



Thousands across the Archdiocese flocked to church services and other events and ceremonies as Easter came alive.

A huge group of pilgrims made St Clement's, Galong, their home for a few days as they came from far and wide to celebrate Light to the Nations.

In his Easter message, Archbishop Mark Coleridge said Easter spoke not of "survival of the fittest", but of the flourishing of the least fit. Jesus died the most shameful death known to the ancient world, and he died as a condemned criminal. He was not among "the fittest"; he was judged to be one of the "least fit". Yet he was raised to the heights.

"Because of the Resurrection, Easter becomes a celebration of the triumph of all of those who are judged to be least fit.

"What matters is not whether someone saw Jesus rise from the dead or whether we know the empirical facts, but that we can see the Risen Jesus whenever we see the triumph of those who are judged to be least fit, whenev-

Bringing Easter to life

er we see the triumph of perfect love."

Marist Junior School used the Stations of the Cross and nearby Mt Taylor in Pearce to bring Easter to life. Students took turns at carrying a cross up the mountain, stopping to play out each station.

Religious education coordinator Mr Michael Lloyd said the exercise "provided the students with an opportunity to take time to think about Jesus and remind us of how much he loved us".

Class 5M teacher Ms Michele Skvork said students benefited from doing something different with the Stations of the Cross.

ABOVE: Max Claessens, Reuben Keane and Toby Morwitch carry the cross as 5M look on. BELOW: Easter at Light to the Nations. • More pictures from

Easter, Page 7.

School money hits the spot

Schools in struggling rural communities are among 46 across the Archdiocese that will benefit from the first round of payments in the Federal Government's National School Pride Program.

Sixty per cent of ACT schools and all NSW schools in the Archdiocese received funding in round one, with \$7.75 million expected to go to archdiocesan schools throughout the program.

Principal of Mt Carmel Central School in Yass Mr Ignatius Stormon said the \$200,000 allocated to the school would go to "desperately needed" refurbishments. "We're absolutely thrilled about the money," he said.

"It's going to allow us to do some much needed refurbishment that has been outstanding for a long time and we simply haven't had the funds. The need for refurbishment is desperate. That money will make much more difference here than it would to so many other schools."

Mr Stormon said he would put the money toward painting, new carpet and "most significantly" it would be spent on renovating the old convent verandas. "We need to bring them up to a standard that we can use while keeping within the heritage of the building."

Much needed repairs have already began at Mt Carmel, including installation in the staffroom of a secondhand kitchen once used by Rosary Primary School, Watson.

In the three months Mr Peter Stephens has been principal at St Joseph's Primary School in Grenfell he has noticed the school could do with some "brightening up". "It's been pretty hard for the community out here," he said.

"They've been in drought for seven years and it's killed all the grass off and everything is dead. Something new is always exciting and it'll just brighten up the place."

Mr Stephens said the \$75,000 allocated to the school would be used for playground equipment and shade structure.

"It's just terrific news and we're so grateful to the Australian Government for this money."

Principal of McAuley Central in Tumut Ms Patricia Mangelsdorf said she was "very excited" about its \$150,000. "We need to paint the interior and the exterior of the school and replace some of the '50s old-style windows," she said.

"We also plan to landscape eating areas and put up fencing for better security. Because of the age of the school, maintenance is a big amount of our budget and we're very limited by what we can do. It will be just wonderful to upgrade the facilities."

St Anne's Central School in Temora will receive \$125,000 which will be spent on upgrading the materials technology area and repairing leaking roofs in the music rooms.

Principal Mr Dennis Sleigh said he was "thrilled to have this opportunity to upgrade our facilities without sending the parents further into debt. "At a time of the current rural crisis, coupled with the general economic downturn, this grant is an incredible boost to our morale," he said.

St Patrick's Primary Principal Mr Gerard Hergenhan said the Bega school would split its \$125,000 between refurbishing the library and building a much-needed school hall.

"It's probably the greatest opportunity I've seen in my career to invest in education," he said.

"The hall is something we have needed for a long time, but other things are always on top of the priorities list. We used to hold school concerts and Masses in the RSL club but it is being torn down at the moment so we have nowhere to hold them.

"This money will enable us to do our own things at school - things which we have struggled to do in the past due to a lack of space."

Excitement was brimming at St Patrick's School in Cooma, where \$150,000 was allocated for refurbishments and shade structures. "This is something we've been dreaming of for quite a while," principal Mr Phil Stubbs said.

"We have such extremes of climate out here and with the shade structure we'll be able to deal with the heat a lot better.

"We're very excited about this as a school community and it's certainly not anything we would have been able to afford in the near future."

Assistant principal of Lumen Christi College, Pambula, Mr Colin Butters said part of its \$200,000 would also be spent on a shade structure. "We have 550 students here now and we need something big enough to fit the whole school under for assemblies," he said.

"This money means we can now afford a whole lot of necessary projects, which we wouldn't have been able to do otherwise."

Marist College headmaster Mr Richard Sidorko said the school had been granted \$200,000 to refurbish the senior boys' toilets installing waterless urinals in the process.

Principal of St Francis Xavier College in Florey Mr Angus Tulley said the school had been allocated \$200,000 which would be spent on a perimeter fence and gymnasium refurbishment.

"We'd like to convert the weights room in the gym to a chair store and move the weights facility to under the stage," he said. "We also plan to install new benches and cupboards in the industrial arts area."

Merici College bursar Mr Keith Vardanega said the school would receive \$200,000. "Our tennis club rooms are still the originals from the 1950s so we'd like to refurbish them," he said.

"We're thinking about creating a band rehearsal room where they can leave their instruments and things. We'd also like to renovate some classrooms to enhance learning. The program stipulates it must all be finished by 20 December so we're going to be very, very busy."

The allocation of \$200,000 to St Monica's Primary School in Evatt was welcomed by principal Ms Carmel Maguire. "We have plans to install a sunshade over the large courtyard area to make it more accessible for children to sit during lunch."

• Full list of payments, Page 6.

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Catholic Voice each month is following the everyday experiences of St Francis Xavier College schoolgirl Emma as she navigates her way through year 12.

Have you ever exposed yourself to four nights of almost no sleep? Of constant noise? To the roller coaster weather of autumn? Attempting to walk from place to place with hundreds of tourists and performers in your way?

A few weeks ago I found myself experiencing all of these things at the National Folk Festival.

My adventure to this festival began when I found out that I had a choice of what to do for my next media assignment. I could either make a short documentary on an

aspect of school life, or have a free pass into the folk festival to make a documentary (the latter would also count as work experience - how much better could the offer get?).

Little did I realise that I would complete that work experience several times over and spend almost 90 hours at a festival I knew almost nothing about. Not to mention that everything was working against my media partner and I. For example the Mac computers and the rain - one night my partner was forced to scoop water out of our flooded tent so we could all try to get some sleep that night. Yet, needless to say, it was an amazing experience.

There's so much happening 24/7 at the festival that it is impossible to capture what it is like to be there - especially on film. That was what our media team was trying to do. The product was a fraction of all the talent we saw and the bright and colourful atmosphere. Behind the cameras there was a very tired group of teenagers and teachers, working at full capacity, and our wonderful production crew (someone had to make sure that everything didn't fall to pieces).

We saw amazing live acts, enjoyed foreign cuisine, met crazy but absolutely lovely people and left after five days with memories we would never forget. It wasn't just that though, we worked almost constantly in a media centre staying up late and eating mi goreng in the early hours of the morning. We were working closely with our teachers and had lots of support from them, which we probably needed by the final days.

We all went to a punk concert (yes, punk at the folk festival) one night for a break and had ringing in our ears the whole next day. And although we were all exhausted and excited to get out of our tents - looking back on it, I'm certain that we'd all do it again.

emma's

page2

entertainment

21 Creatively positive, emotionally

exhilarating ... and it's all made out of clay!

Why do the clouds not weep?

This poem was written by Gemma Armarego, who dedicated it "to all who lost their homes as I did in a bush-fire and also to my friend Alison and her father David".

Why do the clouds not weep?

When flames of sadness sweep over Australia's dry land,

They do not shed a single tear

They did not cry for Victoria, nor did they cry for me. When other fires burnt down my one and only home, Again they did not join in tears of sorrow.

When our brave and devoted fire fighters used all their strength to ease the fires temper,

The clouds merely watched them; they do not help them fight.



Honouring the story

The presentation of a framed history telling the living story of what was the St Joseph's College, North Goulburn, complex, was presented to principal of St Joseph's Primary School Ms Gaye McManus at an ex-students' reunion Mass.

The initiative taken by college ex-students captures the living story and unfolding history of these significant buildings. For a period of 72 years the buildings were St Joseph's College. For 17 years, they were known as Marian College and Marian College Residence. Ten years ago, the amalgamation of Catholic secondary schools in Goulburn created Trinity College with the north campus continuing to accommodate female boarders.

In January 2007, they were relocated to the St Patrick's campus of Trinity Catholic College leaving the beautiful and well maintained buildings vacant.

The Sisters of St Joseph entered into negotiations with the Trustees of the Archdiocese and offered the buildings to the Archdiocese for use in Catholic education for as long as they were needed. This decision was timely in that St Joseph's Primary School was looking to increase and expand while being challenged with limited space.

ABOVE: Miss Kit McCabe, Sr Noelene Quinane, St Joseph's Primary principal Mrs Gaye McManus and president of the ex-students of the Sisters of St Joseph Mrs Margaret Granger at the presentation.

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

news

5 World Youth Day cross and icon are passed on to the youth of Spain.

6 A weekend to discern your vocation.

6 School stimulus where the Federal Government money is going.

7 Easter celebrations in the Archdiocese pictures.

9 New bishop named for Bathurst.

Why do the clouds not weep?

They do not understand the pain, the suffering, the loss. The people below, faces buried in their water filled hands,

- Homeless and without family and friend by their side. The feeling of overwhelming sadness deep inside them. Does this not make the clouds want to help us?
- Does seeing this not make them want to burst out in tears of misery and grief?
 - People fight and people fought, People live and people died, People found and people lost,

One day we will forgive them, The clouds up in the sky, Something good comes from all bad And God will help us by, But we still have reason to ask why, Why do the clouds not weep?

About 30 members of Sacred Heart parish, Moruya, joined a fourwheel-drive pilgrimage to the Bendethera valley to honour pioneers of the area and to acknowledge the role Aboriginal people played in maintaining the



environment of this pristine wilderness. This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Mary Mac-Killop. Parish priest Fr Emil Milat believed this was a fitting way to celebrate. ABOVE: Mass beside the grave of one of 15 children of the George family who lived at Bendethera.

what do you know?

1. How many years has Benedict been Pope?

2. Who has been the only native bishop of our diocese?

3. If you were standing in St Columba's Church, what town of the Archdiocese would you be in?

4. When did Goulburn celebrate the centenary of its Old Cathedral?

5. The church of St Christopher, the current cathedral, was opened by the apostolic delegate in what year?

6. She loved school then, and loves it still! Who is our happy student (pictured)? Answers, bottom Page 4.





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Australia respond to them?

9 Australia's top female bas-

ketball team has a new young recruit, Lauren Jansen (pictured) and she likes to win.

11-17 It's school enrolment time for 2010, so don't miss out.

18 We can only hate someone whom we love, says Fr Ron Rolheiser.

19 Join us with the kids of St Bernard's, Batemans Bay.

Gungahlin Determined mum now a top nurse

to get third primary school

Catholic education in Gungahlin will expand next year with the opening of a primary school in Harrison.

Catholic Education director Mrs Moira Najdecki said demand for places in Catholic schools was strong.

The new school - the third offering Catholic primary education in Gungahlin - would serve the needs of families in Harrison, Forde, Franklin, Gungahlin Town Centre and southern suburbs of Gungahlin.

The new school will be called Mother Teresa Primary School and will be established as a campus of Good Shepherd Primary School, Amaroo.

Classes next year will be offered for children in pre-school, kindergarten, years one, two and three. The campus will grow to a fully operational P-6 primary school by 2013.

Mother Teresa was renowned for her compassionate work with the poorest of the poor in India and her sisters had spread their good work across the world, Mrs Najdecki said.

"This is an exciting time for the community in Gungahlin. Mother Teresa is a wonderful patron and model for our young people today. The selfless way in which she cared for those around her will provide deep inspiration for this community.

Enrolment inquiries should be directed to Mr Graham Pollard, principal of Good Shepherd Primary School, Amaroo. Telephone 6255 7888, e-mail office@goodshepherd.cg.catholic.edu.au

A determined student and mother of five who juggled work with fulltime study was among the first group of nurses to graduate from the Australian Catholic University's Canberra campus.

When the Bachelor of Nursing degree was established in 2007, Ms Catherine Trevaskis, 39, and 30 others were in the first intake of students.

During her first year of university, Ms Trevaskis received the ACU Laurie Daniels Scholarship, which is offered to students who enter the Bachelor of Nurs-ing program in second year, after completing the bridging course at Canberra's Institute of Technology.

Ms Trevaskis said she with work at Clare Holl-

and House and family obligations due to the flexibility of ACU.

"ACU has a great campus and facilities," she said.

"The most prominent feeling that I got from the university was that of a close community.

Do you have news? **Tell us Telephone**

6201 9806 or 6201 9872



Catherine Trevaskis (second from right, second row) with other nursing graduates. was able to balance study Picture: Jennifer Nagy, Exclusive Images.

> "There were always people to talk to and lecturers to support you.

> "My future plans are to progress with my nursing and, hopefully, further my career."

Ms Trevaskis is completing her grad

uate year in the oncology unit at Calvary Hospital.

During the ceremony, executive director of Professional Standards for the Australian Catholic Church Sr Angela Ryan received an Honorary Doctorate from the ACU for her work as the Towards Healing national director.

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Negotiations over government purchase of Calvary Public Hospital

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Best for ACT if Catholic provider remains

The recent disclosure that the ACT Government and the Little Company of Mary are in negotiations for the Government to purchase Calvary Public Hospital has predictably stirred a range of reactions, some of which have been better informed than others.

One historical fact that needs to be kept in mind is that the original agreement was made between the Commonwealth and the Archdiocese.

Archbishop O'Brien then entrusted the hospital to the LCM Sisters who acquired ownership at that point.

Yet even though the Sisters own the hospital, the Archdiocese is more than a disengaged onlooker to these negotiations, given the nature of the original agreement.

As Archbishop, I do not have anything like a final say, but I am consulted and briefed as the one responsible for oversight of the apostolic works undertaken in the Archdiocese, one of the most important of which is health care understood as a continuation of the

healing ministry of Christ himself.

I have then followed the process of negotiation closely for some time.

Through that time, I have grown increasingly uneasy about the long process of attrition which has seen Calvary public hospital systematically and deliberately deprived of funding by successive ACT Governments.

Is it just to withhold funding from a hospital which has consistently delivered excellent service to the ACT, a hospital which has comparatively low labour costs, a comparatively higher ratio of nurse per beds and a proven capacity to attract and retain quality staff, a hospital where that mysterious thing "culture" has so deeply impressed ACT citizens over the years?

I would also ask how true it is in fact that an aggregation or merger would provide better health care to the people of the ACT, which I presume is what is prompting the Government's proposal.

Public health care in this country has thrived on a



combination of Government and private provision; and there is little evidence that a Government bureaucracy can run public hospitals better or more efficiently than private providers.

If anything, evidence points to the contrary. To insist upon a single Government provider in the ACT seems totalitarian in a way that is alien to the best traditions of health care in this country and at odds with the policies and positions of the current Federal Government.

Despite the talk of new synergies and savings, I think the proposal could increase the cost of health care in the ACT and diminish its quality. It will also cost the ACT Government a lot of money at a time of deficit budgets, and for little if any gain.

The Sisters and the Board of LCM have been in a very difficult position for some time, and I understand the claim that they have a stark choice between either accepting what is now on offer from the Government or losing everything eventually.

So I am deeply sympathetic to their position, and I have no doubt that they are pursuing the negotiations in the best of good faith. Yet the more I have thought, talked and prayed about the proposed sale of the hospital, the more uneasy I have become.

I have also become more convinced that public health care is an essential part of Catholic health care in Australia, and that public hospitals are the natural habitat of Catholic health care, for all the difficulties that imposes upon the providers, especially in their dealings with Government. First-class health care is not a commodity for those who can afford to pay but a right to which everyone is entitled, whether they can pay or not. That understanding has always been fundamental to Catholic health care in this country.

That is why I question whether the proposal to sell the public hospital to the Government is in accord with the mission of Catholic health care or the Little Company of Mary, even though I have heard sincere arguments in support of the claim that the proposal is not only faithful to the mission but inspired by it.

Nor am I persuaded that the sale of Calvary Public Hospital would have little or no effect upon Catholic health care elsewhere in Australia, especially at a time like this when there is pressure to drive religion of any kind from the public square into some purely private realm.

My own strong preference for Calvary Public

Hospital would be that a Catholic provider remain but under the terms of a completely re-negotiated service agreement which would ensure proper funding for the hospital in the future and a more effective co-ordination of services in order to meet the Government's needs and to deal with what may have been points of tension or disagreement in the past. This may be difficult, but is it impossible?

Given my responsibility to oversee apostolic works undertaken within the Archdiocese, I could not in conscience simply approve a proposal about which I have so many questions.

My overriding concern is that the people of the ACT be offered the best possible public health care; and I do not believe that this proposal will do that, for all that it may be bureaucratically neater.

In my view, an important part of ensuring the best possible health care for all ACT citizens is to ensure the continuing presence of a Catholic provider in ACT public health.

In the end that may not be possible, but in the meantime I am obliged to do all in my power to secure that presence - not in order to push some grasping sectarian line or to promote a narrowly ideological position, but for the sake of the Gospel and the entire community of the ACT.

+ hundling ~

ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

May diary

3 May: Annual May procession, Galong 6 May: Keynote speaker at National Catholic Media Congress, Sydney. 7-14 May: Plenary of Australian Catholic

Bishops Conference, Sydney. 15-17 May: Vocations weekend, Galong. 18-22 May: Clergy Assembly, Galong. 23 May: 150th celebration St Bede's School, Braidwood.

24 May: Mass, blessing of new presbytery, Young

27 May: Spirituality for all seasons talk, Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla.

29 May: Jubilee of religious profession, Sisters of St Joseph, North Goulburn. 30 May: Gathering of church movements, new communities, associations, Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW? Answers: 1. Four years. 2. Bishop Pat Power. 3. Bribbaree. 4. 1987. 5. 4 June 1939. 6. Director of Catholic Education Moira Najdecki.

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The Rudd Government's early moves in the refugee area in late 2007 and 2008 have been almost universally assessed as having shown promise.

The abolition of the "Pacific solution", marked by its prejudicial treatment of asylum seekers arriving in Australia's excised territory by boat, and the attempt to transfer the burden of their care to other states, is welcome.

Welcome too is the abolition of the Temporary Protection Visa and the granting of permanent visas to all refugees no matter how they arrived in Australia. There has likewise been a parliamentary review of the use of detention and a partial review of ministerial discretion in decisions surrounding claims that invoke Australia's human rights obligations but which do not qualify the claimant as a refugee under the Convention.

Similarly, a major departure from previous policies and practice of both Labor and Liberal parties has been the Immigration Minister's announcement that mandatory detention would be limited to the management of health, identity and security checks, for people who have not complied with visa conditions and those

voices

An edited excerpt from Refugees and Australia's Response: Politics, morality and the way forward, a publication of the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, by David Holdcroft SJ.

who represent a risk to the community. Yet the retention of large degree of discretionary power in the practice of detention indicates a reluctance to completely let go of the "deterrent by detention" mentality of past governments.

In particular the lifting of the quota under the Immigration Department's Special Humanitarian Program, while modest, more closely reflects the urgent need to respond to the current larger and protracted situations of displacement. In 2008-09, the refugee quota will rise by 500 places to 6500, with a special one-off category of 500 places created for refugees from Iraq. In 2009-10 it will rise by a further 750 places to 7750.

Refugees: how should we respond? Do these measures go far enough? Specifically, do they satisfy the key demands of a common human dignity and universally held human rights, particularly the right to movement across national boundaries, balanced with the right to national sovereignty and cultural and social cohesion?

> I will seek to answer these questions with reference to the group of forced migrants who represent the majority of recent boat arrivals on Australia's northern shores and towards whom recent Australian policy has largely been silent.

> The first observation is that Afghanis remain the world's biggest refugee caseload, with 3.1 million people living outside their country, 96 per cent of them in camps or "refugee villages" in Pakistan and Iran.

> Many of these people were victims of persecution under the Taliban, which could meet the Refugee Convention definition. But others are fleeing a situation of generalised war and violence: these people are likely not to be refugees under the Convention. The latter group are normally not accepted in the resettlement programs of places such as Australia.

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Sadness and joy

news

as we pass on WYD legacy

Catholic Youth Ministry team manager Miss Daniela Kesina was one of 65 young Australians chosen to hand the World Youth Day Cross and Icon over to the youth of Spain, officially marking the end of World Youth Day 2008. The ceremony took place on Palm Sunday in Rome in the presence of Pope Benedict XVI. Miss Kesina was also among six young people selected to receive Holy Communion from the Pope. Here she tells what it was like.

Like many Australian delegates I felt blessed when chosen for the World Youth Day Cross and Icon handover pilgrimage. The journey leading up to WYD was joyful, full of challenges and surprises. During this pilgrimage I again experienced joy, faced challenges and was surprised on many levels. I reflected on my experience of WYD for perhaps the first time and rediscovered the gifts that WYD continues to bring to the Australian Catholic Church

Our group was diverse. We had members of the Journey of the Cross and Icon teams, Stations of the Cross actors, diocesan youth ministers, school teachers, representatives from various groups and movements, WYD staff and young people who now participate in the life of the Church as a result of WYD. Our common experience lay in the significant amount of energy we had all invested in WYD over the past couple of years. We shared our stories and discovered that for many this pilgrimage led us to experience the love of God in a profound way.



Daniela Kesina (second from left) with Janine King from the Journey of the Cross and Icon team and two young people from Madrid.

We visited places where many great saints had lived. We were taken through the Vatican grottos and, on the anniversary of John Paul II, prayed in front of his tomb, asking him to intercede for the youth of our nation.

I left feeling encouraged by this man who through inviting God into his own life at a young age had left an incredible legacy. We travelled to Assisi and celebrated Mass at the tomb of St Francis. This opportunity was rare and one could feel there was something special taking place. Melbourne Bishop Tim Costelloe spoke on the life of this saint who in prayer spent entire nights asking the questions, "who are you Lord?" and "who am I?". The saint inspired me to ask those questions in my own heart and as the Mass continued one could feel an overwhelming sense of peace fill the room.

We visited the recently purchased Australia House, where Australian pilgrims will be able to rest when visiting Rome. As the architect shared his vision with us I felt excited that the rich tradition of pilgrimage would continue to be accessible to the youth of Australia. Later we celebrated Mass with Cardinal Pell and other Australian bishops and priests.

We listened to Cathy from Forbes who shared that before encountering the cross her faith was almost non-existent. That night much joy was felt and many tears were shed as we came to understand the power of this simple cross and icon.

On Palm Sunday we felt excitement and sadness as we waited to enter St Peter's Square for Mass, WYD celebrations and handover of the Cross and Icon to the youth of Madrid, Spain. Once we were in, the six of us who were chosen to receive Holy Communion from the Holy Father sat with Catholics from around the world who were also chosen.

We struck up a conversation with two girls from Madrid who were jumping out of their seats at the excitement of welcoming WYD to their nation. They thanked us for WYD 08 and shared with us their faith and desire to become heavily involved in bringing the WYD dream to reality in their country. As the Holy Father gave me Holy Communion, I saw a man with unshakeable faith and I felt the love that a father has for his child.

Drought areas get bulk of appeal money

Tougher economic times and the continuing drought produced a tighter result for the Archbishop's Appeal last Christmas, but the total still reached \$72,700.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has expressed his deep appreciation to those who have enabled so much to be shared with others in great need.

Director of the Archdiocese's Mission and Development Office Deacon Joe Blackwell said more than 70 per cent of the money would go towards drought relief efforts predominantly in the western region of the Archdiocese through parishes and the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Projects in Uganda and India have each received \$5000

The Diocese of Fort Portal, Uganda, will use this to assist their HIV project, and the Archdiocese of Ernakulam-Ankamaly in India will use the money to develop their housing renovation program.

The annual Christmas Bowl Appeal of the National Council of Churches in Australia, of which the Catholic Church is a member, has again been given \$10,000 towards projects in developing countries.



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SOS! - Christianity in the Middle East

DEEPLY saddened by the crisis engulfing Christianity in the Middle East, Pope Benedict XVI has asked the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) to provide urgent help.

In many parts of the land Our Lord Jesus Christ knew so well, the faithful now live in fear as increasing poverty and growing extremism threaten the survival of these ancient communities.

A mass exodus of Christians from the Middle East is now taking place. For some it is a question of escaping bloody persecution. In the Holy Land for example, the proportion of Christians has plummeted from 20% to as little as 1.4% in the last 40 years.

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

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



Churches in the Middle East are threatened in their very existence. May God grant ACN strength to help wherever the need is greatest. Pope Benedict XVI



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Churches pray as one

Churches in the Tuggeranong Valley and Weston Creek areas of Canberra this month are gearing up to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

news

Christian City Church in Monash will host an inter-denominational evening of prayer and worship led by pastors and priests from churches in the area at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 26 May. Inquiries: Pastor Steve Janes, telephone 6298 5900.

The evening is organised and sponsored by members of: Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Uniting and Pentecostal churches in the area. Bishop Pat Power will be guest speaker.

St Thomas the Apostle parish,

Taizé prayer at 8pm on Friday, 29 May. This will provide an opportunity for Christians to pray together in the style of the ecumenical community of brothers at Taizé in France. The evening is sponsored by St Stephen's Anglican Church, Weston Creek Uniting Church, St Thomas the Apostle parish and the Canberra Taizé Group. Inquiries: Tracey, telephone 6231 9219 or Trish 6231 8468.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a call to all churches to join together in the week before Pentecost to pray as Jesus prayed "that they may all be one... so that the world



The archdiocesan Women's Commission has had a revamp, welcoming several new members to the team.

Acting chair Ms Judy Netting said despite the change in members, the commission would continue working towards last year's goals."We are continuing to follow up several proposals which were suggested to the bishops for implementation in their dioceses by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in the document Decisions and Proposals of the Social Justice Statement 2000," she said.

ABOVE: Ms Netting (second from right) with Vicar general Mgr John Woods and new members Richard Sachse, Anne Woods, Gabrielle Wright, Maureen Babler. Lorraine Barker. Elizabeth Hannan and Liz Callaghan.

Other new members are Catherine Rees and Kerrie Hogan. Colin Griffiths, Genevieve Jacobs and Margaret Ryan also members.

New faces for commission Weekend to discern vocation

A weekend to help single men and women discern their vocation will be held in May.

The relaxing and prayerful weekend is open to all single men and women in year 11 or later who want to reflect on their direction in life and how they can make God more a central part of it.

Key presenters will be Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Sr Terri Emslie from the National Vocations office. Cost is \$50 (concessions available). It will be held at St Clement's conference and retreat centre, Galong, from 6pm dinner Friday, 15 May, to Sunday lunch 17 May. RSVP 8 May. See vocations brochure on archdiocesan website www. cg.catholic.org.au or contact Fr Emil Milat, telephone 4474 2024 e-mail emil.milat@cg. catholic.org.au

What the schools will get

ACT SCHOOLS

Daramalan College, Dickson - window replacement - \$200,000

Holy Family Primary School, Gowrie - refurbishment of buildings and upgrade of sports facilities - \$200,000

Holy Trinity Primary School, Curtin - window replacement and play area upgrade - \$125,000

MacKillop College - painting and gymnasium refurbishment - \$200,000

Marist College, Pearce - school toilet refurbishment - \$200,000

Merici College, Braddon- refurbishment of classrooms and band rehearsal room - \$200,000

St Clare of Assisi Primary School, Conder refurbishment of amenities and upgrade of hall -\$200,000

St Clare's College, Griffith - ICT upgrade -\$200,000

St Francis Xavier College, Florey - Perimeter fence and gymnasium refurbishment - \$200,000

St John the Apostle Primary School, Kambah refurbishment - \$200,000

St Jude's Primary School, Holder - refurbishment - \$125,000

St Michael's Primary School, Kaleen - outdoor learning and play area - \$125,000

St Monica's Primary School, Evatt - refurbishment of buildings and shade structure - \$200,000

St Thomas Aquinas Primary School, Charnwood refurbishment - \$125,000

St Thomas More's Primary School, Campbell window replacement water tanks and shade structures - \$125,000

St Thomas the Apostle Primary School, Kambah - outdoor learning and play area - \$150,000 St Vincent's Primary School, Aranda - refur-

bishment and shade structure - \$75,000 Sts Peter and Paul's Primary School, Garran -

renovation of play areas and car parks - \$150,000 **NSW SCHOOLS**

St Joseph' School, Adelong - refurbishment of school facilities external and internal - \$50,000

St Bernard's Primary School, Batemans Bay refurbishment of student amenities and construction of shade structure - \$150,000

St Mary's School, Batlow - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities - \$50,000 St Patrick's Primary School, Bega - refurbish-

ment of existing facilities - \$125,000 St Joseph's School, Bombala - refurbishment of

student amenities - \$50,000 St Joseph's School, Boorowa - refurbishment of

site landscaping and existing facilities - \$75,000 St Bede's School, Braidwood - refurbishment of site landscaping - \$75,000

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Carroll College, Broulee - construct COLA \$200,000

site landscaping and construction of shade struc-

refurbishment of weather protection on buildings and site landscaping - \$150,000

bishment of external school facilities - \$125,000

Trinity Catholic College, Goulburn - refurbishment of sporting facility - \$200,000

St Joseph's School, Grenfell - Construction of playground equipment and shade structure -\$75,000

St Patrick's School, Gundagai - construction of archive store and shade structure and refurbishment of site landscaping - \$75,000

St Francis Xavier Primary School, Lake Cargelligo - refurbishment of energy efficient devices - \$75,000

St Mary's School, Moruya - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities and upgrade of electrical reticulation - \$125,000

Trinity Catholic Primary School, Murrumburrah refurbishment of external school facilities -\$75,000

Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula Beach - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities and site landscaping - \$200,000

St Gregory's Primary School, Queanbeyan refurbishment of external and internal school facilities - \$200,000

St Anne's Central School, Temora - refurbishment of student amenities - \$125,000

McAuley Catholic Central School, Tumut refurbishment of external and internal school facilities and site landscaping - \$150,000

St Mary's War Memorial School, West Wyalong refurbishment of external and internal school facilities - \$75,000

Mount Carmel Central School, Yass - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities - \$200,000

Hennessey Catholic College, Young - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities - \$200.000

St Mary's Primary School, Young - refurbishment of external and internal school facilities -\$150,000

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Sacred Heart School, Cootamundra - refurbishment of school grounds - \$150,000

St Mary's School, Crookwell - refurbishment of energy efficient devices - \$75,000

St Joseph's School, Eden - Installation of water tanks - \$50,000

Ss Peter and Paul Primary School, Goulburn -

St Joseph's Primary School, Goulburn - refur-

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Easter alive in Archdiocese





ABOVE: Seminarians Duc Mac, Paul Nulley, playing the part of Jesus, and Trenton van Reesch act out the Way of the Cross for worshippers at the ecumenical service at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture on Good Friday.

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TOP and LEFT: Worshippers in their hundreds made the pilgrimage up Rosary Hill at St Clement's, Galong, to pray for Australia. Pictures: Loui Seselja. ABOVE: Archbishop Mark Coleridge pours balsam into the oil of chrism during the blessing of sacramental oils at the annual Chrism Mass celebrated in St Christopher's Cathedral at the start of Holy Week. In his homily, he called for a renaissance in the sacrament of Reconciliation. "We need a resurgence of the sense of the horror of sin and the glory of mercy," he said.



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catholic schools week

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Historic day for Young

For the first time in Young parish, St Mary's Primary School and Hennessey Catholic College have come together to celebrate Mass in St Mary's Church.

More than 800 students from kindergarten to Year 12 filled the church to overflowing as part of Catholic Schools Week. Many parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and fellow parishioners joined the students.

To begin the Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, a large signpost was filled with the names of smaller towns in the district where a large number of students travel from each day.

Staff of the two schools formed a choir to lead the singing.

Six parishioners were formally commissioned as acolytes. At the end of Mass, Archbishop Coleridge was presented with a cherry tree to remind him of his time in Young, the national cherry capital.

Later, school captains met with Archbishop Coleridge for a forum to discuss issues relating to their education, faith and future.



To celebrate Catholic Schools Week, St Michael's Primary School in Kaleen held a community breakfast for staff, students and parents. Special guests were Catholic Education director Mrs Moira Najdecki, Chief Minister Mr Jon Stanhope, Canberra Liberals leader Mr Zed Seselja, Senator Gary Humphries, Mr Bob McMullan and Mr Steve Doszpot.

Principal Mr David Austin said Catholic schools made an important contribution to the community

"Catholic Schools Week allows us the opportunity to showcase what is done everyday in our schools," he said.

"The week is also about strengthening relationships between all who have a stake in our schools.

\$15,000 boost for college

St Clare's College in Griffith welcomed ACT Minister for Education and Training, Children and Young People, Planning, Tourism, Sport and Recreation Mr Andrew Barr, who presented a cheque for \$15,000 as part of the Government's election promises.

College board chair Ms Philippa Keating said it was great to see the work of the parent body acknowledged.

"We are an integral part of the school working for the good of the students," she said.

'There have been suggestions to put the money toward some more outdoor furniture or a shaded area across the tennis courts.'

Reflecting on life

New CYM team member Miss Ana Moran returned to her former school St Francis Xavier College, Florey, to participate in the Year 7 reflection day. Miss Moran and the team facilitated the day for more than 200 students. She joined a youth ministry class in year 11 and found new support in her faith. "Instead of always praying to ask for things I wanted. I decided to work with the things I already had in my life," she said.





Students come from many areas to school in Young ... part of the historic Mass.

Visit to college

Students from St Joseph's, Eden, St Patrick's, Bega, and St Joseph's, Bombala, made the journey to Lumen Christi Catholic College Pambula Beach for activities with the secondary students. RIGHT: Hamish Treloar and Olivia Blanch get ready to march their flag from St Joseph's to the altar during the liturgy.





Mrs Moira Najdecki pours a glass of juice for Eliza Lane as Annie Rebetzke looks on.



College principal Ms Alison Jeffries and college board chair Ms Philippa Keating chat with Mr Andrew Barr as the school leaders look on.





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

One pre-school open, more to come



The Archdiocese's first Catholic pre-school might be followed by more, according to Catholic Education director Mrs Moira Najdecki.

At the official opening of Holy Family Early Learning and Care Centre in Gowrie, which took place during Catholic Schools Week, she said it was a "momentous and historic occasion".

"We hope to open another couple of pre-schools across Canberra," she said.

Mrs Najdecki was impressed with the students after hearing them sing songs in both English and Spanish. "My goodness there

has been a lot of learning here in these past few weeks.'

Pre-school board chair Ms Mary Ivec said she hoped the establishment of the Archdiocese's first Catholic pre-school was a sign of bigger things to come.

With 42 students enrolled so far, director Ms Jo Harris said everything was going well.

ABOVE: Chloe Ball, James Horvat, Maddison Cameron, Cameron Cox and Campbell Logie can't wait to enjoy a piece of that big cake with teachers Jo Harris and Paola Tulley.



St Bernard's Primary School in Batemans Bay held an open day and welcomed students from St Mary's Primary School, Moruya. ABOVE: St Bernard's student Leila Patyus, St Mary's students Emily Skipper and Shayne Hargreaves and Emma O'Keefe from St Bernard's enjoy a teddy bear's picnic.



St Bede's Primary School travelled all the way from Braidwood to visit their closest Catholic school neighbour, St Gregory's in Queanbeyan. ABOVE: Boys will be boys: Tom Cairns, Braith McSpadden, Jeremy Ramm and Brock McAdam from St Bede's get to know St Gregory's Year 1 students George Greentree and Ewan Bagnara.



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profile

www.cg.catholic.org.au

LEFT: Lauren (front second



By Naomi Fallon

The past 12 months have been big for St Francis Xavier College student Lauren Jansen. She played seven basketball games for Australia's top women's team the Canberra Capitals, entered Year 11 and forfeited her social life - but she is not complaining.

From a very young age, Lauren said there was something special about basketball.

"I just like the whole environment - the team, the friendships you make and the competitiveness," she said.

"When it comes to basketball, I like to win."

Born and raised in Canberra, Lauren, 16, said she inherited her love of basketball from her parents. Mother Paula coaches Lauren's club team, the under-18s West

Magpies. "I was always taught by my mum who is a really good coach, so I had lots of help from the start. I probably started playing in a team around the age of seven, but I was always shooting around out the back with my family."

Lauren said her sister Taylor, 18, is also "pretty good" and they often play alongside one another.

"I've always gotten along with her best out of anyone else on my teams, even though people think it would be the opposite. We just really understand each other."

However, between cricket and Australian football, younger brother Chris, 13, doesn't have

time for basketball. "He tried to be different to the rest of the family."

At just 15, Lauren joined the Capitals as their 12th and youngest team member for the 2008/2009 season, but most of the time she said her age does not matter.

"Until they start talking about work and bills - then I sort of don't know what's going on. But it's always a bit of a joke. Once I turned up to training in my school uniform and they all burst out laughing. I'm more like a little sister to them."

Aside from the honour of being chosen to play with the Capitals, Lauren said it was lots of fun to mix with such a "great bunch of girls".

"It's a really friendly environment to play in. They always keep an eye on me and help me out. If I ever have a problem, I know I can go to them because they're older and have more experience."

On the court Lauren still found no barrier in her age.

"I don't think I get taken advantage of on the court, because the opposition would hate to be beaten by me and shown up by the rookie.

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I've learnt a lot from playing against such good teams."

Lauren said her "great opportunity" of playing in the big league meant she had to grow up a bit faster than others her age.

"I feel as if it has been a big mental growth for me.

"Even the way they play, it's much more of a women's game than a girl's game. Not many kids my age know how to deal with the media or cameras. At the grand final there was a crowd of 4000 and that's nerve-wracking. But once you get out there and start to warm up your nerves go away."

Despite her new star status, Lauren has not forgotten her "great group" of school friends.

"I'm not a different person around the different groups, but I'm a little shyer around the Capitals girls. I'm a bit more outgoing with my school friends.

"They think it's quite cool and they're really happy for me and very supportive. There were a bunch of them at the grand final, even though I didn't even get on the court."

Due to her busy schedule which involves training almost every day, Lauren has had to make more sacrifices than a regular

16-year-old.Cont Page 10.

Bathurst bishop named

A former secretary to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in Canberra Fr Michael McKenna has been appointed Bishop of Bathurst.

Pope Benedict XVI also named Adelaide Auxiliary Bishop Gregory O'Kelly SJ as Bishop of Port Pirie.

Fr McKenna was rector of Corpus Christi College, the regional seminary for Victoria and Tasmania, from 1999 to 2005.

He then became chaplain to the University of Melbourne and later took on the pastoral care of Fitzroy parish.

He succeeds Bishop Patrick Dougherty who retired in November last year.

Bishop O'Kelly succeeds Bishop Eugene Hurley in Port Pirie.







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features

The Church and the role of trade unions

The role of trade unions has often been the subject of spirited controversy, not least in the context of the previous government's initiatives collectively known as Work Choices and the present government's Fair Work proposals. The following article by the Catholic Social Justice Commission for the Archdiocese summarises the Church's long-standing view of trade unions

For at least 120 years trade unions have occupied an important place in the Catholic Church's social teaching. In that time Catholics have also had leadership positions in unions, both in Australia and abroad - often with the active support of bishops and other clergy. Cardinal Patrick Moran, Archbishop of Sydney from 1884 to 1911, played a central role in supporting the establishment of the union movement in Australia during its formative years.

Readers who remember the 1950s split in the Australian Labor Party will no doubt know that one of the central issues was to do with trade unions and that Catholics often disagreed vigorously with each other about the right approach to take .It was not so much an argument about fundamental principles but about their practical application in the face of the challenges presented by the times. What are the fundamental principles that the Church has expressed about unions?

In his ground-breaking 1891 encyclical Rerum Novarum (Of New Things), Pope Leo XIII articulated a Catholic position for the first time. He said that capital needed labour and that labour needed capital. He referred to the abuses that unfettered capitalism brings with it. He opposed Communism as an alternative system. He supported private ownership of property while insisting that it was not an unlimited right - its exercise must take account of the common good

A century later, Pope John Paul II issued an encyclical Centesimus Annus (The Centenary) restating the basic teachings of Rerum Novarum in their contemporary context. He again opposed the abuses that come when there is no restriction on free markets and property ownership - the common good was also critical. At the same time he rejected Communism as an alternative. He deplored the widespread gaps between rich and poor. He articulated the role of unions in the protection of working people from exploitation and abuse

In a nutshell, the Church has supported unionism as a means of providing balance between the needs of working people and the interests of more powerful groups. The precise application of these principles to defining the legitimate role for union activities in concrete situations is not always obvious, but the key criterion is whether the interests of the poor and the marginalised come first.

My wife is a Catholic and I had a son in 2007 who was baptised a Catholic. As he gets older and starts asking questions about Catholicism, I'd like to be able to answer them. My wife and I are also having another baby, so knowing that I'll have a family, I'd like to be well informed about our religion. What were your church affiliations previously?

Officially my identity card says I am Buddhist but I have never practiced it. I never really had any church affiliations. My wife and I always knew that anything positive in our lives was because God was there answering our prayers.

What made you want to become a Catholic?

What attracted you to the Catholic Church?

My parents were baptised as Catholics in 2001 and I had remnants of what they had been through, which played a significant role in my choice to become a Catholic. Overall I just wanted to know more about God and Jesus and I wanted to have some spiritual guidance.

How did you find the RCIA process?

The RCIA experience was very enriching. Two others from Page Parish went through the process and it was good to know they had the same questions and reservations.

What do you find most challenging or confronting as a new Catholic?

I had some reservations about Reconciliation. I'd never done something like opening up in front of someone I didn't know. That took a lot of getting used to but now I understand the reason behind it.

What do you find most enjoyable as a new **Catholic**?

Send your news items and photographs to: ed.voice@cg. catholic.org.au

Why I do ... what I do

A column in which well known and not so well-known people in our Archdiocese tell us about themselves. This month we speak to Rite of **Christian Initiation**



of Adults participant Shaun Cheah, who became a Catholic at Easter.

I'm now part of a community, but before I was an outsider in the process of the Eucharist. There is such significance in the body and blood of Christ which is enriching and gratifying. The first time I received the Eucharist was a poignant moment in the whole journey.

What is your day job and what do you do for fun?

I am an associate lecturer in advertising and marketing at the University of Canberra. My wife and I originally came to Australia to take a break from the corporate world in Singapore where I lived to work. Now I keep a better balance in life. My son keeps me very busy and he is a joy to be with every day. If I hadn't come to Australia I wouldn't have had a family or gone through the RCIA process. God is now a central figure in our family and we know he will always be there for us in the good times and the bad times.

'Little sister' is having a ball at the top

From Page 9.

"Basketball is basically my social life. I generally don't see school friends out of school time.

"Sometimes it's hard saying no to friends if they want you to go somewhere - but they always understand."

Now that her first sea-

son with the Canberra Capitals is behind her, Lauren is focusing on school work and commitments to the ACT under-18 women's team.

'There were times during the Capital's grand final week where I had a lot of assessments due and I didn't cope too well with the stress.

'My parents have always said they didn't want basketball to impact on my school work and the



moment it does I'll have to cut back on training. "I always hand assignments in on time and try to do as much of my work as possible during school hours so I don't have to do it after school.'

On the off chance things do not work out for Lauren and basketball, she plans to be a teacher.

"I'd like to teach primary school or pre-school, I think it would be very rewarding.

"I'd like to go to university although I know it would take longer with my basketball commitments.'

Lauren will have to wait until later in the year to find out whether she will get the chance to play with

the Capitals next sea-

"Of course I want to do it again, especially because this season was such a great season.

"I'd love to keep playing with the Capitals and keep working my way up like Nat Hurst did

"She started out at the same age I did and I'd love the opportunity to do that. But I know I've got a long way to go.

"I'm just going to keep working on my game and try to focus on my other commitments.

"Sometimes I still don't believe how far I've come." Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

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ish priest Fr Dermid McDermott, State Member for Goulburn Ms Pru Goward and Mayor of Goulburn-Mulwaree Mrs Carol James at the presentation. The minister was impressed by the magnificence of the Cathedral building.

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Old Cathedral listed

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white boards, portable wireless computer lab and current learning in the classrooms. **E-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au**

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welcoming of new families as a significant percentage of transient families are from a Defence background.

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Inspired by Christ and guided by his teachings, the community of St Benedict's journeys together to provide a caring, friendly, learning environment that nurtures the development of each child through love, work and prayer.

St Benedict's is a small Catholic school with a current enrolment of 158 children. It strives to maintain its established traditions while working to ensure its curriculum and focus are relevant to current theories of quality education.

To this end the school provides a comprehensive, well-resourced curriculum. Core curriculum areas are implemented by the dedicated professional staff at St Benedict's including seven full-time class teachers, a learning support teacher, teacher librarian, Italian teacher and literacy and integration education assistants.

St Benedict's is continually developing opportunities to enhance all aspects of teaching and learning.

These include: a perceptual motor program for children in Kindergarten to Year 2; swimming, dance and gymnastics programs. Key learning areas are taught through a developmental and integrated curriculum.

At St Benedict's literacy and numeracy are a focal point of all learning. The most obvious and important aspect of life at St Benedict's is the sense of community and involvement that is experienced by everyone - children, staff, parents and the wider community. "Values in Practice" program. Each class learns specific social skills that will help put these values into everyday use. The program

All that the school does and strives for is based on Catholic beliefs and core values. St Benedict's works very hard to preserve its uniquely warm and vibrant community.

St Matthew's Primary School Page is located in close proximity to the Belconnen Town Centre. The school has recently undergone a \$1 million refurbishment program to update all its classrooms, library and office facilities. The refurbishment has given the school a fresh new modern look and has added some additional specialized areas.

The official opening of the refurbishments is scheduled to take place in June. In conjunction with the Commonwealth Government's Building the Educational Revolution program it is planned that there will be further upgrades to the school's infrastructure and playground areas.

The school features an integrated computer network with broadband access in all classrooms. The school's pupils are proficient users of technology and each has their own network logins, files and folders. All classrooms are resourced with Interactive Whiteboards. The students study a balanced curriculum with a basis founded on physical activity and healthy living. At 10am the children have "Fruit Break Time" to help boost their energy and concentration levels for the morning's activities.

The school has varied extra curricula activities to enrich the student's experiences. Garden Club is held in the beautiful courtyard area which incorporates vegetable gardens, chicken coop, fish pond, worm farm and a composting station. Other clubs available at St Matthew's are Chess Club, Computer Club, Choir and Recorder Club.

The school has a strong focus on values. The values of respect, well being, responsibility, learning, doing your best and belonging are explicitly taught through the school's "Values in Practice" program. Each class learns specific social skills that will help put these values into everyday use. The program is jointly taught by the class teacher and all Year Six students as part of their leadership

Side by side growing together

program. The school has also recently implemented a new student behaviour protocol which incorporates the principles of restorative justice. The Rock and Water Program that has been introduced this year complements the values program and aims to apply a physical/social approach to assist boys and girls in their development by increasing their self-realisation, self-confidence, self-respect, self-awareness and intuition.

The school launched a new program to teach Christian meditation to students as part of the school religious education program. It is another form of prayer that aims to help those who meditate to find God in stillness, silence and simplicity.

One of St Matthew's greatest strengths is the high level of interest and support it receives from the community. Parents and carers involve themselves in many aspects of school life and are active in the classrooms and around the school. The theme for the school this year is "Side by Side, Together We Grow". This theme was chosen to further develop the special community spirit at St Matthew's. The symbol chosen is a rainbow. Each colour stands on its own but it is only when they are all side by side that the rainbow is complete. By being together they make something so great that it never ceases to amaze. The school also offers before and after school care provided by Belconnen Community Services. This service commences at 7:30am and finishes at 6pm.



A vibrant community with close links to the St Benedict's Parish.

A broad curriculum which provides intellectual challenges and caters for different learning styles.

Specialist programs including Social Skills and Count Me In Too. Access to Communication and Digital

Technology in classrooms

n classrooms For further inquiries, please contact Mrs Anne Staines – Principal OPEN DAY – MONDAY, 5 MAY 2009 9.00AM-1.00PM

Debatina

and Sports Clinics.

A skills-based Physical Education

Program which includes a Perceptual

Motor Program, Daily Fitness Program,

Swimming Program for Kinder to Year 2

Enrichment activities including: Specialist

Gymnastics and Dancing Teachers,

St Matthew's Primary School



OPEN DAY Tuesday 19 May 9:00am – 12:00 noon **INFORMATION EVENING** Thursday 21 May 7:30pm – 8:30pm



CONTACT DETAILSPrincipal:Paul RussellPhone:6254 2653Fax:6254 9009



St Matthew's Primary School, Stutchbury Street, Page ACT 2614 www.stmattsps.act.edu.au info@stmattsps.act.edu.au

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

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

our primary schools 2010

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Strong sense of belonging

St Edmund's Middle School (Years 4-7) is a dynamic place staffed by enthusiastic teachers committed to the core business of quality teaching and learning. The curriculum in the Middle School has been developed to reflect current trends and research on boys education.

For example, while stressing the importance of written and oral language, handwriting and spelling, St Edmund's Middle School teachers cater for the broad range of student



learning styles by offering engaging lessons involving kinesthetic (hands-on), oral and visual experiences.

A strong sense of belonging and pride in the school gives Middle School boys a unique advantage in their transition into senior school in Year 8.

The new boys entering into the College at Year 7 level make a smooth adjustment as they are mentored by boys who have previous experience of the day-to-day running of the College.

Middle School boys have the advantage of being able to consolidate learning in Year 7 and begin to adjust to having different teachers while still retaining their own classroom identity.

Boys commencing the College in Year 4 enjoy the



long-term benefits of the continuity of curriculum until the end of Year 7.

At St Edmund's College each boys is offered a rich and varied co-curricular program with staff, senior boys and parents coaching or managing teams in most major sports.

A safe school policy is in place to care for and enhance a safe and secure school environment for the individual.

St Edmund's is confident that the boys in Middle School are "leading today" so that they can work towards "achieving tomorrow".





Ask us why we chose St Edmund's College.

Open Day Sat. 2 May 12noon - 3pm Tea Tour Wed. 20 May 11am Twilight Tour Wed. 20 May 5pm









11-29 May 2009

Achieving today. Leading tomorrow.

110 Canberra Ave, Griffith ACT 2603 (t) 6239 0660 (w) www.stedmunds.act.edu.au

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

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

our primary schools 2010



Marist College Canberra Junior School



Marist College Canberra Junior School: for boys from Years 4 to 6 Senior School: for boys from Years 7 to 12

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

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

Open Day Sunday 3 May 2009 From 9.30am-12.30pm

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

For Enrolment enquiries please call 6298 7271



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

Upper primary boys belong and strive to do their best

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

The Junior School accepts students from Year 4 to Year 6, with an enrolment of approximately 380.

Upon finishing Year 6, the boys move seamlessly into the Senior School, which has an enrolment of approximately 1250.

In welcoming new boys and their families to Marist College each year, Junior School teachers share enthusiastically and wholeheartedly the Marist vision of education.

The staff's commitment to the boys in teaching them to become good Christians and good citizens is made a reality because they:

• provide a sound and systematic knowledge of Catholic faith and practice;

• strive for excellence in all they do;

• offer a comprehensive and relevant range of learning experiences and co-curricular activities targeting boys;

• develop boys' enthusiasm for discovery, risk-taking and enterprise;





• foster effective communication and numeracy skills in boys;

• cultivate a positive attitude to learning and self-directed study skills.

Marist Junior School strives to build an environment that is affirming and challenging for boys.

This involves promoting a culture where leadership, success, acceptance

of praise, acceptance of authority and respect for tradition are permissible within the peer culture.

Boys are also taught to value empathy, sharing, nurturing and a sense of community, as well as the traditional values of strength, loyalty and leadership.

It is their conviction that the essential element for turning peer influence in positive directions is creating a sense that boys belong and are respected and valued.

Boys love coming to Marist College Junior School.

They are eager to learn and participate in all aspects of school life.

With such a positive foundation, they proceed confidently to their secondary education at Marist.

The College looks forward to welcoming visitors on Open Day.

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL*

Rosary School is a Christ-centred family striving for educational excellence in the Dominican spirit of truth, justice and celebration.



- Its advances in the use of learning technologies.
- The **extensive grounds** which boast a newly re-developed, beautifully green oval with a landscaped perimeter of trees to provide shade.
- The **music program**. All students participate in specialist music classes. Tuition for a variety of instruments is also available through private teachers and Musicorp.



- The pursuit of **chess** which has become a passion at the school. Teams are represented at many competitions throughout the A.C.T.
- Its vibrant newly refurbished **library** is a hub of learning through stimulating, educational experiences that support classroom programs.
- The various sporting pursuits available to students and the many successes at all levels of competition.
- The 'buddy' system in which Kindergarten and Year Six get

together to share educational experiences and provide peer support.

- Its 'Sun Smart' policy.
- The involvement of parents and friends. Opportunities to be involved occur through a variety of means including

support of literacy and mathematics blocks; assistance to the PTFA and Canteen; representation on the School Board; association with sporting groups and general help in the classrooms and library as well as special projects.

- The committed and active PTFA and School Board.
- A healthy canteen.
- Excellent out-of-schoolhours care available on site.
- Strong links with the Parish including 'Family Masses' and Sacramental programs.



- Liturgical celebrations and ceremonies which enhance and strengthen the community's relationship with God.
- At Rosary, we believe that educating the next generation about **sustainability**, climate change and the environment is a positive investment in a healthier future. We are reducing our carbon footprint by decreasing our usage of energy and natural resources in a meaningful and positive way.
- Rosary is the first Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative ACT accredited **energy wise** school and we now purchase 100% green energy.

'Treading lightly on God's earth'



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info@rosary.act.edu.au www.rosary.act.edu.au

OPEN DAY Thursday 21st May, 9:30am-12:30pm

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

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

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our primary schools 2010

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'What makes us so special?'

"Our school is full of caring, loving and helpful people. We have lots of space to play. The teachers are kind to the children, and have fun with us while we are learning. We will never forget the friendships and fun times over the last seven years."

- Alexandra and Natalie, Year 6.

St John the Apostle Primary School in Florey is a friendly and welcoming community whose positive attitude encour-

ages all of its members to get involved and have a go.

At the heart of the community is its shared Faith, which is developed through sac-

ramental preparation programs, school based liturgies and prayer.

As well as daily prayers and blessings in class, the whole school gathers once a week for a focus assembly with an emphasis on prayer and Christian story.

The school's Faith is extended to the wider community through supporting various charities throughout the year.



larger events such as the school fete.

The students at St John the Apostle are immersed in state of the art resources such as Active Boards and computers in all classrooms, a well equipped and continually updated library which includes a bank of laptops,

and a large computer lab.

To make full use of the resources, teachers are provided with continual opportunities to update

and develop their own skills through professional development programs.

St John's recognises the different needs and abilities of all of its students.

Many opportunities, such as Rostrum public speaking, Wakakirri, the art gallery at the fete, Engineering Games, University of NSW competitions and participation in sport from school to rep-



resentative level, encourage children to express and display their gifts and talents, with an emphasis on praise for their efforts.

Students' work is displayed in the hallway to support and develop self esteem, and to allow teachers and parents to show their pride in the children, as stated in the school prayer, "may our school always be proud of us." St John the Apostle Primary School community is filled with love, truth and courage, which will awaken a love of learning in your child.

So, what makes St John the Apostle special?

"At my school, the motto is Love, Truth and Courage. I think that all three of these gifts are clearly represented, and a big part of our school." - Andrew, Year 6.



UNITED IN LOVE, TRUTH AND COURAGE

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL Pawsey Circuit, Florey ACT 2615

OPEN DAY

Telephone: (02) 6258 3592 Facsimile: (02) 6259 1119 Email: office@sjaps.cg.catholic.edu.au Website: www.sjaps.cg.catholic.edu.au ENROLLING NOW FOR 2010

THURSDAY 21st May 2009 Guided tours at ~ 10am ~ 12.30pm ~ 7pm



St John the Apostle School is an all-embracing educational community.

We are inspired by Jesus and are united in love, truth and courage. We are on earth the heart of God.



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'May our school always be proud of us...'



Year 6 try to escape from their teachers at school camp!

Holy Spirit children gather for Assembly.

COME TO OUR OPEN DAY ON WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL!

You are welcome between 10-11am and 5.30-630pm

OUR CHILDREN SAY THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING AT HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL IS...

'Great sport sessions every week!' (Nick) 'The ladies in the front office do their job brilliantly!' (Martha) 'The resources are terrific!' (Patrick)



'The teachers care!' (тот) 'You can make a truckload of friends!' (Morgan)

EMBRACING COMMUNITY IN GUNGAHLIN

Holy Spirit embraces community through their ongoing partnership with Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School. Holy Spirit look forward to welcoming Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School in Harrison.

ONE COMMUNITY IN GOD'S LOVE!



GOOD SHEPHERD Catholic School, Amaroo

Some thoughts from our children...

Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School is an amazing Kinder to Year Six school. The teachers are always friendly and have a smile for everyone. We have a wide variety of fun and enjoyable learning opportunities and we are always encouraged to do our best.

By Daniel and Jayden Good Shepherd also has many extra curricular activities for all

interests, ranging from sports, to learning musical instruments, to Maths and Science. I have been attending Good Shepherd since Kindergarten and I have loved every minute.

Good Shepherd is an incredible school that caters for every child's needs. I wouldn't want to be at any other school.

By Courtney

Good Shepherd is a safe and welcoming environment to be in. We have beautiful Focus Assemblies each week that a

OPEN DAY: Wednesday, 20 May from 9.30 - 11.00am CONTACT: Graham Pollard, Principal, Phone 6255 7888

class leads. These assemblies teach us many things and send us a message for us all to live by. They teach us to be peaceful and calm.

I started here in Year Four and my life has never been so great. Thanks Good Shepherd for making it that way.

By Keelyn

Good Shepherd Amaroo and Holy Spirit Nicholls welcomes the opening of our third school in Gungahlin, Mother Teresa's Harrison in 2010.



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features

There is a statement, generally attributed to G K Chesterton, which runs something like this: Catholicism is the most hated of all religions, that's why I know that it's the right one. That's an intriguing comment, but it needs a lot of qualification.

In our present world, extremist Islam (not to be identified with mainstream Islam) is probably the most hated of all religions. But is that a criterion of authenticity?

Hatred is not all of one piece. We hate for different reasons. Moreover, hatred, as we know, is not the opposite of love, indifference is.

Hatred is love gone sour, love grown jealous. We can only hate someone whom we love.

Jesus was hated and was the object of bitter jealousy. He was crucified because of that. But why was he hated? Why were people jealous of him?

Jesus was hated because of his inclusivity, because of the indiscriminate, seemingly careless, character of his embrace.

reached out and He embraced sinners and those deemed unworthy and he cleansed the temple in a way that was meant to show that people no longer had to go through the established intermediaries to get to God.

He made God and his love as accessible as the nearest water tap and took control of that away from the established political, social, and religious authorities.

He was hated because he challenged the normal exclusivities that surround God and religion.

And people were jealous of him because of his goodness, because of his virtue, because he radiated the kind of love that, paradoxically but invariably, spawns envy and jealousy until the person carrying it has either died or been killed.

They were jealous of Jesus because he was good and could find it in his heart to love evervone.

Extremist Islam is hated for mostly the opposite reasons. It is hated for its exclusivity, for the narrow character of its embrace, for the rigid boundaries it sets around God and religion, and for the seeming ease with which, in God's name, it can bracket love, goodness, and human compassion in favor of violence and lack of mercy.

Like Jesus, it is hated, but for different reasons.

So we must be careful not to uncritically lean on Chesterton's little axiom when we find ourselves hated or the object of jealousy, especially if we are hated because of our religion or our moral stance on some issue.

Only after Jesus died was he understood fully

Ron Rolheiser

Fr Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is president of the **Oblate School**



of Theology in Texas. www.ronrolheiser.com Saints are often hated, but

so too are dictators and meanspirited people. But saints are hated in a different way than are dictators, just as authentic religion is hated in a different way than is false religion.

The hatred directed at a saint is real, real enough sometimes to lead to murder and crucifixion, as it did in Jesus' case and in the case of many martyrs.

But once the object of that hatred has died or been killed. once the hatred has had its cathartic release, the spirit that flows out of the person who was once hated often changes

the hearts of the very persons who did the crucifixion. They looked upon the one whom they had pierced. This happened after Jesus' death and it happens in less dramatic ways in our own lives.

Have you ever had the experience of knowing a person who for all kinds of reasons irritated you and triggered a certain inchoate mix of irritation, frustration, hate, and envy inside of you which you had difficulty both in describing and accepting.

Then, after that person dies, in the light of him or her going away, the irritation, hate, and envy wash clean and you are left with a clear sense of the goodness and integrity of his or her life, along with a certain sorrow and regret about how you reacted.

Your hatred and envy have turned into respect and you realize you are a better person for having known this person you once hated.

After the death of every person, we receive his or her spirit in a way that was not possible

Only after Jesus died did his followers understand fully who he was - as did some of the people who crucified him.

after the death of someone clar-

It's the same with the resistthey look at our religious and

Their feeling towards us, hatred or admiration, doesn't determine whether we are good or bad, saint or fanatic.

Only the spirit we leave behind will eventually determine that.

Refugees: How should Australia respond?

From Page 4.

The second observation is that their arrival, like that of the Vietnamese before them, is largely predictable. About 4 million people have returned to Afghanistan since the overthrow of the Taliban in 2001.

These repatriations slowed in 2008 due to the breakdown of the security situation. At the same time both Pakistan and Iran, which have hosted Afghan refugees for the last 20 years, have recently increased pressure on the refugees to leave.

For those unable to repatriate, there is little choice, in the absence of resettlement places, but to move on.

For those who feel they cannot repatriate and who do not qualify as Convention refugees there is little choice but to seek a country that might accept them. It seems inevitable that a small number of these people will reach Australia.

Australia has a choice in its response. It can continue to rely on its border control and security apparatus and deal with irregular arrivals as they reach its shores.

Alternatively, Australia can direct its energy into preventing the arrivals of the Afghans and other groups, relying on countries in the region, particularly Indonesia, Malaysia and, to a lesser extent, Papua New Guinea, to deal with them.

A high degree of cooperation with these countries has developed, governed by a variety of memoranda of understanding and the semi-formal Regional Cooperation Model governing irregular migration in Indonesia. In addition,

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Australia funds capacity-building programs in all three countries.

All this is welcome in principle, but the question must be asked whether Australia is motivated by a desire to shift its responsibility "upstream".

Neither Indonesia nor Malaysia is able to provide resettlement, which would offer a durable solution for asylum seekers who are successful in their claims for refugee status.

There is evidence that those who do successfully claim refugee status are left in a protracted resettlement waiting game, which has ended for some in "voluntary" repatriation to their countries of origin.

In a globalised world, there is a convincing argument that Australia needs to shoulder an appropriate degree of responsibility, such as it recognised in sending troops to Afghanistan. In so doing it needs to avoid creating an "East Asian solution"

At the same time, continued narrow interpretation of the Convention criteria for refugee status for those who do arrive here has the effect of moving another group of people "up the line" to countries with less capacity to deal with irregular arrivals.

In particular, there is a pragmatic and humanitarian imperative to make protection available under provisions of "complementary (or subsidiary) protection", which provides an established legal and policy framework for processing asylum seekers who have been denied their human rights.

A third approach builds on the experience of the past.

It consists of firstly recognising that these refugees exist due to factors



totally beyond Australia's control, but that ethically this does not reduce the necessity to take an appropriate level of responsibility for helping to frame a response.

Australia can accept to work to reduce the "market" for so-called secondary movers by working with other resettlement countries, Afghanistan itself and the UNHCR to seek a comprehensive solution to this humanitarian problem.

At the same time it is necessary to develop a long-term policy to deal with the effects of climate change on peoples in the Pacific.

The primary aim must be prevention of forced migration, but contingency planning should include the possibility of acceptance of a share of environmental migrants.

Lastly it is vital that Australian authorities work with the UNHCR and other bodies to improve its response to urban-

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before he or she died. This was true too of Jesus, and that is why he tells us that he must first go away before he can send the Holy Spirit.

The spirit that we receive

ifies the quality of his or her life in a way that we were never able to perceive before he or she died, when for every kind of reason, we reacted to him or her with admiration or irritation, graciousness or frustration, love or hatred, or various combinations of all of these.

ance and hatred that people sometimes feel towards us as moral lives.

based refugees and facilitate their inclusion in the quota for offshore refugees accepted for resettlement.

Australia is arguably coming out of an era of policy where concern for security has been the principal driving value.

Security measures such as overseas compliance and airline liaison officers, cooperation with other nations such as Indonesia to interrupt movement, and strategies such as naval interdiction can only be justified ethically if they are balanced with initiatives to tackle the root causes of such population movements.

A truly equitable treatment of refugees awaiting resettlement, one that avoids discrimination against the ill and infirm, includes higher quotas for humanitarian entrants such as refugees, and accepts broader categories of people in refugee-like situations (including urban refugees) can create a more cohesive policy response.

Experience suggests that such a response will satisfy the political requirement of retaining cultural and sovereign control over borders.

To make this genuine contribution to global solutions, courage and vision is required in law-makers and people on the street alike.

Australia has demonstrated that it has the qualities on both sides of government as well as within the general population to achieve this.

The post-war immigration program gave rise to Australia's first large-scale response to refugees.

The reception of Vietnamese refugees in the 1970s and 1980s demonstrated that humanitarian objectives can combine with political criteria to produce a workable solution to a regional problem.

The construction of a cohesive refugee policy as part of an overall global humanitarian and foreign policy response constitutes the kind of nation-building necessary for the 21st century.

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young voices at st bernard's batemans bay

www.cg.catholic.org.au



Emily Funnell and Melissa Mitchell hard at work.

Class 3BD at St Bernard's Primary School in Batemans Bay had been exploring the subject of light. Teacher Miss Helene Boller said the class had been reading a book called The Tale of Despereaux, where the two main characters loved light.

Class 3BD had also learnt to sing the song Let Your Light Shine.

Miss Boller gave the class black paper to draw some light inspired artworks on.









Some inspired artwork by Matthew Grayson (left) and Amelia Jones (above).





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TOP: The class 3BD with Miss Boller.

ABOVE LEFT: Mathew Henry drew Saturn with its rings.

LEFT: Mathew Klarica and Jacob Fitzgerald.

BELOW LEFT: Linna Yue.

RIGHT: Ben Heffernan and Joel Scicluna.



Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

Devotion to Virgin Mary

A number of DVDs, videos, music CDs and books that deal with devotion to the Virgin Mary are available for loan to all parishioners from the Catholic Education Office Library at the Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla.

DVDs and VHS VIDEOS

Mary of Nazareth (DVD, Great People of the Bible series, 120 min, ages 10 - adult). This feature length

dramatic film follows the life of the Virgin

Mary in her many roles - as mother of Jesus, wife of Joseph and an inspiration to all. Mary's story is beautifully re-told according to the Gospels.

Praying the Rosary Parts 1 & 2 (DVD, each 30 mins, ages 11 adult).

The special role of Mary in Catholic faith and the Rosary as an aid to deepening and living out the faith is featured in this series of two DVDs. The five programs in the series include:

DVD 1 : Part one - Mary's role in the Church; Part two - Know the rosary - origin, history and meaning.

DVD 2 : Part three - The joyful mysteries; Part four - The sorrowful mysteries; Part five - The glorious mysteries

Mary an Introduction (DVD, 85 mins, ages 5 - adult).

This DVD contains three separate programs that look at the message of Mary and praying with Mary.

We Learn with Mary : The Cloak of Many Colors (16 min.)

This video uses the image of Mary's cloak of many colours to teach children how to pray with Mary

We Pray with Mary : The Cloak of Many Colors (17 min.)

Lunch: Thu- Fr

Dinner: Tues - Sat

Make Mother's Day perfect

Southern Cross Restaurant and Cocktail Bar LUNCH - three course menu including a glass of

LUNCH - three course menu including a glass of

sparkling wine for Mum, only \$55pp

sparkling wine for Mum, only \$48pp

\$39 adults, \$18 children (u12)

\$59 adults, \$28 children (u12)

\$16.50 adults and \$12.50 children (u12)

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outhern ross Club

LUNCH - two course menu, only \$35.50

Formal Dining Room

Lotus Bav Restaurant

BUFFET BREAKFAST

MV Southern Cross

Cornerstone Brasserie

BUFFET BREAKFAST

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

LUNCH CRUISE

Catchpole's

Visit www.cscc.com.au

for details and menus

el/torogoz

Ser

CLUB



Mary's life and modern lives are connected. Retelling Mary's story with simple colour drawings, it shows how Mary felt and prayed.

Our Lady of Guadalupe : A Story of Faith ... and Liberation (28 min)

Portrays in dramatisation, the appearance of Our Lady to the peasant Juan Diego in Mexico in the year 1521

The Virgin Mary: Saint Paul: Moses (VHS video, 168 mins, ages 15- adult).

Virgin Mary, St Paul and Moses are examined in the BBC VHS video containing three separate programs. Historians and New Testament scholars comment on historical evidence behind three of Christianity's great figures. Dramatic reconstructions depict the lives of the three figures and people in Bible times.

SOUND RECORDINGS O Holy Mary: Contemporary Songs of Mary (CD, ages 12adult).

A collection of 13 contemporary songs in praise of the Virgin Mary, written by various artists including Dan Schutte, Carey Landry, John Michael Talbot, and Christopher Willcock.

Catholic Marian Classics (CD, ages 12- adult).

This collection of 21 Marian classics, performed by the Cathedral singers of Chicago, and conducted by Richard Proulx, includes well known songs such as Hail Holy Queen, Ave Maria, Salve Regina and Immaculate Mary.

Sustaining at time of loss

arieving Will

Grieving With Grace: A Woman's Perspective by Dolores Leckey. St.Anthony Messenger Press,2008, 91pp, rrp.\$18.95. **Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**

This little book had me gasping in recognition. At times there were a few tears also.

Called by the lovely title Grieving With Grace it is written by a woman in the year after the death of her husband and life companion of nearly 50 years.

The author is Dolores Leckey. She has written nine other books rising from her experience as a senior research fel-

low at the Woodstock Theological Center and her involvement in church and social justice issues. It is a beautifully written book. She knows first-

hand how the death of a spouse changes forever the rhythms of life at all levels--body, mind and soul. In this deeply moving account and with great

courage she shares with us her own shift in conhope.

with authenticity and spiritual depth. This is a rich sustaining book for those experiencing the pain of loss, offering consolation and

tive pieces linked to the liturgical year. These ring

She shows profound insight into the challenges

She does this through journal entries and narra-

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her husband's death.

and wisdom.

grief guide.

mine.

and graces of deep grief.

sciousness in the way she sees

God, herself and the world after

one another and we can learn

from each other's joys, sorrows

She believes we all belong to

But her book is more than a

She reflects deeply on the

meaning of the Resurrection and

how it is intertwined with the

doctrine of the communion of

saints - a personal favourite of

New insights on a pope's dilemma

A Cross Too Heavy: Eugenio Pacelli: Politics and the Jews 1917-1943 by Paul O'Shea. Rosenberg Publishing, 2008, 392pp, rrp.\$35. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Recently there has been a renewed interest in the life of Pope Pius XII in the light of the moves made by the late John Paul II for his beatification.

For more than 50 years the papacy of Eugenio Pacelli has been the subject of debate and controversy because of his alleged silence during the Holocaust.

A Cross Too Heavy is more than a biography of Pius XII. Its author is an Australian historian and educator.

He has sought to throw light on the on-going historical dispute by researching the professional and religious life of Pacelli before he became Pope.

O'Shea also had access to the Vatican's German archives up to 1939

He admits that this mining of primary sources caused him what he terms a drastic re-think about Pius.

The documentation pointed to a consistent effort by the Pope and the Vatican Secretariat of State to engage in rescue activity for the Jews, whether baptised or not

O'Shea believes it is impossible to judge Pius XII without understanding the context of the times and the traditional stance of the Church.

He states that Pius was a flawed and imperfect human being. His first priority was for the needs and the position of the Catholic Church.

Secondly, the Vatican was spending its meagre resources on "regular" victims of war, ie prisoners, hostages and refugees. The Jews were classed as "lesser victims".

The Pope, as a world religious leader, viewed the rise of atheistic communism as the greatest of evils and a far greater threat to Christianity than was Nazism .

Pacelli was a product of his background and his formation. O'Shea draws a fascinating and meticulous portrait of Pacelli, his family and of his spectacular rise through the ranks of the Vatican bureaucracy.

He gives details of many of his speeches and of his travels. Pacelli's loyalty to his predecessor Pope Pius XI was unquestioned.

The neutral status quo was to be maintained even though Europe was disintegrating.

A Cross Too Heavy is a welcome scholarly addition to the debate about the role of Pius XII during World War II.

Clearly it will not be the last word.

Down-to-earth advice on how to grow great kids

Growing Great Boys lan Grant and bv Growing Great Girls by lan and Mary Grant. Doubleday: 2008, 208pp and 219pp. **Reviewer: Janet Moyle.** A look along the stacks at any bookstore reveals a huge number

these two companion volumes seem to stand out from the rest.

are the founders of Parent Inc which hosts parenting seminars and programs and publishes the magazine Parenting.

Both books are chock-full of sensible, down to earth do-able ideas. "Growing boys", Ian says, "is better than fixing men". He addresses boys'

the Grants say, love to be involved in a big adventure. They respond well to being asked

character of boys. Girls,

How do you feel about that? The goal is to raise optimistic, adventurous, generous, strong and loving young women.

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of guides on successful

parenting. Nonetheless Ian and Mary Grant

identity, explains how they are wired differently to girls and how to work with the essential

On the trail of inner peace

Achieving Inner Peace. By 80pp, rrp \$14.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan. Are you a worrier? Do you find

inner peace hard to experience?

Australian priest of 50 years, has worked for Centacare in Melbourne and has hosted a radio talkback program, "The Family Counsellor", for 35 years. He writes from personal experience as one who suffered from obsessive compulsive disorder, and who, with help, came to experience freedom and peace.

The author explores some of the Gerard Dowling, St Pauls, 2008, pb causes of worry and ways forward, including the need to admit the problem, seek a trusted and competent companion, be clear about the guidelines for making moral decisions, understand the difference between temptation (particularly regarding sexual matters) and sin, and negative questions posed by inner voices, as well as how to cope with feelings of guilt.

The appendix contains a seven step scriptural plan to help people prepare for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

The book is simply written and

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

Fr Gerard Dowling, author and

Using the image of Mary having a cloak of many colours, this

The historical lives of the

films Clay figures with a message

Mary and Max.

Starring: Toni Collette, (as Mary), Philip Seymour Hoffman (as Max), Eric Bana, and Barry Humphries (as the Narrator). Directed by Adam Elliot.80 mins. PG (Mild themes and sexual references). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan*.

This is an animated (claymation) Australian feature film written and directed by Adam Elliot, who gave us the excellent 2003 Academy Award winning short, Harvie Krumpet.

Here he follows up with a wonderfully creative film about our perceptions of the disabled, the experiences of disabled people themselves, and values we should look for in ourselves when we form judgments about other people.

The film is filled with messages that demand our attention. Embracing differences and acceptance of the marginalised lie at its core.

A strong cast of well-known actors provides the voices for the animated clay figures.

The film depicts an unusual friendship between Max, a middle-aged, obese Jewish man with Asperger's Syndrome living in New York, and Mary, a young, lonely, overweight girl living on Lamington Drive, Mt Waverley, Melbourne.

In desperation and caught in a dysfunctional family that has no understanding of her, Mary picks Max's name at random from an international telephone book and begins a pen-relationship. There are feelings of great sadness associated with many images, and it is easy at times to feel a little overwhelmed by the awfulness of life, and by Elliot's depictions of it.

The bleakness of the vision has a purpose. The bond between Mary and Max is something that Elliot himself had once in a penrelationship he held with an Asperger's sufferer and he maintained it for some 20 years.

Perhaps, for this reason, there is special validity behind the insights projected in the film, which is compelling to watch. This is a director who knows what he is showing, and it is very much a film from the heart. The scene where Mary attempts suicide to the ringing voice of Doris Day singing "Que Sera, Sera" (Whatever Will Be, Will Be), while her memories swirl around, is riveting.

The film's vision clearly reflects the darker side of human nature, although many comic moments and instances of hilarity are part of the mix. The feelings of the characters range from joy to depression, and from happiness to acute anxiety; we are shown images of dead animals; and there are multiple images of human and animal excrement, alcoholism, and attempted suicide.

Barry Humphries narrates the ups and downs of the relationship between Mary and Max with humour and compassion, and his incongruous observations add an Australian flavour to much of the humour in the movie that should transfer easily enough to other cultures



One of the films characters, Vera Lorraine Dinkle, voiced by Renee Geyer

The film as a whole is uncompromising in facing the complexities of human survival and suffering. Ultimately, the friendship between Mary and Max is something you want to share, and its multiple messages are preserved in the forefront of your mind.

The film is about forgiveness - Max wanting to say "sorry" to Mary after he was hurt by her. It is about what true friendship means between two very lonely people. And it is also about learning that each of us has the right to strive for self-worth and appreciation by others, despite our human imperfections.

The relationship between Mary and Max is a tough one for animation to capture, but the effectiveness of the effort is never in doubt. The scripting for the film is innovative, and reflects the needs of the

dice.

The

without his friends.

fences left unguarded, may be dissatis-

fied. But that is not the point. This is a

fable for children about friendship and

the ugliness of cruel power and preju-

Butterfield), is the son of the camp

commandant (David Thewliss quietly

menacing). The family has moved from

Berlin to the camp, to a big house

beyond the fences and the boy is lonely

brings him, without his parents know-

ing, to the camp fence where he sees

Shmuel (Jack Scanlon), an eight-year-

old internee. Bruno asks all kinds of

questions about Shmuel and the camp,

knows Shmuel and accuses him of steal-

Friendship blossoms but, at one

innocent even naïve questions.

Bruno loves exploring. Which

little boy, Bruno (Asa

disabled very sensitively; the detail of the clay animation is amazing; and settings are created that depict their character with potency.

There is extraordinary attention to detail in the movie as a whole. The film took five years to create its complex world, and involved four-second takes every day for more than 57 weeks. It used 218 puppets, 133 sets, and 132,000 individual frames.

Overall, this is a film that you admire and respect greatly. The essential melancholy helps to preserve the messages that lie at its heart. Respect, and admiration turn all the time into something else, which is creatively positive, and emotionally exhilarating.

* Peter W Sheehan is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting.

> Tulpan Starring Askhat Kuchinchirekov, Tulepbergen Baisakalov, Ondasyn Besikbasov, and Samal Yeslyamova. Directed by Sergey Dvortsevoy. 100 mins. M (infrequent coarse language and nudi-

This film has received multiple awards. They include the Prix Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival in 2008, and the Cannes Youth Prize, and its National Education Prize.

It has a simple narrative that illustrates beautifully the complex way of life in sparsepopulated southern ly Kazakhstan in an area called Betpak Dala (Hunger Steppe), and it achieves the director's stated goal of searching for the simplicity and warmth of the world through a mix of naturalism and poetry.

In the film, Asa (Askhat Kuchinchirekov) returns from the navy to his family on the steppe where the environment dictates their way of life. He works as apprentice to his sister's shepherd husband Ondas. Coming from a family of shepherds, Asa wants a farm and a flock of sheep of his own, but he must first obtain a wife. Tulpan is his choice.

His friend, Boni (Tulepbergen Baisakalov), CATHOLIC VOICE May 2009 - 21

SHORTS

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Elegy. Starring Penelope Cruz, Ben Kingsley, Patricia Clarkson, Peter Sarsgaard, Dennis Hopper, Deborah Harry. Directed by Isobel Coixet. 112 mins. R (Sexuality, nudity and coarse language).

A story about a man ageing. We are faced with themes of illness and dying and, perhaps, a modicum of hope.

Paris 36. Starring, Clovis Cornillac, Kad Merad and Nora Arnezeder. Directed by Christophe Barratier. 119 mins. M (infrequent violence).

For anyone with a penchant for the traditional accordion-based Parisian music known as musette and the unique song style of the French music hall, this is sheer delight. There are gangsters, murder, romance, infidelity, fascism, communism, the Depression...

Fast and Furious. Starring Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, and Jordana Brewster. Directed by Justin Lin. 107 mins. M (violence, coarse language).



An initial attempt at a robbery involving road tankers and speeding cars along back roads and cliff paths in Santo Domingo is so pacily edited that it gets the adrenalin going at once whether you approve or not. Above: Fugitive ex-con Dom (Vin Diesel) gives a hand to daredevil Letty (Michelle Rodriguez).

Monsters vs Aliens. Starring (by voice): Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd, Hugh Laurie, Seth Rogen, Will Arnett, Rainn Wilson, Stephen Colbert, and Kiefer Sutherland. Directed by Conrad Vernon, and Rob Letterman. 94 mins. PG (mild animated violence).

A friendly movie that is not all that scary, and should appeal to older children. Adults will enjoy it too.

Child's view of the Holocaust horror

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas Starring Asa Butterfield, David Thewliss, David Heyman, Jack Scanlon, Richard Johnson. Directed by Mark Herman. 94 mins. PG. Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone*.

This is a children's film, in the sense that it is about small children (as well as adults) and much of it is directed towards small children (age eight and upwards).

This does not mean that it is an easy or delightful entertainment for an outing. Rather, this is a message film, a strong message through a story and characters that they can understand, whom they will feel with. It would be good for parents and children to see this film together. It is also one of those films which would be A scene from The Boy In The crucial point, where Shmuel is working helpful in a school or discussion situa- Striped Pyjamas. Picture: in the house, Bruno denies that he tion. It is a Holocaust film.

The Holocaust took place more than 60 years ago but it is a 20th century event that should never be forgotten. Novelist Irishman John Boyne wrote the story to remind his readers of the horrors so that they should not happen again. This is the intention of the film-makers, especially writer-director Mark Herman.

It seems important to remember that the story is one that is seen from an eight-year-old's point of view. He does not understand what is going on. He thinks that the camp that he can see from his window is a farm and the farmers wear strange clothes, like pyjamas. We see the camp from his limited point of view and, to that extent, the "realistic" details can be criticised as "unrealistic".

Adults looking at the film, especially the reconstruction of the camp without too many watchtowers and parts of the E-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au



Lukács Dávid.

ing the food that Bruno had secretly given him. The boys have to work through this betrayal to forgiveness and some atonement.

The dialogue does not downplay the bigotry, the arrogance and the ignorance of the Nazi beliefs and aims. The children's father and their tutor mouth the prejudices without a second thought. The tutor remarks, ironically, that the greatest exploration would be to discover a good Jew. That becomes something of Bruno's goal. Together with Shmuel, he tries to achieve it.

A warning that the ending is not what audiences will expect and is quite disturbing.

* Fr Peter Malone MSC directs the film desk of SIGNIS: the World Association of Catholic Communicators.

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

Movie aims to charm ty). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan*.

urges him to give up the nomadic life and head for the city, but Asa finally decides to stay, having learnt how difficult it is for his family to survive on the steppe.

The film teaches strong moral lessons in life - Asa learns, as we do, about the fragility of life, the power of nature, the importance of family solidarity, and the significance of looking for joy in life that can be sustained.

The story of the movie is simple, but it never loses its way under Dvortsevoy's direction, and the film achieves a profound level of human intimacy. Life is seen everywhere through the joyous play of children, the birth of animals, and a family that knows it is doomed unless it stays together.

As a whole, the movie aims to charm, and it succeeds in doing that very well.

* Peter W. Sheehan is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting.

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Prayers

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

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

place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 days. P M.

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Return Thanks

ON behalf of my brothers and sisters and their families, I sincerely like to thank all the people who have through their thoughts, prayers and physical support been with us on the death of our brother James. We cannot personally reply to the cards and phone calls we have received, so a sincere thanks to all. - Fr Tom Thornton

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CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - Six session support program for Catholics who are seeking to return to their faith community. St. John the Apostle parish, Kippax. 12 May - 16 June. Inquiries: Telephone 6254 3236.

CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK -Ecumenical service Christian City Church, 184 Clive Steele Ave, Monash. Tuesday 26 May, 7.30pm, followed by supper. Sponsored by combined churches of Tuggeranong Valley. Guest speaker Bishop Pat Power. All denominations invited. Inquiries: Pastor Steve, telephone 6298 5900 or Trish, telephone 6231 8468

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

GALONG PROCESSION -Sunday, 3 May, annual May procession in honour of Our Lady, St Clement's Conference & Retreat Centre, Galong. Open air Mass noon, procession to Lourdes Hill (The Grotto) 2pm. Inquiries: Telephone 6380 5222, e-mail info@stclement.com.au

HEALING MINISTRY - Fr John Rea SM from New Zealand, well known international healing ministry visiting St Benedict's Eucharistic Centre, Narra-bundah. Friday, 12 June, 5.30 pm healing Mass and healing ministry; Saturday, 13 June, 10am-4pm seminar, adoration, Mass and prayer ministry; Sunday 14 June, 7pm charismatic Mass and ministry.

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

ÓLMC GOULBURN EX-STUDENTS REUNION - 23, 24 May, to mark 150th anniversary of arrival of Mercy Sisters in Goulburn. Inquiries: Send stamped self-addressed envelope to OLMC Ex-Students, P O Box 742, Goulburn 2580, or telephone Mary Sykes 4822 0910, Sue Burgess 4821 5219, Rose Liardet 4821 8692

PARISH ANNIVERSARY - St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah, 25th anniversary, 3-5 July. Invitation to past parishioners and friends. Friday, 3 July, dinner dance at Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden. Sunday, 5 July, celebration Mass 10am followed by roast lunch. Inquiries: Chris Simons, telephone 0403 873 148. E-mail: stt.kambah@cg. catholic.org.au PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

DAY MASS - 3pm, Sunday, 7 June, St Christopher's Cathedral. Followed by refreshments at Ita-Io-Australian Club function room 4pm-5.30pm.

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

RAPHAELS - Singles social group for Catholics and Christianminded 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

RETREAT DAY - "Living in the Love of the Risen Christ" With Fr David Callaghan MGL, 11am-4pm, Saturday, 2 May, hosted by St Benedict's Eucharistic Centre, Narrabundah. Inquiries: Parish office, telephone 6295 7879.

SERRACLUB OF CANBERRA 6.30pm, Thursday, 14 May. Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, followed by dinner.

TAIZE PRAYER EVENING -Canberra Taizé Group, Friday, 29 May, 8pm, St Thomas the Apostle Church, Kambah, to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Jointly sponsored by the Anglican Church of St Stephen's, Weston Creek Uniting Church, and St Thomas the Apostle. Inquiries: Tracey, telephone 6231 9219 or Trish, telephone 6231 8468.

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

Sponsored by Catholic Development Fund Ph: 6201 9870 Email: cdf@cg.catholic.org.au

Getting help to return 'home'

The architect of one of the world's most successful outreach programs to non-practicing Catholics, Mr Tom Peterson, of the US-based Catholics Come Home, will be keynote speaker at the National Catholic Media Congress in Sydney this month.

The president and founder of Catholics Come Home will share his insights into how the Church can

use television and the internet to reach out to people in a contemporary way and invite them to return home to the practice of their faith.

A report in The Catholic Sun, of the Diocese of Phoenix, says that an estimated 92,000 inactive Catholics have come back to the Church in the past year thanks in large part to the groundbreaking Catholics Come Home television advertising campaign.

God's creation", students from St Benedict's Primary School, Narrabundah, spent an afternoon getting their hands dirty, inspired by Clean Up Australia Day.

After noticing some rubbish in the school yard, Year 5 and Year 6 classes collectively decided to have a Clean Up Australia Day afternoon.

Year 5 student Rebecca Lonergan said less rubbish made the school a better place.

"If you want to bring your children here you want it to be a clean place," she said.

Rebecca said an afternoon spent picking up rubbish was a good lesson for the younger children.

"It teaches them to pick up rubbish if they see it lying on the ground."

Grace Bennett from Year 6 said the clean-up was relevant to their studies, which were about being "stewards of God's creation".



Theodore Livanes, Thelma Ban, Nicola Ilyk and Claudia Downes did a great job.

"It means we have to look after the things God created and not take it for granted," she said.

Inspiring night for women

A large group of women from the Archdiocese enjoyed a twilight chicken and champagne evening hosted by the Narrabundah eucharistic centre and the "Call to Connect" leadership team for women.

The supper was prepared by Cathy Newton and inspiring words were provided by guest speaker Maryellen Moore.

There was an enthusiastic endorsement of this type of function which brings women of similar event will be held Welsby. later in the year.

Women's groups were encouraged to join the affiliation set up last vear.



Among those at the event were (from left) faith together to socialise Catherine and Laurel Trinh, Margaret and hear a speaker. A Thomas, Carmel Carton and Helen Crain-

> Inquiries: Bronnie Schlager, telephone 6231 8611, e-mail Bronnie. schlager@gmail.com , Anne Woods 6260 6876, or Diane Fulop 6231 4734.

Meditation brings a focus

Christian meditation this year has been introduced for all students and staff at St Matthew's Primary School, Page.

The school prepared a brochure for parents to keep them informed. The school says the response from students and staff has been wonderful and the practice of Christian mediation has added a deeper dimension to prayer at St Matthew's.

duced to Christian medi-

tation. The retreat was brought about by a great interest by staff and parish in finding a way to bring peace and focus into the lives not only of students but of the whole community at St Matthew's.

Ms Ruth Fowler from Melbourne presented the in-service over two days. It was attended by St Matthew's

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au



Earlier, staff took part Carlee Tonkin, Ella Snowden and Emma in an inspiring retreat Gaul, of class 3TW, do Christian meditawhere they were intro- tion for morning prayers.

staff, Page parish priest Fr Philip Buckley and Catholic Education Office primary religious education officer Mrs Carolyn Perryman.

Ms Fowler guided everyone to a deeper understanding and experience of Christian meditation as a form of prayer. They also were taught how to implement this into a school setting.



he joy of mission was evident locally during Easter celebrations where three people were received into the Church including two being baptised. Confirmation highlighted the important presence and assistance that comes with the gift of the Holy Spirit which we will again celebrate at Pentecost.

Tt is the Spirit that Lencourages and assists us in responding to Christ and others as we each engage in the mission effort of the Church, God's people. The joy of mission realised and having participated in Christ's mission is universal no matter where we live.

Atholic Mission ∠and its works enable our faith communities to come together and support mission activities to be undertaken and community needs to b e addressed. Whether it is providing materials or the means for outreach and worship, providing life's basics, education or training, together these are realised.

apacities to ✓respond to the global financial crisis is always far more difficult in the majority worlds impoverished communities. Generous support, in prayer and finance are essential for Catholic Mission's continued help in realising mission endeavours by these communities and the joy it brings.

With the Spirit's **VV** help, help us help others. Contact Kate, Ruth or myself on 6163 4321.

God Bless **Deacon** Joe Blackwell

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

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