Simon Falk.

LEFT and ABOVE RIGHT: St John the Evangelist Church, today and yesteryear.



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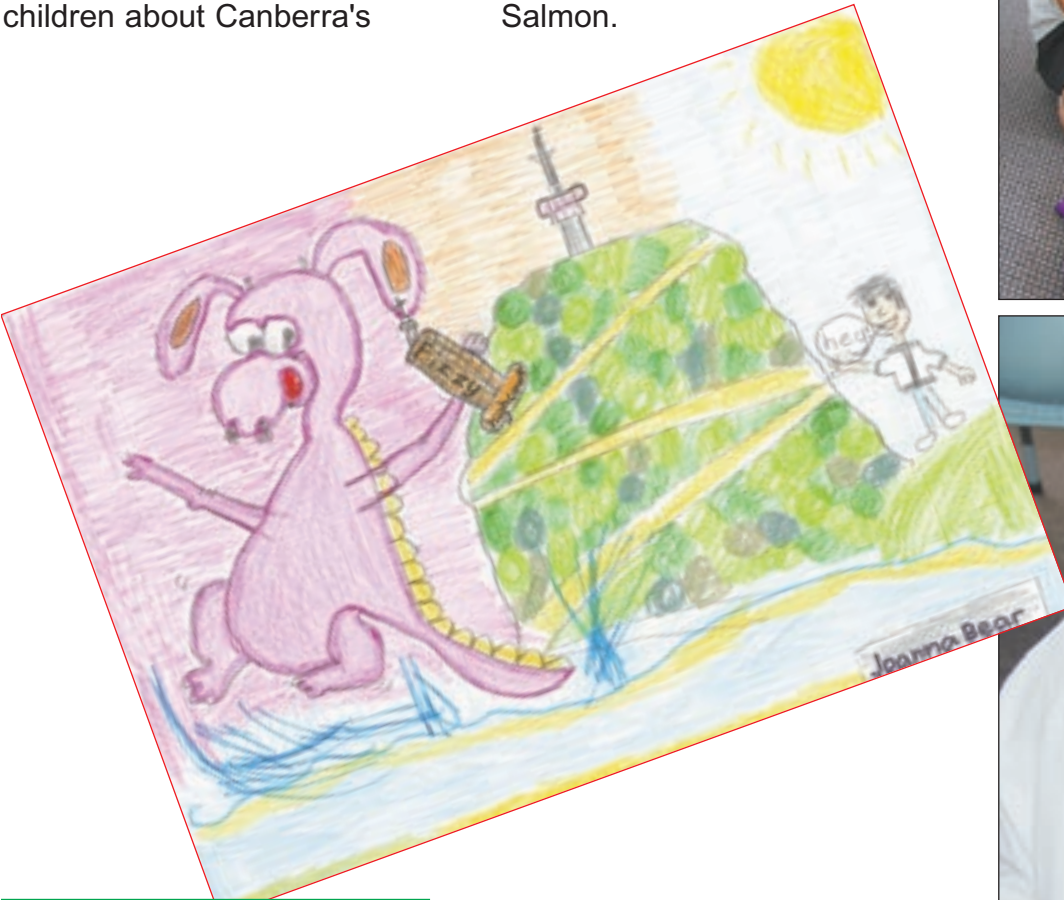
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# Frogs and monsters

This month the Catholic Voice was lucky enough to visit the classroom of Year 3 Washington at Rosary Primary in Watson. Mrs Anne Leet and Mrs Liz Higgins have been teaching the children about Canberra's

national icons and its natural environment. Year 3 Washington have learnt a lot about frogs and they have also been reading a book called 'The Monster That Ate Canberra' by Michael Salmon.



TOP RIGHT: Year 3 Washington pray together every morning. Nuri La, Sarah Lee, Nicholas Murray, Kieran Bingley and Alen Nappo show how it is done.

RIGHT MIDDLE: Erin Rice and Will Spencer help one another with reading.

RIGHT: Kosta Giannakakis is in his second year of learning to play the viola. He has a lesson at school once a week.



TOP: It looks as if the monster is eating Canberra! Joanna Bear shows him tucking into the High Court building.

ABOVE LEFT: Alexandra Horvat thought the frog looked a little hungry, too.

LEFT: Alysse Balkwell drew this lively picture about frogs.

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**Background:**  
The content of the book is very diverse and covers definitions and information in any area of Church administrative life. Chapters include areas such as,

- Church – its meaning, membership and mission
- Church law – its types, origins, an overview of the 1983 code of canon law, and theology.
- Organisations – associations of Christ's faithful, consecrated life, societies of apostolic life.

- The universal church and its hierarchies and organizations
- Episcopal conferences, Province of bishops, Juridic persons
- The particular church- the diocese and its structures, and consultative bodies
- Parishes – all subjects from 'the parish priest' to 'accountability and, risk management'
- Parish life – personnel, planning and communication strategies
- Administration of temporal goods – all areas from definition, acquisition and administration to religious law, insurance and investment.
- Relationships – canon law and civil law
- Statutory trustees of church bodies – including Acts of Parliament in each State
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# An appropriate tribute

The Thomas More's Forum Papers. 174pp, rrp \$19.95. Reviewer: Ben May.

The St Thomas More's forums are a series of public addresses organised by parishioners of St Thomas More's parish, Campbell. This collection brings together the prepared addresses from the forums held from their beginning in 2005 until late last year.

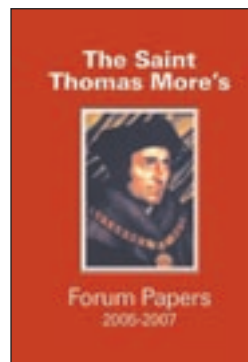
The papers play out the great themes of the final term of what Tony Abbott wryly terms "the fascist Howard dictatorship". Industrial relations, Australia's involvement in Iraq, terrorism and the culture wars are all addressed. Contributors from the world of politics include Kevin Rudd, Abbott, Kevin Andrews, and Peter Garrett; lobbyists Paul Monagle and Bill Muehlenberg from the Australian Family Association, Jim Wallace from the Australian Christian Lobby; and columnist Angela Shanahan.

Academics Patrick Morgan and John Warhurst discuss the role that Catholics have played, and continue to play, in Australian politics. One Catholic with extensive experience of attempting to influence the legislative process, Fr Frank Brennan, discusses the development of

laws regulating human cloning and research conducted on human embryos.

Cardinal George Pell and Fr Thomas Cassidy each present thought-provoking papers addressing the primacy of individual conscience, an ancient question that nevertheless has a great deal of relevance today. The great theological and philosophical debates of western history are touched on in a brief account of a hypothetical in which God was put on trial.

The collection contains two unique insights into charitable works. The first is a grass-roots viewpoint provided by Amy Banson, who organised a fund-raising walk from Brisbane to Canberra to raise money for and awareness of acquired brain injuries. The second is the "big picture" view from the immediate past Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis, Duncan MacLaren.



A number of more esoteric subjects are also addressed in the collection. There is a healthy splash of contributions from the wine industry, and Archbishop Mark Coleridge draws on his time in the Holy See's Secretariat of State to discuss the role that the Church plays in international diplomacy.

The variety of perspectives offered on such a diverse range of topics means that every reader should be able to find papers with which they can wholeheartedly agree, and others to make their hackles rise. What draws each of the papers together is their focus on the question of how a person's faith can affect their life, whether in business, in public life or in their families. The papers offer a glimpse of how recognisable figures go about addressing the questions that confront each of us, and as such many of them constitute quite an intimate window into their subject's interior life. I found that this was especially so in my favourite paper, one prepared by Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty.

Covering a multitude of subjects from a variety of angles, this collection is an appropriate tribute to the "man for all seasons".

# An invitation to open our hearts

Cross-Shattered Christ: Meditations on the Seven Last Words by Stanley Hauerwas. Darton, Longman & Todd, 2005, 108pages. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

During Lent I used an excellent little book of meditations on the words spoken by Jesus from the Cross.

The author, Stanley Hauerwas, is the Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke University, and this book is something special.

Hauerwas challenges us to open our hearts in original and surprising ways.

For example he expands on our understanding about why Jesus had to die.

He says, "We think it is really very simple: Jesus had to die because we need-

ed to and need to be forgiven". But, he claims, this puts the focus on us and not on Jesus. Rather it is through the Cross of Christ that we are drawn into the mystery of the Trinity.

"This is God's work on our behalf", Hauerwas says. I found that in just this one thought there was more than enough food for Lenten meditation.

This is a book to be read slowly and prayerfully for it is painful for us to acknowledge the reality of the Father's sacrifice of the Son on the Cross.

It would be just as valuable used throughout the year, a little at a time, to absorb its wisdom which is underpinned by scholarship and clarity of expression. It would be ideal to take on retreat.

The poignant wood-cut illustrations complement the text and add to its richness.

I guess what struck me most forcibly is the insight given by Hauerwas that Jesus prayed the psalms.

And here are we, centuries later, praying those same psalms through life and at the hour of our death. I find that wonderfully unifying and consoling.



# New on-line catalogue

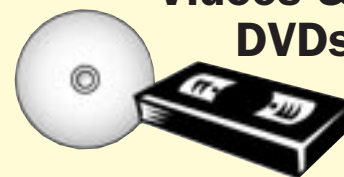
Library services information, and the Online Library Catalogue, are available via the Catholic Education Office's internet home page and option 'CG online' <http://ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au/>

The library is now operating the Oliver automation and new online catalogue. Please identify resources required from the online catalogue and contact library staff by telephone, fax or e-mail to make bookings.

You can access the library's online catalogue by clicking the 'Online Library Catalogue' link on the left with the magnifying glass. This will allow you to search the catalogue. It is not necessary to login with a user name and password.

Standard keyword searches may be made, as well as advanced searches by subject, title or author. More successful keyword searches will result from choosing the 'starts with phrase' option. The pink 'Olly' option provides children with a simplified search screen with colourful headings and a picture search option.

## Videos & DVDs



## DVDs

World Youth Day 2008: Multimedia Resources (Powerpoint presentations and DVD, ages 13 - adult).

This two-disk DVD and powerpoint presentation was produced by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn WYD coordinating team. It provides an overview of the meaning of World Youth Day, and the events

leading up to it such as the journey of the Cross and Icon. It will be very useful for parish promotions of WYD and for individual reflection on World Youth Day.

Nooma: Today. (Nooma series No. 17, 11 mins, ages 14 -adult).

How much time do we spend thinking about the past and wishing that things were different? How easy is it to believe that our best days have gone? If we long for the past, are we limited in our capacity to enjoy and be appreciative of today? This film deals with the theme of letting go of the past and savouring the present moment.

The Catholic Education Office Resource Library is located in the Rheinberger Centre, corner of Weston and Loch Streets, Yarralumla. Telephone: 6163 4350. E-mail: [library@ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:library@ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au) Open weekdays 9am-5pm. - Dennis Granlund, librarian.



## Living with the net



Paul Jenkins

# Avoiding trouble with the driver

Last month, I wrote about software drivers. All software programs contain small pieces of programs called drivers. They are often called device drivers or dll files, which is short for dynamic link library files.

These drivers tell your software how to interact with your computer to make the entire piece of software function the way you want it to. As I mentioned last month, missing or corrupted drivers can cause problems with your computer. In extreme cases, such as uninstalling a piece of software incorrectly by just deleting the folder it is stored in, your computer will not boot up at all and you will need to reformat the hard drive and reinstall the computer's operating system from the beginning.

To help prevent this particular problem always use the uninstall feature that come with the software program or use the Add/Remove Programs program in the Control Panel.

Driver problems can be obvious, when for example an error message appears every time you turn on your computer, saying that a driver (dll) is missing and a particular program will not initialise. Other problems are not as obvious because you may not access a particular program regularly.

These problems can be fixed in a number of ways. Drivers associated with the Windows operating system are usually found on the Windows Operating Systems Disc (Windows 98, 2000, XP, etc). Sometimes by starting up the computer with the Windows Disc in the CD-Rom, the computer will automatically find the missing drivers and reinstall them for you, which will fix your problem (this doesn't happen in all cases).

In other situations, it is worth writing down the error information and doing an Internet search to find out if someone else has had a similar problem and what they did to overcome it. If you are not confident about the source of the information or about following the instructions to fix the problem yourself, call a professional to do it for you.

Some of these driver problems can be avoided by reading the instructions that come with your computer software, either in the box in paper format or on the CD-Rom as a text or PDF document.

On a more positive note, keeping your drivers up-to-date can result in improved performance of software programs as well as hardware such as graphics cards inside your computer.

In last month's article, I used the example of updating drivers for graphics cards such as NVidia. By updating your drivers on a continual basis you can improve or tweak the performance of your computer and its software.

The Windows Operating System, Windows Updates, offers you a method to look for drivers that your computer may require. To use this system, you click on the Start button, then go to All Programs and the click on Windows Update. If you are connected to the Internet, Windows will search for new drivers you need for your computer. You then are offered the option of installing these drivers or rejecting them.

For more information on Windows Updates go to Finding Driver Information ([www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/helpandsupport/learnmore/finddrivers.mspx](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/helpandsupport/learnmore/finddrivers.mspx)).

E-mail [ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au)

# A flirtatious whirlwind

Most audiences know the ending for Anne Boleyn, so it is how it began and how it developed that are the important matters here. Prolific writer, Peter Morgan (The Deal, The Queen, The Last King of Scotland, Longford, Frost/Nixon) has adapted a historical novel by Philippa Gregory - which leads to a strange disclaimer at the end of the film that this is a fiction and any resemblance....!

Already filmed for television in 2003 with Johdi May as Anne, Natascha McElhone as Mary and Jared Harris as Henry VIII, this is a lavish screen version catering for what one commentator called the audience appetite for Tudorbethan dramas. Costumes, décor, locations should please those who want to see and visualise history.

The story is intriguing. While the younger, married, Mary Boleyn, was designated by her ambitious and greedy family to be Henry VIII's mistress after Anne, originally the choice fell out of favour, and

## The Other Boleyn Girl.

Starring Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson and Eric Bana. Directed by Justin Chadwick. 115 mins. M (moderate themes and sexual references). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC\*.

bore the king a son, she is the other Boleyn girl. However, early in the film Anne refers to herself in this way. However, she eventually outshines and outmanoeuvres Mary.

Anne is first chosen by the ruthless and blunt Duke of Norfolk (an alarmingly steely performance from David Morrissey), forcing his weaker brother-in-law, Thomas Boleyn (a credible Mark Rylance) to prostitute his daughter to the king to win favours and pay off debts. Norfolk's sister, Elizabeth (Kristin Scott Thomas) is a strong woman but tends to accept this status quo.

This screenplay makes Anne and her shrewd and ambitiously scheming and

Henry's unruly passion for her the motive forces for defying the Pope and separating England from the Catholic Church. Wolsey and Cranmer do not figure here, but the plot makes a strong case for Anne's power and influence. With the birth of Elizabeth and a miscarriage, Anne knew that a king who had discarded his wife and her sister, Mary, would discard her too.

Eric Bana is a quieter Henry VIII than might have been expected. Scarlett Johansson is credible and quite effective as Mary, portraying her as a more decent and heroic woman given the treatment by family and king.

But Natalie Portman is mightily impressive as Anne, charming, self-confident, wily and, given the momentum from the Duke of Norfolk's plan, more than an accomplice, taking over and dominating until she marries and is crowned queen. Then she reaps the consequences of her flirtatious whirlwind.

The other strength of the



Natalie Portman (Anne Boleyn) on the set of The Other Boleyn Girl. Picture: Alex Bailey. Universal Studios.

film is the dynamic between the two sisters, loving, a sense of betrayal, hostility and jealousy, dependence and reconciliation. An interesting and entertaining contribution to screen Tudor history.

\* 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.

# Rambo's trigger finger still sensitive

Sylvester Stallone proved that at age 60 he could revive his iconic creation, Rocky Balboa, after five movies over a 30-year period. He adjusted the character of Rocky to his late 50s and made an agreeably emotional fight film.

At age 61, he resurrects his other iconic character, John Rambo, after three films over a 25 year period, still doing battle but not nearly so genial as Rocky.

Both characters are instantly recognisable world-wide - Rocky the emblem of underdog success (along

with Bill Conti's theme music), Rambo the emblem of fierce aggression, fighting for the underdog and, with the exception of the initial film, First Blood, amassing a huge body count.

For his final Rambo actioner, Stallone has Rambo working anonymously in Thailand. He is approached by a group of US evangelical missionaries (whose need to do good seems more important than the needs of the people) to take them into Burma with medicines and religious books.

When the village


## Rambo.

Starring Sylvester Stallone, James Brolin, Julie Benz and Paul Schulze. Directed by Sylvester Stallone. 93 mins. R (strong violence, strong coarse language and strong adult themes). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC\*.

where the missionaries are working is attacked, Rambo goes back with a group of tough mercenaries to rescue them. This happens in the rain and in the dark - and

then they are pursued by a huge number of soldiers. All might seem lost until Rambo finds a machine gun nest and it is almost no contest.

This is where the violence becomes fierce and then brutal as the blood lust, no matter what the justification, takes over the characters - and, probably, the emotions of many in the audience. Stallone has his heart in the right place in supporting the Karens against the government and military, but his trigger finger is...



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### Prayers

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

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## Latin Mass choir program

The April program for the Choir of St Caecilia is:

Wednesday, 2 April, Feast of St Patrick (transferred): Sung Mass 7pm. Sunday, 6 April, 2nd Sunday after Easter, Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Lux et Origo (Chant Mass), Hymns: Processional: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing, Recessional: Our Lord Lives. The choir is in recess on Sunday, 13 April and 20 April.

Wednesday, 23 April: Feast of St George. Sung Mass 7pm. Friday, 25 April: Anzac Day: Sung Requiem Mass 9am.

Sunday, 27 April, 5th Sunday after Easter: Propers of the Day, Ordinary: Missa Lux et Origo (chant Mass) Motet: Regina Caeli (Pedro de Cristo), Hymns: Processional: Praise to the Lord, Recessional: Jesus Christ is Risen Today.

The choir usually sings at the 11.30 am Traditional Roman Rite Mass on Sundays at Sts Peter's and Paul's Church, Garran. Inquiries: Maria Henry, telephone 6249 6278 (h) e-mail [mariamhenry@bigpond.com](mailto:mariamhenry@bigpond.com). Traditional Mass Chaplain: Fr Ken Webb FSSP, telephone 0410 838 882, e-mail [canberra@fssp.net](mailto:canberra@fssp.net)

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# Coming Events



**CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME** - Six weekly sessions to assist less active Catholics reconnect with an active faith community. 7.30pm, Tuesdays, at St Vincent de Paul Parish Centre, Bindel Street, Aranda. Inquiries: Telephone 6251 3030, [stv.aranda@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:stv.aranda@cg.catholic.org.au)

**CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME** - Assisting Catholics to practice their faith in the Church community. St Anthony's Parish, 108 Sternberg Crescent, Wanniasassa, Mondays 7 April to 12 May, 7.30pm-9pm. Inquiries: Parish office, telephone 6231 7310, e-mail [sta.wanniasassa@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:sta.wanniasassa@cg.catholic.org.au), website <http://grapevine.com.au/~stanthonys/>

**CONTEMPLATIVE WEEK-END** - A weekend to engage in stillness and mindfulness, with opportunities for contemplative prayer. Marist Brothers Residence, Mittagong, Friday 2 May pm to Sunday pm. Bookings: Sr Lorraine Cupitt, telephone 6262 8974.

**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](mailto:couragecanberra@hotmail.com)

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS** - Saturday, 7 June, Holy Family Church, Gowrie. Devotions begin with Mass at noon followed by a Cenacle and Confession, end with Benediction. Afternoon tea in Parish Centre. Inquiries: Fr Emil Milat 6291 6688.

**JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES WEEKEND RETREAT** - Friday evening, 18 April, to Sunday afternoon, 20 April. St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong. Mass, prayer, quiet time with friends, Sacrament of Penance, therapeutic massage, relaxation. Book by 7 April. Inquiries: Sr Mary Murphy, telephone 0429 186 564, Sr Colleen Howe, telephone 0439 483 426

**LEGION OF MARY ACIES** - Annual Consecration to Our Blessed Lady, 2.30pm, Saturday, 5 April, St Anthony's Church, Wanniasassa. Mass celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. All welcome. Inquiries: Maria Noronha, telephone 0413 617 390, Jacqueline Donohue, telephone 6251 3950.

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

**MERCY CELEBRATION** - 150 years celebration of arrival in Goulburn of Sisters of Mercy. Weekend 24, 25 October, 2009. Inquiries: Telephone 4821 3304.

**PILGRIMAGE TALKS** - 15 April: The Concept of Pilgrim-

age Talks; a series of three talks - Eileen Glass "Pilgrims who transform". 22 April: Frances Menz "World of God within us - one pilgrim's journey." 29 April: Fr John Armstrong "Trekking through life." All start 7.30pm, wine and nibbles, \$5 donation each talk. The Rheinberger Centre, corner Weston and Loch streets, Yarralumla. Inquiries Margaret Ryan, telephone 6163 4302, e-mail [margaret.ryan@catholiclife.org.au](mailto:margaret.ryan@catholiclife.org.au)

**PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF MERCY SHRINE** - Pauline Father Monastery, Penrose Park, near Berrima, Sunday, 13 April for Fatima Day. Bookings from Canberra, Queanbeyan and Goulburn, Judy and Joe Mewburn, telephone 6254 6202

**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](mailto:stchris@velocitynet.com.au)

**RAPHAELS** - Singles social group for Catholics and Christian-minded people, aged 24-40. Meet people for social activities, including dinner, movie, social sport, coffee and Mass every two months. Inquiries: Telephone 0401 918 717, [www.catholic-socialgroup.com](http://www.catholic-socialgroup.com), e-mail [raphsgroup@yahoo.com.au](mailto:raphsgroup@yahoo.com.au)

**SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA** - 6.15pm, Thursday, 10 April, Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, followed by dinner with speaker Sr Debra McIntyre, Calvary pastoral care co-ordinator.

**ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL CELEBRATION** - 150 years celebration for graduate nurses from St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, Sydney. Lunch to commemorate the sesquicentenary, noon, Saturday, 12 April, at Royal Canberra Golf Club. Guest speaker Sr Anthea Groves. Inquiries: Telephone 6281 3250 or 6286 2406, e-mail [admin@faztech.com.au](mailto:admin@faztech.com.au)

**WYD ADORATION VIGIL** - Pray for World Youth Day in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every first Saturday of month, St Peter Chanel's, Weston St, Yarralumla. Exposition following the 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass, then adoration all night to 6am Sunday. Inquiries: Susanna Taylor, telephone 0419 902 293 or [www.wydicanberra.org](http://www.wydicanberra.org).

Written entries are invited for the May issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail [ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au) by Tuesday, 15 April. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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# Please a new story not the old one

There is a fine little poem by American poet Lee Yung Lee about a relationship between a father and a son.

I read it in church sometimes on Father's Day. Entitled, A Story, it runs like this:

Sad is the man who is asked for a story  
and can't come up with one.  
His five year-old son waits in his lap:  
"Not the same story baba!  
Not the same one, a new one!"  
The man rubs his chin and scratches his ear.

In a room full of books  
in a world full of stories  
he can recall not one.  
And soon he thinks  
this boy will give up on his father.  
And already the man lives far ahead  
he sees the day the boy will go away.  
"Don't go," he says, "hear the alligator story again.

Hear the angel story one more time.  
You love the spider story!  
You laugh at that spider.  
Let me tell it!"  
But the boy is already packing his shirts  
he is looking for his keys.

"Are you a god," the man screams,  
"that I am mute before you?"  
Am I a god, that I should never disappoint you?"

But truly the boy is still here.  
"Please, baba, a story!"  
It is an emotional rather than a logical question.

It is an earthly, not a heavenly one.  
And it posits  
that a boy's supplications  
and a father's love  
add up to silence.

Lee's poem is about the inarticulateness of a father before his son.

But the poem would read just as well in terms of other relationships: mother-daughter, mother-son, father-daughter, or even wife-husband, or friend-friend.

One person's supplication, a child or adult, and another's love too often add up to silence and disappointment.

In the end, except for rare occasions, we all end up not really finding the words we need to speak to each other in our relationships. We are all inarticulate in love, painfully so.

Daily we find ourselves sitting across from someone where the situation calls for a new story and we can only stutter. There's supplication in the other person's eyes and in the situation itself: Please a new story, not the old one!

But that supplication and our best intentions add up to silence. We are mute before each other and so we talk sports scores, shopping, neighbourhood gossip, fashion, the weather, the latest TV show, anything, except what would need to be spoken.

It begins already when our children sit on our laps as infants and we are unsure of what to say, though perhaps then it is easier to find words to express our love.

But it gets harder as they grow up

## Ron Rolheiser

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. He can be contacted through his website [www.ron-rolheiser.com](http://www.ron-rolheiser.com)



and their persons and lives become complex as they wrestle with restlessness, sexuality, and their need to separate themselves from us.

Then we begin to feel unsure and we can't find the words we need to speak or we find that we cannot speak the words we like to speak.

We agonize as we lose our closeness to our children. They begin to push away the old words and we find that, if we keep speaking those words, they push us away with the words.

But their supplication doesn't go away, they need us more than ever and they need to hear certain things from us. But what? The words we find are not words that they want to hear. All that tension is ultimately a supplication: A new story, not the old one. Tell me a new story!

And the same thing happens too inside of all our close relationships. We come to critical times, a friend is sick in the hospital, a colleague is getting married, someone is moving away, a family member is undergoing a divorce, a friend is losing her job, and, again, we find ourselves painfully inarticulate, searching for words and not finding them.

And so, as is evident in so many dreadful toasts at weddings, we avoid speaking to the occasion altogether or we speak words that do anything except honour the occasion.

But we shouldn't be so hard on ourselves. We aren't gods. And if we were as articulate as Lee-Yung Lee we might ask instead: "Are you a god that I should be mute before you? Am I a god, that I should never disappoint you?"

But the supplication still beckons and so we succumb to the temptation to repeat the time-worn stories, the usual bad jokes at the wedding reception, the safe banter that moves things along: "Let's talk about last night's game! Let me tell you what happened at work! Have you heard this joke?"

But we sense that, figuratively, everyone's packing to leave: "Don't go!" we say desperately, "hear the alligator story again!" But they're all still here, begging for a new story: "Please, baba, a story!"

In the foreword to The Black Prince, Iris Murdoch writes: "I have known, for long periods, the torture of a life without self-expression." Nowhere is this torture more felt than when we stand before our loved ones.

## MISSION TALK



Contact with communities of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, PNG and Alice Springs within Australia, as well as listening to Archbishop John Baptist Odama of Uganda's work concerning child soldiers highlighted for me the enormous and ongoing needs of many children and the desires their communities have for a better, safer future for them.

In each of these there are faith communities with people who provide challenging voices on their children's behalf and endeavour to address their young peoples' needs and concerns: whether this is as basic as access to clean water, security, accommodation, health or education.

It is in such situations that Catholic Mission, through the generosity of supporters of our Children's Mission work and Children's Mission Partner Program, is able to stand in solidarity with these communities and provide funds to enable them to turn their ideas into realities and messages of hope.

Help us to continue helping others to provide care for their young. Let us also join our prayers with theirs for young people everywhere. To support Children's Mission or to find out more about becoming a Children's Mission Partner contact Kate, Ruth or myself on 6163 4321.

God bless,  
**Deacon Joe Blackwell**

The Rheinberger Centre,  
P O Box 7174,  
Yarralumla 2600.  
e-mail:  
[asst.missions@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:asst.missions@cg.catholic.org.au)  
Telephone 6163 4321



# Priesthood 'not just another job'

The priesthood is so much more than just another job, though there are some who see it in such shrunken terms, Archbishop Mark Coleridge told a packed St Christopher's Cathedral at the annual Chrism Mass.

"The priesthood is a job; it is hard work, and I thank the priests tonight for all that they do, the blood, sweat and tears of their ministry," he said.

"But the priesthood is also a marriage, the marriage of Christ and the Church; and it is

more even than that.

"The priesthood is a vast mystery which reaches into the very depths of God where the divine breath rises.

It is a mystery of love for the Church in which God chooses men poor and weak, breathes his life into them, anoints them with the Holy Spirit, so that they become much more than they are in themselves.



"The priests are men called to open themselves again and again to the power of the Holy Spirit, never more so perhaps than in these days when the face of the priest-

hood is changing, when we priests are called to be contemplative and missionary in new ways, lest we become mere functionaries or be left with only the shell of our true vocation.

"Should that ever happen, then the glory

would have left the Temple; the priesthood would be no more than a job. But if we can open ourselves again and again to the power of the Holy Spirit – especially perhaps at the point where we are poorest and weakest – then in this time of change, the face of the priesthood will shine with the glory which is on the face of Christ (cf 2 Cor 4:6).

"The people will see and know that the priests are anointed, that God has breathed his life into us and that we can in turn breathe that life into the lives of others, often in ways we can scarcely know or imagine."

Archbishop Coleridge acknowledged the new Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto, who was also present. At the end of Mass, Archbishop Coleridge paid tribute to the many religious who attended the Mass.

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Scenes of Easter ... TOP and BELOW, the ecumenical Way of the Cross on Good Friday with seminarian Paul Nulley playing the part of Jesus. ABOVE: Easter light at St Anthony's Church, Wanniasa.

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