

# CATHOLIC VOICE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN  
• DHUNIUNG • VOCE • GLAS • STIMME • GLOS • TIÊNG VANG • VOZ • HOLOS • VOX •



Visit the west  
– middle pages

FREE

No. 252 March 2010

Circulation 21,000

## A saint - 'it hasn't really sunk in yet...'

It's good to be a school leader at St Mary MacKillop College - especially this year. The Tuggeranong college captains and campus captains have been chosen to join principal Mr Michael Lee and deputy principal Mrs Michelle Marks on a 10-day trip to Rome to take part in the canonisation of their school's patron.

"It hasn't really sunk in that we're going yet," college captain Danica Tagaza said. "To actually experience someone become a saint... wow."

With the exception of Mr Lee, none of the entourage has been beyond New Zealand so a ticket to Europe is certainly something to get excited about.

They will not be the only ones going to Rome from the Archdiocese.

An archdiocesan pilgrimage to Rome and celebrations locally are being planned to mark the canonisation on 17 October.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge described the weekend announcement by Pope Benedict XVI of her canonisation as "a great and historic occasion, especially for the Church in Australia."

"Given the extraordinary contribution of the Josephite Sisters to the Archdiocese, I will be there if at all possible; and I would like to lead an Archdiocesan pilgrimage to the canonisation, since I am sure that there will be people interested."

"We will also have celebrations in the Archdiocese to mark the occasion, and I am in the process of establishing a committee to plan those celebrations."

College captain Oliver Oakman said the privilege of going to the canonisation was one they were all taking very seriously. "It's a very big deal and we're all aware it's not just a holiday to Rome," he said.

"Our school patron is going to become a saint and we'll be there, representing our school. We're going to be a part of history."

Mr Lee said the school had been budgeting for the past seven years to establish a fund which will cover the activities and changes the college will undertake to honour their patron.

This has included officially changing the school's name from MacKillop Catholic College to St Mary MacKillop College, changing signs and phasing in new logos on uniforms.

Mr Lee said the process of approving the second miracle and now the imminent canonisation had had an incredible impact on staff, students and the wider community.

"Patron saints are important in all schools," he said.

"But we are so privileged because our patron is becoming a saint today, not 1000 years ago, and we're going to be a part of that. You can't make religion more relevant than this."

● **There's something about Mary at this school - Page 3.**



The staff and students who will represent St Mary MacKillop College in Rome for the canonisation of their school's patron map out their trip. From left: Campus captain Isabelle Schmidt, college captains Danica Tagaza and Oliver Oakman, campus captain Andre Wilks, principal Mr Michael Lee and deputy principal Mrs Michelle Marks.

## Job losses 'as bad as the bushfires'

The closure of Young's abattoir has been "as devastating as the bushfires" St Vincent de Paul Young conference president Mr Michael Holmes said.

Burrangong Meat Processors went into receivership early last month leaving hundreds of people out of work. They were given no notice and dismissed without pay or other entitlements.

Since then, the local St Vincent De Paul Society branch has been in overdrive.

"The first few calls for help came in about two days after the abs shut down," Mr Holmes said.

"Since then they've been constant. I've had five people come in just this morning."

Mr Holmes said the shut down had affected the whole town and, aside from

the drought, it was definitely the biggest crisis Young had faced in decades.

Staff had broken all their routines to keep up with demand, and as a result those who usually rely on Vinnies for assistance were missing out.

The Young office had run out of welfare vouchers by mid February.

"Many people had just taken out loans, signed mortgages and now have no way to pay them," Mr Holmes said.

"So many families are going to have to leave because if an abattoir worker is your trade then there really aren't a lot of work options."

One former abattoir employee said he may have to take his children out of the town's Catholic school because he would not be able to afford the school fees.

"We might not even be able to stay in Young," he said.

"Work is so hard to find. Least my wife has a job I guess. There's plenty of guys way worse off than us."

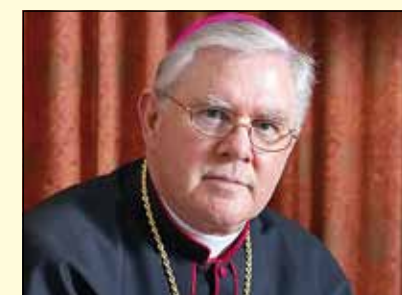
"No one really knows what to do."

St Mary's Primary School principal Mr Michael Philpot said he had had a number of families contact him concerned they could not pay school fees.

"We've told them not to worry about that for now and concentrate on more important things like feeding their families," he said.

The school has also put families in touch with services such as the St Vincent de Paul Society for additional support.

● **Cont Page 5.**



## Calvary: task now is for all to work together

It is clear there will have to be a new service agreement and funding arrangement for Calvary, given that compulsory acquisition by the Government, building a third public hospital and allowing Calvary to wither

on the vine are not real options, Archbishop Mark Coleridge says.

"It's also clear to me that the local community should somehow be more involved in the hospital's governance and advocacy for it, and that we will have to work hard to ensure that

Calvary as a Catholic hospital is able to continue its mission. These are tough tasks but surely not impossible. They will require a galvanising of the Catholic community to ensure that the future of Calvary honours its past."

● **Full statement Page 4.**

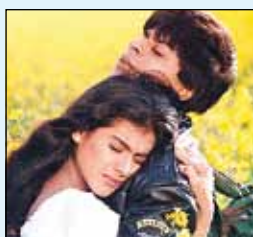


## quick guide

**4** Archbishop's letter  
**10** Why I do what I do  
**14** Ron Rolheiser  
**16** Guide to latest movies  
**17** Book reviews  
**18** Real estate  
**19** What's on in Archdiocese

## entertainment

**16** A Bollywood film about love that goes wrong. A bit over the top at times, but ...



## contact us

EDITOR and ADVERTISING: Geoff Orchison  
 Telephone 6201 9806 or 0407 008 563.  
 E-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au  
 JOURNALIST: Claire Mitchell  
 Telephone 6201 9872  
 E-mail cathcomm@cg.catholic.org.au

ADDRESS: GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601.  
 Favier House, 51 Cooyong Street, Braddon ACT 2612.  
 Internet - www.cg.catholic.org.au

DEADLINE: Editorial and advertising 15th of the month before publication.  
 Catholic Voice is published by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and printed by Capital Fine Print, Fyshwick. It is a member of the Australasian Catholic Press Association and the Australasian Religious Press Association. Every month 21,000 copies distributed.  
 Print Post Publication No. 238684/00009

## news

**5** Boosting our seminary ranks  
**6** Nerves all round on first day at school  
**8** In the field of disasters  
**8** Youth leaders hone skills  
**12** Adult ed head retires  
**14** Josephites head for union  
**19** Founding editor touched many  
**20** A 20-year gift to newly marrieds



## features

**10, 11** Come with us to visit the vast Western Mission, which is taking a new approach in answer to the priest shortage; what parish priest Fr Troy Bobbin says is 'a great model for the bush'  
 - See Middle Pages



## page2

## We can make a difference

By Julia Fulop\*

On the first night of a Vinnies camp, tears trickled down my face. By the third night my pillow had become a pond filled with tears. I tried so hard to hold back. A young boy made me a cup of tea and sat me down to talk.

After about 10 minutes he slowly took off his shirt and showed me his scars. He was the sweetest boy on camp, with cute short brown curls and big brown eyes; I was heartbroken. At the end of the Vinnies camp, some children were crying and were reluctant to leave because of the care, kindness, friendship and generosity shown to them.

My parents always told me that first we must help others, then we must help ourselves. I am the only child in my family so I know what it is like having attention poured out on me 24/7.

My dad has always played a big part in my life and in my Vinnies career as he was part of the society for 30 years himself. I started when I was 10 years old preparing bags for the annual doorknock appeal.

As I grew older I attended "schoolies night" at Marist College, where various colleges came together to see what social justice acts we can improve on in our schools. A guest speaker talked about their experiences at Vinnies camps. I was overwhelmed to hear about all the activities the children get up to in just a week. So I signed myself up for a Vinnies camp. After three training sessions I became part of the team and attended my first camp.

I could see that the children materially were not as well off as I was and sometimes they were frustrating to deal with, but I learnt that when you show someone love, they will give you love back.

Deep down I could tell these children had loving hearts. At times it was hard for them to express it.

There are so many charities at work around the world today, but some people

Catholic Voice will focus each month on the views of a young person and what they see as important today



## changing our world

would rather focus on their own lives. For me, helping people is what makes me who I am; it is what makes me feel good about myself.

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a charity that reaches far and wide in our community, but it is the children that mean the most to me. The children are our future; they need our help, education and love.

This is why I am trying to involve my school with Vinnies, so we can create more awareness of the fact that these children are relying on us to give them a better future. If we are not there for them, then who will be?

It would mean so much if everyone could just spend at least five minutes with some of these children to know what they are going through. It does sound rather corny, but it only took me a glance before I knew I could make a difference in their lives.

"It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters," Mother Teresa said. "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

\* Julia Fulop is 17, loves to play sport and in her free time gets creative with painting and scrap booking to make gifts for friends "just because I can". She started Year 12 at St Clare's College this year with a passion to make room for Vinnies in the hearts of the school community.

## MARCH DIARY ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

**4 March:** Meeting of bishops of NSW and ACT; installation of Bishop Anthony Fisher, Parramatta.  
**6 March:** RCIA Mass, Cathedral.  
**11 March:** Serra Club Mass and dinner.  
**17 March:** Thanksgiving Mass Year for Priests and Feast of St Patrick, Gundagai.  
**20 March:** Installation of acolytes, Evatt.  
**25 March:** ACU graduation Mass, Cathedral.  
**26 March:** ACU graduation.  
**29 March:** Chrism Mass, Cathedral.  
**30 March:** Council of Priests.

## AUXILIARY BISHOP PAT POWER

**4 March:** Meeting of bishops of NSW and ACT.  
**5 March:** Executive meeting ACT Churches Council  
**11 March:** Canberra Deanery meeting  
**12 March:** Canberra Day celebrations  
**13 March:** Preach at Canberra City Uniting Church evening service  
**14 March:** Cathedral precinct meeting  
**17 March:** Preach at St Patrick's Day service, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture  
**18 March:** Bishops' Commission for Canon Law  
**19 March:** Richard Rohr discussion  
**23 March:** Meeting Galong Retreat Centre board  
**29 March:** Chrism Mass, Cathedral.  
**30 March:** Council of Priests meeting.

## Much-loved event

Couples from all over Canberra came together to join in the St Valentine's Mass and celebration at St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah. Organisers say the celebration has become a much-loved annual event in the parish. The ceremony included a renewal of marriage vows for the many couples.

Organisers were delighted to hear this year resource kits were sent to all parishes across Australia from the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life, encouraging them to celebrate St Valentine's Day, to promote life-long marriage and romantic love.

Parish priest Fr Peter My told the story of St Valentine, an early Christian martyr, who saw the anguish of young couples forbidden to marry and allegedly performed secret weddings in defiance of the Emperor. He was beheaded in 269AD.

After Mass, about 20 couples enjoyed a meal together.

## what do you know?

1. Who is our newest Catholic primary school opened last month named after?

2. This saintly looking young feller (right) has a connection with Australia's first saint. Who is he and what is it?

3. Where was Mary MacKillop born?

4. On her long haul to sainthood what was the first official step and when was it taken?

5. Caritas Australia has launched its annual Lenten Project Compassion appeal. How many countries does the Caritas network operate in around the world? 98, 198, 298?

6. How many parishes make up the vast western deanery of the Archdiocese? Answers: Bottom Page 4.



**Go to Australia's biggest Catholic Gift Shop on line**  
**www.catholicgiftshop.com.au**



# There's something about Mary at this school

The community at MacKillop Catholic College has in response to her canonisation honoured its patron Blessed Mary of the Cross by altering our name to St Mary MacKillop College, Canberra.

Other responses have been planned including a delegation of staff and students to the canonisation in Rome, masses, liturgies and student gifts.

Some of these initiatives have captured the imagination of the wider Canberra community and brought welcome focus upon the role of Mary MacKillop in the college. Some of our actions will be a lasting token of the event, others will be more transient.

Amid the education revolution ushered in by the Rudd Government, many of us at MacKillop have considered the canonisation as an opportunity to draw her more closely into our

**St Mary MacKillop College principal Michael Lee looks at his school's relationship with our first saint**

work as a modern place of learning for adolescents.

What should a MacKillop school look like in the 21 century?

Firstly it should be big enough in spirit, attitude and facility to be able to welcome everybody. Our community is mindful that Mary worked with all kinds of people to improve the lot of those she sort to help. MacKillop is often the first encounter of the Catholic Church for many people; our size and location means that we can be emphatically Catholic to students and families who have no other experience of the Church; what a privilege, challenge and responsibility.

We believe the most sustained missionary work in our Archdiocese probably takes place at St Mary MacKillop College.

Mary and her sisters were teachers of quality and innovation, so must we be. Resources and facilities make a difference but judicious recruitment, development and nurturing of staff matter more. Finding ways to move students towards optimum achievement is the aim.

Promoting an understanding and love of justice within a school is about more than raising money for needy causes. It is about the just provision and distribution of resources, devising assessment programs that give all students a chance to achieve, attracting and extending the gifted as well as those who are challenged educationally. It is about recognising that pastoral care in a Catholic

school rests upon relationships of trust and authenticity. A list of expectations, rules and consequences is important but the formation of young people cannot begin and end there.

Where are the indigenous students in Canberra? Many are at MacKillop but not in the numbers that they could be. We are challenged to seek out those families, provide meaningful programs for them and build enhanced networks between indigenous kids at MacKillop, local primary schools and agencies who seek to support them in their full participation and contribution to Australian life.

There is much that is particularly Josephite about MacKillop already; it is an overwhelmingly welcoming place, academic achievement continues to improve regularly embarrassing more highly fancied schools in Canberra.

Students needing disability access, defence families, those tertiary or vocationally bound are increasingly provided with help, advice, encouragement and facilities.

St Mary MacKillop offers Canberra's largest secondary school much to help us move forward. An uncompromising educator, a daughter of migrants who lent practical support to the poor, rural remote, indigenous, single parents and orphans, she is an inspired choice as our patron.

Our aim is to let our students know that they are loved by God and cared for by the Church His Son gave us. They learn that from the love they gain from their teachers and peers at school. May all of us rejoice in that love and accept the renewed challenge of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop - to bring that love to others and advance the grace of God.

## Colourful start for newest school

It was an exciting day for K-2 students at Mother Teresa Primary as they explored their colourful classrooms for the very first time.

The new Harrison Catholic school opened at the beginning of the year, but building delays meant the students had to be bussed to neighbouring Good Shepherd Primary for the first three weeks of term.

Now classes are ready to resume on their very own campus, which principal Mr Michael Lowe said was definitely worth the wait.

The school celebrated with a breakfast for families and friends, which included a jumping castle and hot air balloon rides with the Royal Australian Air Force.

This was followed by a short liturgy led by parish priest Fr Mark Croker.



"I am so grateful for the generosity we have been shown, particularly from the other schools around the Archdiocese who have donated money and equipment to help us on our way," Mr Lowe said.

"We are so lucky to have such a beautiful campus and experienced staff to work with. We've really gotten off to a good start."

The \$6.5 million project has been under way for the past two years and there is still plenty of construction to be done.

The initial classrooms, early learning centre and administration block are finished with a hall and library being built.

Further classrooms will need to be added towards the end of the year as the school plans to expand to cater for Years 3-6 in 2011.

Excited students at Mother Teresa Primary burst through their banner to mark their school's opening at Harrison.

## Schools Week celebration

Catholic Schools Week kicks off across the Archdiocese on 14 March as a celebration of Catholic education. It will run until 20 March.

The theme for this year is Open Your Minds, Open Your Hearts.

Catholic schools enrol about 20 per cent of Australian school students. There are 615 Catholic primary and secondary schools across NSW and the ACT.

For more information about events in your area, contact your local school.

## GRACES OF FRANCE

With Fr. John Armstrong  
A 13 day Pilgrimage Journey  
Departing 31 May 2010

from  
**\$6598**  
\* Now includes  
all taxes/  
levies!

Contact: Trish Smith, Capital Travel Manuka • Tel.: (02) 6295 2733

Costs must remain subject to change without notice based on currency exchange rates, departure city, airline choice and minimum group size contingency.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

## Would you like a career in social work?

Australian Catholic University is a leader in social work education. Our graduates are competent practitioners, independent learners and leaders in human services.

The Master of Social Work provides an integrated program of theory, skill development, personal development and professional practice.

- Two years full-time or four years part-time
- Supervised field education (1,000 hours)
- Applications are now open

For more information:  
**School of Social Work**  
Tel: (02) 6209 1149  
Email: swadmin@acu.edu.au

Qualify for life

1300 ASK ACU
www.acu.edu.au



I was in Perth when news came to me of the decision by the Board of Little Company of Mary Health Care to withdraw from negotiations to sell Calvary Public Hospital and acquire Clare Holland House. It took me by surprise. I hadn't thought the news would come when and as it did; nor did I expect to be on the other side of the continent when it broke.

I was also puzzled by the reason given - that the process of approval by the Holy See would take years. In a letter just before Christmas, I had warned the ACT Health Minister that the process would not be quick, even if legislation had passed through the Legislative Assembly. Pressure of that kind wouldn't hasten the deliberations of the Holy See. But that didn't mean that the process would take years. Other factors may have played a part in the decision - uncertainty about the fate of the bill in the Legislative Assembly and the fierce ongoing resistance to LCMHC acquiring the hospice - but the only reason given was the time it would take in Rome. I didn't expect that.

In September of last year, while in Rome for meetings, I had discussions with Vatican officials about the proposed sale of Calvary, during which there was never a mention of how long the approval process would take. I simply outlined the proposal and offered my thoughts on it. The Vatican officials were, as I expected, circumspect and non-committal, stressing the need for "an ecclesial solution". In other words, they saw any public conflict between the various Catholic parties as counter-productive; I agreed.

It was also pointed out to me that my votum (the opinion of the local bishop that would have accompanied the petition to the Holy See to sell the Hospital) was not a veto. This had been clear to me from the start, even though some people seemed to think that I had a veto or at least the final say. That was never true. In Australia, it was the Sisters who had the final say; and attempts in the media to portray me as somehow controlling or coercing the Sisters are, in my view, absurd. They seriously underestimate the spirit of rightful independence which has marked the congregations of Sisters who have founded and run the Catholic hospitals of Australia.

If some thought it was all up to me, others thought that I should just back off - that this negotiation had nothing to do with me. That was equally untrue. The truth lay between the two extremes. I was neither a passive spectator nor did I have the final say. According to Church law, I am responsible as bishop for the oversight and coordination of the apostolic works of the Church in this part of the world; and Calvary Hospital has been one of the most important of those apostolic works.

I first heard of the proposal to sell the hospital at the national conference of Catholic Health Australia in late August 2008. At morning tea, I was told of the proposal by the LCM province leader and the chair of the LCMHC board. I had had no forewarning of this, and it became clear that a good deal of negotiation had gone on before this conversation. In time, I came to wonder why there hadn't been a conversation when the proposal was first put to LCMHC by the ACT Government, especially in light of the close collabora-

# Calvary: task now is for all to work together



**'It's clear at least that there will have to be a new service agreement and funding arrangement for Calvary'**

ration between the Archdiocese and LCM since the planning for Calvary Hospital began.

Given that Calvary was functioning well and had made such a contribution to the ACT community for over 30 years, my initial assumption was that the hospital should not be sold. The burden of argument rested with those proposing the sale - the ACT Government and the Board of LCMHC. In all that followed, I have never been convinced by the arguments produced by either the ACT Government or the board of LCMHC. Some of the claims made by the Government seemed unconvincing not only to me but also to the experts from whom I sought advice; and I was surprised that the board of LCMHC seemed to accept them uncritically. I was not convinced that the Government could not provide proper capital funding for a facility they didn't own; that the sale would lead to better health care for the ACT community; that the supposed synergies and savings would follow automatically; that a totalitarian approach to public hospital care is better than a mix of public and private provision, as elsewhere in Australia. Some of the claims of LCMHC also seemed questionable, even if their point about the need for prudent risk-management did make sense.

Before I could come to a clear position on the proposal, I had a lot of homework to do. In the ensuing months I spent many hours talking to people



who knew much more of the history and grasped more of the issues that I did. I also spent large amounts of time poring over documents, and I became increasingly aware that it was hard enough to know the facts, let alone to grasp the issues. I also had meetings with people from LCMHC and other Catholic providers of health care; the Sisters were also involved in these discussions. All these meetings left me knowing more than I did, but never with the sense that I had heard enough to convince me that the sale was in the best interests of the apostolic works of the Archdiocese, of Catholic health care in Australia or of the ACT community. The proposal was rehearsed many times, but questions and concerns were not always addressed satisfactorily.

Through all of this, I was in a relatively weak position. I had been caught on the hop by a proposal of which I had had no warning. I was a relative newcomer to Canberra and had to bone up on the history and get my mind around the issues, which grew more complex as I came to know more. I didn't have a large support structure around me, and I certainly couldn't expect any favours from the media, where there were some who were happy to speak loud and long for vested interests which weren't hard to identify. Instead, I had to rely upon highly qualified and experienced people who were unhappy about the proposal and who were prepared to offer their time and advice to me not out of

any sense of personal gain but out of a concern for Catholic health care and the ACT community. Some of these people asked my permission to do this or that. I told them that, within the bounds of faith and morals, they didn't need my permission. They were free to act as their conscience dictated. They did so at considerable personal cost, and I'm very grateful to them.

Predictably, when the news broke, blame was laid squarely at my feet. This was the reaction of politicians and commentators who tend to deal in ideologically conditioned archetypes which don't bother with the complexity of issues but prefer to see things in terms of black and white, heroes and villains. I do not accept responsibility for the failure of this negotiation. I was not responsible in any way for the proposal; through most of the process, I was in a position of having to play "catch-up"; I never had the initiative, and I never had the last word; the final decision to withdraw was not mine; I never claimed that the process of approval by the Holy See would take years. I simply played my proper role as Archbishop.

I have been portrayed at times as the great defender of the status quo and the great opponent of change. That is nonsense. From early on, it was clear to me that the status quo was unsustainable. There had to be change; the only question was: What kind of change?

I can't answer the question in detail; others more expert than I will have to do that. But it's clear at least that there will have to be a new service agreement and funding arrangement for Calvary, given that compulsory acquisition by the Government, building a third public hospital and allowing Calvary to wither on the vine are not real options. It's also clear to me that the local community should somehow be more involved in the hospital's governance and advocacy for it, and that we will have to work hard to ensure that Calvary as a Catholic hospital is able to continue its mission. These are tough tasks but surely not impossible. They will require a galvanising of the Catholic community to ensure that the future of Calvary honours its past.

When the news broke, some imagined that I was popping corks and toasting a great victory. Nothing could be further from the truth. In all this, there were no winners and losers. I had a sense of peace, since I thought the decision was the right one, and a sense of relief that this long, complex and exhausting process had reached a point of resolution. But above all I had a sober sense of the task that lies ahead. What we have been through is the end of the beginning.

The task now is for all to act together to ensure the best possible health care for the people of the ACT community at a time when health care is becoming more complex and costly, and for the Catholic parties to work together "ecclesially" to secure the future for Catholic health care not just in the ACT but throughout Australia. If that happens, then the ACT community and Catholic health care will be the real winners.

*Handwritten signature of the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn.*

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Answers: 1. Mother Teresa. 2. Michael Lee, principal of St Mary MacKillop College. 3. Melbourne. 4. In 1925 in Sydney Archbishop Kelly set up a tribunal of investigation, but the procedure was suspended in 1931. 5. 198. 6. 18.



# Three young men boost our ranks at seminary

Three young men from the Archdiocese last month began their journey towards priesthood at Good Shepherd Seminary in Sydney.

Alex Miller from St Michael's parish, Kaleen, Josh Scott from St Mary's parish, Young, and Namora Anderson from St Gregory's parish, Queanbeyan, have joined six other seminarians from the Archdiocese now studying for the priesthood.

Mr Anderson was baptised and grew up in a staunch Catholic family. He attended Mass every Sunday, was an altar server for four years, and at the age of 21 he has followed a call to the priesthood.

The other two new recruits are both recent converts.

Mr Scott chose Catholicism at the age of 16 while his sister was in Sydney Children's Hospital with leukaemia.

"I started thinking, 'these Christians seem to think there's

something about this God bloke' so I decided to give it a go. This revelation was a real comfort to me while my sister was sick," he said.

He and his two younger sisters were baptised and Mr Scott began to immerse himself in his faith. Consequently, his parents were hardly surprised when he announced his plans to go to the seminary at the age of 21.

Mr Miller's journey from baptism to the seminary was a lot shorter.

Coming from a Protestant background, he converted to Catholicism last year, aged 22.

Just 12 months later he began his path to the priesthood.

"My family were shocked when I told them. They respect my decision but they think I'm nuts," Mr Miller said.

"I was on a clear path to becoming a solicitor. I was studying law at ANU. I started up the ANU Catholic Society which helped build my confi-



dence about my decision to join the seminary."

Now that their first year at Good Shepherd has begun, the new recruits are slowing adjusting.

The intense communal living was one aspect Mr Miller was initially nervous about but for Mr Scott it was just what he had been waiting for.

"There aren't many people in the general public who have the empathy to talk to you about vocation," he said.

"So to be surrounded by likeminded people who are

ABOVE: Seminarians at Good Shepherd with Alex Miller and Namora Anderson closest to the camera. LEFT: Josh Scott with Archbishop Mark Coleridge and rector Fr Tony Percy.

willing to share their experiences will be great. In doing so, they will help me on my journey and hopefully I'll be able to help them too."

Further along the road to priesthood are Dominic Byrne, who is in his second year at the Beda College in Rome; Paul Nulley has entered fourth year at Corpus Christi College in Melbourne; and Luke Verrell (sixth year), Duc Mac, George Nulley and Trenton van Reesch (all third year) have returned to Good Shepherd.

## Job crisis for town

• From Front Page.

"The community seems generally hopeful that the abattoir will be sold and reopened, but the longer it goes on the more pressure it puts on families," Mr Philpot said.

"And the longer it takes, the more experienced abattoir workers will have to leave to find other work."

The local newspaper has carried many job advertisements from interstate abattoirs since the closure was announced.

Mr Holmes said the St Vincent de Paul Society would continue to offer all kinds of assistance from managing debts to providing vouchers for food and petrol. Anyone who needs help should drop into the shopfront on Lynch Street.

"The pork producers are really in trouble now too because without the abattoir they'll have to take their pigs to Victoria to be slaughtered," Mr Holmes said.

Young's abattoir was the only meatworks in the region licensed to kill pigs for the export market.

"This isn't a situation that's going to just go away," he said. "I expect it will be at least six weeks before things start to settle down around here."

• Anyone who wants to make a donation, telephone Young St Vincent de Paul on 6382 9410. Non-perishable food items, money and vouchers would be most welcome.

**WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**JESUS INVESTS**

The idea behind any investment is to put your money to work. Which is all well and good, but have you ever thought about what it could do in its spare time?

At the Catholic Development Fund, we have. When you invest with us, you have a chance to give a little back to the pastoral work of the Church. While your money earns a competitive financial return it is also helps the Archbishop provide programs in your parish and across the archdiocese. Like any managed fund, CDF is able to increase earnings by pooling the resources of depositors. Part of the resulting earnings, which any normal financial institution would retain for itself, is then used to provide social services and underwrite the pastoral and liturgical work of the archdiocese.

CDF investment policy is built around:

- Providing loans for the building of parish facilities, schools, aged care residences and hospitals
- Stable banking products - and, every one one of our investments is guaranteed by the archdiocese.

You have the security of knowing not only that your money is well invested, but that it is doing some good as well.

To find out more, call Victor Dunn on (02) 6201 9870 or visit [www.cdf.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cdf.cg.catholic.org.au)



CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND of CANBERRA & GOULBURN



# Nerves all round as first-day teachers front up

Hundreds of Catholic students anxiously began their first day at school this year, but at Mt Carmel Central School, Yass, at least two of the teachers were just as nervous.

Mr Jeremy Stevens and Ms Tara Cassidy were both front of class for the first time.

Both past students of the school, the staff and surroundings were familiar, although they faced the awkward task of learning their former teachers' first names.

"It's definitely weird sitting in the staff room and joking with people who used to teach you," Mr Stevens said.

Ms Cassidy agreed but said she was grateful to be surrounded by such supportive staff.

She graduated from the Australian Catholic University last year and aside from a few weeks at Mt Carmel as part of her course, this was the first time she had been responsible for a class of her own.

"I think I've been most nervous about establishing basic classroom routines and making sure they work out," Ms Cassidy said. "When you do prac you're using another teacher's routines, but now it's all up to me."

Mr Stevens graduated in 2008 and worked as a relief teacher last year but he said getting the basics right with his first class of students was still a big concern.

"I want to start off on the right foot. As long as I can make things go smoothly today I should be able to work up from there."



Ms Tara Cassidy (back row) with her Year 3 class on the first day.

## Down she comes

The students at Mt Carmel Central School, Yass, returned to a rather unusual sight at the end of January: part of the property had become a demolition zone.

Work had begun during the summer holidays to tear down a two-storey brick addition to the historic sandstone kindergarten-Year 10 school.

Principal Mr Ignatius Stormon said the brick building had become unsafe and would be replaced by a landscaped open area.

He said a kitchen in one of the remaining



buildings would be converted into a new canteen, which would also be used by Yass parish for special events.

The current study hall will be converted into a new library.

Mr Stormon said he was very impressed with how quickly the demolition team had worked.

Demolition work will continue during term one, followed by construction and landscaping.

## Opening Mass on the coast



No-one complained about the much-needed rain that caused the postponement of Lumen Christi Catholic College's opening Mass. The rescheduled gathering was held in sunny weather. ABOVE: Fr Peter Gannon, Fr Bernie Patterson, Fr Paul Bateman and Fr Mick MacAndrew open the Mass in prayer. Mrs Jacinta Bourke holds the book.

## Library project an education

A building project sponsored by the Commonwealth Government to enhance the middle school library has been turned into an education opportunity at St Edmund's College.

The call for building tenders was released to parent and alumni communities before going public. "We weren't looking for mate's rates but offering an opportunity to our immediate community to participate in a building project that would be close to their hearts," principal Mr Peter Fullagar said.

Director and construction manager for the project management company Mr Peter Cloos is an old boy and father of a current student. Building site manager Mrs Helen Badger is a college mum. A number of other parents and alumni were included among tradesmen and suppliers.

With so many parents and alumni on site the college found it easy to take advantage of the education opportunities. Mrs Badger hosted fortnightly tours of the progress of the site to middle school students. Whenever an engineer or architect was on site, senior building and construction students were invited to take part in discussions on building plans and progress.

## WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS



Bill & Christine Cole

EXCELLENCE IN FUNERAL SERVICE

HEAD OFFICE & CHAPEL  
60 NETTLEFOLD STREET, BELCONNEN

Canberra's Family Owned Funeral Home

Canberra, Queanbeyan & Interstate

"Caring For You Personally"

24 hours - 7 Days

Phone 6253 3655

## PREGNANCY SUPPORT ACT

Client Based Counselling 8am-10pm

6247 5050

For appointment 6249 1779

FREE CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE

www.pregnancysupport-act.com

## TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

Outreaching to all those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and question the validity of their first marriage as understood by the Church.

ENQUIRIES: Ph (02) 6201 9802

Fax (02) 6201 9820

Mail: PO Box 89, Canberra 2601

Email: tribunal@cg.catholic.org.au

## St Joseph's House of Spirituality & Hospitality BATEHAVEN

*Come away and Rest awhile*

The Sisters of St Joseph of Goulburn, as an expression of their ministry to 'prayer, presence and service' invite you to consider a stay at 'our place', in David St, Batehaven.

St Joseph's offers 'time away' opportunities for individual respite, retreat and reflection.

Accommodation is available for a small number, with our recently refurbished facilities offering privacy and comfort - single room accommodation/ensuite and a large lounge room plus kitchenette area.

The Convent Chapel is also available for your use.

An ideal venue for Day seminars, Assemblies or other Gatherings for groups of up to 30 people.

St Joseph's is a two minute walk from Casey's Beach and is located close to the Church.

St Joseph's is not intended as a holiday place, nor does it offer facilities for children.

Self catering accommodation is available at the budget price of \$25 per night for times of Retreat ... Respite ... Relaxation ... Formation.

For bookings all year round - other than January - Phone Sr Judith on 02 4472 4021





# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

14-20 MARCH 2010 | NSW & ACT

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

open your **minds**



open your **hearts**

Proudly sponsored by





# Seeing is believing in field of disasters

As the man responsible for managing Caritas Australia's growing disaster response program, Melville Fernandez has seen much human suffering at first hand.

Mr Fernandez, who was Caritas' Lenten visitor to the Archdiocese last month, recalls bringing back a film of death and destruction wrought by a tsunami and showing it to staff, and how deeply affected they were. "Sometimes as a first-hand witness you see things that are too terrible to be described," he said.

But, if someone chooses to take part in the field of humanitarian work then he says they have to

be exposed to such experiences so they can feel and see what the people they are helping are suffering.

Indian-born Mr Fernandez believes if parliamentarians, government officials and bankers, among others, were exposed more it would "help them to feel more concern for the poor. It would have to affect their actions."

As part of his role with Caritas Australia - which is part of a global Caritas network second only to the Red Cross - he has been part of the emergency response team that made an on-the-spot assessment immediately after an earthquake in Gujarat, India, in 2001. He has



Melville Fernandez ... "things too terrible to be described".

also taken part in many field visits and studies of relief and rehabilitation programs for victims of natural and man-made disasters in the Congo and in tsunami-affected regions in Asia.

One of the greatest advantages of aid provided by Caritas is that it often had partners on the ground in affected countries before disaster

struck, and its work continued long after the immediate crisis had passed. "We are there for the long haul to help rehabilitate and sustain communities in the long term."

In his experience, Caritas often identified and worked with communities situated in the most difficult locations. In line with

Catholic social teaching, the organisations focused on identifying the needs of the poorest, often those in remote locations.

To achieve its goals, it works not only with other Caritas network members and religious congregations on the spot, but also with secular non-church relief organisations.

Caritas Australia's role in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake has been to take part in planning the relief response in conjunction with other Australian non-government organisations and to fundraise.

So far, more than \$2.5 million has been raised in Australia and a further \$350,000 has been provided to Caritas by the Australian Government.

Mr Fernandez visited schools, colleges and parishes in the Archdiocese to help build awareness of Caritas' work.

## Pilot project focuses on sexuality education

A report has been released on a sexual integrity pilot project, developed by the Archdiocese as a response to the need for sound Catholic education in sexuality in schools.

In launching the report, Archbishop Mark Coleridge said he wanted it to be the basis for something more systematic and comprehensive in the Archdiocese.

"We would all agree that Catholic education in sexuality is vital at a time when the culture generally peddles much that is destructive in the area," he said.

The primary aim of the project, on which CatholicLIFE and the Catholic Education Office collaborated, was to provide a program specifically designed for adolescents

encouraging responsible decision-making regarding their sexuality.

The program was delivered to 540 students in years 7 to 10 in co-educational schools in the Archdiocese.

Students involved in the pilot were surveyed both before and after the presentations, with results indicating a strengthened understanding of sexuality.

The program received positive feedback from presenters, teachers and other school staff.

One student described it as "very helpful as a basis for making personal decisions".

The report recommended that the program be integrated into a broader sexual integrity learning framework currently being developed.

## Youth leaders hone their ministry skills

About 30 youth ministry leaders from across the Archdiocese and beyond honed their skills in a five-day training seminar at CatholicLIFE.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge began the week by discussing Peter and Paul, the leaders of the early Church.

Dr Rob Long, in focussing on ethics in youth ministry, highlighted the importance of critical thinking and observation to make smart ethical decisions.

"Ethics can sneak up on you and a lack of morals can often creep in disguised as something else," he said.

"We need to be trusting but a lot of people mask their intentions. So it's important to be smart and work out what the real agenda is in order to decide if a situation is ethical."

Day three began with a session on child protection, run by Mr Phil Marsh, followed by a lesson in responsibility from Mr Matt Casey.

Sexuality was key on day four, when Fr Tony Percy spoke on the theology of the body before a relationships seminar by Byron and Francine Pirola.

The Pirolas' talk also attracted many additional people who were keen to learn from the couple's 20 years of marriage and their theories on "smart loving".

Mr and Mrs Pirola explained that generally, men experience and express love through physical acts whereas women experience and express love through verbal exchange. "We have different love languages so for the relationship to work we need to learn each other's language," Mrs Pirola said.



Francine and Byron Pirola address the course group.

She said men and women have different key fears, which couples often play into without even realising. Men fear failure, primarily sexual failure, whereas women fear abandonment, particularly emotional abandonment. So when the man tries to express his love physically and the woman doesn't respond, because that's not how she expresses love, the man feels he has failed. And when the woman tries to express love by talking and connecting and the man doesn't want to talk, the woman feels abandoned.

The solution, Mr Pirola said, was "smart loving that is other-centred". "I have to learn to love Francine the way she wants to be loved, not the way I want to be loved. That is my gift to her."

Srs Mary Madeline, Mary Rachel and Cecilia Joseph from Nashville, Tennessee, concluded the week by sharing some important self-evaluation skills.

### CDF TERM INVESTMENTS – A DIVIDEND THAT PAYS MORE THAN JUST MONEY

By placing a portion of your funds for a period of time with the CDF you are helping the CDF to support the Catholic community whilst at the same time providing for your future. The rate of interest you earn depends upon the amount you choose to invest and the term of the deposit.

But remember, your deposit pays a 'greater dividend' than just the interest paid to you. Your deposit contributes to the social services and liturgical activities of the archdiocese and of course, the pooled funds are used to build new aged care facilities, hospitals and parish infrastructure.

### UNCERTAIN TIMES

In uncertain times, savers look to investments that offer a greater level of security. CDF funds not on loan to Catholic entities are invested in secure and stable bank products. That is, the CDF Board is very conscious of its stewardship responsibilities with respect to parish, school and individual deposits. At the same time, the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn gives you peace of mind by guaranteeing all the deposits and investments of the CDF and any interest payable.

### OPEN A TERM DEPOSIT

In addition to the CDF's popular online savings account depositors can invest in a range of attractive 'term accounts'. Minimum investment is \$5,000 and you may choose any term up to one year. Interest is credited six monthly or when your investment matures.

There are **no** account fees or charges.

**Rates as at 28 January 2010**

	3 months	6 months	12 months
>\$5,000	3.75%	3.50%	3.25%
>\$10,000	4.00%	3.75%	3.50%
>\$20,000	4.25%	4.00%	3.75%
>\$50,000	4.50%	4.25%	4.00%
>\$100,000	4.75%	4.50%	4.25%
>\$500,000	5.00%	4.75%	4.50%



Check our current rates for term investments at [www.cdf.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cdf.cg.catholic.org.au) or contact the CDF on 02 6201 9870.

Victor Dunn  
Manager



### Fertility Care™

Now available in Canberra, FertilityCare™ offers a unique, natural approach to managing your fertility and reproductive health.

- achieving pregnancy naturally
- difficulties conceiving
- women's health monitoring
- natural fertility management

Enquiries: 0420 526 135



Discover...what every couple deserves to know, what every woman has the right to know

[www.fertilitycare.com.au](http://www.fertilitycare.com.au)

### St Benedict's Eucharistic Centre

**Visit of Michelle Moran:**

President of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Wednesday 17 March. Praise and worship, Talk by Michelle Moran, Time of ministry. All welcome.

Michelle Moran is a founder member of the Sion Community in Brentwood, England, and the President of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services based in the Vatican. She is also a member of the Pontifical Council of the Laity. She is an outstandingly dynamic speaker and is in great demand throughout the world

**Divine Mercy Sunday 11 April:**

1.30 Adoration and Confessions, 2.30 Singing of Chaplet, 3.00 Mass

Inquiries: St Benedict's parish office, telephone 6295 7879 or 0403 395 953

## St Clement's Retreat, Galong

*Start the Year on a Positive Note!*

Website: [www.stclement.com.au](http://www.stclement.com.au)

**Opera At the Monastery**  
**With Pacific Opera - A selection of Arias**

"Pacific Opera is truly something to be proud of."

Dame Joan Sutherland

Saturday 24th April 7.00 pm

Sunday 25th April 1.30 pm

Booking essential

*Emmaus Journey*

A retired peoples paradise!

A week away from it all.

*Come aside to a quiet place and rest*

(Mark 6. 30)

Fr. Pat Corbett, C.Ss.R. Sr. Helen Barnes, RSJ

**Monday March 15 pm - 19 am**

*Art For The Soul*

A weekend to awake your creative potential!

Sr. Helen Barnes rsj, Artist in Residence

**April 09 pm - 11 pm**

**Bookings Tel. 6380 5222**



**After 35 years of teaching, Attila Babos has a lot of fond memories. Claire Mitchell uncovered some of the many stories in this Yass resident's career...**

# When only the best will do

For Attila Babos, life has always been about getting the very best out of people.

The thousands of students he taught over 35 years, the dozens of prisoners he's helped through the Kairos program and even the elderly who will soon benefit from his company in his new role, can all attest that Mr Babos is a man who changes lives.

His teaching career began by accident in the 1970s.

By the end of his first year at Wagga Agricultural College his funds had dried up and he wasn't sure what the future would hold.

That is until a man from the Department of Education turned up offering full scholarships to anyone who wanted to become an ag teacher.

The decision was simple. Mr Babos signed up and soon discovered that teaching was his calling.

His first post was at Cowra High School where he taught agriculture and junior science for 16 years.

He then went on to James Sheahan Catholic High School in Orange, where he spent 11 years as the science coordinator, before moving to Yass where he just completed eight years as a science and agriculture teacher at Mt Carmel Central School.

"The main difference between state schools and Catholic schools is that at a Catholic school you can proclaim your faith but at a state school you don't," Mr Babos said.

"The teachers are just as caring and competent at both.

"Catholic schools also have an important role as one of the main evangelisers. With many parents not going to church, and priests not actively evangelising it is in the schools that children really learn more about their faith."

Throughout his career he has had the support of wife Carmel, who is also a teacher.

They worked together for six months in Cowra but Mr Babos said "it was a disaster" so they decided to stick to separate schools. That is until they moved to Yass.

"Carmel was offered the REC position at Mt Carmel. As luck would have it they were also looking for a science teacher and welfare coordinator. They hired us both and it worked brilliantly," Mr Babos said.

"Day to day we passed each other in the hall once or twice but that was about all. And as we live so close to the school we didn't necessarily have to travel together so we could come and go independently."

It hasn't been all school for Mr Babos though. While teaching in Orange he joined Kairos- an ecumenical inmate support program run in most Australian prisons.

"When I first decided to get involved I wasn't sure if this was for me. So I told God, if he got me paid leave then I'd do it," Mr Babos said.

"The school granted my leave so it was a sign.

"The first time was really scary. There are 24 prisoners to a program and we were each hooked up with one of them.

"I was hooked up with this massive Czech guy. So I introduced myself and said I was there to look after him. He just looked down at me and laughed."

The program features a series of talks, group discussion and one-on-one time to encourage the prisoners to become less insular and form more supportive relationships.

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

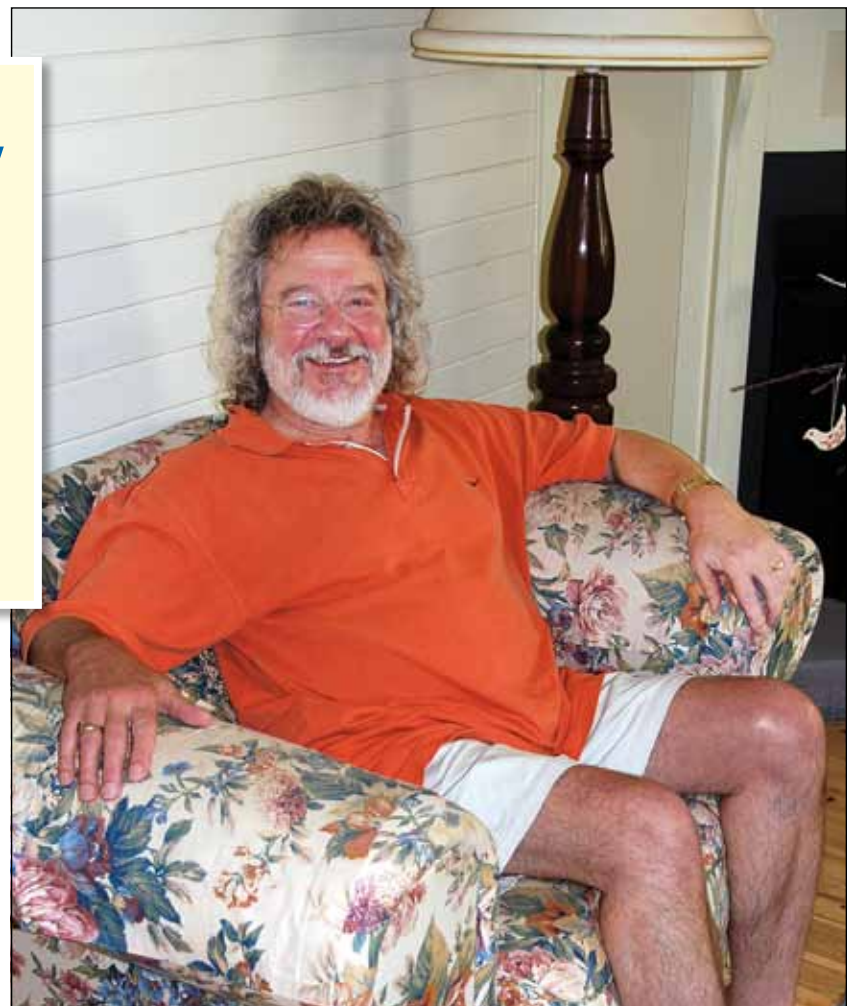
Participation is voluntary although Mr Babos said it is "those at the top of the roost who are encouraged to sign up so that they will influence change in the other inmates".

The program is a daunting prospect for all involved as both mentors and inmates are required to share personal stories.

"It's hard for men to open up because it's not something many of us do very often," Mr Babos said.

"We had this one bloke on our team who got up to tell his story and soon enough he started to cry.

● **Cont Page 14.**



Retired teacher Attila Babos relaxing at his home in Yass.

## 15,000 Seminarians Need Your Help!

**With the 150th anniversary of the death of the Curé of Ars, St John Vianney - the patron saint of priests - Pope Benedict XVI invites all Catholics to celebrate the Year for Priests which began on the 19th of June 2009.**



**Seminarians at prayer in Sudan**

**Join us in prayer with the Pope to honour the service offered to the Church by her priests.**

Anyone able to help this cause will be sent a complimentary Rosary blessed by Pope Benedict XVI, and a holy card with a prayer for priests. We ask you to join the Holy Father and the Catholic community to pray for our priests and pray that many more will respond to the call to priesthood.

*A new rosary has been designed by the Vatican's Rosary Makers for the Year for Priests. The centerpiece features the hands of the priest during the Consecration with the reverse side beautifully depicting the Merciful Jesus by St Faustina Kowalska. The Cross takes inspiration from the Gospel story about the call to Priesthood where Christ says "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few..". The labourers are those who work in the vineyard of the Lord. In our time it refers to our priests.*

**To send your donation please fill out the coupon below and tick the box\***



**Help Seminarians from Poor and Oppressed countries to become Priests**

**Aid to the Church in Need, PO Box 6245 Blacktown DC NSW 2148**

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

**I/We enclose a donation of \$ ..... to help with the training of our future priests from poor and oppressed countries.**

☐ **Yes please send me the Year for Priests Rosary and Holy Card**

**I enclose a cheque/money order payable to Aid to the Church in Need OR please debit my Visa or Mastercard:**

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Expiry Date** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ **Signature** .....

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

**Mr/Mrs/Miss/Sr/Rev** .....

**Address** .....

**Postcode** .....

**Phone** ..... **Email** .....



Aid to the Church in Need ... a Catholic charity dependent on the Holy See, providing pastoral relief to needy and oppressed Churches

**Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au**

**CATHOLIC VOICE March 2010 - 9**



## Why 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 Rachael Sheridan, CatholicCare drought counsellor in Boorowa.



## what I do

How long have you been a drought counsellor and how did you get involved?

I was actually approached by CatholicCare. They were looking to establish drought counselling in Boorowa and my parish priest Fr Greg Beath recommended me. I wasn't working at the time so it was great. I've been in the position for nearly three years.

What does being a drought counsellor entail?

I provide a service to the people of Boorowa and the surrounding areas. It's very general. So in addition to drought counselling I also do grief counselling, marriage counselling. I basically see anyone for anything. Often it's just like having a conversation where the client knows they're not going to be judged.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

When you see someone make a change that they feel positive about, no matter how small it is. That makes my day. And some of the stories people tell, the way they've triumphed over adversity, just makes you think, wow.

What is the most difficult part of the work you do?

I feel a lot of empathy for people so to know that they're having a really tough time is difficult. You want to fix it for them but you also know it's something they have to fix themselves.

Has the need for drought counselling changed since you started with CatholicCare?

People are still suffering from the drought; they're still feeling it. There's such a flow-on effect - small businesses, schools. We also forget that children suffer from drought too, that there's a big impact on them when their parents are doing it tough.

Has people's response to counselling changed since you started?

It's not until people see a counsellor that they realise that it's actually OK. While seeing a counsellor is still a foreign concept to most, attitudes are changing. Most of my work is through word of mouth - people are telling others it's not so scary and actually helps. I'm also seeing a lot more males now which is really good.

When you're not working, how do you spend our time?

I love to garden. My husband and I are always renovating the house in some way. And we have two children who I am passionate about doing things with. That easily takes up most of my day but if there's time I also love to play tennis and to read.

# A great model for the bush

The Western Mission has been officially up and running for just over two years and parish priest Fr Troy Bobbin says it has been "a great model for the bush".

In 2008, Archbishop Mark Coleridge decided to take a new approach to the priest shortage in the western deanery.

Rather than merging parishes he established a concept that had not previously been used in the Archdiocese.

The parish communities of Ardlethan, Barellan, Ungarie, Weethalle and West Wyalong became the Western Mission.

Fr Bobbin, as parish priest of West Wyalong, is the leader of the mission, while a team of nuns are community leaders of each of the parishes.

Sr Margaret Hart RSM is the community leader of Weethalle, Tallimba and Rankin Springs, as well as pastoral worker in West Wyalong; Sr Ann Steenbergen RSJ looks after Barellan and Binya; Sr Frances McAleer RSJ is in charge of Ungarie and Burcher; and Sr Mary Murphy RSJ is the community leader of Ardlethan and Ariah Park.

Each of the sisters lives in her respective parish and is responsible for pastoral care and administration.

Fr Bobbin takes care of Mass and the sacraments.

"Each parish has its own identity," Fr Bobbin said.

"Nothing has been amalgamated. The people have ownership of their place."

Fr Bobbin drives an average of 1000km a week celebrating Mass. Add to that his governance tasks and there's not much time for anything else, which is why he said the team idea was so important.

"It's very important they choose the right person, because running the Western Mission wouldn't be suited to everyone," he said.

The Western Mission team meets once a month to organise the sacramental program, and discuss the direction the parishes are heading.



The western mission team with Fr Troy Bobbin (from left) Sr Mary Murphy RSJ, Sr Ann Steenbergen RSJ, Sr Frances McAleer RSJ and Sr Margaret Hart RSM.



Fr Bobbin said the key focus for this year was to prepare lay people to take

on special ministries such as preparing children for Holy Communion or leading the Liturgy of the Word.

"The sisters won't be there forever and it's not likely we'll get any more to replace them," Fr Bobbin said.

"Thankfully the lay people in this area already feel supported so they'll be able to step up to the task."

Fr Bobbin also will not be around forever.

He said he expects his time in West Wyalong to end in June 2011, when a new priest would be appointed.

"It's very important they choose the right person, because running the Western Mission wouldn't be suited to everyone," he said.

"Things are working really well now and I'm sure they'll be able to continue that way."



In the first in what will be an ongoing series of features focusing on the deaneries of the Archdiocese, Catholic Voice journalist Claire Mitchell headed out to the vast western deanery.

## Guest for Gundagai

Salesian priest Fr Elio Capra will visit Gundagai parish from 16-21 March. He is a respected teacher in the areas of the sacraments, liturgy, music, prayer, spirituality for today's catechesis and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

He will be guest speaker at a Year for Priests dinner to be held after Mass on 17 March. He is currently a lecturer at the Catholic Theological College in Victoria. Inquiries: Contact Gundagai parish on 6944 1029.

## An 'extraordinary ability to connect'

Tumut parish priest Fr Brian Hassett was honoured for his contribution to the wider community with a Tumut Shire Council Australia Day achievement award.

Fr Hassett has been parish priest of Tumut for the past 20 years, also serving the communities of Brungle, Batlow and Talbingo.

During that time he has regularly visited patients at Tumut Hospital as well as residents at Blakeney Lodge and Bupa Nursing Home. He also gives weekly scripture lessons at the local schools.

Tumut parishioner Libby McGruer said Fr Hassett had quickly become an integral part of not only the Catholic community but of the wider community. "Fr Brian has the extraordinary ability to connect with people from all faiths, ages and backgrounds through good humour and his genuine interest and commitment to their wellbeing. He is a modest man who has taken the community to his heart."



Fr Brian Hassett with McAuley Catholic Central School Year 3 student Molly McGuire and her great grandmother Ruby.

## Parish welcomes a new priest

For the past five years Fr Richard Thompson has served alone as the parish priest of Young, but now there's a new face in town. Fr Loorthusamy Irudeyasamy, better known as Fr Samy, transferred from South Tuggeranong to become Young's assistant priest and his arrival couldn't have been more timely.

With Boorowa parish priest Fr Greg Beath out of action due to illness, Fr Thompson and Fr Samy (pictured left) have been doing their part to help their neighbours.

"I have been performing some services in Boorowa as well as helping Fr Richard and just getting to know the area," Fr Samy said. "The children here are really keen to learn about their faith which makes my job a lot easier. The parishioners here have such zeal."

While he is adjusting well in his new parish there are still some differences between Australia and his home country of India that baffle him. "A strange thing I've noticed in Australia is that people have faith but most don't want to expose it. In India there is no such thing as a non-practising Catholic."

## A strong Catholic tradition

The population may be small but the western deanery has always boasted a strong Catholic tradition.

The 2006 census data placed Boorowa, Murrumburrah, Young and Cootamundra in the top five for the highest percentage of Catholics in the Archdiocese and in the top 20 per cent of communities in Australia.

The western communities were marginally outdone by Taralga in the northern deanery where 40 per cent of residents identified themselves as Catholics.

Young's parish priest Fr Richard Thompson said part of the reason for the strong Catholic tradition in his community was due to pioneer priests such as Monsignor Hennessey who encouraged Catholic businessmen to move to the town. Many current residents will have generations of their family who made a home in Young. "Our parishioners love the vibrancy of our church," Fr Thompson said. "Many have gone on holidays and come back to say how much more they enjoy Mass in Young."

# Holy Land: 'to actually be there changes everything'



Five archdiocesan priests have just returned from a trip of a lifetime: a 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Fr Troy Bobbin from West Wyalong, Fr Richard Thompson from Young, Fr Mark Croker from Gungahlin, Fr Peter Miller from Jindabyne and Fr Simon Falk made up a group of 35 Australian priests who walked in the footsteps of Jesus from Bethlehem to Jerusalem.

So successful was the experience, Fr Bobbin and Fr Thompson are now looking into organising their own pilgrimage for parishioners from the western deanery.

"It was the first time I'd been to Israel and I would happily go back tomorrow," Fr Thompson said.

LEFT: The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn contingent on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Back: Fr Troy Bobbin and Fr Peter Miller. Front: Fr Simon Falk, Fr Mark Croker and Fr Richard Thompson.

"The pilgrimage was so well organised and it was very moving."

It was also Fr Bobbin's first trip to the Holy Land and he said to be on location changed so much for him.

"Near the end of the trip we went to the church where Jesus wept for Jerusalem," he said.

"I've heard the story a thousand times but to actually be there, to see where he looked out over the city, changes everything.

"It has really helped make the gospels come alive and in doing so, develops your ability to preach the Word of God."

As the tour was exclusively for priests, there were certain places they were allowed to visit that other pilgrims are not.

At the Garden of Gethsemane for example, the gates are as close as most people get but the priests were allowed to go into the garden and pray.

Another highlight was celebrating Mass floating on Lake Galilee.

"On early Sunday morning, before the streets were covered with mar-

kets, I was asked to lead the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of Calvary," Fr Bobbin said.

"It was a great honour.

"Richard was also the main celebrant at one of the Masses so that was special too."

As the pilgrimage took place in the low-season, Fr Bobbin said there were not too many tourists to compete with, and by maintaining the mindset of "this is a pilgrimage" the occasional flashing camera wasn't too much of a disturbance.

"We read the gospel of the situation at each location which reaffirmed the spiritual nature of our trip," he said.

"We also had an excellent tour guide who really linked everything together."

All the priests were encouraged to return with members of their parish as a way of strengthening the bond between the pastor and his people.

Fr Bobbin said he would work with Fr Thompson to organise a pilgrimage for the western deanery.

**Kumfs**  
**Autumn Winter 2010 range**

Kube is available in Cognac/Ivory and Black/Ivory.

**Kube**

## Frawley's Comfort Centre

26 Garema Place, CANBERRA CITY 2601  
Ph/Fax 02 6247 9104



## Long journey for reunion



Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto (front, second from right) with his former seminary classmates in the foyer of Parliament House.

Once every five years the former classmates of Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto catch up with a retreat held at various locations around the world.

And as the archbishop's current role is Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, the graduates of the Italian diocesan seminary of Padua this year reunited in Canberra.

A tour of Parliament House was one of the last stops on their journey, following a visit to Uluru and a five-day retreat in Brisbane. The group of 10, all ordained in 1967, maintain regular contact.

Their last retreat was held in Ireland where Archbishop Lazzarotto was nuncio at the time.



Ann Tunnecliffe (front left) with CDF co-workers Jenny Mander, Karen Hollings, Jen Wheeler and Michele Murdock (front right).

## Retiring 'with a smile'

Operations manager of the Catholic Development Fund Mrs Ann Tunnecliffe knows pretty well all there is to know about the organisation.

After joining the CDF at its inception in the Archdiocese in 1990 she retired at the end of last month and now looks forward to the next stage of her life.

Mrs Tunnecliffe began working for the Archdiocese in 1978 in administration at a number of Catholic schools. During this time she learnt computerised accounting before taking her skills to the newly formed CDF.

Before the CDF, church finances were not centralised and new schools were built by parishes with the help of bank loans. The idea of the Church looking after its own money was new so some people took persuading.

"Our first major task was to build relationships with the parishes and convince them that the CDF was a good idea," Mrs Tunnecliffe said.

"Then we had to get investors so we could pay out the parishes' bank loans. The Catholic Education Office

soon brought their finances to us too and we were up and running."

Technology and procedures changed constantly, which Mrs Tunnecliffe said was one of her job's biggest appeals.

"I've always been in admin but before working for the Church I never stayed in the one place for more than two or three years," she said. "At the CDF there has been new systems to learn all the time and so many changes that I never felt the need to look anywhere else."

As she begins her retirement, Mrs Tunnecliffe said she was looking forward to spending time at home.

"I feel fortunate to have been here for so long and to be able to retire with a smile on my face," she said. "I am so grateful for the cooperation the people working here have given me. They're exceptional; a pleasure to work with and I know they'll continue to do an excellent job."

Mrs Michele Murdock has taken on the role of operations manager.

## Adult formation head retires



Margaret Ryan receives a farewell gift presented by Bishop Pat Power.

A large group of friends and colleagues have gathered to farewell Ms Margaret Ryan, who guided the Archdiocese's adult faith formation programs for more than a decade.

More than 120 people from across the Archdiocese and from other denominations attended a dinner and presentation at the Rheinberger Centre for Ms Ryan, a former school teacher who joined the Archdiocesan team as adult education co-ordinator in 1998.

She was co-ordinator of faith formation and spirituality in the Catholiclife agency when she retired.

In paying tribute to her years of service, Bishop Pat Power said Ms Ryan "really got her hands dirty". She had a "beautiful soul and a beautiful understanding of the best of nature and the best of people", he said.

She epitomised what the Second Vatican Council asked of all, that they be a pilgrim people, that they read the signs of the times and that they seek the aspirations in the hearts of the people. "Margaret did all of these things," he said.

Ms Ryan said it had been a privilege to hold the positions in adult education which "reflected a passion of mine, a passion for lifetime learning."

She said she had hopefully "started the odd scrub fire" where people's seeking of God had flourished into action.

## Students host film to help children's refuge

St Francis Xavier College is hosting a special screening of *Somewhere Near Tapachula* to raise money for the children of Mission Mexico.

Operated by Alan and Pamela Suske, Mission Mexico is a Christian refuge for boys and girls, aged 2 to 17 years,

who have been abandoned, abused, neglected or orphaned. Most are from backgrounds of extreme poverty.

The number of children in their care changes constantly but averages about 50 on a permanent basis.

*Somewhere Near Tapachula* is a documentary on the children at Mission Mexico focusing on the empowerment and freedom they discovered through surfing.

The film is touring eastern Australia with the only ACT

stop planned for St Francis Xavier College on 23 March.

Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for concessions.

All proceeds go to Mission Mexico.

Visit [www.somewhereneartapachula.com](http://www.somewhereneartapachula.com) for more information.

## Story-teller endeared herself to many

Sr M Annette O'Loughlin RSJ 1923-2010

Sr M Annette O'Loughlin RSJ, a member of the first Josephite community appointed to Papua New Guinea in 1965, died peacefully at Gill-Waminda Nursing Home, Goulburn. She was 87.

Born Ellen Veronica O'Loughlin, at Ouyen, Victoria, on 13 August, 1923, she was the daughter of Austin O'Loughlin, a farmer, and Hannah (nee Murnane). At an early age the family moved to Nariah, near Weethalle, which became their home.

She entered the Convent of the Sisters of St Joseph (Goulburn) on 2 July, 1940. Her first profession of vows took place on 20 January, 1943, and final profession on 20 January, 1948. Ellen Veronica was given the name Sr M Annette.

A vivacious and fun-loving youngster, she is remembered by her sisters and many friends as possessing those same qualities throughout her life.

Her sparkling eyes, sense of fun, and considerable skills as a story-teller endeared her to children and families in the many places she lived and taught.

Sr Annette's commitment to the mission of Papua New Guinea ensured that



many colourful stories of exciting and sometimes daunting adventures were relayed to the sisters back home and to her family. She spent 10 years in Vanimo over two periods.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Sr M Annette was celebrated in Our Lady of Dolours Chapel at St Joseph's Convent, North Goulburn. Principal celebrant was Goulburn parish priest Fr Dermid McDermott, assisted by Fr Henry Byrne, Fr Kevin Brannelly and Fr Peter Ryan.

She was buried in the sisters' section of St Patrick's Cemetery, Kenmore.

Sr M Annette will be remembered by all as a fun-loving Sister of St Joseph, a woman of deep faith and of generous commitment to the mission of the Gospel. She leaves a sister, Mrs Aileen Howe, of Leeton.

Internet [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au)

### TREVOR BARKER & ASSOCIATES SOLICITORS

Second Floor, Dickson Chambers,  
Dickson Place, Dickson ACT 2602

PO Box 258/DX 24905  
Dickson ACT 2602

Phone 6248 8085 Fax 6248 8151  
Email [admin@trevorbarker.com.au](mailto:admin@trevorbarker.com.au)



Three generations of service to Canberra and the surrounding regions for over 50 years.



Waxing ~ Manicures ~ Pedicures  
Facials ~ Tinting ~ Gel Nails  
Massage ~ Face Peels ~ Spray Tans  
Body Treatments & more

15 Spafford Cres, Farrer  
Ring Michelle 6290 2706 or 0407 212 453  
[www.youreworthybeautysalon.com](http://www.youreworthybeautysalon.com)



Looking for Sacramental gifts for those special times in your child's life?

Thumbelina has a wide range of gift ideas and cards for  
~ Baptism ~ Reconciliation  
~ First Eucharist ~ Confirmation  
Thumbelina has Bibles, first Mass books, photo frames, commemorative plaques, rosary beads, pins, brooches and jewellery, for boys and girls.

Available from **Thumbelina Miniatures and Gifts**

The Old Schoolhouse,  
Ginninderra Village, Nicholls.

Open Wednesday to Monday 10am to 5pm

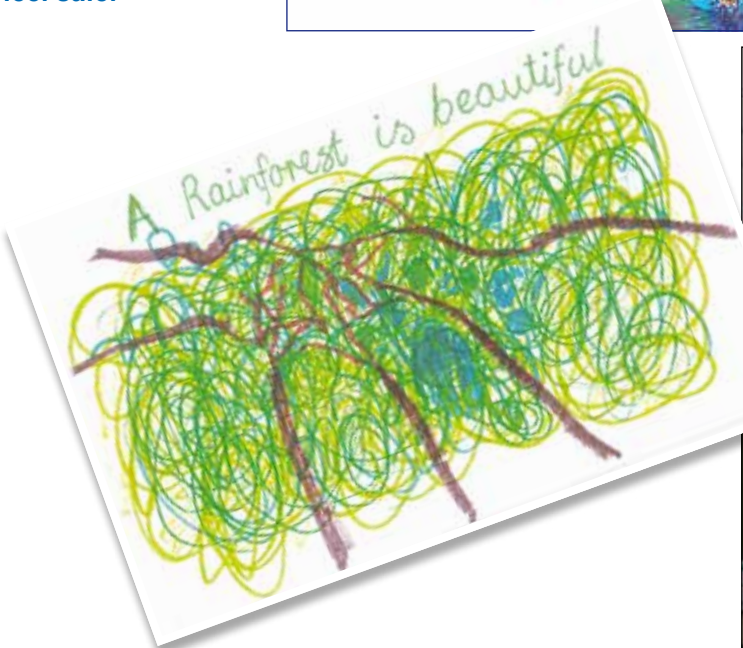
Public Holidays 11am to 4pm

Telephone - 6230 9599

Email - [trish@thumbelina.net.au](mailto:trish@thumbelina.net.au)



St Bede's Primary, Braidwood is only a small school but when Catholic Voice visited it was a hive of activity. The 10 kindergarten students had made colourful butterflies, the Year 1/2 class was working on its maths skills, Year 3/4 had their minds on English, and Year 5/6 were reflecting on the place in which they feel safe.



DRAWINGS ABOVE LEFT: Orlando Throsby made a beautiful butterfly in kindergarten.

ABOVE RIGHT: Another butterfly, from Kajsha James.

FAR LEFT: Year 5 student Tilley Barrington's rainforest drawing.

PHOTOGRAPH LEFT: Year 1 are learning about numbers.



MIDDLE LEFT: Mr Julian Laffan with his kindergarten class.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Year 2 student Gracie Donkin-Lennon gets started on her maths window.

ABOVE: Kajsha James from kindergarten shows off some of her work.

RIGHT: Year 5 student Lachlan Ramm tells the class about the place where he feels safe.

FAR RIGHT: Kindergarten's Mariah Roberts demonstrates her bee-noculars.

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

Internet [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au)

CATHOLIC VOICE March 2010 - 13



# Fasting and praying in secret

The philosopher, David Hume, once made a distinction between something he called genuine virtues and something he termed monkish virtues.

Genuine virtues, he said, were those qualities inside us that are useful to others and ourselves. Monkish virtues, on the other hand, are qualities that don't enhance human life, either for society or for the particular person practicing them.

As monkish virtues he lists celibacy, fasting, penance, mortification, self-denial, humility, silence, and solitude. These, he attests, contribute nothing to society and even detract from human welfare. For this reason, he affirms, they are rejected by "men of sense". For a religious person, this isn't easy to hear.

But what follows is even harsher. Those practicing monkish virtues pay a stiff price, he says. They are excluded from health and human community. The gloomy, hare-brained enthusiast, after death, may have a place in a calendar, but will scarcely be admitted, when alive, into intimacy and society, except by those

who are as delirious and dismal as himself.

As brutal as this may sound, it contains a healthy warning, one with a discernible echo to what Jesus said when he warned us to fast in secret, to do our private prayer in secret, to not put on gloomy faces when we are practicing asceticism, and to make sure our piety is not too evident in public. If Jesus is clear about anything, he's clear about this.


Why? Why should we avoid all public display of our fasting, ascetical practices and private prayer?

Partly Jesus' warning is against hypocrisy and insincerity, but it is more. There is also the question of what we are radiating and of how we are being perceived. When we display asceticism and piety in public, even if we are sincere, what we want to radiate and what is read by others (and not just by the Humes of our world) are often two different things.

We may want to be radiating our faith in God and our commitment to things beyond this life, but what others easily read from our attitude and actions is lack of health, lack of joy, depression, disdain for the ordinary, and a not-

**Ron Rolheiser**

Fr Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is president of the Oblate School of Theology in Texas. [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com)



so-disguised compensation for missing out on life.

And this is precisely the opposite of what we should be radiating.

All monkish virtues (and they are real virtues) are intended to open us to a deeper intimacy with God and so, if our prayer and asceticism are healthy, what we should be radiating is precisely health, joy, love for this world, and sense of how the ordinary pleasures of life are sacramental.

But this isn't easy to do. We don't radiate faith in God and health by uncritically accepting or cheerleading the world's every effort to be happy, nor by flashing a false smile while deep down we

are barely managing to keep depression at bay.

We radiate faith in God and health by radiating love, peace, and calm. And we can't do this by radiating a disdain for life or for the way in which ordinary people are seeking happiness in this life.

And that's a tricky challenge, especially today. In a culture like ours, it is easy to pamper ourselves, to lack any real deep sense of sacrifice, to be so immersed in our lives and ourselves so as to lose all sense of prayer, and to live without any real asceticism, especially emotional asceticism.

Among other things, we see this today in our pathological busyness, our inability to sustain lives of private prayer, our growing incapacity to be faithful in our commitments, and in our struggles with addictions of all kinds: food, drink, sex, entertainment, information technology. Internet pornography is already the single biggest addiction in the whole world.

Prayer and fasting (at least of the emotional kind) are in short supply. The monkish virtues are more needed today than ever.

But we must practice them without public exhibitionism, without disdaining the good that is God-given in the things of this world, without hinting that our own private sanctity is more important to us and to God than is the common good of this planet, and without suggesting that God doesn't want us to delight in his creation.

Our asceticism and prayer must be real, but they must radiate health, and not be a compensation for not having it.

And that, a health that witnesses to God's goodness, is exactly what I see in those who practice the monkish virtues in a healthy way. Prayer and fasting, done correctly, radiate health to the world, not disdain. Had Hume witnessed Jesus' health and love inside his prayer and asceticism, he would, I suspect, have written differently of monkish virtue.

So we need to take more seriously Jesus' words that asceticism and private prayer are to be done "in secret", behind closed doors, so that the face we show in public will radiate health, joy, calm, and love for the good things that God, whom prayer and asceticism brings us closer to, has made.

## Josephites head for union When only the best will do

The Sisters of St Joseph of Goulburn and Tasmania unanimously have supported a proposal to become one congregation. They hope a new congregation will be formed by the end of next year.

Critical to the decision was the intention that, in becoming one group, the sisters would together search out and determine "new and different ways of being Josephite for today's world".

Following the decision for union taken at a shared assembly, each sister committed herself to ongoing involvement in the process.

The movement towards union is seen as an opportunity for personal and congregational "refounding" for

the sake of continued commitment to the mission of Jesus in the spirit of Fr Julian Tenison Woods and Blessed Mary MacKillop.

While recognising the value and place of consecrated religious life, living Josephite life in the future will mean embracing differences and greater collaboration with lay people.

The commitment to become one group was taken in the context of a deeper desire for unity among all Josephite congregations of Australia and New Zealand.

The assembly, held in Sydney, had the theme "Living Waters Flow". It was the third such shared assembly held over the past three years.

### • From Page 9.

"This massive guy in the back row got up, handed him a couple of tissues and said, 'don't worry mate it'll be alright'.

"The crying quickly continued so the prisoner got back up and handed him the whole box."

Mr Babos completed two Kairos programs at the Bathurst jail, and then one in Goulburn after moving to Yass.

"Kairos was life changing for me," Mr Babos said.

"I've never seen people pray so expectantly as regularly as they do in Kairos.

"The effect on the prisoners and their response is just amazing."

Mr Babos is hoping to complete another program in Goulburn this year.

In fact there is a lot more community work on the cards this year since Mr Babos retired from teaching at the end of last year.

"Retiring has been a breath of fresh air," he said.

"You run out of puff eventually and I wanted to leave while I was still on top.

"The kids all said lovely things about me so better to leave now, while they remember me fondly, than be like the boxer who got into the ring one too many times," he said.



Attila Babos with some of his former agriculture students at Mt Carmel Central School, Yass.



He will start work at Linton Aged Care in Yass, which has a growing need for male staff to provide companionship for elderly male residents.

In retirement, his life of working with people is set to continue.

"The whole point of Kairos and teaching for me was being able to work with people and get the best out of them," he said.

"Science and agriculture were my mediums and through them I could show the kids the awe and wonder of life, of God, and the joy of living. That's what I loved most."

**When you need it most, we give you time.**

Christine Walters | Manager

Sandy Hunt | Funeral Director

Proud local sponsor of World Youth Day Canberra and Goulburn Diocese.

[www.tobinbrothersfunerals.com.au](http://www.tobinbrothersfunerals.com.au)

**BELCONNEN** 6251 2344  
**KINGSTON** 6295 2799  
**QUEANBEYAN** 6297 1546

**TOBIN BROTHERS FUNERALS**  
A GUARDIAN FUNERAL PROVIDER  
To embrace a lifetime, we give you time.

**Ray Toohey CPA CFP**  
and Financial Adviser Services Pty Ltd  
are Authorised Representatives of  
GWM Adviser Services trading as

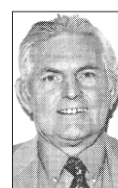
**GARVAN Financial Planning**

ABN 96 002 071 749

Australian Financial Services Licensee

RETIREMENT PLANNING • SUPERANNUATION  
LIFESTYLE PROTECTION • INVESTMENT ADVICE  
COUNTRY & RURAL CONSULTING

Phone (02) 6254 8000 Toll Free 1800 814 447 Fax (02) 6254 8111



### THE COMPLETE PACKAGE:

- Colour Scheming
- Material Selection
- Interior / Exterior

### SPECIALISING IN:

- Repaints
- Residential
- Commercial



**OBLIGATION FREE QUOTE:**  
Phone Martin

**0412 583 992**



# We salute the priests who serve us

## Where and when were you ordained?

I am a Missionary of the Sacred Heart (MSC) and was ordained in 1961.

## Where have you served since ordination?

I have had the privilege of working in the Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese twice: once as a teacher in Daramalan (1965-1968) and currently in St John the Apostle parish, Kippax (2002-2010).

For the first 10 years of my priesthood I was a secondary school teacher (Douglas Park, Canberra and Chevalier College, Bowral) after which I was chaplain at the University of NSW, Kensington (1972-1979).

During that time I began teaching at St Paul's National Seminary, Kensington. Apart from three years studying at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, I was working at the seminary and in adult education until I was appointed to Henley Beach parish, Adelaide, in 1994.

## What attracted you to the priesthood, and was there a particular influence on your life which led to your decision to heed God's call?

I went to the minor seminary at Douglas Park, aged 13 in 1950. This was partly by

As part of the Year for Priests, Catholic Voice and the Archdiocesan website will profile some of the priests of the Archdiocese. The second is Fr Michael Fallon MSC (right). The website profiles may be found at [www.cg.catholic.org.au/about/default.cfm?loadref=323](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/about/default.cfm?loadref=323)



way of following two of my brothers (Jim and John).

More significant than why I began is why I stayed. Douglas Park was a wonderful school for a young man: the best of companions, and a gentle but firm regime of prayer, study and living.

The seven years in the seminary at Croydon, Melbourne, was likewise a beautiful place in which I felt completely at home. Seven of us did the Leaving Certificate in 1953 and entered the Novitiate the following year, and seven of us are still living and working as priests 57 years later.

## Is the priesthood what you thought it would be?

The basics of priesthood as it is lived are what I was trained to expect.

## What have been the highlights of your ministry?

The Vatican Council began the year after our ordination. The Church connected with the modern world.



After nearly 50 years of priesthood I am convinced that the Council was a miracle of grace. One of the hardest aspects of priesthood is experiencing pressure from those who want to go back. Of course mistakes have been made (no one has made more than me), but apart from the fact that we can never go back, I see the movement to do so as a failure of faith in God, in the world and

in the mission of love confided to us by Jesus, and made possible by his presence and grace.

## What would you say to young people concerning a religious vocation?

Of course we need priests, for the Eucharist is at the heart of our Christian living.

My suggestion is that our prayer would be better focussed on praying that the Church will listen to the promptings of God's Spirit and recognise the call to priesthood that is present in the hearts of men and women, young and old. In spite of the fragility of us priests, celibate, male priesthood has, on the whole, served the Church and the world very well. Surely, centuries of experience support such a claim.

## What changes have you observed in the Church since becoming a priest?

Modern society has gone through immense changes, as has leadership in every department of social interaction.

My biggest disappointment as a priest is to witness a certain fossilization of Church organisation, including the sacrament of Orders. The world has, of course, a lot to teach us.

## What are your personal hopes for the future?

I hope we heed the call of Pope John XXIII and many great Church leaders before and since, and dare to connect with the world, for we have a mission of love that will only inspire when we are seen to belong.

## Has there been a particular major inspiration for you in your pastoral work?

One of my basic joys is to teach (and to learn in order to teach), for, as we all know only "the truth will set us free".

Early in my priesthood I realised the power of the Scriptures. The story, poetry and dramatic language is the quickest way to shift people's fixed (and limited) understanding of the mystery that is God. In Teilhard de Chardin's words, "God is the heart and the beyond of everything".

## What interests and leisure pastimes do you have?

I have been given time off to study the sacred texts and my key interest and "spare-time pastime" is to pursue this study and to share it with anyone who is interested.



## Choose ACU

Australian Catholic University (ACU) can provide you with an education to qualify for your dream career.

You will learn to think innovatively, make critical decisions and manage the diversity of life's challenges. Many graduates find jobs using their professional skills before they have graduated.

ACU is a public university open to students of all beliefs and backgrounds. Our Canberra Campus offers undergraduate programs in:

- Early Childhood Education
- Primary Education
- Nursing
- Social Work
- Theology

*Qualify for life*

1300 ASK ACU

[www.acu.edu.au](http://www.acu.edu.au)

## 'Exemplary' public servant honoured

St Christopher's Cathedral parishioner Barbara Belcher and former Tumut resident Sr Anthea Groves were both honoured on Australia Day for their lifetime of service.

Ms Belcher was named a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to public sector management and administration, particularly in the areas of policy development, advice and delivery and through the advancement of ethical standards and values.

"I was delighted to receive the award," Ms Belcher said. "I had many happy and rewarding years in the public service and I was grateful to all those who supported me."

Her 44-year Australian public service career, from which she retired last April, was spent primarily in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Prime Minister Mr Kevin Rudd, in a tribute in Parliament on her retirement, described her as the epitome of the public servant, "dedicated, apolitical, knowledgeable, discreet and ready to offer constructive advice."

He said to Ms Belcher, "this has been a public service career which is exemplary - exemplary in its professionalism and in the length of service you have provided the Commonwealth of Australia. For that, the parliament and the government thank you."

Sr Anthea was also recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to nursing, specifically at St Vincent's Hospital in Darlinghurst where she now works.

She grew up in Tumut and while completing her nurse's training she joined the Sisters of Charity. She returned to her hometown on Australia Day to celebrate with family and friends.

"If I had my time again there is very little that I would change," she told the Tumut and Adelong Times. "I feel very fulfilled, and will only consider stopping work when that is no longer the case."

## FACTS ON FUNERALS

## Working through your grief.

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

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

What do I write in my journal?

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

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

For further information please call 6297 1052.



**M. H. O' R O U R K E**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PROUDLY AUSTRALIAN AND FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1900

**CATHOLIC VOICE** Yours FREE every month. Share yours with a friend.

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

Internet [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au)

CATHOLIC VOICE March 2010 - 15



## SHORTS

**Percy Jackson and the Olympians: the Lightning Thief.** Starring Logan Lerman, Sean Bean, Kevin McKidd, Pierce Brosnan, Uma Thurman and Catherine Keener. Directed by Chris Columbus. 129 mins. M (fantasy themes, violence).

A Clash of the Titans Jr. Or, perhaps, a Night at the Antiquities Museum and Theme Parks. Based on a novel (2005 plus four sequels) very popular in the US by writer and historian Rick Riordan, who told his original story to his son at bedtime, this is an enjoyable fantasy for young audiences.

### Being in Heaven.

Starring Daniel Whyte and Michael Domeyko Rowland. Written, directed by Michael Domeyko Rowland. 93 mins. G.



One of the wordiest and self-consciously didactic films ever. Whyte (pictured above) does a heroic job in trying to make a drama out of a teaching session, but nothing can help the audience from feeling they are sitting through a narrative reworking of a Domeyko Rowland workshop.

**Crazy Heart.** Starring: Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Colin Farrell and Robert Duvall. Directed by Scott Cooper. 111 mins. M (coarse language).

Quality romantic drama that carries considerable punch. Although it is not a feel-good movie and it is aimed at grown-ups, the film offers food for thought about relationships that count, and the effects that drinking can have on them.

**Shutter Island.** Starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo, Ben Kingsley, Emily Mortimer, Michelle Williams and Max von Sydow. Directed by Martin Scorsese. 137 mins. MA 15+ (strong themes and violence).

Almost defies description. Films such as The Manchurian Candidate spring to mind, as do the words ripping yarn and gobbledygook. But the best description of this disorienting, edge of the seat tale is masterly, both in direction and performances.

# Not much to growl about

## The Wolfman

**The Wolfman.** Starring Benicio Del Toro, Anthony Hopkins, Emily Blunt, Hugo Weaving, Geraldine Chapman, Art Malik and Anthony Sher. Directed by Joe Johnston. 102 mins. MA15+ (strong horror violence). Reviewer: Jan Epstein\*.

The Wolfman is fascinating for all the wrong reasons. Universal Pictures were no doubt excited when they secured Anthony Hopkins and werewolf devotee Benicio Del Toro to star in a remake of the 1941 Hollywood horror classic, The Wolfman.

But an \$84 million budget and state-of-the-art computer graphics are no guarantee of imaginative success, especially not in the ever popular werewolf genre, which has its roots in folklore, and relies heavily on psychological credibility and emotional resonance.

Set in a mist-shrouded hamlet not far from London in 1891, The Wolfman begins promisingly with maximum speed and chill (unearthly howls, scurrying clouds and an ominously waxing moon), as it chronicles the blighted history of the once privileged inhabitants of Talbot Hall.

Lawrence Talbot (Benicio Del Toro, Traffic, The Usual Suspects), is a famous Shakespearean actor from America, in London on a theatrical tour, who is contacted by his sister-in-law to be, Gwen Conliffe (Emily Blunt), and asked to return home immediately to help in the search for his brother Ben, who has disappeared.

On his return to Talbot Hall, Lawrence learns from his father, Sir John Talbot (Anthony Hopkins), that Ben has been brutally murdered and his remains found in a ditch in the Blackmore woods. Sir John is affectionate to Lawrence, but also oddly distant, and we learn that Lawrence was sent to America as a child, where he was



Gwen Conliffe (Emily Blunt) falls for Lawrence Talbot (Benicio del Toro). Picture: Frank Connor (Universal Pictures).

raised by his aunt after his mother's untimely death.

Talk in the village public house is of a lunatic killer on the loose, and a band of gypsies camped in the woods is immediately suspected, as is their bear. Lawrence draws close to Gwen in his quest to uncover the mystery, and hears rumours among the villagers of a beast that strikes when the moon is full, and a curse that befell his family 25 years ago.

"The past is a wilderness of horrors, never look back!", Sir John tells his son. But after further horrendous killings, and

the arrival in the village of sharp-witted Inspector Frederick Abberline (Hugo Weaving), of Scotland Yard (whose last case was Jack the Ripper), Lawrence is forced to confront both his own fate and his darkest fears.

Shot on location in England, The Wolfman is captivating to look at. The carefully chosen costumes and props look expensive and authentic, and there is a wealth of special effects, including some strikingly arresting time-lapse sequences, which go some way to mitigating the de rigueur horror of the werewolf transformations and killings. But as hard as the film tries, it lacks drama and is curiously unengaging.

It is tempting to think that had The Wolfman not been re-edited (more than 20 minutes have been cut from its original running time), the film might have worked better. Perhaps scenes have been cut that would offer insight (and thus empathy) into the characters, not just Lawrence, but also his all-important father, and poor Gwen, whose role is purely functional.

Very likely, The Wolfman fails because of the felt need of its producers to exploit CGI technology, and in other ways update the elegantly simple, eternally relevant storyline of the 1941 classic upon which Joe Johnston's remake is based.

Johnston's The Wolfman muddies the psychological clarity of Siodmak's script with extraneous ideas and altered characters. Far from making the story more relevant or interesting, it eschews the emotional realism at the heart of the original story, leaving the viewer with much sound and fury, but little to empathise with, or think about.

\* Mrs Jan Epstein is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

# Bollywood tugs at the heart strings

Coming down the Bollywood track, this film joins a recent spate of movies about autism.

It tells the story of Rizwan Khan, who has Asperger's syndrome. As a child (Tanay Chheda), Rizwan lives with his mother (Zarina Wahab) in the Borivali section of Mumbai, and moves as a young adult (Shah Rukh Khan) to the US to live with his brother's family in San Francisco.

While in the US, Rizwan falls rapturously in love with Mandira (Kajol Devgan), a beautiful hairdresser, and they eventually marry. Very broad themes underlie the story of their love.

Essentially, the movie focuses on the relationship between the Western world and Islam and the changes in that relationship that flowed from the trauma of the 9/11 attacks on New York in 2001.

The happiness of Rizwan and Mandira is broken by the events of 11 September, when anti-Muslim sentiment boils over and Sam (Yuvaan Makaar), Mandira's son by another marriage, is killed in a racial attack by fellow students. The personal tragedy breaks the marriage, and to win back Mandira's love, Rizwan journeys across America to tell the US President that he is "not a terrorist". Not until he does that will Mandira, caught up in her own hatred, accept him back. Mandira sets him what she sees to be an impossible task, and en route Rizwan becomes the catalyst for showing us the tensions of the world, as seen through the eyes of suburban and rural America.

The film's messages are not about religious bias or hatred, terrorism, racial

## My Name is Khan

**Starring: Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol Devgan, Yuvaan Makaar and Zarina Wahab.** Directed by Karan Johar. 161 mins. M (mature themes and violence). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan\*.

discrimination, or autism. What drives Rizwan is his knowledge that the world is divided into good people and bad people, and his goal in life is to find the former. It is good, not evil, that triumphs in this movie, and the film carries the message very strongly that what ultimately counts in life is love, humanity and goodness.

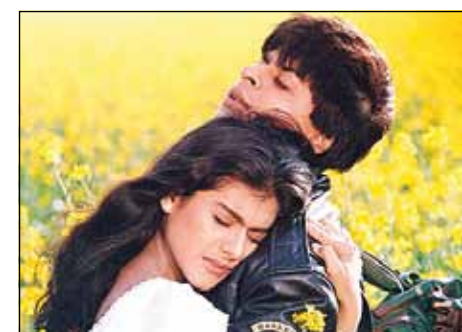
At one level, this film can be described as mawkish, ridiculously sentimental and at times histrionically acted.

It is a mishmash of most of the world's problems all rolled into one, including exploding aeroplanes, racial discrimination, raging hurricanes, prison torture, the election of America's first black President, and alienating patriotic fervour and bias.

But in the awfulness of the mix, there is a wonderful exhilaration, and at the core of that emotion is a giant of a performance by Shah Rukh Khan, who emotionally captures the adult Rizwan with his almost every movement.

The film unmercifully tugs at the heart strings in its wide, social sweep, but there is a tender, endearing moment for everyone tucked away somewhere in the mix.

The soundtrack is composed by Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy, and the lyrics by Niranjan Iyengar. Not unexpectedly, it captures some of its Bollywood style by



Rizwan (Shah Rukh Khan) falls rapturously in love with Mandira (Kajol Devgan).

dancing and singing in the streets, and music features prominently.

The film is also partly a road movie, as Rizwan winds his way across America to meet Mandira's challenge and explain things to the President. There is excellent cinematography by Ravi K Chandran.

This is a complex movie, with many themes. It lacks coherence overall, but plugs its core messages about humanity relentlessly well.

The movie is a story of love that goes wrong in the aftermath of one of the world's biggest terrorist attacks. It aims to appeal to international audiences well beyond India, and it does so sensitively and enthusiastically.

The film goes over the top in many places, but you can't stop responding to it positively, as the director's obvious manipulations of your emotions do their work.

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

Internet [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au)

## COLIN HAY

Thursday 25 March  
Southern Cross Club Woden

Former frontman and main songwriter for iconic Aussie hit machine 'Men at Work', Colin Hay's solo career has been stellar! Old and new fans will thrill to the great hits and new tunes of Colin Hay performing with his band, one very special night only.

Dinner & Show  
\$68 - 6.30pm  
Show Only  
\$35 - 8.30pm

BOOK NOW!  
6283 7288  
[www.csc.com.au](http://www.csc.com.au)

For the information of members and guests



## Le Très Bon

Fully licenced  
Ideal for special occasions and functions

Cooking School 2010 program

Food & Wine Tour  
to France 2010

Gourmet Tour  
to New Caledonia 2010

Information available now  
on website  
[www.letresbon.com.au](http://www.letresbon.com.au)

02 6238 0662  
40 Malbon St  
(the road to the coast)  
Bungendore NSW 2621

Traditional French Cuisine

Chef Christophe Gregoire





# Of priests and pastoral dilemmas

**Saint John Vianney: A Priest for All People** by Elizabeth Marie De Domenico FSP. St Pauls Publications, 2009, 112 pp, rrp \$14.95.

**Light of Other Days** by John McSweeney PE. OMP Publications, 2009, 254 pp, rrp \$24.95 incl postage.

**Priesthood: A Life Open to Christ** by Daniel P. Cronin [ed]. St Pauls Publishing, 2009, 207pp, rrp \$27.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Pope Benedict XVI announced in June last year a Year for Priests coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the death of St John Vianney, the patron of parish priests.

As one might expect there are already a number of books focused on priestly ministry. Here are three of the current offerings.

The first, *St John Vianney*, is a simply written life of the Cure of Ars. He grew up in the aftermath of the French Revolution, becoming a priest only after considerable difficulties. Most of his priestly life was spent in the rural town of Ars where he spent hours in the confessional available to the thousands who flocked to him.

This little book is particularly suitable for upper primary school children. With 15 short chapters it is ideal for a teacher to read aloud as a serial to the class.

The second book is *Light of Other Days* by John McSweeney. The author is an Irish-born retired priest of the Sydney Archdiocese. McSweeney has written three previous biographies. The first is about John Joseph Therry, the second about Tom Dunlea the founder of Boys Town and third a life of Bishop David Cremin.

Now, in his autobiography, he reviews his long life from his arrival in Sydney as a young priest in 1945. After three years he responded to the call for volunteers to go to post-war Japan for a five-year stint. He loved his time there. Returning to Sydney in 1954, after all that excitement, he became a junior curate again.

With the memory of a diarist and the style of a raconteur he relates a series of pastoral dilemmas

and challenges both pre- and post-Vatican II. He recounts his own sterling efforts with openness and grace together with a disarming humility where he acknowledges his own weaknesses. He is clearly a man at peace with himself.

McSweeney reserves some chapters for his travels in the US, Ireland and Australia. There are masses of photos and stories about his relatives and friends which will appeal to those who know him.

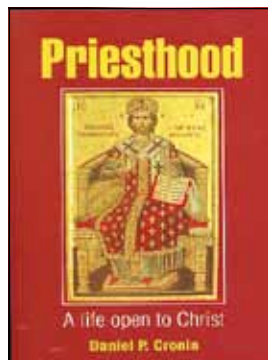
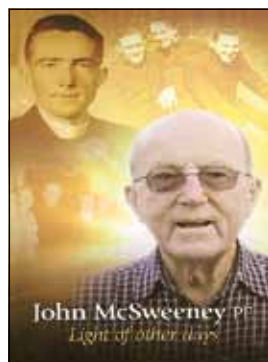
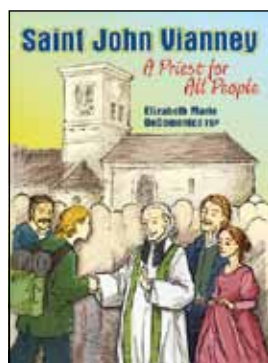
I guess I was more interested in his recollections of the culture, devotion and contributions made by Irish-born clergy to the Australian and, in particular, to the Sydney Church.

The last of the three books is *Priesthood*, compiled by Daniel Cronin.

There are more than 70 priestly contributors mostly from the UK but a number from other countries as well. Our own Archbishop Mark Coleridge is one of them.

The articles are arranged alphabetically with Benedict and John Paul II taking their place in order. There are monks and missionaries, academics and prelates, chaplains and parish priests, young ones [some] and retirees.

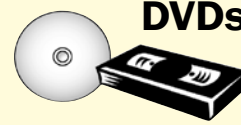
Some of the statements are declamatory, some reflective. All find a ready place here. The mix is a fascinating insight into how priests view themselves and their ministry. It is well worth a browse.



## Towards Easter

The CEO Library holds a number of DVDs, videos, music CDs and books with an Easter theme. They are available for loan to all parishioners.

### Videos & DVDs



#### DVDs

*The Passion of the Christ* (122 mins, ages 16-adult, MA 15+).

This motion picture, produced and directed by Mel Gibson, and starring Jim Caviezel, depicts an explicit account of the crucifixion of Jesus on Calvary. Dialogue is in ancient Aramaic with English subtitles.

*Easter in Art* (66 mins, ages 14-adult).

Presented in three parts; the Betrayal, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, this program looks at the Easter story as depicted by artists through the ages.

*The Messiah Comes!* (Animated stories from the New Testament series, 30 mins, ages 5-11).

Using quality animation, this film shows the disciples of Jesus coming to terms with him as messiah. They witness Jesus cleansing the temple, triumphantly entering Jerusalem, and healing a lame man.

*The Amazing Story of the Last Supper* (80 mins, ages 10-adult)

This film combines dramatisation and documentary to look at the tradition of the Jewish Passover and to provide a re-enactment of the Last Supper of Christ with his Disciples. The

meaning of the events of the Last Supper for Christians is outlined.

Worthy is the *Lamb* (Animated stories from the New Testament series, 30

mins, ages 5-11).

Using quality animation, this DVD follows the Passion of Jesus Christ from the incident in the Garden of Gethsemane to his trial and crucifixion.

### SOUND RECORDINGS

*The Way of the Cross*. Plinio Oliveira (2001, CD and booklet, The Australian TFP Centre, ages 16-adult).

This sound recording provides a meditation and commentary on the Stations of the Cross.

The accompanying booklet includes the script of the sound recording.

### Library Online Catalogue

The online catalogue is located as a link at <http://ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au/> and option: CG Online.

The CEO Library is open to the public. It is in the Rheinberger Centre, the corner of Weston & Loch Streets, Yarralumla, on the site of St Peter Chanel's Church.

The library holds a good collection of books, DVDs, VHS videos, and music CDs suitable for all ages. Resources may be borrowed for a small annual fee.

Telephone 6163 4350, fax 6163 4351, e-mail [library@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:library@cg.catholic.edu.au) Open weekdays 9am-5pm.

- Dennis Granlund (librarian)

## The spirituality of our Mary

**God Will Take Care of Us All: A Spirituality of Mary** MacKillop by Pauline Wicks RSJ. St Paul's Publishing, 2009, 143 pp, rrp \$24.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint, to be canonised this year, is the golden girl of the moment in Catholic circles. Conversely, it seems almost weekly an item or letter about her progress to sainthood appears in the secular press, some of them derogatory. One wonders what Mary would make of it all.

A number of books have been published about Mary with doubtless more to come. Pauline Wicks RSJ has chosen to examine a spirituality of Mother Mary of the Cross for a Masters thesis. She has called the resultant book *God Will Take Care of Us All*.

Mary constantly used this expression and it endures in her many letters contained in Josephite archives.

Wicks has drawn on Mary MacKillop's correspondence from 1860 to 1874 chiefly to her mother, Flora MacKillop, and to Julian Tenison Woods. Using these letters as evidence, Wicks names three pivotal aspects of Mary's spirituality, trust in the providence of God, the place of the will of God and of the cross in Mary's life.

Wicks points out that Mary's spirituality is set within the context of the religious, political and secular life of 19th century colonialism. Her family background and circumstances were formative and enduring for Mary. The language employed in her letters is consistent with that era.

I read this book with care and confess to some disappointment. I own and have reviewed previously several books about Mary including one on her letters. I am glad I have done so because the background given presupposes a knowledge greater than the outlines given by Wicks.

The public perception of Mary is that of a woman of vigour and vision with persistence and the courage of her convictions. The picture that emerges here is one of submission, endurance and of bearing life's trials bravely.

Is this, as is claimed, the model for our living our baptismal call? I guess it is for readers to make up their own minds.

## WODEN CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

**No accompanist for services? Maybe a CD like *Just Organ: Lent and Easter Hymns* might be useful – or splurge and purchase the 10-CD, 200-tune set *No Organist? No Problem!* For books for all ages on topics weighty or light, for music, posters, cards, jewellery, wafers, rosaries, candles and gifts, drop in and look at what we have (or place an order by phone or by email). And yes, we do post out!**

**Bus Interchange, Woden ACT 2606  
Ph. 6285 1425 (fax 6281 0849)  
email [wcb@cyberone.com.au](mailto:wcb@cyberone.com.au)**

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

Internet [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au)

**Return of the Prodigal Son, \$89.95**

**The Death of the Messiah, (Raymond E. Brown) \$74.95**

**Finding Calm in the Chaos, \$24.95**

**Saints to Lean on \$24.95**

**Come and see our beautiful crosses from Italy \$49.95**

**Meeting Jesus Come**

**Pick up your Holy Week reflections**

**Favier House 51 Cooyong St Braddon. GPO BOX 3089 Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone 02 6201 9888 Fax: 02 6262 7560  
Email: [bookshop@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:bookshop@cg.catholic.org.au)**

**Free 30 minute car parking in driveway, Cooyong Street.**



# Classifieds & Real Estate

## To Let - Coast

**BROULEE** - 2 bedroom beach cottage, fully equipped. Expansive coastal and sea views and short stroll to beaches. See "Beach Cottage" in [www.brouleebeach-house.com](http://www.brouleebeach-house.com) or telephone 0417 193 736

**BROULEE** - Spectacular views near beach, 6-bedroom 3-bathroom house newly renovated. Telephone 6257 1222 [www.brouleebeachhouse.com](http://www.brouleebeachhouse.com)

**DALMENY** - 3-bedroom house, walk to beach, fully equipped, TV, DVD, BBQ, bush setting, carport, Telephone 6248 5236.

**MOLLYMOOK** - Birchgrove Apartments. 200m to beach, water view, lovely quiet location opposite reserve. Fully self contained 2 BR, lock up garage and plenty of extra parking and easy walk to Golf Club and Ulladulla shops. Please phone Craig or Kathy 0428 318 156 or 6230 3034.

**NAROOMA** - Lovely 2-bedroom holiday unit, ensuite and shower/ laundry, TV, DVD, M/W, garage. Easy to walk to CBD, golf, close to beach, views. Discount Catholic Voice readers. Telephone Ray 6281 0887.

**TUROSS HEAD** - "Ella May Holiday Flats". Renovated 2br, walk to beach. Fully equipped. Avail all year \$400-\$900 per week, weekends available. Telephone 0414 597 619 or 6161 7793.

## To Let - Queensland

**NOOSA** - Stylish 2bdm fsc townhouses by river and cafes. R/c aircon, tennis court, BBQ, heated pools/spas, DVD, VCR and video library, stereo, linen, modern facilities. Book with owners and save. For brochure, telephone (07) 3289 7178.

## Accommodation - Sydney

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

## Accommodation Wanted

**RELIABLE** female available for house-sitting. Short or long term. Please telephone 0428 290 585.

## Prayers

**PRAYER** to the Blessed Virgin. O most beautiful flower of Mt 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 (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three days. E M B.

**PRAYER** to the Blessed Virgin Mary: O most beautiful flower of Mt 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 here thou art my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand thy power. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this prayer in thy hands (three times). This prayer must be said for three days. (Published in this issue on behalf of MP and TP. Petition gained after saying this prayer).

## Employment

**EARN** an executive level income working from home. A new business opportunity that could change your life. Personal development biz. No selling. Not MLM. [www.VisualiseRealise.com](http://www.VisualiseRealise.com)

## For Sale

**BAGS** of sheep, cow and chicken manure for sale, free delivery to the Canberra area. Telephone Mark 6386 3694 or 0427 053 988.

**KENWOOD** chef food mixer from \$100, 6 months warranty. Will buy Kenwood bowls etc. Sales, repairs and parts for TV microwave etc. Low prices with warranty, trade-in or free removal. John 6286 4454 anytime.

**Catholic Voice Classifieds cost \$6.60 for the first 30 words, and \$1.65 for each 6 words after that. Deadline is always 15th of the month. To place a photograph costs only an extra \$16.50.**

Advertisers please note that it is a policy of Catholic Voice that advertisements for prayers do not carry phrases such as "your request will be granted" or "prayer must be published", or "publication must be promised". - The Editor.



**CAPTIVATE**  
INTERIOR DESIGN  
[www.captivate-id.com](http://www.captivate-id.com) mobile 0404 805 945

**L.J. HOOKER™**  
**Tuggeranong**

**ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING?**

Call Kevin and Deborah McKeown on **6293 7322** or **0409 582 010** for a free market appraisal or to discuss your real estate needs. We guarantee honest and professional service - so let our family help yours.  
Email: [kmckeown.tuggeranong@ljh.com.au](mailto:kmckeown.tuggeranong@ljh.com.au)



**SELLING YOUR HOME?**

If you are thinking of selling and want the finest real estate services and best results

contact Noel Lane on **0412 334 725, 6287 1600** or [noel.lane@luton.com.au](mailto:noel.lane@luton.com.au)



Noel Lane  
Licensed Agent

**Richard Luton**  
PROPERTIES  
The Name in Property

## Family Operated since 1963

## WANTED URGENTLY FOR SALE & RENTAL

Quality homes on the Northside including Belconnen and Gungahlin suburbs to satisfy consistent enquiry

**Darryl Taylor:**  
**Mobile 0409 625 194**

Ralph Taylor Real Estate  
Pty Ltd (lic. Agent)

**6258 8922**  
Florey Shops



Contributions of news items and photographs to the columns of Catholic Voice are welcome. They may be sent to the editor via e-mail at [ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au) or by post to GPO Box 3089, Canberra 2601.

Photographs sent electronically should be in the form of a jpg file and should be of no less than 350Kb in size.

The deadline for material is the 15th of each month.

Catholic Voice is published on the first weekend of the month.

*'For Painting Perfection'*  
**B & N Painting and Decorating**  
Obligation free quotes  
Wallpapering  
**Barry Panneman**  
**Mobile: 0414 809 375**  
A/Hours & Fax: 6258 3397

**SPECIAL WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE**  
**DNA Timber Flooring Specialists**

Price from:

- Pre-finished timber \$22/m2
- Raw timber \$22/m2
- Bamboo Flooring & Laminate Flooring
- Special rate for sanding

Buy direct and save  
**FREE QUOTE**

Unit 4/64 Heffernan St, Mitchell 2911  
**Ph: (02) 6255 5295 Mob: 0412 926 338**  
**Website:**  
<http://www.homeimprovementpages.com.au/professional/2043>  
\*Subject to variation

**Visiting Sydney?**  
Why not stay at  
**Stormanston House**  
27 McLaren Street, North Sydney  
Restful and secure accommodation  
operated by the Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney

- ~ Situated in the heart of North Sydney and a short distance to the City
- ~ Rooms available with ensuite facility
- ~ Continental breakfast, tea/coffee making facilities and television
- ~ Separate lounge/dining room, kitchen and laundry
- ~ Private off-street parking

**Contact 0418 650 661 or [nsstorm@tpg.com.au](mailto:nsstorm@tpg.com.au)**



# Comina Events



**AMICUS** - Support & friendship/ social group for widowed, separated or divorced Catholics regular activities on second and fourth weekends. Inquiries: Len, telephone 6299 6606; Pat 6292 1631, Brian 6291 7402.

**CANBERRA DAY ORATION** - Bishop Pat Power, "Canberra and its battlers". 12.30pm, Friday, 12 March. National Library theatre. Inquiries: Telephone 6281 2929, e-mail admin@canberrahistory.org.au

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - Penny Street from WA shares her remarkable story of recovery from alcoholism, addiction and abuse. 7 pm, Friday, 19 March, Greg Collins Building, St Benedict's, Jerrabomberra Ave, Narrabundah. Inquiries: Colleen, telephone 6254 3495.

**CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP** - Led by Prof Tom Connolly of Philadelphia USA representing Contemplative Outreach International. Saturday, 20 March, at Marian Hall, St Matthew's parish, Page. Inquiries: Peter Ahern, telephone 62547168 or e-mail peter.ahern@bigpond.com. Seating limited to 30. Bookings essential. Donation \$10.

**CHARISMATIC RENEWAL ADDRESS** - by Michelle Moran, chairperson of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, 7pm, 17 March, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Followed by tea and coffee. Inquiries: St Benedict's Parish, telephone 6295 7879.

**CURSILLO** - Men's' Cursillo and women's Cursillo at Greenhills, Cotter Road, ACT, 29 April to 2 May. Inquiries: David, telephone 6294 2979, e-mail javecunneen@grapevine.com.au or Irma, telephone 6242 7332, e-mail jja19144@bigpond.net.au

**CURSILLO** - Southside Ultreya, 24 March, Kambah parish. Northside, 25 March, Page parish. Inquiries: Merran, telephone 6258 3431.

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

**PUBLIC FORUM** - Fr Frank Brennan key speaker at Christians for an Ethical Society first public forum for 2010. "Theological Perspectives of Affluence and Poverty". 7.30pm, Wednesday, 17 March, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Donation \$5.

**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE FETE** - 10am-2pm, Saturday, 13 March, Pawsey Circuit, Florey. Pre-loved toys, lots of bargains, amazing range of second hand books, Devonshire tea, steak/sausage sandwich, hotdog, ice-cream, face painting, hair colouring. Inquiries: Telephone 6258 3592.

**ST PATRICK'S DAY** - Annual ecumenical service, noon, Wednesday, 17 March, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Bishop Pat Power in attendance. Inquiries: Angela Devlin, telephone 62319104, e-mail: angela1@hotmail.com.au

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST** - Organised by Call to Connect inter-parish ministry for women. 8am-10am, Saturday, 20 March, St Edmund's College, Griffith. Guest speaker Sr. Therese Mills MGL. RSVP by 12 March. Cost \$15. Inquiries: Telephone 6231 8611 (Mon, Wed, Fri), e-mail Bronnie.Schlager@gmail.com or St Benedict's parish office telephone 6295 7879 (Tues/Wed/Thurs).

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** - Weekend for married couples, 19-21 March. Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa (near Penrith). Bookings: Telephone 6379 1125 or 4283 3435, website www.wwme.org.au

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

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

# Founding editor touched the souls of many

Raymond Terrence Frawley 1947-2010

The founding editor of Catholic Voice and life-long journalist Ray Frawley died peacefully after a short illness at the end of January in a Melbourne hospital.

Mr Frawley was born on 28 March, 1947, in Ballarat, the third son of nine children, to Leigh Creek farmers Jack and Margaret Frawley. Quiet and reflective in nature, the young Ray went quietly about being the hardworking farmer's son, growing up in a world dominated by potato farming seasons, helping out with chores, attending church at St Michael's, Bungaree, playing sport, and taking part in spud fights.

Spending time working outdoors growing potatoes were formative for him. He took an active interest in the seasons, the weather and the notion that the earth, through being the source of food through farming, sustained life, themes that stayed with him through his life.

Being one of nine stoked his passion for fairness and social justice. He hated waste, and a shed full of junk at Warrenheip attests to his reluctance to throw out anything.

In his eulogy, eldest son Gerard said Mr Frawley would have been "overwhelmed, and probably even slightly embarrassed" at the Thanksgiving Mass celebrated in St Alipius' Church, Ballarat. "He was never one for fuss."

As a youngster he was a voracious reader. His mother once recalled how when the boys came inside after a day's work on the farm she would get them to clean their boots with newspaper. Instead of cleaning his boots Ray would put his day old newspaper to much better use, and read it instead!

While still at school he began submitting stories on farming to the Ballarat Courier and the Weekly Times. His passion for photography also emerged. Taking photographs deliberately, carefully and profusely was a trademark of his life.

After finishing school at St Patrick's, Ballarat, he continued to work on the family farm full time. As well he played football for Bungaree, was active in the Young Farmers and Young Christian Workers movements, and was involved in the local bushfire brigade.

He began his first job outside farming as a youth worker for YCW in Ballarat, helping disadvantaged, unemployed and homeless young people in the Ballarat area. Many of his lifelong friends, and wife Mary, came from his time in the YCW. They met at the end of a YCW leadership training week in 1971. She was attracted to his genuineness, his gentleness and his sense of humour. They married in Melbourne in June 1973.

Mr Frawley began door knocking newspapers seeking work as a journalism cadet. He started in Melbourne and worked east, finding success in Bairnsdale. And so began a 35-year career in newspapers.

The couple started their family in Bairnsdale, but after a few years returned to Ballarat where Mr Frawley started the first of three stints on the Ballarat Courier. In 1978, the Frawleys moved to Canberra for the first time, with Mr Frawley work-

ing at The Canberra Times. They returned to Ballarat after three years.

Son Daniel was born in 1982, delivered at home by Mr Frawley as the ambulance could not get there soon enough - a feat that made The Ballarat Courier.

A few years later the family moved to Warrenheip into what has been the family home, one second Canberra stint aside, for more than 25 years. Many years of hard work transformed a fire-ravaged house and overgrown gardens into an oasis of renovated old house, old trees and beautiful gardens.

That second family foray to Canberra took place as Mr Frawley became founding editor of Catholic Voice.

Son Gerard said working on Catholic Voice was perhaps the high point of Mr Frawley's professional career - "a job that with his YCW, church community and newspaper background he was ideally suited to, and it showed. The Catholic Voice proved a great success, an award-winning pioneer in Catholic media in Australia, an example that many other dioceses followed."

The family, minus Gerard who still lives in Canberra, returned to Ballarat, and Mr Frawley took on the role of editing Kairos, the newspaper for the Melbourne Archdiocese, commuting by train.

"Working at Kairos and Catholic Voice allowed dad to combine his faith with his passion for newspapers, bringing together two great strands of his life," Gerard said.

Back full-time at the Ballarat Courier for nearly a decade, Mr Frawley took much joy from and great pride in writing and editing the Farmers Weekly pages.

"His combination of professional and personal experiences meant he was ideally suited to the task," Gerard said.

"The local farming community which he reported on and for, really responded to his work. Some of notices in the paper over the last few days are testament to just how well loved and respected he was in this role."

He was known as a "gentle giant" of rural reporting, well respected for his integrity, balance, impartiality and knowledge. As a journalist he had something of a secret weapon, his ability to listen and to get people to open up and talk.

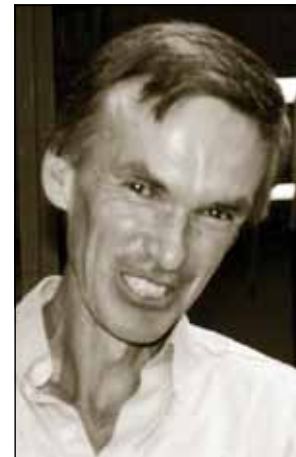
He was known for his quiet, softly spoken personality. He was always thinking, always reflecting, always mulling, traits not often associated with journalists, but traits that made him very good as a journalist and a writer. He gave people the time to talk, and he would listen, without pushing forward his own world views and opinions.

He was hardy too. That hardiness saw him ride his bicycle to work, rather than drive, no matter the season, the weather, or the time of day. Working at the Ballarat Courier meant he would often work nights, so it was not uncommon to see him pedalling away riding up Woodmans Hill on the main road out of town at 1am on his way home from work.

Mr Frawley was a keen camper. Heaven on earth for him was family camping holidays years ago, and more recently annual expeditions to the Murray. "The Murray is magical," he wrote in a story about his Murray camping expeditions.

The Murray touched his soul, but he in turn touched the souls of those around him, more than he perhaps realised.

Mr Frawley leaves wife Mary, children Gerard, Tim, Catherine and Daniel, their partners and his granddaughters, brothers Chris, John, Vincent, Dennis, Eddie and Kevin, his sister Marie, and their families. His brother Barry predeceased him.



Each year, Lent offers the opportunity to journey to the core of our faith to encounter anew and strengthen our embrace of the relationship with God Jesus offers us.

Together we share in Christ's mission and our faith communities - people! - form a network that spans the globe; enlivening Christ's message and mission despite life's many challenges.

Catholic Mission, through its efforts, seeks to support this network in their endeavours.

Through prayer, people's many skills and generosity in time and money, projects operate to support faith training and engagement as well as the faith and life needs of many children.

These projects allow opportunities and hope to flourish in communities that struggle in isolation, particularly when disaster strikes. In Haiti, Catholic Mission projects were affected along with the faith community and their many undertakings. Their longer term needs include support to re-establish themselves and their endeavours, especially those that feed and strengthen their faith along with their ability to serve Christ in the other.

Ongoing support is needed to repair, maintain and further Catholic Mission's support of people's faith and their faith in action endeavours. Please support us that together we can support the faith of others and those they serve.

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

## Family Planning...Naturally



**Enquiries: 6162 6100**  
**1800 800 517**  
**Sharing responsibility**

## J.P. VERDON

PTY. LTD.

- RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
- NEW INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS
- OBLIGATION FREE QUOTES

**Licensed Plumber, Drainer & Gasfitter**

**Call Peter on 6281 5695**

**or Mobile 0412 663 029**

26 Anderson Street, Chifley



# A 20-year gift to newly marrieds

A Canberra couple who have been instrumental in guiding hundreds of newly marrieds through their first years of marriage are taking their ministry further afield.

Bernice and Maurie Boland established the Ministry to the Newly Married 20 years ago in Canberra and have guided it ever since.

At a dinner to mark the anniversary, the Bolands handed over the reins to a new leadership team, Vivien and Leigh Palmer and Debbie and Brian Kensey.

The Bolands recently have supported the establishment of the ministry in Sydney, Adelaide and Perth, and expect to start in Brisbane soon.

The ministry provides a mentoring program for newly married couples in their first five years of married life.

The mentoring and support is provided by couples in a longer marriage who have experienced the day-to-day joys marriage brings, and have and are working through its challenges.

At the dinner, attended by 100 current and past members and chaplain Fr Dave Callaghan, Archbishop Mark Coleridge commissioned the new leadership team. He blessed the Bolands, who the day after the dinner left for Adelaide and Perth to support couples there in the program.

Archbishop Coleridge also blessed Kathy and Mark Haseler who are taking over leadership of Evenings for the Engaged, which has also been coordinated by the Bolands.

In reflecting on the past 20 years, Bernice and Maurie said if they were to leave a legacy, "it is a passion for marriage; a passion for unearthing all that is in our sacrament of matrimony and pursuing that with the Church and the Lord."

They concluded with a prayer that "the Holy Spirit bring our love for each other to its fullness."

This year the program is supporting 22 newly married couples, who are mentored by 18 "adoptive" couples.

The program is open to couples recently married in the Catholic Church. Four discussions are held in either couple's home each year and 20 topics are covered over five years.

More information about the program is available from the leadership team, telephone 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167 or by e-mail [mnm@grapevine.com.au](mailto:mnm@grapevine.com.au).



ABOVE: The newly marrieds and their supporting couples at the dinner.

RIGHT: Maurie and Bernice Boland (left) hand over the reins to Debbie and Brian Kensey and Vivien and Leigh Palmer after 20 years of service to married couples in the Archdiocese.



## A century of stories to tell

With her 100th birthday just months away, lifelong Braidwood parishioner Mrs Margaret "Midge" Stalker has plenty of stories to tell.

The second youngest of 10, she was born Margaret Clare McDermott on 2 June 1910, and grew up on a property 8km out of town.

She went to a one-teacher school not far from her home and loved nothing more than to play tennis.

"The teacher and the boys at our school made a tennis court," Mrs Stalker said.

"They used wire for the net and, would you believe, we had wooden bats.

"Eventually we all got racquets and we became very strong players.

"My sister and I represented Braidwood at Country Week which was a state competition."

She finished school in Year 6 and then stayed at home to help her parents.

Her family operated a receiving office, similar to a post office, where they sold stamps and collected the mail which was then delivered to Sydney via train. They also ran a phone switch service.

The family would drive 8km with a horse and sulky to get to Mass, unless it was raining, in which case they would stay home and say the rosary.

Dancing was also a regular family event.

"We learnt to dance on the kitchen floor to the gramophone, which was very enjoyable," Mrs Stalker said.



Mrs Midge Stalker outside Narbethong House, Braidwood.

It was at dancing where she first met her husband. He had enlisted in the army and had to get special permission to take a week off for their wedding in 1943. Then he was back to fighting in the Solomon Islands.

"It was a really hard time but I had good faith," Mrs Stalker said.

Mr Stalker returned safely and in 1946 the couple moved to Braidwood and had two children, Richard and Marcia.

Mr Stalker got a job with the county council but in 1956 tragedy struck.

He was electrocuted while working on a power line and died aged 45. Richard was eight at the time and Marcia, who does not remember her father, was only two.

Mrs Stalker decided to take in boarders to supplement her income from the widow's pension.

"The boarders were wonderful and really helped fill the void after my husband's death," she said.

Richard and Marcia were able to attend St Bede's Primary

School before going on to boarding school - Richard at St Patrick's in Goulburn and Marcia at St Scholastica's in Glebe.

Mrs Stalker, meanwhile, was able to keep her house, in which she has lived for 62 years.

It was only in the past 12 months that she had to sell, when she moved to Braidwood's aged care centre Narbethong House.

"It was hard moving from a whole house to just one room, but I have a lovely view," she said.

"Having lived here so long I really do like the community. I've had extreme kindness shown over the years from relatives and friends.

"But there are a lot of strangers in Braidwood now - I used to know everyone."

Mrs Stalker still leads an active and busy life. She is a life member of the bowling club and the serviceman's club, has been a member of the hospital auxiliary for nearly 60 years and is a member of Torchbearers for Legacy.

"I am blessed to have reached this milestone in such good health," she said.