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world youth day sydney 2008

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supplement**

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- Pope Benedict XVI at Randwick racecourse, 20 July 2008.

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So, what do you say to the Pope?

By Geoff Orchison
People ask, "so what did you say to the Pope when you met him?"

It was a question worrying a number of us as we waited in the stylish and beautiful surrounds of Cathedral House at St Mary's in Sydney for the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI for a personal meeting.

I was there through no merit of my own, but as my wife works at the Pope's embassy in Canberra, and the ambassador, the Apostolic Nuncio, has thoughtfully organised for the household to meet the Pope, spouses are invited to accompany them. One of the few real once-in-a-lifetime opportunities you get.

While the Pope's attention was turned to the astonishing spectacle of the Stations of the Cross outside in central Sydney, our group is ushered into a lounge in Cardinal George Pell's house next to the Cathedral.

We are assured by a dark-suited member of his staff that the Pope is a nice, relaxed, normal sort of guy; the kind of advice you get at times like this but ignore.

The Pope is obviously engrossed in the Stations of the Cross as the scheduled meeting time comes and goes, and the nervous twitches in our group increase.

Then, a scurry of activity from the men in dark suits, and a warning that "he" is on his way over from the Cathedral.

A lot of people seem to move where the Pope moves, protocol, security, clergy, who

knows who else.

It would read well if I was able to say the entourage sweeps in to the lobby, but it doesn't. The Pope just isn't a sweeper. He's not a strider either, and, one suspects, that has little to do with his 81 years. More a stroller than a power walker, he doesn't have to do anything to impress.

His is a regular entrance, if that's possible when you're surrounded by important looking people and are the total focus of their, and our, attention.

The short figure clad all in white, save for those red shoes, meets the first members of our group, the youngest one of which bursts into tears. It would be easy to feel you were watching a movie, except the leading actor is about to glide over and talk to you in a minute. What to say? The man next to me has no advice.

The Pope, meanwhile, is focused on the couple he is being introduced to next to us. His is not a token handshake before flitting on to the next subject. He stands still, makes eye contact, listens to the introduction, offers a double-handed shake.

He looks happy, relaxed; he has time for this gathering. That quirky half-smile that



seems to play on his lips much of the time is there. If only you had the courage to tell him a joke, you feel you'd be certain of a laugh.

But, there's no time for such frivolous thoughts. Suddenly it's our turn, my wife and I are introduced, there's a scuffle to kiss, ring, drink in the moment, but the mind is a whirl and you know you're going to forget what he says.

He is short, some say 5 foot 7 inches (170cm), kindly looking, connected. He doesn't have the neatly cropped or coiffured look you come to expect from men-in-power. His white hair is, well, longish. It overflows over his back collar.

Then, he's gone. On to the next person in the row.

I'm a little sad the moment has passed after weeks of anticipation. You feel you have met him, not just shaken the hand of a global superstar.

Well, it's not quite passed. There's time for a group photograph. The tearful youngest member tries to pull herself together. Now there's a shot for the family album. Us and the Pope.

Now, what did I say to him?



The Pope's dramatic arrival... TOP LEFT: A large group from Narrabundah on hand to welcome him. TOP RIGHT: Cooma pilgrims Adam Southwell, Ned McPhie, Viki Parsons, CYM team member from Cooma Liam Mackay and Naomi Burgess eagerly await the arrival.



Pictures from Sydney in this special WYD souvenir supplement by Naomi Fallon, Sue Orchison and Loui Seselja. Images also courtesy of WYD 2008 ACN 118 060 987 as Trustee for the World Youth Day 2008 Trust ABN 73 422 698 032.

Tell us your favourite memories of Days in the Diocese and World Youth Day in 50 words.
Send us your best pix from DiD and WYD; we can't print them all but we'd like to show other readers the best ones.



One of the most moving and acclaimed events at WYD was the Stations of the Cross. An expected international TV audience of 500 million saw the powerful re-enactment. The Holy Father attended the first station, The Last Supper, on the steps of St Mary's Cathedral.

4500

The number of international pilgrims hosted by our Archdiocese.

1200

local pilgrims went to WYD from our Archdiocese.

400,000

attended the final Mass at Randwick.

170

nations were represented at WYD.

2000

members of the world's media attended.

1000

priests heard confession during the week.

25 million

food items ordered.

215,000

meat pies eaten.

235,000

attended the prayer vigil at Randwick.

500,000

came out to welcome the Pope on his arrival by boatcade to Sydney.

4000

toilets were in use at the Randwick gathering.

Pope meets abuse victims as historic WYD visit ends

One of Pope Benedict XVI's last acts of his WYD visit was to celebrate Mass with a group of four victims of clerical sexual abuse.

The Church's Professional Standards Office of NSW chose the four who spent time speaking to the Pope after Mass.

This angered some victims' groups who said the meeting was stage-managed and outspoken victims were ignored.

The Holy See Press Office said the Pope "listened to their stories and offered them consolation. Assuring them of his spiritual closeness, he promised to continue to pray for them, their families and all victims. Through this paternal gesture, the Holy Father wished to demonstrate again his deep concern for all those who have suffered sexual abuse."

At a Mass to dedicate a new altar in St Mary's Cathedral earlier in WYD week, the Pope apologised to sexual abuse victims. "Indeed, I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering the victims have endured, and I assure them that as their pastor, I too share in

their suffering," he said.

The Sydney Archdiocese said in a statement that the Pope's meeting with victims "reflects the continuing commitment of the whole Church in Australia to bring healing and justice to those who have been so terribly hurt by sexual abuse".

Cardinal Pell says the Mass was designed to be a small, private gathering

In his farewell address at Sydney airport, the Pope said there were many scenes that stood out. "I was deeply moved by my visit to the Mary MacKillop Memorial, and I thank the Sisters of Saint Joseph for the opportunity to pray at the shrine of their co-foundress.

"The Stations of the Cross in the streets of Sydney were a powerful reminder that Christ loved us 'to the end' and shared our sufferings so that we could share his glory.

"The meeting with the young people at Darlinghurst was a moment of joy and great hope, a sign that Christ can lift us out of the most difficult situations, restoring our dignity

and enabling us to look forward to a brighter future.

"The meeting with ecumenical and interreligious leaders was marked by a spirit of genuine fraternity and a deep desire for greater collaboration in building a more just and peaceful world.

"And without doubt, the gatherings at Barangaroo and Southern Cross were high-points of my visit.

"Those experiences of prayer, and our joyful celebration of the Eucharist, were an eloquent testimony to the life-giving work of the Holy Spirit, present and active in the hearts of our young people.

"World Youth Day has shown us that the Church can rejoice in the young people of today and be filled with hope for the world of tomorrow."

Prime Minister Mr Kevin Rudd told the Pope "it feels very much that you have already become one with us, indeed, that you have become one of us."

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Pilgrims drawn to Mary's tomb

By Naomi Fallon

Day one of World Youth Day saw a group of pilgrims from Cootamundra and the Catholic Youth Ministry team at the tomb of Australia's only saint, Blessed Mary MacKillop.

After waiting for over an hour, the group was considering leaving when they were finally allowed to go in.

The group of pilgrims agreed the beautiful tomb was well worth the wait, where they stopped to send their prayers up to Mary MacKillop.

In the afternoon, 150,000 people attended the World Youth Day opening Mass at Barangaroo, near Darling Harbour in Sydney.

As the principal celebrant, Archbishop of Sydney Cardinal George Pell welcomed pilgrims from all over the world to Australia and told them to extend their faith while at World Youth Day.

"If we take God's hand, he will do the rest. Trust - is the key," he said.

"It's not good enough to be a passenger - life forces us to choose. Following Christ isn't cost free, it certainly isn't always easy. Don't spend your life sitting on the fence and keeping your options open."

Cardinal Pell told the pilgrims to always remember their faith experiences at World Youth Day and to take the memories back with them into daily life.

"When we part after these happy days, may we never part from our loving God and his loving son Jesus Christ."

After the Mass, Miss Sarah Heffernan from the Catholic Youth Ministry team said she enjoyed the Mass and the people it brought together.

"The thing I love about this is there are such a variety of different people," she said.

"It's not like Catholics are just one type of people - there's such a variety of races and social statuses."

Day two of World Youth Day was spent at morning catechesis sessions around Sydney and at various youth festival events in the afternoon.

Groups from Merici College, Pambula and Cootamundra collided at the concert of a rapping Franciscan priest from New York, Fr Stan Fortuna.

In between his songs and jokes, Fr Stan told the audience World Youth Day could change their life. "World Youth Day... it's not a one time shot, you know," he said.

"What ever religion you might be, what matters is that your heart is open to the element of surprise of what can happen at this event."

Fr Fortuna built excitement for the papal arrival the following day.

"I've nicknamed Pope Benedict BBB - Beautiful Bavarian Benedict. I also like to call him GG - German Genius."

On Thursday afternoon an estimated 500,000 people lined the streets of Sydney, filled Darling Harbour and the area Barangaroo to catch a glimpse of the Pope.

This excitement was something which had not been seen during the previous two days.

On his arrival at Barangaroo, the Pope waved and smiled from aboard a huge cruise boat, which was filled with hundreds of young pilgrims from around the world. When the Pope left the boat and climbed into the popemobile, thousands of pilgrims ran to the nearest fence - hoping he would pass them on his way to the stage.

During his homily at Barangaroo, the Pope encouraged young people to take control of their lives. "Dear friends, life is not governed by chance; it is not random," he said. "Your very existence has been willed by God, blessed and given a purpose."



TOP: Rebekah Fulop sign the visitor's book as Camille Bayada, Sarah Heffernan and Erin Cassidy watch. ABOVE: Michelle Hung, Jenny Drum, Anna McCarthy and Annaliese Ebejer wait for a train at central.



ABOVE: Pilgrims from Cootamundra and members of the Catholic Youth Ministry at Mary MacKillop Place.



LEFT: A group of students from Pambula at Fr Stan Fortuna's concert.



BELOW LEFT: A group of Merici College students enjoy the concert.

BOTTOM LEFT: A singalong with young students from Cootamundra.

BELOW: Sarah Heffernan, Katie-Lee Collins, Emily Rickett and Jessica Buckworth take a quiet moment at Mary MacKillop's tomb.



B16 and a message to silence the crowd

By Naomi Fallon who spent a sleep-deprived week in Sydney for World Youth Day.

About 70 per cent of my time at World Youth Day was spent in some sort of crowd. Walking to an event, during an event and attempting to leave an event, I was constantly surrounded by thousands of people. Too bad if I suffered from claustrophobia.

Not only did more than 200,000 people follow me everywhere I went, but the multicultural pilgrims insisted on spicing up the long walks with singing, dancing and loud music - I even saw one man manage to walk and play a saxophone at the same time.

My initial reaction was to beat the crowds. I'd walk faster, weave in and out of the slowest walking

people in the world and frown angrily at the smiling Spaniard who was serenading me with a guitar.

When I arrived home after the first day angry and annoyed at the happy, colourful bag-wearing pilgrims, I realised it would be a long week if I continued to behave this way.

From day two of World Youth Day I adopted a different way of dealing with the crowds, which appeared to work a lot better.

I relaxed. I walked at a cruisy 1km an hour, I (occasionally) joined in the singing and I took Panadol at the beginning of the day to fend off the inevitable headaches caused by the loud clapping and music.

Funnily enough, I found I began to enjoy myself and the agitated Sydneysiders who followed my



lead also appeared to start tolerating the event.

We often came across a frazzled local who was attempting to go against the flow of the massive crowd and I found myself sympathising with them - imagine if you lived in Sydney and weren't involved in World Youth Day?

Pilgrims had taken over the city, roads were closed just so thousands of people could get where they wanted to go and if you didn't want to go that way, well, it was just too bad.

But as much as I had concern for those who weren't involved - they didn't seem to resent us. People would come out of their offices and stop their conversations just to witness the spectacle of droves of excited pilgrims passing by and having the time of their lives. Was that a hint of envy I could see?

World Youth Day brought thousands of people together, from so many different communities and cultures, as if they were long-lost relatives. Pilgrims would chat with someone they had met five minutes before as if they were best friends, exchanging keepsakes from their countries and e-mail addresses so they could keep in touch. The Catholic faith happened to bind these people together but it really didn't matter who you were or where you came from - anyone was allowed to join in the fun.

On Pope Benedict XVI's arrival at Barangaroo, I felt the excitement that so many other pilgrims had been feeling all week - the main attraction, the star of the show was finally here. Not only is B16 (it's what all the World Youth Day kids called him) the head of the Catholic Church, but he is a symbol of peace and hope to millions of people

across the globe, Catholic or otherwise.

An estimated 500,000 people waited at Barangaroo, Darling Harbour, and took to the streets of Sydney to see the Catholic superstar drive by in the pope-mobile and a silence fell over the crowd at Barangaroo as they paused to hear his welcome speech.

I didn't think it was possible for so many people to be so quiet - but B16 and his words have quite a magic about them.

If World Youth Day hadn't happened, I wouldn't believe it was possible to have a week-long party with thousands of people, where there were no drugs or alcohol, hate or violence and everyone had an awesome time.

World Youth Day also reminded me that, we should feel privileged to live in a country where we can proudly (and oh so loudly) celebrate and state our faith so openly. Many people are not so lucky.

Complete with the hugest crowds I have ever seen, constant noise and dreadful lack of sleep, I and many others who attended World Youth Day feel fortunate to have had the once-in-a lifetime experience.

As B16 told thousands of pilgrims during the papal welcome at Barangaroo - life "is a search for the true, the good and the beautiful". I have a feeling World Youth Day was probably a good place to start looking.

What the pilgrims said

"I went to the last WYD in Cologne but just being here in Australia has been a great experience." - **Ana Manenica from the Archdiocese's World Youth Day office.**

"I found WYD really good which is surprising because things that would have annoyed me at home, like people waking me up early in the morning, have not bothered me in the slightest. So I think the Holy Spirit is really here and I've loved it." - **CYM team member Miss Sarah Heffernan.**

"I was a little apprehensive I wouldn't enjoy it but I have really, really loved it. I loved the effect I saw WYD have on locals - just meeting people in the train and chatting about it to them and talking to non-Catholics who wanted to know what WYD is all about. It was great to see the Catholic Church put in a positive light and to see young people celebrating in a way that wasn't causing havoc - it was just a really uplifting experience." - **CYM team coordinator Miss Daniela Kesina.**

"Even though I was a bit sick I really enjoyed WYD. I liked seeing how other people were affected by it and how much fun other people have. A high point for me was seeing the Pope, I got really close and it was really great to see him that close because he's so important and awesome. At the opening Mass, I found it really moving to be able to go up to New Zealanders, Germans, Italians and other nationalities and give them the sign of peace - it was amazing." - **CYM team member Miss Erin Cassidy.**

"I haven't slept for two days - just with the thrill of being here, I can't sleep. It's been an amazing experience and I'd definitely do it again. I got to meet a lot of different people and to know different cultures - it was the experience of a lifetime." - **Naomi Burgess from Cooma.**



Scenes of unforgettable beauty from the Saturday night vigil attended by the Pope at Randwick racecourse.

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On the way to Australia's biggest sleepover



LEFT: A new day after a long night at the Randwick sleepover. **BELOW:** Parish priests of West Wyalong Fr Troy Bobbin and Harden-Murrumburrah Simon Falk with Brenton O'Brien. **BELOW RIGHT:** Katrina O'Brien and Kate Simmons learn a new dance. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The Canberra Croatian youth group.

LEFT: A night of prayer. **BELOW LEFT:** St Francis Xavier High School principal Mr Angus Tulley with a college group. **BELOW:** Pilgrims from Kambah on the long walk to Randwick.



BELOW: Follow the signs. **BELOW MIDDLE:** The adoration tent at Randwick at 3am.



A magnificent ride for those with courage to hop aboard

By Dominic W Kelly, chair of the Canberra-Goulburn WYD Project Board.

What a momentous occasion the Days in the Diocese proved to be. A truly holy and inspiring event to be a part of.

From the outset, I knew that an event like this to be organised by the Church would involve a terrific commitment from many and I, as with the rest of the WYD team, was looking forward to it. I had not met any of the WYD team before and a few of the project board members I had only met briefly. Headquarters was The Rheinberger centre at Yarralumla and from there, the WYD team performed above and beyond what was expected of them in this very difficult, demanding and all-encompassing role.

The diocesan WYD team was led by Shawn van der Linden who did a superb job in bringing

together this event. Heartfelt congratulations to Shawn and his team and very importantly to their supportive families living with them through this hectic and often stressful time.

Unfortunately I cannot list all the people I would like to acknowledge who were such hardworking contributors to the event. Selfishly however, I would like to acknowledge the tireless commitment and energy I personally did encounter from Brett Anderson, Nathan Kensey and Ralph and Angela Frank.

Not since my involvement with the Synod have I had the opportunity to witness the size and devotion of our diocese. These events are a reminder to me of the richness of our Church and the people within it. WYD began with the journey of the cross and icon across the world and being seen in parishes all

around Australia - this was the beginning, the first feelings of what was to come

Through the blood, sweat and tears, the culmination of this terrific event was highlighted for me by the following events. On the evening of the Saturday after the Mass celebrated at EPIC, I accompanied Catholic Education Office director Moira Najdecki to the colleges that were hosting pilgrims.

We visited St Francis Xavier, St Clare's, and eventually Mary MacKillop colleges. Nothing prepared me for what I saw - hospitality, kindness, dedication, commitment to serve and provide. Some may not have fully understood WYD or realised the enormity of it. In the end, we were simply focused on delivering and nurturing - the practical stuff - the ordinariness where God resides. A sea of pilgrim's faces - suddenly the num-

bers we had been talking about for so long had a human face.

Secondly, I was heartened to hear the continuing media reports giving great coverage of WYD and the spirit of events happening right across the country. I felt the sense of pride one feels in being Australian but this time in being Catholic. And even as I write this, I am yet to experience WYD in Sydney. There I will again experience this hope and pride and will do this with my seven-year-old daughter Edwina.

I recall Neil Harrigan, a fellow board member and director of Centacare, asking me "are you enjoying the journey?" and "what does this pilgrimage mean to you". I suddenly realised at that time that I was engaged in the project with my head but not my heart. I did not fully understand what WYD was all about. But Neil's questions pulled me into the

mystery of WYD very quickly.

It is still difficult to articulate just as our faith can be difficult to articulate.

Those who worked on, participated in, or simply attended the events involving World Youth Day will know what I'm talking about.

Those who participated in and fully embraced WYD will no doubt understand very clearly the WYD08 theme:

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses." Acts 1:8

As a dear friend and mentor of mine, Fr Brian Yates, once said to me "it's a wonderful faith we share". This steam train called World Youth Day is unstoppable. Those that have had the courage and commitment to climb aboard, have enjoyed a magnificent ride.

WYD: a mighty seed has been sown in this land

I'm not sure how many times I've been asked how I found World Youth Day - hundreds of times, certainly. My standard reply has been: "Exhausting but exhilarating".

There were the great Masses; there was the boat-ade with the Pope to Barangaroo, with the harbour looking superb. There were the deeply moving Stations of the Cross.

Then there was the Saturday evening Vigil with candles everywhere, and everyone, including the bishops, rugged up.

We were incredibly lucky with the weather, but when the sun went down there was a deep chill in the air...hence most of us picking up a touch of the WYD splutter. In the evenings, there was always something to attend.

For the catechising bishops, we were up early for a quick breakfast; then we stood around for what seemed ages waiting for a minibus to take us to the place of our catechesis. I was at Kingsgrove the first day, Marrickville the second day and in the State Entertainment Centre on the third day talking to a crowd of thousands.

Once the catechesis and Mass were over, we were bused back into the minibus to be rushed to the next function. In general, I had the sense of lurching from one thing to another, with scarcely time to eat or even to pray. By Friday night I felt I had been talking non-stop for about two weeks.

I say this because Days in the Diocese in Canberra and Goulburn had an intensity about them. They were a big hit, thanks largely to the extraordinary hospitality of the people here. The pilgrims were bowled over by the welcome they received.

We can take for granted the hospitality of which Australians are capable. Perhaps it's because this was so distant and unwelcoming a place in our early history that Australians acquired a gift of hospitality. We learnt early to welcome the stranger, and we did it spectacularly well during Days in the Diocese.

My thanks to you all. I know how richly you were rewarded. Those human encounters are the very heart of the WYD experience.

Many have said what a great success WYD was, and that is true by any reckoning. But it's hard to measure the

success of an event which was so large and complex.

At any given moment, it was happening at so many different levels, in so many different arenas and in so many different hearts. Perhaps only God could see it whole.

But it is impossible to believe that such an outpouring of blood, sweat and tears in the preparation - to say nothing of the money - and such an outpouring of grace in the celebration won't produce great fruit.

The fruits may not be the ones we are expecting: that's often the way of the Holy Spirit. But a mighty seed has been sown in this land, and I cannot believe that the seed will come to nothing.

We all need a bit of a rest after the exertions not only of the last couple of weeks of celebration but of the last couple of years of preparation.

However, we cannot afford now to flop and fail to take up the task of follow-up. When we've caught our breath, we need to work with as much energy and imagination as we did in the preparation to ensure that in the years to come we reap the harvest that WYD promises.

Some people in Australia seem to think that the Catholic Church is slowly but surely going out of business. Yet WYD made it clear that the Church, both here and around the world, is not about to close the doors.

In fact, through the days in Sydney it was clear to anyone with eyes that the Church has about it an astonishing freshness and vitality - the freshness and vitality of Easter.

Jesus is for ever new - as is the gift of his grace, the free gift that comes to us out of nowhere when we least expect it. All the hard work of WYD was simply an opening to grace; and all the hard work that lies ahead will be an opening to the many fruits that grace will surely bring.

"God will provide", Abraham says to Isaac when the boy asks where is the victim for the sacrifice.

God has provided magnificently through the experience of WYD, and God will provide no less as we move together into the future to which WYD points.



Mark

+Bishop Mark

Wanted: smart and civic-minded

There are a number of questions studiously avoided by Australian higher education providers when it comes to choosing their students.

First, do we hold to the rather ancient notion that surviving a rigorous period of assessment is the only way to prove our ability to navigate the complexities of life? The longevity of this idea seems as dubious as its logic. Perhaps we should ask instead: What are we missing?

Secondly, every university is concerned with the quality of their graduates. But how can universities consider the calibre of individuals we want to send out into the world without considering the attributes and character of the students whom we admit? If a student has made a difference to their community, surely that must count for something?

This year, Australian Catholic University (ACU National) has launched the Early Achievers program, the first program in Australia to paint a three-dimensional picture of our applicants by assessing both their results and their community work. Without compromising academic integrity, Early Achievers is based on a simple principle: we want graduates who are both intelligent and ethical, both smart and civic-minded. What better indicator is there of a student's attitude to community involvement than the evidence they have already done it?

If we have the opportunity of getting students who are both intellectually gifted and have the personality and the character that make them exceptionally suited to make a contribution, we obviously want both. From our standpoint, who you are is as relevant as what you've studied. We need to move away from the idea that intellect is divorced from character. They are two sides of the same coin.

In order to qualify for the Early Achievers program and gain early entry into ACU National, students must have completed three successful semesters of study in Years 11 and 12 and demonstrated involvement in their community through school, church, sport, cultural organisations or another arena. They must still apply through UAC and list ACU National as their first preference. Supporting documentation and a letter from the school principal must also be provided. If a student meets all requirements, they will be offered a place in November.

Some critics have misrepresented the Early Achievers idea. Haters of exams, rejoice, they say, marks matter no more. This is untrue. Early Achievers is about building a community of well-rounded students. We will still require people to meet academic standards; students will still have to have the academic track record even to apply.

Instead, the program looks for a balance between community engagement and classroom study. We believe this will produce a body of graduates that will be exceptional in Australia. To show our commitment to the Early Achievers ideal, up to 50 per cent of undergraduate places will be on offer through the program. In the complex calculus of university admittance, this is our way of factoring in the human element.

It is crucial to realise that we are missing a deep vein of talent that already exists in our schools. If our universities are to be considered among the finest in the world, torchbearers of the long history of Catholic intellectual tradition, then we have to tap into this talent pool and encourage its growth. At ACU National, our aim is to produce graduates who will be a vital and renewable source of civic energy in Australia. They are a catalyst for change, and they'll do so not just for our benefit, not just for the nation's, but for their own.

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'Magnificent' past returns

Former parishioners returning to Temora for the centenary of the church may think they have stepped back into the past.

The altar that adorned Sacred Heart Church 100 years ago has been restored to its original state over the past six months.

Skilled Sydney craftsman Arthur Rudman has painstakingly uncovered the original colours and faithfully reproduced them as part of the preparations for the centenary.

The result has been described as outstanding, uplifting, and magnificent.

The centenary celebrations will take place over the 4-6 October long weekend.

Bishop Pat Power will be principal concelebrant at the Centenary Mass on Sunday, 5 October, assisted by Wagga Wagga Bishop Gerard Hanna and Temora parish priest Fr Phil Harding.

The first Bishop of Wagga Wagga, Bishop Joseph Dwyer, was parish priest of Temora from 1913 until he left Temora to lead his new diocese in 1918.

As well as the Mass, a dinner dance, concert, bus tours and picnic lunch are planned to encourage past and current residents of Temora to mark the occasion.

Inquiries: Centenary committee, telephone 6977 2104, or website www.sacred-hearttemora.org

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

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

Pilgrim places named for year of Paul

Five churches across the Archdiocese have been named as special places of pilgrimage in a Year of Jubilee proclaimed by the Pope to celebrate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of St Paul.

People who go on pilgrimage to St Christopher's Cathedral, St Peter and Paul's, Goulburn, St Patrick's, Cooma, St Patrick's, Bega, and St Mary's, Young, may receive a plenary indulgence, granted under the usual conditions by the Pope, until 29 June next year.

In a letter to the people of the Archdiocese, Archbishop Coleridge said the Pope was keen the jubilee be celebrated throughout the world. "This is surely providential in the aftermath of World Youth Day with its fresh call to a new evangelisation. I would like to place all our post-WYD efforts under the patronage of the Apostle of the Gentiles, who took the Gospel to places where no-one had gone before."

Certain days through the Pauline year were special significance and should be a time of special celebration. Apart from 29 June, there are the Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Paul on 18 November and the Solemnity of the Conversion of Saint Paul on 25 January.

"I would ask that all parishes and communities mark these days with a solemnity appropriate for the Jubilee Year and that they be advertised as special days of pilgrimage to the designated churches."

The focus of the Pauline Year will be in Rome where the Apostle lies buried beneath the Basilica of Saint Paul's Outside-the-Walls. Archbishop Coleridge encouraged all who could to consider going on pilgrimage to the tomb of the Apostle. He is considering organising and leading an Archdiocesan pilgrimage in the footsteps of St Paul towards the end of the Jubilee Year.

He has invited preachers to focus on the readings of St Paul, and primary and secondary schools to make a special effort to introduce their students to "the person, story and teaching of the Apostle, since to know Paul is to know ourselves".

A series of talks on St Paul and his writings will be given by Archbishop Coleridge and Fr Michael Fallon MSC at the Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla, between 12 August and 25 November.

For the full text of Archbishop Coleridge's letter, go to www.cg.catholic.org.au/about/default.cfm?loadref=86

* To obtain a plenary indulgence, a person must have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, have sacramentally confessed their sins, receive the Holy Eucharist, and pray for the intentions of the Pope. It is appropriate this take place on the same day as the pilgrimage, but it is sufficient that they be carried out within about 20 days before or after the pilgrimage.

Students get taste of uni life - and pizza

About 50 year-12 students from schools in Canberra and NSW were given the chance to be a university student for a day at Australian Catholic University's Canberra campus.

ACU's University Experience program enabled students to take part in lectures, discussions and other activities relating to their proposed field of study.

Campus marketing and communications assistant Mrs Jessica Brodie coordinated the day's events. "It's the first time the university has held something like this. The aim was to give students an idea of the courses and help them prepare for the decision they are making on tertiary education."

St Clare's students Claire Lennon, Rosalie Iannelli and Laura Newcombe said they were



"definitely" interested in attending the university next year. They had enjoyed their day as a uni student, which included a DJ in the hallway and pizza for lunch.

ABOVE: Students Claire Lennon, Rosalie Iannelli and Laura Newcombe with ACU marketing and communications assistant Mrs Jessica Brodie (far left).

Easy being green at Evatt Church life in focus

The life of the Church in the Archdiocese will be depicted through the eye of a lens in a photographic exhibition set to open in Canberra this month.

"What no eye has seen..." is the theme of a display featuring the work of Canberra photographer Loui Seselja. Part of Vivid, the National Photography Festival, it will run from 20 August to 10 September at the Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla. His work will be complemented by photographs from the pages of Catholic Voice taken by Geoff Orchison and Naomi Fallon. About 100 exhibitions will be on show in 50 venues around Canberra from 11 July to 12 October celebrating the role of photography in Australian life and history.

Two students from St Monica's Primary in Evatt have won \$10,000 to help make their school more environmentally friendly.

St Monica's participated in Earth Hour by turning off lights and computers for an hour to raise students' awareness of their impact on the planet. Two Year 6 students, Oliver and Eloise later entered a competition called Earth Hour: Generation Green. They consulted with staff and students to design an 800-word project plan to make the school more environmentally sustainable.



Some suggestions included taking an energy audit in the school, creating a marketing campaign to turn off lights and implementing a "green canteen" with compost bins, a worm farm and organic waste bin, a chook yard and a small solar-powered hot water system.

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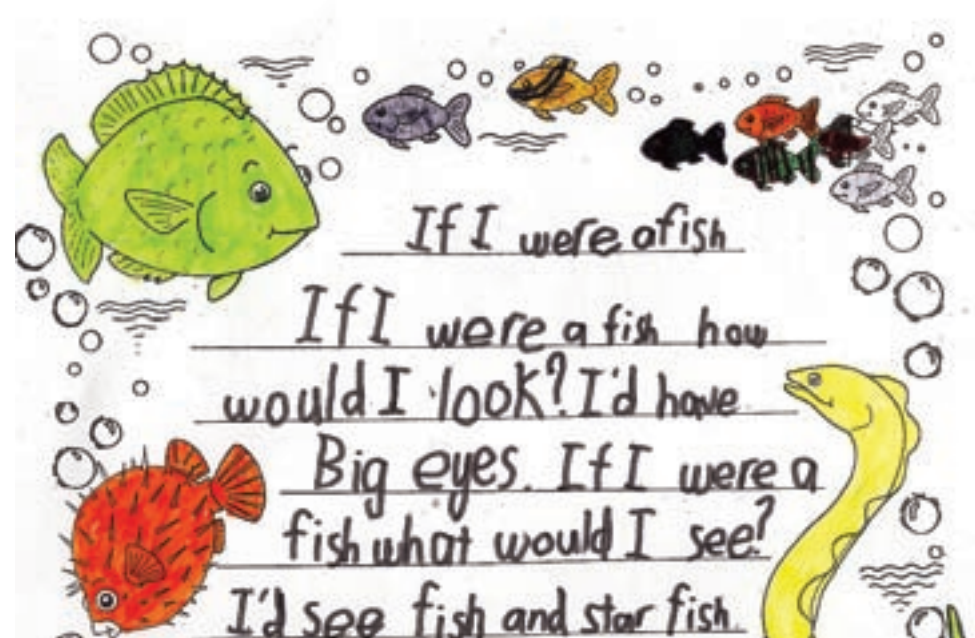
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Manager: Victor Dunn.



Busy bees learn about the sea

Catholic Voice's Naomi Fallon visited Sts Peter and Paul Primary in Goulburn this month. Class 2S had been busy learning about the sea and celebrations and their teacher Miss Sasha Shepherd said they had been working very hard.



DRAWINGS
TOP RIGHT: Isabel Millar's great flying fish. TOP LEFT: Cooper Pearce looks at God's creation. MIDDLE RIGHT: If I were a fish, by Joaquin Grados. ABOVE RIGHT: More fish, by Logan Jessat. BELOW RIGHT: Tom Toparis says God looks after everyone when they hurt themselves.



PHOTOGRAPHS
ABOVE: Miss Shepherd and 2S. LEFT: Isobel Burgun and Alex Lloyd were having great fun writing poems. BELOW LEFT: Bronte McSweeney and Tom Toparis like using coloured textas on their work. RIGHT: Sarah Dunn took some time out to relax.



'Take risks, work hard' is the recipe

By Naomi Fallon

Take some risks, work hard and with a little bit of luck you should be on your way to success, is the advice St Clare's College principal Ms Rita Daniels has for young people.

With a 30-year career in education, Ms Daniels is now set to become the first female principal of Daramalan College, which she regards as yet another challenge.

"It is a new challenge but I think it's good to keep presenting yourself with challenges," she said.

Being a teacher was something Ms Daniels had to warm to, but once she did, she found she had a passion for helping young people.

"I initially sensed I would become a teacher although I wasn't fully committed to it until I actually began teaching. I get a real buzz out of working with young people and seeing them develop into adults."

A Canberra girl at heart, aside from the first two years she taught in Wollongong, Ms Daniels has spent her entire career in the ACT.

For the past eight years, she has been principal of St Clare's College, with the exception of last year, when she was acting principal at MacKillop Catholic College.

"Moirá Najdecki took up a role as director of the Catholic Education Office, and I offered to go to MacKillop for a year to help with the transition process. I missed St Clare's - it's a wonderful school - but I also enjoyed being in a different school for a year. You don't often get a chance to just try something out and then go back to what you were doing."

Ms Daniel's soft spot for St Clare's might stem from having spent her teenage years there, when it was known as Catholic Girls High School Griffith. "I will be sad in one sense to leave St Clare's, but I think it's good for both me and the school to move on and experience what else is on offer."

It seems only natural she would end up back at Daramalan, where on returning to Canberra in 1979, she taught English for 10 years and then spent the following 10 years as



Ms Rita Daniels with year 9 students Holly Haling, Karina Carter, Mariana Lauc and Jennifer May.

assistant principal.

"I obviously have very strong affection for Daramalan and the MSC ethos. I saw this as an opportunity to return to the college in a different capacity."

In light of the college's recent negative media attention, Ms Daniels said all she could do was her best to be a good principal.

"These are issues the school will inevitably have to face, but I see my role as working forward with the school rather than working backward."

Earlier this year the confident and independent Ms Daniels was held up as an example of a successful woman in an International Women's Day supplement produced by The Canberra Times.

"I think there are great opportunities out there both for women and

men. I think a big mistake people make is always expecting they can do everything perfectly, because you just can't.

"I didn't find it difficult to get here. If you work hard and are realistic about your abilities, other people will develop confidence in your ability. You have got to be resilient; not everything in your working life is going to be perfect.

"I was lucky in my early career because I had many people who put faith in me. But I also like to think I worked hard and I was willing to take risks to get here."

Generally on weekdays Ms Daniels works about 10 hours a day and her job can be demanding.

"There are probably a lot of people who work longer hours than me. My job is hard at times; there are things that happen that are very

difficult, but they are more than outweighed by the positive things that happen. You have to be willing to accept the good with the bad."

Despite being busy with her work, Ms Daniels manages to indulge regularly in dinner with friends and she goes to the movies about once a week. "I love going to the movies. I'm a bit more on the arty side, than the sporty side."

She does not have children of her own, but between her nine siblings, the school and Catholic communities, Ms Daniels has always been part of a big family. "I have about 1226 children to look after every day!"

As a practicing Catholic, Ms Daniels said religion plays a very important role in her life and career. "Religion gives meaning to people's lives, and people draw great strength from their faith. It's a really important bond to have, one you don't just have with your small community, but it links you to a much larger community.

"Schools play a vital role in children's faith development and often faith doesn't play a role in any other part of their lives. I hope we are able to provide some basis for faith development. Maybe they won't think it is important now, but they may turn back to it at some stage in their lives."

Ms Daniels has high hopes for her students. "I hope that they believe in themselves, treat other people very, very well and that they find a sense of meaning in their life."



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- * With thanks to Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia
Website: www.catholicvocations.org.au

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The cross - a 'banner of hope'

An edited text of a talk given by Marist College Canberra vice-captain 2007 Matthew Bray at a ceremony at the college to mark the arrival of the World Youth Fay cross and icon. Matthew was a small-group leader at the Marist International festival at WYD.

It was a Good Friday as the congregation bustled into the small church in preparation for the 3pm ceremony. Young and old, rich and poor, all gathered together around a table, to share a meal, and retell the story of how one idealistic young man in a country far away, had changed all their lives, and the fabric of our humanity.

As I entered that church, little did I know the significance of what was to transpire within me. As the Mass began, the congregation stood and the choir began their haunting refrain, with the words of the Negro spiritual, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" I don't know if it was the beauty of the harmonies, the passion of the singers or the fact that the entire congregation had joined in song, but something about that song struck me, and reached a deep place within my soul. "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" switched me on to how little I understood about the image of the Cross.

The depth of emotion, the way everyone in that church seemed affected by that

song, as though mourning their brother, begged the question inside me, "Why wasn't I responding this way?"

Up until that point, I had lived and grown up in a fairly religious environment: Mass every Sunday, the rosary every night and no meat on Fridays. I



knew the words of all the prayers and said them at my bedside as I went to bed. But in that moment I realised there was something missing, that I wasn't connecting with the story of the Cross. I realised that

before then, I had religion, but I didn't have faith. I knew the Church, but I didn't know God.

"Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" With those words, all those things I had heard about for so long, all the concepts and ideas finally began to make sense. The truth that occurred to me was that Christ was a sacrifice, by which all our suffering, and all pain in our life, can be offered to God. The cross is the single most recognisable symbol in the world. It is the symbol of the crucified Jesus, and hence the salvation of all people. Christ calls out to us from the cross, and invites us to pay witness to his love. He was, while on the earth, though not a mere mortal, Christ was a man. He struggled with sins and selfishness. In the garden of Gethsemane, the night before he died, he tried one last time to bargain with God. But in the end, this man bore the weight of the world on his shoulders, and on a cross, He died.

For me, the cross or crucifix is not a symbol of death or loss. Rather, I see it as a banner of hope, a very clear and potent symbol of God's love for us, and more importantly the debt of love and gratitude we owe him for our salvation, through the sacrifice of his son. My advent of faith hinged on that love, and caused a change in me. Once you glimpse the love of God, you cannot help but be changed.

One family's struggle to stay in Australia

By Sr Francis Mansour LCM

The Little Company of Mary Refugee Project offers support to asylum seekers while they are in detention and, where necessary, during their transition into the community. I share the story of one man.

"In March 1998 we applied for a protection visa. Without any assistance from the Government, I had to support my family. In March 2005, the Immigration Department officers came to my house and detained us to Villawood Detention Centre. My life had turned upside down.

"For more than four months we lived with other people who faced the same problem as us, but I felt lucky that as a Christian follower, we were able to celebrate Mass every Friday

morning. That's how I met Sr Francis Mansour, from the Little Company of Mary Refugee Project. Many times we talked and also arranged for the baptism of my son in the detention centre.

"On July 2005 we were released and relocated into the community again, but were still under the Immigration Detention Law. Another blessing from the Lord; Sr Francis kept in touch with me. A couple of times I had to go to Federal Court after I'd been dismissed by the tribunal. We also met to discuss the next step I had to take after being dismissed in one court after another. It really made me frustrated.

"On April 2007 I took the final step and sent a letter to the Minister for Immigration to consider my case

knowing if I failed I would have to leave the country. After waiting almost five months, finally we have been granted our Australian permanent visa. All uncertainty has gone and I say thank you and may God bless Sr Francis for the support and help she gave to my family."

Inquiries about the works of Little Company of Mary: Sr Helen Kelly, e-mail vocations@lcm.org.au telephone 0418 966 845.



Sr Francis Mansour and Sr Patricia Ryan.

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National Vocations Awareness Week

Commissioned by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, the week provides an opportunity for the whole Australian Church to reflect on the Christian vocation that arises from our common Baptism, and calls us to service in our small part of the world.

The focus for the two Sundays of National Vocations Awareness Week is:

3 August - The Baptismal call of all and specifically how it is lived in a call to the single life and the call to marriage. A time to pray for those called to live out their call through these specific vocations. It is a time to remember that everyone has a vocation.

10 August - The specific vocations of consecrated (religious) and ordained life (priesthood and permanent diaconate). A time to pray for our priests, deacons and religious. A time to encourage our young people to be open to God's call to ordained ministry and/or religious life.

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- Nourishes and fosters his relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer and service
- May be married, or single and celibate. If married, is assisted by his wife in his ministry. (The majority of 'permanent deacons' are married).
- Is usually assigned to a parish, and may be employed there — either full-time or part-time.
- May continue to hold another position part-time to supplement his income.

Find our more about Deacons in Australia.

* With thanks to Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia.

From why to why not...?

By Fr Emil Milat

I never thought about being a priest. Being married with children was too dear to my heart.

But one Sunday, when I was 24 and had not still found the "perfect" person, I was sitting innocently in Mass and I heard Fr Peter Miller, the then Vocations Director, talking about the shortage of priests.

On the way home with Dad I said to him "It's a shame there is a shortage of priests." He said, somewhat cynically, "Why don't you do something about it?"

This was the first time I was asked. And when I thought "why not" rather than "why" my perspective changed.

I was also at that point in my life when I saw that fulfilment in life was about not what you can get, but what you can give. As I started to muse on this, things changed.

I was starting to move towards priesthood and everything clicked for me.

I started to find great friends, my prayer life took on new meaning and I felt like I was swimming with the stream rather than against it.

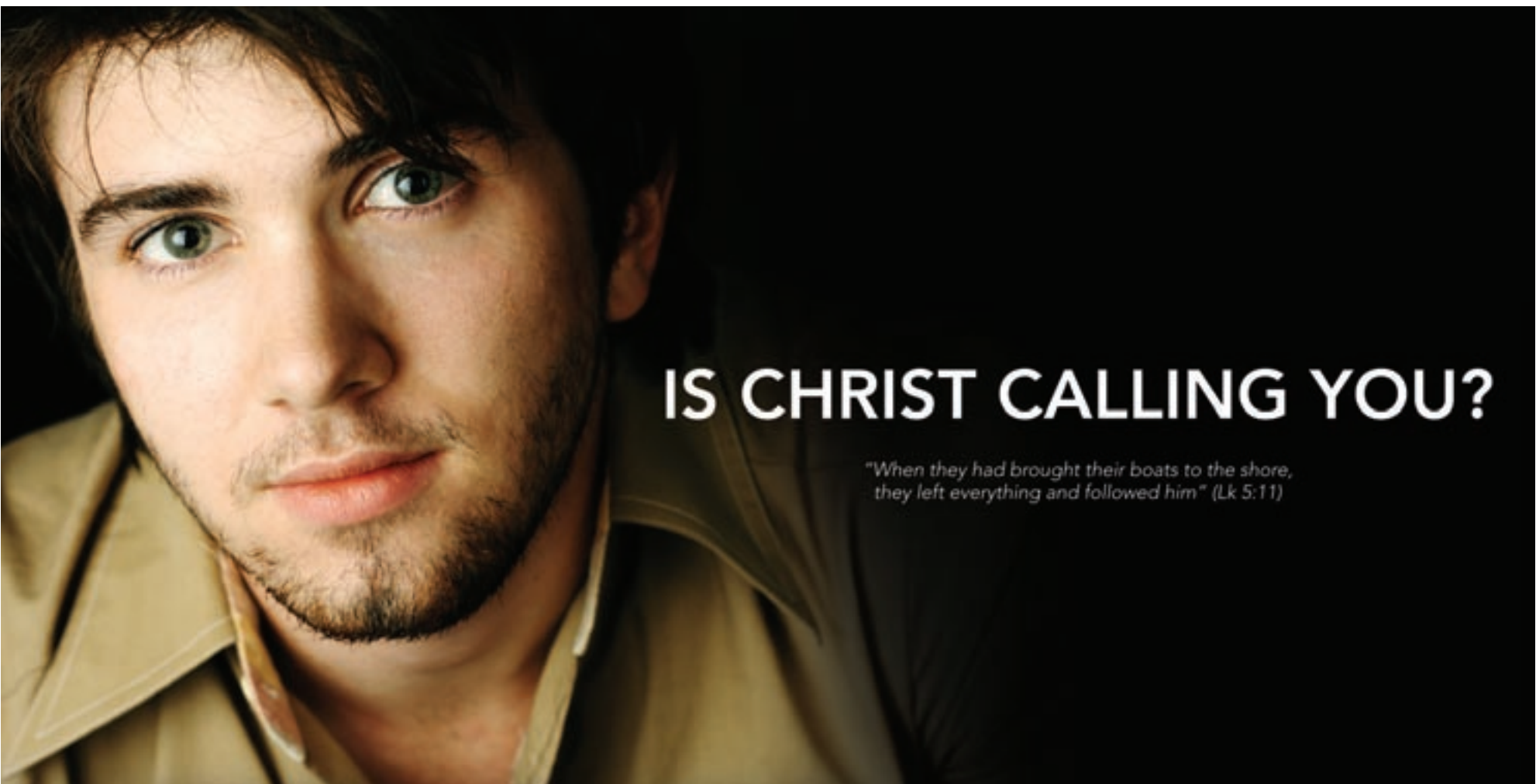
Life was still full of challenges, in fact harder than ever- but every cross seemed to bring a resurrection experience and greater peace and joy.

I have just celebrated eight years as a priest and this is still true now. I have been appointed the Parish Priest of Moruya from August and am more excited about priesthood than ever.

Priesthood truly is a great life for those who a called to this form of giving. I see celibacy as a way to have many friend-

ships, especially a deep one with Jesus, than would otherwise be possible.

I am currently the contact vocations director for the priesthood in the Archdiocese and can be contacted on telephone 6291 6688 or emil.milat@ccparish.org.au



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Cemetery link to district's pioneers gets facelift

The historic old Catholic burial ground at Gundaroo is a microcosm of Australian pioneering history.

The site itself near the Gundaroo bridge is a fine example of ecumenism. In the middle of the 19th century, according to Errol Lee-Scarlet, author of Gundaroo, the land was gifted by ex-army surgeon Dr Donald Macleod, a Presbyterian.

He "sympathised with the wish of Catholics to be buried in their own ground". McLeod owned Barnsdale and offered an acre of his property at the intersection of the Gundaroo and Back Creek roads. During his visit to Gundaroo, Bishop Lanigan from Goulburn Diocese consecrated the cemetery on 10 March, 1879.

A number of working-bees over the past 10 years have removed the invasive elm suckers which were damaging headstones. Vandalism and wandering live-stock had also added to the desecration of the memorials.

In November 1998, a successful application was made to the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers for a community service project. A group of Green Corps trainees worked for two days on-site.

Then in 2006 the Gundaroo Community Association secured a \$4000 grant from the Yass Valley Council Heritage Fund to renovate the burial ground.

Extensive site clearing and levelling, removal of the elm roots and the erection of secure perimeter fencing will result in regular maintenance of the cemetery by the Yass Valley Council.

Descendants of pioneers buried in the cemetery are grateful to the members of the Gundaroo Community Association for their excellent efforts.

Their support, keenness and hands-on approach in the restoration project was inspirational, they said.

The earliest known grave-sites, both dated 1857, are those of Mrs Mary Hughes, of Mugwill, and Mrs Bridget Donnelly, of Bywong. No burials took place after 1956.

The original burial records of the cemetery were destroyed long ago in a fire and no copies have survived.

However, in 1976 members of the Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra catalogued the headstones and recorded valuable information.

Local resident Mr Graeme Challenor created interest by publishing a book Cemeteries in Gundaroo NSW and in the Surrounding District.

His website has attracted attention and additional names have since been added to the list.

People known to be buried in the cemetery (July 2008)

BLEWITT William, Anne, Kate and Charles
BOOTH Thomas, James, James (2nd), George and Mary Ann
CARTY Francis
CASEY Eliza, Caroline, Thomas and John
CHARTERS Mary, Priscilla
DONNELLY Bridget, Patrick and Aimee
EDWARDS Ellen
HUGHES James, Mary
LAWLER John
LEAHY Hanorah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Eliza, Elizabeth, Patrick, Deborah and Kathleen
MCALISTER William
MORGAN Francis, Sarah
MURPHY Deborah
REYNOLDS Eleanor, Ellen
ROLFE Charlie.

Archdiocese gets

The ordination of a Nigerian-born priest for the Archdiocese was a sign from heaven that God will always be faithful, Archbishop Mark Coleridge said in St Christopher's Cathedral.

He was speaking at the ordination of Fr Constantine Osuchukwu in front of his mother Matilda, sister Isabella and brother Christian, who had flown from Nigeria for the ceremony.

"Some may see the ordination of a Nigerian-born deacon a sign that the Church here is in trouble," Archbishop Coleridge said.

"But we see it instead as a magnificent and surprising sign of the Spirit that the glory has not left the temple, a sign that in the midst of all that is shabby and even shameful in the life of the Church there is still to be seen the glory of the Risen Lord for those who have eyes to see.

"The sign that God gives - this new priest - comes to us as a promise, a promise from heaven that God will always be faithful, that he will never abandon the people he has made his own. It comes as a promise from Christ that he has not turned away from his Church, a promise therefore of Easter, of a newness upon us, a newness which we could never have dreamed of or imagined 60 years ago" when the Archdiocese was established.

Archbishop Coleridge said the surname, Osuchukwu, meant "one dedicated to God". The new priest came from a family which had produced so many priestly and religious vocations "that the name itself seems strangely prophetic.

"We have certainly recognised in Constantine one dedicated to God, and we dedicate him in a new and deeper way this evening. But the one dedicated to God is given back to us by God as a gift, a splendid gift to the Archdiocese in this year of our Jubilee."

Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto, Sydney Auxiliary Bishop Julian Porteous and more than 60 priests of the Archdiocese and further afield took part in the ceremony. Others who attended included the high commissioners of Nigeria, Kenya and Botswana, representatives of diplomatic missions and many of Fr Osuchukwu's seminary colleagues.

LEFT: Archbishop Mark Coleridge lays hands on Constantine Osuchukwu before ordaining him a priest. BELOW: Concelebrating the ordination Mass.



a 'splendid jubilee gift'



ABOVE: Fr Osuchukwu blesses Archbishop Coleridge after the ceremony. RIGHT: He prostrates himself as a sign of submission before God.



LEFT: After his ordination with mother Matilda, brother Christian, sister Isabella, Archbishop Coleridge and seminary classmate Fr Fidelis Omeaku. ABOVE: Fr Frank Jones lays hands on Constantine Osuchukwu during the ordination ceremony. In his speech of thanks, Fr Osuchukwu specially thanked Fr Jones, former Yarralumla parish priest, for his support.

Yass parishioner Mr Gerard McGrory has been bestowed with the high honour of a Papal Cross in recognition of his dedication and service to the Catholic Church.

The prominent member of St Augustine's Catholic community was awarded with the honour by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in a ceremony following Mass.

The Croce pro Ecclesia et Pontifice - the Cross on behalf of the Church and the Pope - is the highest medal that can be awarded to a lay person.

The medal was established by Leo XIII in 1888 to commemorate his golden sacerdotal jubilee and is awarded for dis-

Pictured: Gerry and Pam McGrory are pictured with members of their family and St Augustine's Parish Priest Father Laurie Bent. Gerry's children and grandchildren travelled to Yass for the special ceremony.

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

High papal honour goes to a 'remarkable' Yass parishioner

tinguished service to the church by lay people and clergy.

Archbishop Coleridge paid tribute to retiring parish priest Fr Laurie Bent before declaring "no man is an island and no parish priest can function alone.

"Although there are many remarkable helpers, there are some people whose contribution is particularly remarkable; whose contribution merits an unusual recognition from the Holy Father himself."

Mr McGrory has served the Catholic Church in many ways; as coordinator of RCIA in Yass, organiser of the annual St Vincent de Paul appeal, chair of the parish pastoral council, chair of both the

liturgy and finance committees, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and caretaker of the "Old Convent".

Mr McGrory, wife Pam and their five children have been active participants since moving to Yass from Canberra 15 years ago.

Mr McGrory's family surprised him by travelling to Yass and hiding at the back of the church before appearing at the end of the ceremony to celebrate the award with him.

Mr and Mrs McGrory, who have moved to Coolamon, said the award symbolised a fitting end to many great years in Yass.

"It is a humbling experience, not called for but most appreciated," an overwhelmed Mr McGrory said.

Fr Bent said Mr McGrory had been an invaluable advisor and assistant to him during his five and a half years as parish priest.

"He certainly deserves the award not only for his work in Yass, where he has been much help to me as parish priest, but also for his service to the Archdiocese and pastoral council," he said. "It has involved a lot of travelling and his service has been extensive."

* Story, picture: Yass Tribune.



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Web Site: www.vocationsstjohnofgod.com

Promoting call to religious life

All young people are invited to discuss their sense of vocation at a special stall in the Canberra Careers Market. Members of the Serra Club of Canberra will suggest that people give thought to their vocation in life, of which a major part will be their future paid jobs and occupations. People are also urged to think about their activities outside of paid work as complementing a full life.

For most people, that vocation may ultimately be as a married person with family. While Serra encourages all forms of vocation, it works to promote the awareness of a possible call to a religious life, whether as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister or lay service order. Everyone attending the careers market at the AIS indoor arena is urged to drop by the Serra stall on either Wednesday or Thursday, 6 or 7 August.

Serra has presented a stall for this purpose every year since the market started in 1979. In recent years it has coincided with the National Week of Prayer for Vocations. Counting on that experience, club secretary Mr John Smith organised a vocations expo stall at the Days in the Diocese festival at EPIC.



Canberra Serra president John Malycha receives a 30th anniversary certificate of the club from Kevin Fellow, past president of National Serra Council.

Serra Club members are also conducting sessions of adoration for vocations as a monthly pilgrimage to parishes and schools in the Archdiocese. Serra supports youth ministry in the Archdiocese because the future of the Church is our youth, and from them will come vocations. The club celebrated its 30th anniversary in May and June. Inquiries: Mr John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912, or www.serracanberra.org

Brothers seek to offer hospitality

The Brothers of St. John of God, formed around John of God at Granada, Spain, in the early 1540s to help him care for those who were living on the edges of society.

He was well known for his hospitality towards people, and his

followers today try to perpetuate his attitudes and values in a style of care that they describe as hospitality. Today the ministries of the brothers and their co-workers are found in most countries around the world.

Br Gavin Greenwood (pictured right) recently made his life time commitment of solemn vows as a brother and is living and working with people who have disabilities in Melbourne. As a brother he has been involved in working with people who are homeless in Sydney, hospital chaplaincy in New Zealand and assisting the brothers in PNG.

The brothers in Australia are involved in a variety of ministries that not only take in Australia, New Zealand and PNG but also various types of involvement with brothers from the Asia Pacific region including Vietnam, India and the Philippines.

At a recent meeting

of brothers held in Sydney it was noticed that involvement in the Asia Pacific region has increased over the years and that the commitment of the Order is manifested by the numbers of ministries that are growing in this area.



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Serra Objectives

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To encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church; and

To assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

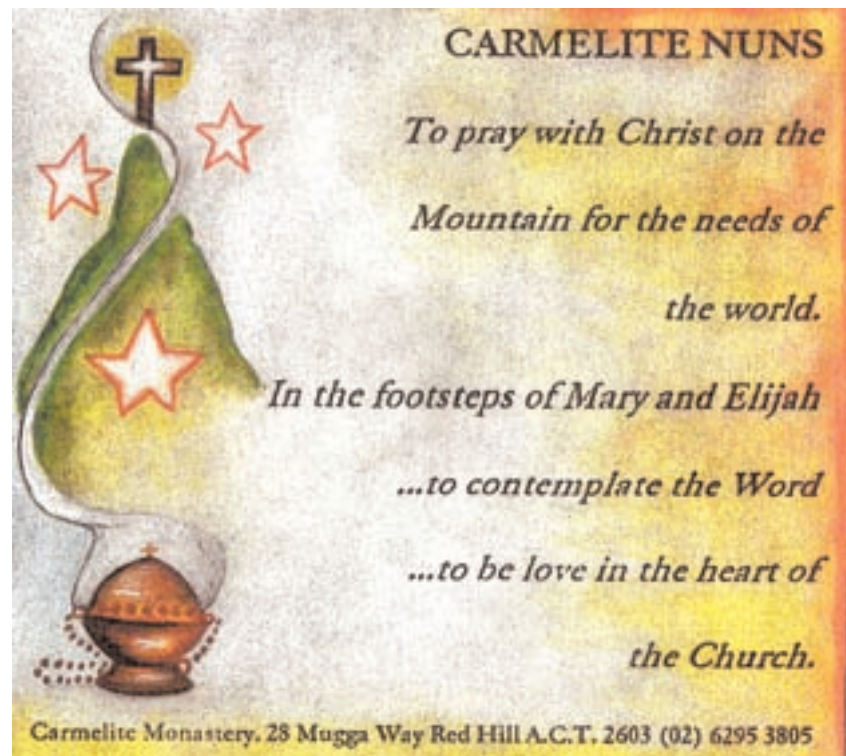
Membership of Serra is open to all practising Catholic men and women. We invite you to come and see what Serra is all about and help us to do more to foster vocations.

www.serracanberra.org

Email: **membership@serracanberra.org**

Tel: **Leo Langtry 6286 3286**

Box 1540 WODEN ACT 2606





Lord Jesus,
Following you is a bit like
jumping in at the deep end.
Help me as I discern how I
can best be me.
Be close to me as I search out
which way of life is best for me.
Give me your grace to trust
in God, your Abba, and to
walk the path that draws me
closer to you.
You know my deepest desires.
Give me the courage to follow
with a ready will and open
heart.
Amen.

* With thanks to Catholic
Vocations Ministry Australia
www.catholicovocations.org.au

I wanted to ‘give back’

Margaret Mary Flynn says she joined the Loreto Sisters, mainly because "I wanted to make a difference, and felt it was a way I could give back to life after I had been given so much."

"I knew Loreto, had been inspired by some wonderful Loreto Sisters (teachers) - women who were intelligent, in touch with the world, who encouraged a freedom to question and who had an impact on lives and social issues."

After novitiate, she taught mainly English, French and religion in several Loreto secondary schools.

In her work Margaret came to see the need for family counselling to be available in Loreto schools in order for staff and sisters to be sensitive to the needs of the students - and so began a new career for her.

She completed a post-grad counselling degree, worked for five years as a counsellor with Centacare in Melbourne, and then spent some time in private practice within a women's centre.

While studying and working Margaret also completed a theology degree, and at the same time had the role of accompanying women who were thinking of joining the Loreto Sisters.

Then, she says, came the most unexpected request - to be Centacare

director at Wilcannia-Forbes, the largest and poorest diocese in NSW, establishing a welfare service on behalf of the diocese.

"It has been an amazing experience for me, a city girl, to be exposed to this very different perspective of Australia."

"To spend hours driving thousands of kilometres alone through the immensity and beauty of this aspect of creation; to meet so many extraordinary people living ordinary inspirational lives; to be led to a deeper appreciation of Aboriginal culture and issues, and to be trusted by communities to work with them to enhance quality of life; and to take on the challenge of developing services which meet the needs of isolated and very under-resourced rural communities."

Under Margaret's guidance, Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes was recently awarded the Catholic Social Services Australia Norma Parker Award for Most Innovative for their Strong Young Mums Program.

The Program was established in Bourke at the end of 2005 in response to the large number of teenage mothers in the community who had dropped out of school once they learnt they were pregnant.

'It has been an amazing experience for me, a city girl, to be exposed to this perspective of Australia.'



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A life of walking with people

The first group of Sisters of St Joseph of Goulburn arrived from Bathurst in August 1882, at the invitation of Bishop William J Lanigan. Initially the Sisters staffed the small parish primary school in Goulburn. Over time their influence on the growth of Catholic education across the Diocese has been considerable.

Today, Sisters are engaged less in formal education yet retain their strong commitment to and support for Catholic schools. Their ministry now is in support of families. They connect with people from all walks of life, sharing their journey and offering prayer, presence and service to all in need.

The Sisters are committed to working with families, with the aged, in parish situations as coordinators and pastoral assistants, in prison ministry to inmates and their families, with youth in pastoral ministry, with children through support programs such as "Seasons for Growth", with adults in spiritual and faith formation, and in advocacy for justice supporting indigenous people and lobbying for human rights for all people.



In recent years they have increased their connections with Josephites locally and globally as they enter into partnerships for mission. In 2007 and 2008 two Goulburn Sisters of St Joseph travelled to France to represent Australian Josephites at the International Josephite Committee for Justice meeting.

The life of a Josephite is all about "walking with people" and endeavouring to reach out in response wherever there is a need.

Sisters' ministry is in support of families

Sisters of St Joseph of Goulburn
are a group of consecrated women on mission who strive to listen to God's call for us today.
We seek to spread God's healing and transforming love especially amongst rural families by walking with God's people, and offering prayer, presence and service to all those in need.
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Today, our Sisters and their ministry partners throughout Australia and beyond can be found carrying on the vision of Catherine McAuley.
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Crazy world but Abba go on and on and on

Mamma Mia, here we go again. The trouble is that Abba songs and their catchy tunes have been around for over three decades and they have lodged securely (and are ready for replay) in the neural grooves of those of us who are not as young as we used to be.

The theatre musical that has been playing round the world for almost 10 years has reinforced their popularity and with some younger audiences as well.

Mamma Mia is one film that is definitely critic-proof. Fans will want to see (and hear) it, no matter what. For those who detest Abba songs, nothing will get them to go to see it. Fair enough. But what about those of us who are stranded somewhere along the love-hate continuum? Since this reviewer finds himself there, a few comments may be in order... Comments!

The plot has been concocted along the lines of the old Hollywood musicals like Singin' in the Rain. The songs are there, so construct a story around them. This one has the advantage of a Greek island setting which, of course, is very attractive. But the plot is built around a fairly flimsy outline:



Julie Walters (Rosie), Meryl Streep (Donna) and Christine Baranski (Tanya) star in Mamma Mia!

young girl about to be married finds her mother's diary and finds that she has three possible fathers so she invites them to come to the wedding; mother is furious; the three reminisce and...

One of the problems with the film is that it starts loudly with a gaggle-giggle (the bride and her friends), then increases to shriek level (mother and her "old" friends) and generally doesn't back down. A fellow-reviewer suggested it is really like a pantomime with characters, dialogue, songs and costumes heightened accordingly.

It is, of course, fascinating

to see Meryl Streep as Donna, the mother, and listening to her sing hits like Mamma Mia itself. She has sung effectively in the past in Postcards from the Edge, Death Becomes Her and A Prairie Home Companion.

The three fathers are Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth and Stellan Skarsgaard (keeping up the Swedish connection). They seem to be enjoying themselves and doing a bit of singing - though Brosnan is no great shakes. In an interview, Meryl Streep defended him by saying that his voice was something between Tom Waits and Joe Cocker.

Mamma Mia

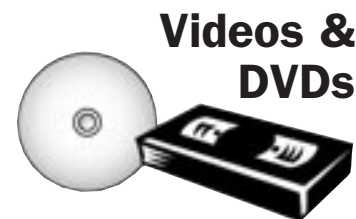
Meryl Streep, Julie Walters, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgaard and Amanda Seyfried. Directed by Phyllida Lloyd. 108 mins. PG (mild sexual references, coarse language). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC*.

Amanda Seyfried is very central to the proceedings as the daughter but Dominic Cooper as her fiancé does not really persuade us that he likes her let alone loves her. Christine Baranski is very good as one of Donna's buddies and fits into the proceedings perfectly and humorously. But Julie Walters as Donna's other friend is so hyper-hyper that she needs hosing down or should have taken a lot of tranquilisers before she came on set.

Two spoilers which fans may actually appreciate. Fernando is not in the film and, for those waiting for Waterloo to turn up, don't despair, it does get a finale with the main cast wearing all those 1970s bright costumes and flares.

There is a lot of exuberant choreography. The whole thing is rather camp in visuals and style. But, at the end, fans are going to enjoy their favourite songs in a colourful musical.

* 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.



Videos & DVDs

Linking life to scripture

DVDs

Godly Play, Jerome Berryman. (2002, volumes 1, 2 & 3, and DVDs for Spring & Winter, ages 2-11).

This unique approach to religious education uses creative ways to connect Scripture to everyday life. The lessons are designed for preschool to Year 6 children. Godly Play uses a careful telling of scripture stories using play and activities to encourage children to seek and find answers to their faith questions. The DVDs provide instructions for teachers in using this method.

Exploring Our Faith. (The Emmaus series, 20 DVDs, 50 mins. Each, ages 14-adult).

The Emmaus series, produced in Australia, is a collection of video lectures presented by Fr. John Thornhill SM. He draws on his vast knowledge of scripture and theology to present a deep vision of faith to assist the viewer to build their own faith. The presentations are enhanced with illustrations and appropriate texts. The lectures are divided into the themes of: Evangelisation, Life in the Church, Faith, the Creed, Vatican II, Sacraments of Initiation, and Beyond Death.



The Kite Runner. (123 min, English and subtitles, M-rated, ages 15-adult).

The Kite Runner is a novel about friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant. The story is set in Afghanistan in the 1970s, before the Soviet invasion, and the 1990s when the country was under the control of the Taliban. It portrays the bonds between fathers and sons, and the power of fathers over sons, their love, their sacrifices, and their lies. The novel is also about the power of reading, the price of betrayal, and the possibility of redemption.

Open. (Nooma series No. 19, 11 mins, ages 14-adult).

Nooma is a series of short films about God and our lives. This film deals with the theme of communicating with God through prayer. Many of us have experienced situations where we've prayed and it felt like God wasn't listening. Other times we've prayed or known someone who prayed and the situation changed. What if there's more to prayer than just God listening and answering? Maybe if we understood how Jesus prayed, our concepts and expectations of prayer would change.

SOUND RECORDINGS

Archbishop Mark Coleridge. The Gospel of Luke as a School of Witness. 2008 (CD, 55 mins, ages 16-adult).

This CD is a recording of a lecture given by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at the Rheinberger Centre in Canberra. He skillfully analyses the theme of witness in the Gospel of Luke.

Fr. Michael Crosby. The Understanding and Forgiving Heart in Matthew's Gospel 2008. (Two CDs, 120 mins, ages 16-adult).

Fr Michael Crosby, a Franciscan friar from the US., presents a lecture at the Rheinberger Centre in Canberra. He looks at heart themes in Matthew's Gospel in relation to the understanding and forgiving heart in the Kingdom of God. - **Dennis Granlund (librarian, CEO Library, Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla).**

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Unearthly Eddie delivers a funny family fantasy

Okay, so a movie about extra-terrestrials visiting Earth is hardly novel.

But Meet Dave puts a refreshing new spin on the idea, and the inventive concept of how it occurs, and the form that the alien craft takes, sets up a whole range of situations and complications.

Screenwriters Rob Greenberg and Bill Corbett, who came up with the idea, deserve full marks for originality. If their screenplay fails to generate any really big laughs, it is an amiable, family-oriented sci-fi fantasy that delivers its quota of chuckles.

It is also a good vehicle for Eddie Murphy, who gets to play two roles: the Captain of the spaceship crew and a gigantic replica of himself that is the spaceship. You see, these visitors from another planet look just like humans except they are only three or four centimetres in height.

So to enable them to land in Manhattan and retrieve an orb that is vital to their planet's existence, they construct a spaceship to look like one of the "gargantuan beasts" who inhabit the Earth.

When "Dave" the spaceship takes his first jerky, exploratory steps on the streets of Manhattan, he looks like a man but is, in fact, a metal machine in a white suit, operated on the inside by a Lilliputian crew frantically trying to program the correct responses to all

Meet Dave.
Starring Eddie Murphy, Elizabeth Banks, Gabrielle Union and Scott Caan. Directed by Brian Robbins. 90mins, PG. Reviewer: Jim Murphy*.

the situations Dave finds himself in.

Much of the humour derives from Dave (ie, the crew) being bewildered by strange human behaviour and unfamiliar objects - salsa dancing,

for example, or tubes of processed meat ("hot dogs") or the peculiar paroxysm called laughter.

And they wonder why the human knowledge banks should be given such curious names as Google and Yahoo. Dave's unearthly powers are good for a few gags, too. What other superhero can sharpen a pencil by sticking it up his nostril, or print money by passing his hand across a bill and producing replicas out of his backside?

The lost orb is in the possession of fifth-grader named Josh (Austyn Lind Myers), whose attractive widowed mother Gina (Elizabeth Banks) just happens to be driving the car that knocks Dave down when he wanders into its path. From Gina and Josh the aliens learn much about the softer side of human nature.

Director Brian Robbins (Norbit) strikes a nice balance between the sci-fi elements and the folksiness of the Gina/Josh side of the film, turning in an entertainment that is never less than agreeable.

* Jim Murphy is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

New ideas for the spiritual life



Partnership in Lay Spirituality. Religious and Laity Find New Ways, by Maureen Dolan. The Columbia Press, 2007. 22pp, rrp \$28.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Are you, as a lay person, trying to bring Christ's values into your everyday life at home, with friends, in your workplace, at play? Are you conscious of God's presence and aim to live respectfully, justly and compassionately? Then you are living your lay spirituality.

Spirituality was once thought to be a province of priests and religious only, but Vatican II recovered the older idea that all Christians are called to holiness. The aim of lay spirituality is to live our vocation in and for the world. Our spiritual and secular lives need to be inseparable. We are called to contribute to the sanctification of the world, as post-Vatican II documents remind us. Is this best done alone, as isolated individuals, or are other paths possible? Vatican II also challenged religious congregations to renew themselves, review their heritage and revisit their founding

mission in terms of the needs of the modern world.

Dolan believes that a hunger for spirituality can lead to provision of mutually beneficial possibilities. She begins by investigating spirituality, traces the history of lay spirituality from New Testament time to the present, then focuses on opportunities provided by lay associate membership of religious congregations. Not only are such associations helpful in supporting lay and religious spirituality, but they contribute to the vitality of the Church.

The book's topic may not be universally fascinating, but it could have much appeal for those seeking new ideas and possibilities for their spiritual life. It is interesting, well researched and quietly informative about a wide range of unexpected topics (eg, how the various heresies of the early modern period impacted lay spiritual life).

Maureen Dolan is a primary teacher and carer, as well as a founding member of an Irish lay associates group.

A novel approach may appeal to young readers

Christ the Lord. The Road to Cana, Anne Rice. Chatto and Windus, 2008. 242 pp, rrp \$27.95. Reviewer Margaret Ryan.

American novelist Anne Rice manages to capture the many negative and positives of a small town atmosphere in a traditional culture: village people stereotyping, judging and misunderstanding others, with deathly consequences at times; intrafamily feuds; hot-blooded youths setting out to confront state power; large and closely knit families both interfering in and supporting the lives of their kin...

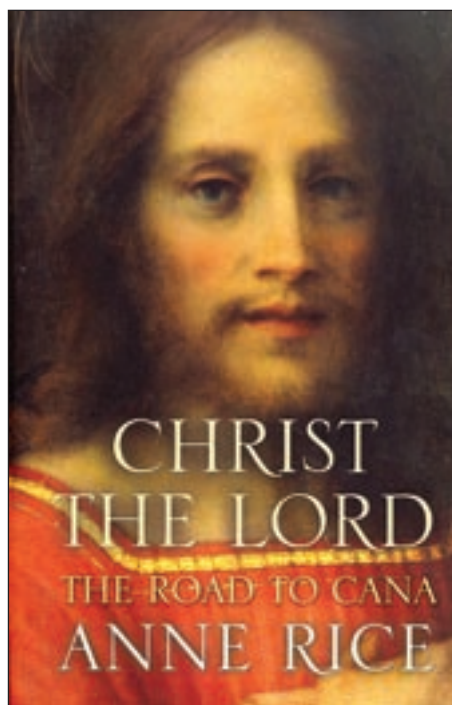
She employs accepted historical and religious background to Jesus' period to expose tension in the small country that was Israel: a volatile political climate, the arrival of a new governor insensitive to the local culture, the drought, construction at Sepphoris, tensions in synagogue life, confrontation between Jews and Romans at Caesarea.

In the story, the narrator is Jesus (born during Joseph's second marriage, to Mary) who knows he is the Christ, and is waiting for the Father's timing and vision to begin his public mission.

In many ways, the book is theologically unsophisticated. Rice merges stories and understandings of Jesus from the four gospels and anachronistically ascribes titles to Jesus that came from a later date.

The first book in this series, Christ the Lord. The Road to Egypt covers the young life of Jesus. This second volume begins in the last winter before Jesus' public life begins and finishes with the miracle at Cana. It's taken 500 pages to get to Cana. It will probably take several other volumes to reach the ascension!

The novel moves fairly fast, contains much dialogue and at one level the characters are credible. It would be most suitable for readers of high school age and those who want some general and popular understanding of life in a structured society in Jesus' period. There are increasing numbers of fictional books, which explore Jesus' life and ministry, that offer equal or superior insights into Jesus, his culture and period.



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With spring on the way and the days getting longer (oh, so slowly!), now's a good time to think of ways *not* to do the spring cleaning. How about a nice, distracting book? Light, fluffy stories, heavy theology, or all points in between – whatever works best!

But of course, if you absolutely *must* do the tidying up, we have lots of CDs to make it all more pleasant ...

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Early Christians dug catacombs beneath the church of St. Peter, so that they could be buried near St. Peter's body. The custom of burial within a church developed from this, and in 337 AD, the Emperor Constantine was the first person to be buried inside a church.

Today, Christian burial in the Canberra region rarely occurs on church ground, but rather in public cemeteries.

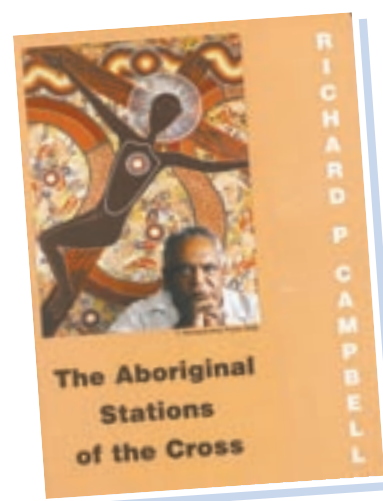
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Richard Campbell is a Gumbaingirr/Dhungutti man from Bowraville, NSW. Born in the late 1950s, he is one of the last of the Stolen Generation. It is his hope that through his artwork he can open the eyes of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to our common spirituality. The remarkable completed series of the Stations hangs in the Church of the Reconciliation at La Perouse.

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A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to Days in the Diocese in so many ways. Well done!

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COOTAMUNDRA SCHOOLS REUNION - All ex-students of Cootamundra Catholic schools, reunion long weekend, 4-6 October. Forward names and addresses for mailing list to Margaret Large, 51 Temora Street, Cootamundra, telephone 6942 1851 or 6943 2274.

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

CURSILLO - Cursillos 11-14 September at Galong. Men's lay director Chris Carlile, telephone 6294 3139 (h) or 0414 938 831, e-mail at chris.carlile@pmc.gov.au and women's lay director Sue Orchison, telephone 6231 8197 (h) or 0421 028 331, e-mail sue.orchison@gmail.com Ultreyas: Southside, Corpus Christi Parish, Gowrie, 8pm, Tuesday, 26 August. Northside, Marian Hall St Matthew's Church, Page, 8pm, Thursday, 28 August. Bring a plate. All welcome.

EX-STUDENTS REUNION - Riverina branch of ex-students of Sisters of St Joseph, North Goulburn. Begins with Mass 11am, Saturday, 18 October, Sacred Heart Church, Koorlingal. Lunch at Rules Club, Fernleigh Road, 12.30pm. 50 years reunion for 1958 leaving class and 1956 intermediate class, Margaret McAuliffe (Collins), telephone 6925 2363. 50 years reunion for 1958 intermediate class, Marjory Kelly (Wood), telephone 6926 2918.

GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT - Strange Weather Gospel Choir winter concert, 8pm, Saturday, 9 August, Canberra Girls Grammar senior hall. Plus guest choir Honeybees from Sydney. Tickets, telephone 6247 1223.

GUNNING PARISH ART SHOW - Opens with drinks and supper, 7pm, Friday, 12 September, at old Catholic school. Continues Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm. Anyone interested in exhibiting should contact Maureen, telephone 4845 1308 before 29 August.

HEALING MASS - Fr Fernando Suarez, of Philippines. 7pm, Monday, 18 August, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah.

KAİROS OUTSIDE GUEST WEEKEND - Kairos Prison Ministry Australia free weekend, 12-14 September, Greenhills Conference Centre, Cotter Rd. Kairos Outside is a

support group for women who have a friend or family member imprisoned. Women interested in attending contact: Sue, telephone 0403 705 489; Jan 0434 107 782; Tracey 0410 629 494, e-mail kairosoutsideact@bigpond.com

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

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

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.catholicsocialgroup.com, e-mail raphsgroup@yahoo.com.au

SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA - 6.15pm, Thursday, 14 August. Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, followed by dinner. Booth at Canberra Careers Market, 6-7 August.

ST THOMAS MORE'S FORUM - "Sense and Sensibility: The key to Catholic and Islamic Co-existence in the future". Presented by Shadow Minister for Justice and Border Protection, Assisting in Immigration and Citizenship Christopher Pyne. 7.30pm-9pm, Wednesday, 6 August, St Thomas More Parish Hall, Campbell, followed by light supper.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST - Theme "The call to connection", 8am-10am, Saturday, 30 August, St Benedict's Parish Centre, Narrabundah. Cost \$15. Bookings by 26 August to bronnieschlager@gmail.com or Anne Woods, telephone 6260 6876.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND - Weekend for married couples, 31 October to 2 November, Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa (near Penrith). Bookings: Telephone 9489 4523 or 4283 3435, website www.wmme.org.au

Written entries are invited for the August issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Friday, 15 August.

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Irish priest dedicated to building local church

Fr Benedict (Barney) Lynch
1921-2008

Fr Lynch was born on 11 April, 1921, at the family farm "Deerpark" in Doora, Co Clare. The Ireland of that time was far different from today. In 1945, the economic situation of the country people was much the same as it had been at the beginning of the 20th century. For the small or medium farmer there was little or no money. Life was tough. The food was monotonous. No bathroom, no toilet, no water to the house, no gas or electricity. It was in an environment something like this that Benedict Lynch grew up.

Fr Lynch's parents were Michael and Ellen Lynch (nee Cahill). There were three boys and a girl in the family. The oldest, Kevin, died in 1943 in Papua New Guinea; the daughter was to become Sr M. Eugene Lynch. Next was Paddy, who entered the seminary of All Hallows in Dublin with Benedict, and like him was destined for the Australian mission. However, he remained in Ireland as a fine priest and a great support to his widowed mother.

Fr Lynch arrived in Australia in 1947. He brought with him a variety of resources - spiritual, ecclesiastical, practical, social and others too, few of which had then been fully and maturely developed. But years of hard work and dedication to the tasks to which he put his hand honed those resources to a fine pitch.

Fr Lynch began his priestly life in this Archdiocese as assistant priest in Goulburn where the then bishop resided. He was already a Bachelor of Arts from the National University of Ireland and had a Diploma of Education from the same university. In 1948, he was transferred to Crookwell. Fr Lynch claimed that it was in Crookwell that he learned to play hockey. He developed a great enthusiasm for the game.

In 1949, he was appointed Inspector of Catholic schools. Five years later he came to Canberra, into a developing church and city.

Fr Lynch was quickly aware that there were in hostels hundreds of young people - many of them Catholics and all of them far from home, family and friends. He set to work to try to improve their lot, spiritually, socially and in the sporting field. On the spiritual front, he established the first praesidium of the Legion of Mary, as a welcoming group for young people and to encourage prayer as part of their lives.

On the social front, he established the Marian Club, a social club for young Catholics. He knew that everyone in Canberra liked to go to the Hotel Canberra (now the Hyatt), the swankiest social venue in town. The club was an instant success and continued to thrive long after Fr Lynch handed on the reins.

Since hockey was Fr Lynch's sport, it was natural that a young man of his energy and enterprise would want to make hockey a part of his ministry and to do so by establishing a new hockey club - St. Patrick's.

In all these organisations, Fr

Lynch remained a significant force until he was transferred as assistant priest to Fr Morgan O'Connor at Yarralumla when it was formally established as a parish in 1959. There he introduced the Cursillo movement which soon spread.

In 1965, he was appointed founding parish priest of Holy Trinity Parish, Curtin, the first Catholic church in the Woden Valley. He acquired, on behalf of the Archdiocese, a house in Dawson Street close to the land that had been set aside for church and school. The lounge room he turned into a chapel where he celebrated Mass every day except Sunday. On Sundays, Mass was offered in the Hughes Community school hall.

Before he began serious building in Curtin, he was given the task of planning and supervising major extensions to the school in Yarralumla.

About this time, government assistance for the construction of independent schools in Canberra was introduced and Fr Lynch was quick to take advantage.

Holy Trinity school was commenced in 1966. On completion of the school, the celebration of Mass and the sacraments was transferred to the school hall. But he was not content to continue without a church. In 1971, with a mixture of support and opposition from parishioners, the decision was taken to build a church.

Fr Lynch continued to be busy on many fronts. With Prof Pat Pentony and one or two others, he laid the foundations for Catholic Marriage Guidance and Social Welfare. He looked after the local conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

In 1987, he was asked to accept appointment as the first "priest for priests" in the Archdiocese. Not without misgivings, he accepted that appointment as the director of the Ministry to Priests.

In 1989, he was appointed parish priest of Cobargo with the much larger seaside town of Bermagui as part of the parish. He was now 68 and it might have been thought that his enthusiasm for new developments would have waned. But not so. First, he looked to refurbish the church at Bermagui. Fr Lynch retired as parish priest of Cobargo in 2005 to his home opposite the church in Bermagui.

Last year, after surgery, he went to Ireland uncertain whether he would return. Shortly after arriving, he had a fall in the old home in Doora. He decided to return to Australia and was never really well after his return, and died within the year.

Fr Lynch was given many talents by his maker. He put them to work to the glory of God and to the true well-being of those who came in contact with him. The primary object of almost everything he turned his hand to was evangelisation. That, of course, was his obligation, as it is the obligation of each one of us. But he did it so much better than most people I know.

* An edited version of the eulogy given by Brian O'Donovan at a prayer vigil at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin.



WYD and especially the local Saturday celebration at EPIC saw much of the best of mission and evangelisation, the core work of Catholic Mission, gathered and celebrating. Faithfilled priests, deacons, religious, catechists, many young, rejoicing in their common love of the Lord and together manifesting the universal nature of the Church.

Those from mission dioceses would have had their faithlives and communities assisted through the works and generously given funds of Propagation of the Faith. Catholic Mission will be holding this appeal in parishes across the Archdiocese this month. Each year the money received contributes to supporting the Church's network and capacity to reach and serve communities of the remotest places as well as enable projects to become realities.

At EPIC the effect of such support was evident also in many pilgrims' keenness to write a prayer at Catholic Mission's stand. This is indicative of another of our great and effective means of supporting others in faith - prayer. May we keep our pilgrims and their communities in prayer as they continue their mission.

Help us to continue our work and theirs. Support the Propagation of the Faith Appeal.

God Bless
Deacon Joe Blackwell

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Now even the boards are smart in class

The technology available to help teach children in schools has improved considerably over the past 20 years. Classrooms had blackboards and chalk. Computers were just being introduced into the classroom and most of these were Apple IIs. The education technology revolution was beginning.

Now, the education technology revolution is in full steam and children have access to a wide range of computers and computer-based technology. Schools are keeping up to date with this revolution by making use of these new technologies to improve educational results for their students.

Teachers are making wider use of technology in teaching and learning activities that they present to children. One particular piece of technology that is becoming extremely popular in the classroom is the interactive whiteboard.

This is a large display board that is connected to a desktop or laptop computer. The display board has a projector attached to it via computer cables. This projects the image from the computer screen onto the whiteboard.

Interactive whiteboards are usually attached to the wall, however they can be on wheeled stands so that they can be moved from place to place. Most in use in schools are mounted to the wall.

There are several different types of interactive whiteboards available. The main types are front-projection boards and rear-projection boards. With front-projection boards the projector is mounted from the roof in front of the board or attached to a moveable pole attached to the whiteboard. Rear-projection boards have a projector located behind the board projecting the image. Most schools use front-projection boards.

Front and rear projection boards can be "soft" or "hard". Soft boards like SMART boards (www2.smart-tech.com/st/en-US/Products/SMART+Boards/) use a soft thin film-like surface and can be used with a finger. Hard boards have a

Living with the net



Paul Jenkins

solid or hard surface such as Promethean ACTIV boards (www.prometheanworld.com/us/server/show/nav.2210) which use a pen or stylus to write with.

The important difference between an interactive whiteboard and an overhead projector is that interactive whiteboards allow the user to control what happens on the board through the use of their finger, mouse or whiteboard pen using special software on the computer.

Anything you can do on a computer screen can be replicated on the interactive whiteboard.

For example, you can use the pen or stylus to move the cursor around the screen instead of using the mouse. This means objects can be dragged from place to place on the screen displayed on the board by the child using the pen or stylus.

As the whiteboards are large, the whole class can see what is happening on the screen and interact more with the lesson. No longer does the teacher have to stand at the board and direct the whole lesson with minimal input from the class.

The children are encouraged to use and interact with the program on the whiteboard. Interactive whiteboards also have the ability to act as large TV screens for watching educational DVDs and AVI files from the computer and internet. An example of this is that children can watch a DVD on volcanoes and then demonstrate their understanding through the use of an interactive flipchart where they move words around the screen to match the different parts of the volcano.

As teachers become more familiar with the use of interactive whiteboards, they are using them more effectively in lessons. Another benefit of the improvements of technology in classrooms is that children are gaining more opportunities to use new technologies and their confidence is improving as a result.

Making space for the Sabbath

A recent magazine article reported on a study on longevity. What is the secret for a long life? The article summarises the results of years of scientific research on this question and ends with nine hints for a longer, healthier life.

What should we be doing to live longer and healthier? The study suggests the following:

1. Add simple activities to your day like walking farther than you need to, doing gardening or home repairs yourself, or running around with your children or pets.
2. Try eating off smaller plates to decrease your portion sizes and reduce calories.
3. Limit the number of servings of meat you eat in a week.
4. Drink a glass or two of red wine most evenings.
5. Know your passions in life and take time to enjoy them most days.
6. Take quiet time to relieve stress.
7. Belong to a spiritual community and gather with them regularly.
8. Make your family and your loved ones a priority. Express that through your actions.
9. Surround yourself with friends who have healthy habits and support you in your goals.

What's interesting about this list is that it expresses many of the challenges contained in the notion of the Sabbath. Scripture opens with the story of creation. God, we are told, made the world in six days, rested on the seventh, the Sabbath, and declared this day to be forever a day of rest.

There is a spirituality of time, work, and rest contained in that. According to the theology of the Sabbath, there is to be a fixed rhythm for our days: We are meant to work for six days and then have a one-day sabbatical; work for six years and then have a one-year sabbatical; and, finally, work for a lifetime and have an eternity of sabbatical, an eternity of resting in God.

Former generations, I believe, took this more seriously than we do today. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. Until recently it was more clear that this is a commandment, not simply a lifestyle suggestion. Sabbath, until recent generations, was a day where ordinary life and ordinary activity were supplanted by different sense of time and activity.

What is Sabbath meant to be? For an observant Jew, Sabbath means that the normal workday is suspended and replaced by a special time of prayer, family, celebration, leisure, and enjoyment. In the Jewish spirituality, Sabbath is honoured by lighting candles, gathering in worship and prayer, blessing

Ron Rolheiser

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



children singing songs, keeping silence, walking, reading scripture, making love, and sharing a meal.

The recipe for Sabbath observance is essentially the same for Christians. Many of us remember the Sunday customs of our childhood and how, on Sunday, everyone would dress up (in their Sunday best), go to church to worship, come home and eat the best meal of the week and then spend the rest of the day with family in leisure activities.

Today we are considerably more casual and careless about observing the Sabbath, and we are poorer, both religiously and humanly, because of this. Much of our tiredness and sense of being over-burdened comes from not having a regular Sabbath in our lives. With this in mind, allow me to offer my own hints for longevity, hints based largely upon a theology of observing the Sabbath:

1. Keep Sabbath with the discipline demanded of a commandment.
2. Sabbath need not be just one day a week. Sabbath can be an hour, a walk, a meal, a drink, a chat with a friend. Plan at least one Sabbath-moment every day.
3. Every day, even if for just a few minutes, go to some place where you can't be reached. Cell-phones, e-mail, and electronic communications have made us the most efficient and connected people in history, but they are also making the observance of Sabbath all but impossible. Go regularly to a place where you can't be reached.
4. Honour the wisdom of dormancy, know that when you aren't doing something that is productive you are giving your soul the time and space it needs to quietly take in the nutrients it requires to remain productive. Buy a rocking chair and sit in it regularly, not thinking, not praying, not talking to a friend, just sitting, your soul a fallow field quietly waiting.
5. Spend time in quiet and prayer regularly.
6. Be attentive to little children, old people, family, food, wine, and the weather. All of these are non-pragmatic and Sabbath-invoking.
7. Live by the axiom: If not now, when? If not here, where? If not with these people, with whom? If not for God, why?
8. Stay in touch with and listen to your body. It will tell you when you need Sabbath..
9. Drink a glass or two of red wine most days, preferably with others.
10. Don't nurse grudges and obsessions, they, more than anything else, will keep you tired and tense.

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Tree-planting and prayer - all in day's work for pilgrims

Kippax, Kambah and Weston Creek parishes set their pilgrims to work during Days in the Diocese, planting trees with Greening Australia near the Cotter Dam.

Despite strong winds and bitter cold, about 350 people took part in the activity, laughing and chatting while they worked.

Pilgrims from France and Canada were not so shocked by the cold weather and if the Samoans were, they definitely did not show it.

French pilgrims Alexander D'yvoire and Ronan de Blois worked enthusiastically beside their Kambah hosts Mr Phil Maier and his wife Edie. "Australians are just so happy, they are always smiling," said Alexander. "We love it here!"

BELOW RIGHT: Nearly 50 Polish youth from Warsaw under the guidance of Conservation Volunteers Australia removed pine trees, which produce a lot of acid, from the Cotter catchment area. The area is being returned to a native habitat which will improve the quality of Canberra's drinking water. The pilgrims put in a most enthusiastic effort and achieved excellent results.



Part of the colourful liturgy (above and below) by Samoan pilgrims at Mass celebrated at St Thomas the Apostle Church, Kambah, by Archbishop Alapati Mataeliga, of Samoa-Apia.



ABOVE: Samoan pilgrims staying at St Clement's, Galong, and Papua New Guinea pilgrims being billeted at homes in Harden-Murrumburrah parish made the hour-long climb up Rosary Hill at the Galong monastery.

BELOW: Pilgrims Ronan de Blois and Alexander D'yvoire show Phil and Edie Maier which way up the French flag goes.



RIGHT: It might not have been quite what they expected to find in Australia, but these pilgrims from Paraguay enjoyed a snow fight with their host families at Corin Forest.

BELOW RIGHT: Pilgrims from Italy, Canada and South Africa, with their priests, plus Yass pilgrims to WYD gather in St Augustine's Church, Yass, after Sunday Mass. Picture: Yass Tribune.





Signs of new growth as pilgrims gather

Singing, dancing and flag waving were the order of the day as about 8500 pilgrims, parishioners and clergy gathered for an unprecedented international festival and Mass in Canberra.

The occasion at Exhibition Park in Canberra was the finale of Days in the Diocese before pilgrims, local and international alike, headed for World Youth Day in Sydney. The festival featured an array of bands, dance and cultural performances, as well as stalls promoting about 50 church groups, agencies and organisations.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge told the vast crowd of pilgrims at the Mass that they were signs of "new growth" in the Church.

"A journey we call pilgrimage that has always been at the heart of religious life is a journey that involves new growth, is a journey that involves new birth," he said.

"You are the signs of the new growth that is everywhere to be seen. You are the living sign that there is a new birth happening in our midst. Here there is the promise of the springtime that endures - in other words, the birth of new hope, born from a womb that seems hopeless.

"Let us go forth from here in hope of a road that leads not only to Sydney but a road that leads to life."

About a dozen bishops and 200 priests from around the world assisted Archbishop Coleridge in the Mass.



A colourful day at Exhibition Park in Canberra. Clockwise from top left: Part of the procession of more than 200 bishops, priests and deacons winds its way through the crowd; Archbishop Mark Coleridge flanked by overseas bishops celebrates Mass with the choir behind; French pilgrims Cecile Keiffer (bottom) from Lyon and Cecile Malaterre from Marseille proudly wave the tricolour; youth group members from Young Jonathan Bear, Michelle Emmett and Emma Bear write prayers for display at the Catholic Mission stand; the Croatian dancers; more impromptu dancing outside; the MacKillop choir entertains the crowd; Ngunnawal elder Mrs Agnes Shea welcomes pilgrims; and international visitors get caught up in the colourful fashions of the day.



Scenes from the commissioning Mass at Exhibition Park in Canberra. Clockwise from right: The crowd strains to catch a glimpse of the opening procession of more than 200 bishops, priests and deacons; the colourful procession of gifts; Archbishop Alapati Mataeliga, of Samoa-Apia, and Archbishop Mark Coleridge flanked by master of ceremonies Fr Warrick Tonkin in procession; part of the big crowd estimated to be about 8500 people; and Archbishop Coleridge accepts the offertory gifts during Mass.



Photographs on pages 24 and 25 taken by Naomi Fallon, Geoff Orchison, Peter Kabaila and David Flannery.





Nearly 2000 pilgrims from over 20 nations met at the Goulburn Recreation Ground for the opening Mass of the International Youth Forum.

Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto encouraged pilgrims to tell everybody "how great God is" during World Youth Day.

"The world of today needs so much to hear from you and see from your life that God is not a stranger in your life, and the very fact that God is in your life has changed your life," he said.

Facilitated by the French Emmanuel Community, the International Youth Forum held an extensive program of workshops and festival activities in Goulburn during the Days in the Diocese.

About 300 pilgrims from France and 600 from the Netherlands took part in the forum, along with young people from Australia, Germany, Portugal, Poland, Canada, Czech Republic, Japan, Malaysia, Fiji, Ireland, China, Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Belgium, Vietnam, Chilli, Austria and the United States of America.

Narrabundah parish organised a visit to the National Zoo and Aquarium for 32 pilgrims who had arrived the day before from the Philippines.

About 18 Missionaries of God's Love brothers braved the very cold weather to spend time with the pilgrims and Narrabundah parishioners.

About 120 people took part in Receive the Power! - An International Ecumenical Youth Festival organised by the Chemin Neuf Community at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture in Barton.

Catholic Mrs Kate Watson said both she and her Anglican husband Tim, are members of the Chemin

Neuf community. "It's a community that works for unity between different cultures as well as different churches but is focussed on Christ," she said.

Bungendore parish welcomed more than 90 pilgrims from Italy, Samoa and Papua New Guinea, giving them a taste of rural life with farming activities, tree plantings and a barn dance.

As around 100 people crammed into Bungendore's parish hall waiting to begin the day's activities, the pilgrims broke out into song, playing the piano and dancing around the room.

Pilgrims spent one morning at parishioner Mr Paul Darmody's farm, seeing sheep dog trial and sheep shearing demonstrations. Having grown up in the rural areas of Taralga and Crookwell, Bungendore parish priest Fr Mark Croker dusted off his skills and gave a sheep shearing demonstration. "I always knew I was meant to tend to a flock," he said. "It just took me a while to work out which kind."

Many host families in Boorowa were left disappointed during Days in the Diocese, when the original 150 Irish pilgrims coming to Boorowa was cut back to 100. The rest were forced to return to Ireland after they were stuck at Heathrow airport for two days and were not able to get connecting flights to Australia. Irish pilgrim Ms Helen Mahon said she and the whole group was very sad the others did not make it to Boorowa.

Despite the hiccup, Ms Mahon said the pilgrims had enjoyed their time in Boorowa. "It's been absolutely amazing here, I'm so sad we have to leave. There is such a community atmosphere in Boorowa, they're so welcoming and willing to help us."



TOP LEFT: Part of the youth forum crowd at Goulburn.

TOP RIGHT: A picture for the album, Irish pilgrim Ronan McCaffrey learns new dance moves.

ABOVE RIGHT: Irish pilgrims Helen Mahon, Kate Parrer, Dan Morrissey and Dave Ohra get into the Aussie mood around the camp fire.



ABOVE: PNG Franciscan Sister of Maria Sr Francisca Petrus with her host Mrs Jenny Amey and PNG pilgrim Julie Supirri.



Clockwise from top left: Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto at the opening Mass of the youth forum in Goulburn; the Chemin Neuf ecumenical festival; Mr Bernard Arends gives pilgrims a taste of rural Australia near Bungendore; The Pawlowicz brothers from Canada, Adam, Bernard and Hubert spend time with host sister Steph Cox from Kippax parish; at the zoo, Filipino pilgrims Fr Aris de Leon and Abby Abelardo check out the monkeys with Narrabundah parishioners James Hay, Jacob Fulop and Thomas McDevitt, while MGL brothers Vas Clementine and Onyii Egelonu, Filipino Sisters Barbara Moerman and Eleanor Rosare and MGL deacon David Callaghan try to keep warm.

‘The whole thing’s been absolutely amazing...’



ABOVE LEFT: Naomi Burgess, from Cooma, all ready for the final Mass.

ABOVE RIGHT: Archdiocesan seminarians Luke Verrell (middle) and Paul Nulley (right) get a close-up of the ceremony.

RIGHT: The gospel book is carried on to the sanctuary by Fijian seminarians.

BELOW RIGHT: A bird’s eye view of the biggest Mass in Australia’s history.

BELOW LEFT: And the winner is... Madrid. Spanish pilgrims celebrate after the Pope names the Spanish city as the next venue for World Youth Day in 2011.

BELOW RIGHT: Skye O’Hara and Jane Cummins, from Cootamundra, at Randwick.



What the pilgrims said

"The whole thing has just been absolutely amazing. Probably the highlight would have to be the Pope's arrival - it was pretty phenomenal, the reaction of the crowd and just the ecstasy on people's faces and the way they reacted when he was welcomed was just awesome. I'd have to say the Stations of the Cross was pretty great too, it was quite moving, the way it was choreographed and organised and the way it moved through the whole city and ended up at Barangaroo. It's just great to see everyone in such high spirits; we're all having a great time." - **Katrina O'Brien, West Wyalong.**

"It'll be great to be there and to make him welcome here on our own soil. It's also good knowing we're there to represent our people - even though we're up there in our own huddle, we're really there making our own people present as well. I love the diversity and all the different spiritualities and young people from all over the world being together." - **Harden-Murrumburrah parish priest Fr Simon Falk.**

"The worst thing was the line up for the toilets - it was about 15 people!" - **Skye O'Hara from Cootamundra.**

"Although we knew what we were in for it's a bit surreal when you get there and actually see the scale of how big it actually is." Her favourite part of the week's events was the Stations of the Cross. "It was so incredibly moving - the acting was spectacular." - **Jane Cummins from Cootamundra.**

"Just with the whole spirit of it, you didn't think how old you were. There's a wonderful spirit of friendship here which I think is what gospel love is all about - it's what Jesus is all about. I think the Stations of the Cross touched me the most spiritually and even though we were at Barangaroo and couldn't see the acting, it was just awesome on the screen. When something in the program started, the silence that went over these hundreds of thousands of people made me really think we're all here for the same reason. The worst part was having to shower with three other people and waiting in line for half an hour to make a cup of tea and when I got there the hot water ran out! But it was all worth it, there was such an amazing spirit and we met so many people from different countries knowing we're all Catholic and we're all here because we're followers of Christ. It was fantastic." - **Sr Kathy Hodge, 58, from Cootamundra was not the youngest pilgrim in Sydney but that did not stop her from having a great time.**

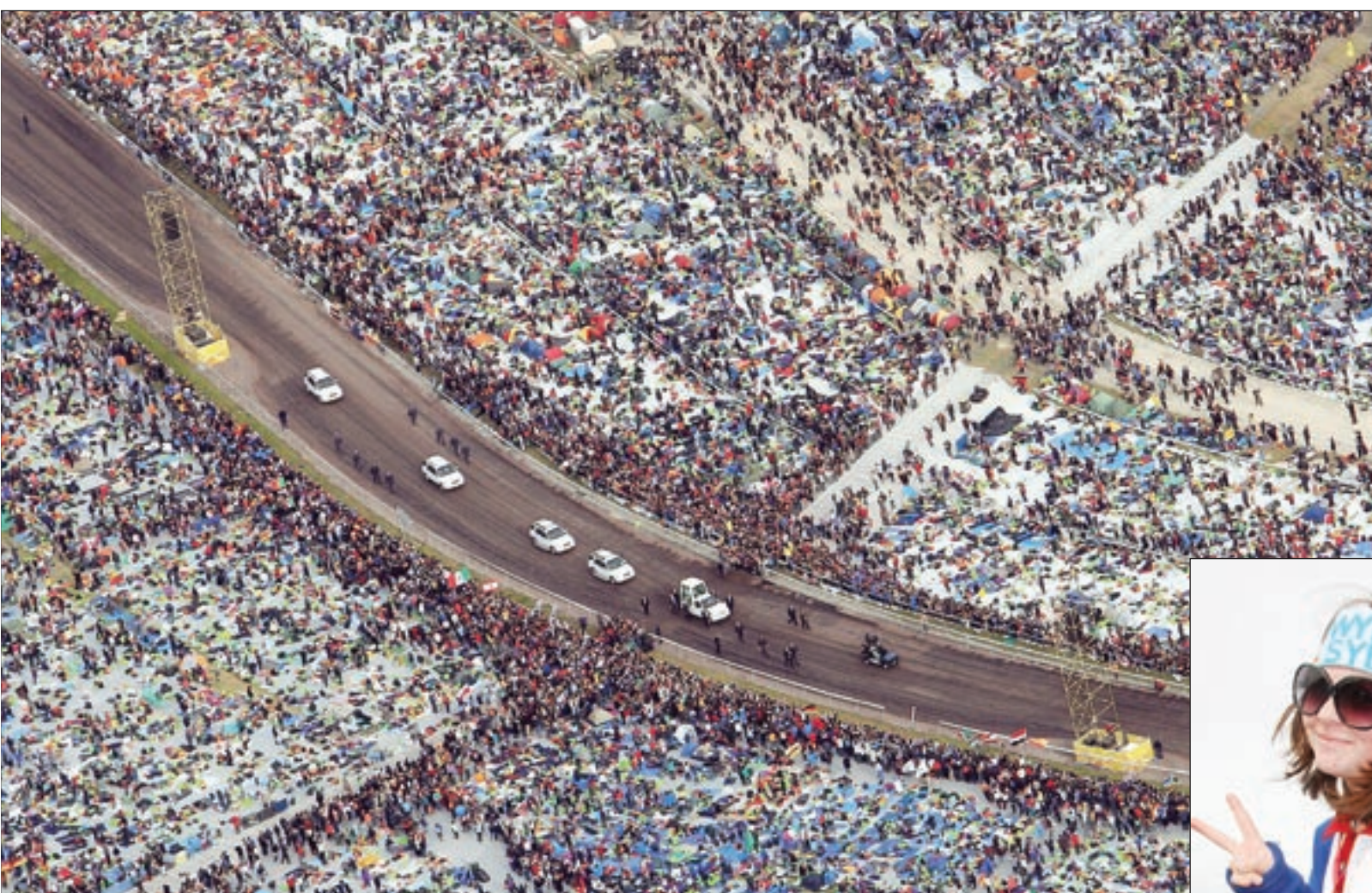
"The best thing about it was being with hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world and knowing that they're into what we're into too!" - **Lumen Christi College teacher Miss Camille Bayada.**

"I have to say I found the large crowds very challenging and I didn't get to everything I wanted to get to, but the most inspiring thing would have to be meeting people from different cultures and just recognising that the church really is the universal church and that my faith is not just my own but other people share it with me." - **Marie Kesina from Narrabundah parish.**

"I don't know what I was expecting because it was my first WYD but I have had fun. I've liked the friendliness between everyone and the big community spirit." - **CYM team member Miss Rebekah Fulop.**



A fitting finale of faith



TOP LEFT and ABOVE: More than 400,000 people greet the Pope at Randwick racecourse, and he takes time out to bless a younger member of his flock. LEFT: A view of the enormous crowd. BOTTOM LEFT: The Pope celebrates Mass. MIDDLE LEFT: Cootamundra parish assistant Sr Kathy Hodge with her niece Monica and her niece's daughter Rebecca. BELOW: Students from Sacred Heart Central School, Cootamundra, try to get a better view.



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