

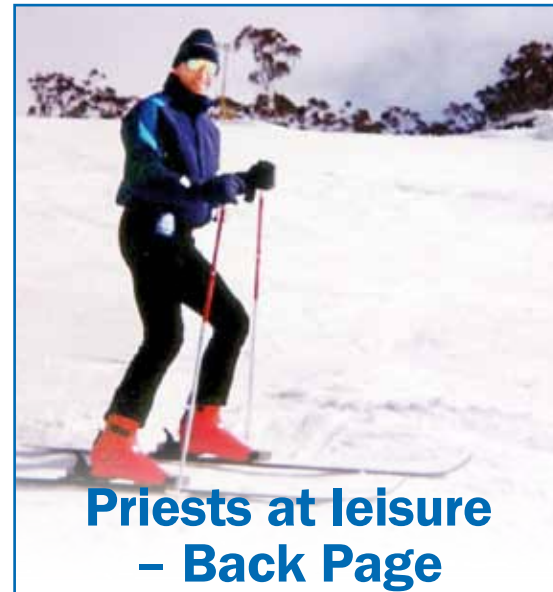
# CATHOLIC VOICE

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

FREE

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**Priests at leisure  
- Back Page**

# Precinct planning picks up pace

The Archdiocese is set to undertake a multi-million dollar project that will transform the area surrounding St Christopher's Cathedral and enhance one of the most historic parts of Canberra.

The redevelopment of the Cathedral precinct will see the building of church offices on the Haydon Centre site and aged care units on the adjacent block which currently houses the Cathedral presbytery and CatholicCare. The total development is estimated to cost more than \$35 million.

The Archdiocese will hold public meetings this month, attended by architect Mr Rodney Moss and members of the precinct planning committee, to explain progress and to answer questions. They will be held in the old bookshop area of the Haydon Centre from 2pm to 4pm and from 6pm to 8pm on Thursday, 8 July, primarily for cathedral parishioners, and at the same times on Friday, 9 July, for other interested people and stakeholders.

Vicar-General Mgr John Woods said it was "appropriate and fortuitous that the completion of the proposed redevelopment of the Cathedral precinct will occur in time for Canberra's centenary celebrations.

"The Cathedral is where, in liturgical celebration with our Archbishop and each other, we are

most church; our worship of God renews us to live the Gospel message in this time and place.

"Church offices behind the Cathedral, itself adjacent to the ebb and flow of the life of Manuka, will symbolically affirm and enhance this connection between worship, service and mission, to the good of both the faithful and the wider community. Mgr Patrick Haydon, the first and only parish priest of Canberra, would have little envisaged what would develop on the Cathedral site. We can only ponder what might transpire over the next 100 years. What we do know is that the witness of faith to the good of the wider community will continue under God's grace."

Financial administrator Mr Herbie O'Flynn said it was likely construction would start in July next year and be completed fully by the end of 2012. Cost depended on the eventual size of the office and aged care development. "The current planning estimate is that the office building will cost about \$14 million and the aged care facilities about \$22 million.

"The office building will be financed by the sale of the Favier House site in Braddon with any shortfall being met by a CDF loan serviced by office rental charges. The aged care independent living units will be funded entirely by loan and licence agreements with the residents.

"A fundamental assessment is that the Haydon Centre needs replacement. On the other hand, the archdiocesan offices in Braddon are located adjacent to a site ear-marked for substantial mixed residential development and some distance from the Cathedral. Logically, the administration offices should be located in the Cathedral precinct."

Mr O'Flynn said the office block at a minimum would need to be of sufficient size to accommodate archdiocesan offices relocated from Favier House, some offices from the CatholicLIFE agency at Yarralumla, and the offices of CatholicCare. • **Cont Page 4.**



Architect Rodney Moss (middle) discusses the project with archdiocesan financial manager Herbie O'Flynn and Vicar-General Mgr John Woods.

## Monaro - the deanery with a difference

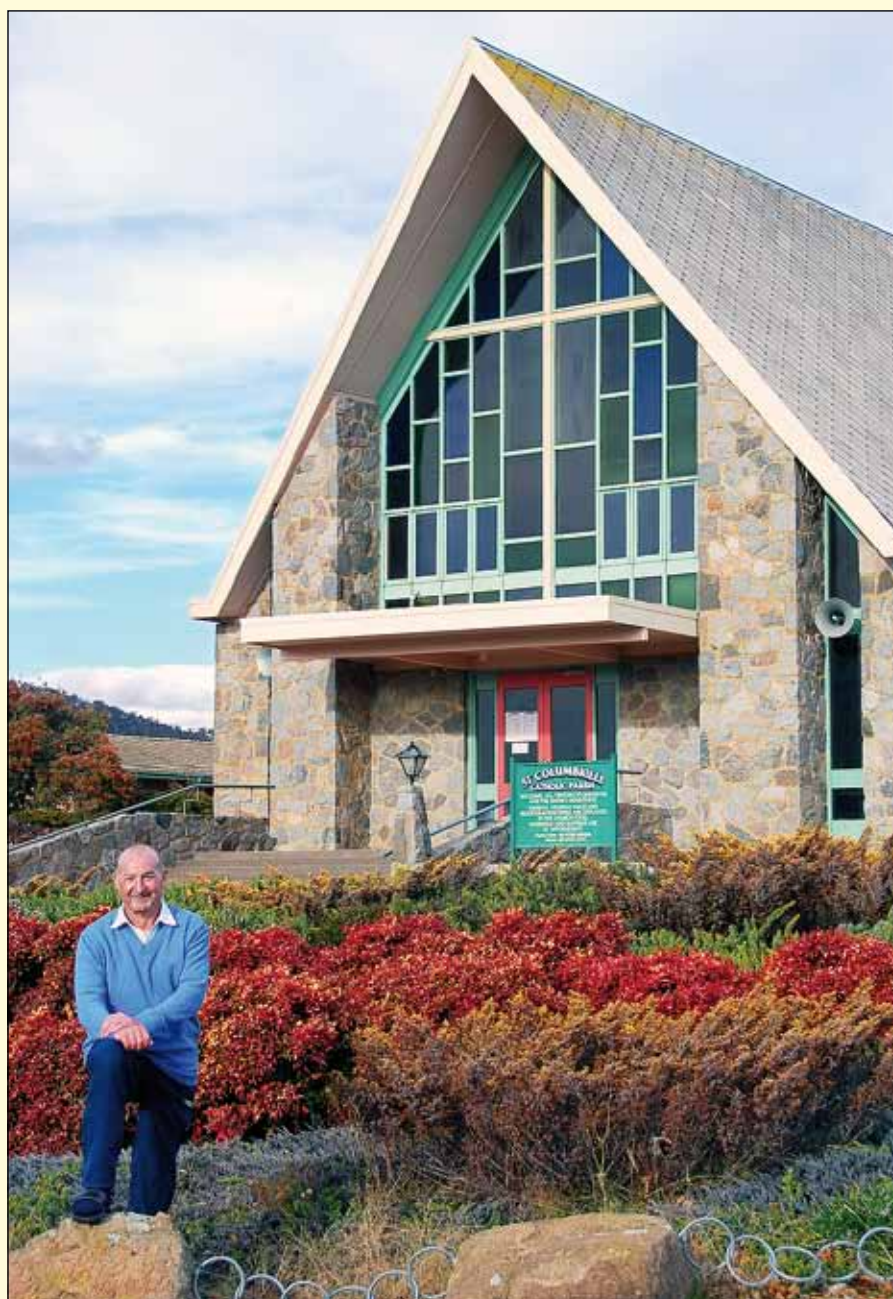
Stretching from the tiny village of Michelago through to snowy Jindabyne, the Monaro Deanery is a diverse and historic region.

Cooma was the first parish, established in 1863, closely followed by Bombala in 1864. Both have strong links to Mary MacKillop and there are still three Sisters of St Joseph working in the parishes.

Michelago joined the deanery shortly after in 1890. While the parish is by far the smallest at present, new developments will see the region grow in the near future. Then in 1951 Jindabyne was established, which incorporates the snowfields at Thredbo and Perisher Valley.

"The four Monaro parishes are all very different - in climate, community and industry," Jindabyne parish priest Fr Peter Miller said. "We're all country areas but each offers a very different way of life."

• Visit the Monaro, see middle pages.



Fr Peter Miller outside St Columbkille's Church in Jindabyne.



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## page2

## It's what you do with talent

By Ned Hirst\*

I was reading an article recently that discussed the possibility that "talent" is a societal construct that discourages hard work. On the face of it this seems political correctness gone mad. We couldn't possibly say that someone is genetically predisposed to being better at something than someone else. This would surely hurt the feelings of the "less talented" among us. The real question is whether a person being told that they're good at something discourages them to work on it further.

There is a criticism of the education system that children are being told they're good at everything and therefore are fundamentally disadvantaged when it comes to learning new skills. Surely though, it's more discouraging to be told you're not good at something particularly at a tentative stage in your development as a person. It's difficult to argue that being told you didn't do something well is motivational. Perhaps the middle ground lies somewhere in the prodigious use of the phrase "areas you could improve."

At some point though, it is vital to recognise that talents exist. Denying that there are people who are better at some things than other people essentially undermines the purpose of these talents in the first place. If you give people the pretence that they are as good as anyone but haven't put in as much effort, it damages self esteem more than being told there are people better at some particular discipline than you.

From personal experience, much of which has involved not being terribly good at things, I am happy to report that I have managed to achieve some things despite a lack of any discernable ability. I would attest that a lack of talent is no reason to stop trying. That said, it can make things a little more difficult. Fortunately, I am a natural at Wii Sports Resort Table Tennis, so I always have that to fall back on.

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



## Changing our world

As children's television taught us all, everyone has talents, and people should be encouraged to work in areas in which their talents lie, rather than being told they are as good as other people in other areas. Tiger Woods is clearly a talented golfer, and presumably he was not encouraged to devote his time and effort into becoming an astrophysicist or a marriage counsellor. And it's just as well.

The Bible tells us that our talents are God-given gifts that we should use to better ourselves and humanity. Martin Ritt said, "I don't have a lot of respect for talent. It's what you do with it that counts." Surely this is the message that we would wish to instil rather than a feeling of inadequacy or conversely complacency. Being good at something doesn't act as a substitute for working at it.

To claim that there is no talent is at least as damaging as saying that if you have talent you can get by without doing anything. It may be possible to get by with large amounts of either, but it is within the capacity of everyone to achieve them in union, and this should be encouraged.

Some people are less suited to conventional methods of learning and achievement than others. That doesn't make their talents less valuable, only perhaps less recognised, at least in the context of the education system. Many very successful people have emerged from fairly unspectacular academic backgrounds. In any case, no talent is worthless, but if we are to pretend they don't exist then they might as well be.

\* Ned Hirst is a Year 11 student at Daramalan College. When not staring out windows considering a career in unemployment, he occasionally writes things.

## Compassion in record amounts

St Mary MacKillop College set a new college record this year for its Project Compassion fundraising efforts, raising \$10,175.

This beat the previous record set in 2008 by \$75.

The school raised the money for Caritas during Lent through a range of fundraising initiatives, including sausage sizzles, coin lines, and inter-class competitions. Most of the money, however, was raised through daily donations from the students.

In June, college leaders presented the Archdiocese's director of Caritas Deacon Joe Blackwell with both the cheque and the college's best wishes for Caritas' international efforts.

One of MacKillop's Project Compassion organisers, religious education coordinator Mr Bernie Brown, said it was a fantastic effort from the whole college.



MacKillop students with Deacon Joe Blackwell are (from left): Emily Bui, Alexandra Kellar, Regan Morris, Hayden Curtis, Oliver Oakman, Mr Bernie Brown, Beth Mossman, Monique Wilks, Danica Tagaza.

"Our students, staff, and parents should be proud," Mr Brown said. "This is the greatest amount we have ever raised, due in large part to our students, who are generous and always reach out to people in great need. This year, we had a pretty even effort between our two campuses - the senior campus only raised about \$15 more than the junior campus."

## Vinnies hew head makes history

The newly elected international head of the St Vincent de Paul Society is a Singaporean, the first president general chosen from outside of Europe since it was founded in 1833.

Mr Michael Thio (right) is a former managing director and now senior consultant of BT (British Telecom) South-East Asia. He has been a member of the society for more than 40 years.



Australian president Mr Syd Tutton, who attended Mr Thio's election as 15th international president general in Spain, described him as "a great friend of the society in Australia. The society's youth enjoyed his visit during World Youth Day and our national council looks forward to his return this year".

## what do you know?

1. Which parish priest has had two of his chooks win prizes at the local show?

2. Which parish church celebrates its 25th anniversary this month?

3. This fine-looking young man (right) looks like a fellow you could bank on. Well you can now. Who is he?



4. At the behest of Mary MacKillop the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart opened a convent in which Monaro town in 1902?

5. In the tourist seasons, Jindabyne parish's population swells from 5000 to 10,000, 20,000 or 30,000?

Answers: Bottom Page 4.

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# It's rough, but we've got to do better - CEOs



ABOVE: Cosy but not so comfortable.

LEFT: Bleary-eyed CEOs enjoy their 5.30am porridge breakfast (from left): Mr Fergus Nelson, Mr Charles Bishop and Mr Frank Quinlan.

After a day of almost non-stop wind and rain, temperatures dropped to just one degree for the Vinnies CEO Sleepout in Canberra.

A quality sleeping bag and warm clothes did a reasonable job of keeping out the cold.

But, the 111 participants quickly discovered the three pieces of cardboard they were given did not do much to soften the hard concrete outside the National Museum of Australia.

The discomfort of sleeping rough was eased by the fact that their efforts raised more than \$336,000 for the St Vincent de Pauls Society's homeless services in Canberra and Goulburn.

"There is an average of 100 homeless in Canberra each night and there were about 100 CEOs sleeping rough for Vinnies, so I guess that makes a guardian angel for everyone," Catholic Social Services Australia executive director Mr Frank Quinlan said.

During the evening a panel of speakers, including Vinnies clients who used to sleep rough every night, discussed the issues of homelessness.

Their stories were still being talked about by the CEOs over porridge at 5.30am the next day.

"The take-home message for me is if Australia is serious about eliminating homelessness then there's no better place

to start than by guaranteeing housing to everyone," St Vincent de Paul Society National Council chief executive officer Mr John Falzon said.

"Yes, that's expensive, but the human cost of not doing so is even greater."

O2C director Mr Charles Bishop said he did not think homelessness was something that could be

solved completely, but by providing better services the community could work to reduce the severity of the problem.

"It's great that the money we raised will help to do that," he said.

For Just Better Care director Mr Fergus Nelson, what stuck out from the night's discussions was the amount of time

people in crisis had to wait for assistance.

"For a parent to spend eight months in a car with the kids while they wait for emergency housing is pretty demoralising," he said.

"We need to do better than that."

Donations can still be made to support the Vinnies appeal at [www.ceosleepout.org.au](http://www.ceosleepout.org.au) until 30 July.

## Our prayers with victims

The Archdiocese has reached out to the people of the English Diocese of Lancaster in the wake of the killing of 12 people by a gunman.

In a letter of sympathy to Bishop Michael Campbell, of Lancaster, Vicar-General Mgr John Woods extended the Archdiocese's "prayerful support as you come to terms with the tragic loss of life in West Cumbria".

"The loss is especially hard for the loved ones of the innocent victims; feelings of anger, outrage and, above all, a deep abiding pain will be to the fore," Mgr Woods said.

In reply, Bishop Campbell wrote: "Thank you very much indeed for your kind wishes and promise of prayers for the victims of the recent terrible events in West Cumbria. It is a comfort to know that they are in the thoughts and prayers of the Catholic community in Australia."

## Gunning for good art

Gunning Parish is preparing for its one function of the year, the annual art show. The show provides the small rural parish with an opportunity to mix socially and raise funds. It will be held on 10 to 12 September. Entries close at the end of next month. Inquiries: Maureen Hewitt, telephone 4845 1308.

## Come walk with Mary

A series of short pilgrimage walks are being held in Canberra in the lead-up to the canonisation of Mary MacKillop. The 6km walks, starting from Archbishop's House and ending in front of the window honouring Mary MacKillop in St Christopher's Cathedral, are held fortnightly on Saturday mornings. The next will begin at 8am on Saturday, 10 July, with a short reflection given by a member of the Sisters of St Joseph, followed by a prayer in the chapel at Archbishop's House. Organiser Mr Neil Harrigan said the walks were a way to prepare for the canonisation, reflecting on Mary MacKillop's life which was marked by pilgrimage. The second walk this month will be on 31 July.

## CWL president elected

Belfast born ex Dominican student Angela Devlin was elected president of CWL of the Archdiocese of Canberra/Goulburn at the 60th archdiocesan council and annual meeting. Certificates of appreciation were presented to O'Connor branch president Judith-Ann Sjustedt and Carmel Markham from Weston Creek branch. The highlight of the conference was the cutting of the anniversary cake by St Christopher's branch member, 94-year-old Mrs Joyce Purcell.

# 'Sense of solidarity' with people

Bishop Pat Power has marked the end of the Year for Priests with a message to his fellow clergy of the Archdiocese reflecting on the "genuine sense of solidarity" they felt with the people they are serving.

"As we have sought to be 'companions on the journey' with them, they have reached out to us in all kinds of ways in a spirit of love and appreciation," he said.

In the message sent on the Feast of the Sacred Heart on behalf of himself and Archbishop Mark Coleridge who was in Rome, he asks "God's blessings on us all as we continue on our pilgrim journey, leading our people in the love of God and in the light of Christ.

"In numerous ways, the past year has been a tumultuous one for the whole Church, but as priests we have borne a large part of the burden. At times we have felt that we were experiencing much of the suffering of Christ without too many glimpses of the resurrection.

"Yet for all that, I am sure we have all felt a genuine sense of solidarity with the people we are serving.

"Last month's clergy assembly enabled us to experience something of that sense of shared mission as we reflected on our personal and ecclesial lives. We are humbled to be bearers of good news in good times and in bad.

"The honouring of our five jubilarians at the assembly was a

powerful sign of God's grace mediating through those five wonderful men and, indeed, through all of us.

"Next Thursday, in the context of the end of the Year for Priests, I am privileged to be celebrating Mass with our retired priests and having dinner with them afterwards. The example of these senior priests continually inspires us all.

"The feast of the Sacred Heart reminds us of the compassionate heart of Jesus, giving heart to us all and encouraging us to live up to his great commandment 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

May the blessings of this Year for Priests remain with us in the time ahead."

# Exhibits invite action on poverty

A large interactive exhibition examining the realities of global poverty and the possibilities for change will open in Canberra this month.

Blueprint for a Better World - The Millennium Development Goals and you, is presented by Caritas Australia in partnership with AusAID.

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

Senator Kate Lundy, Member for Canberra Ms Annette Ellis and Archbishop Mark Coleridge will launch the exhibition on 22 July at the Museum of Australian Democracy, Old Parliament House. It will run from 9am to 5pm daily from 10 July to 18 August. It will be on display for school tours at St Francis Xavier College, Florey, from 23 August to 1 September.

In a creative and interactive space, exhibition visitors will be invited to take action, learning more about breaking the burden of entrenched poverty.

Photographs, stories, posters, baskets and school books from Caritas local partners will give insight into communities and development programs in PNG, Cambodia, Sudan and Australia.

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

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By the time you read this, I will be well and truly back in chilly Canberra. But I'm now writing from a decidedly humid northern Italy where I find myself between meetings in Rome and Lyon. Last week I was in a very warm Rome for a meeting of the Post-Synod Council and the celebrations for the end of the Year for Priests. The Post-Synod Council is a group of about 15 bishops from around the world whose task it is to help the Pope prepare the document that appears after each assembly of the Synod of Bishops, and also to help the Pope prepare for the next Synod. It's a fairly high-powered group and we meet for only a day and a half each time, so it's quite intense, with lots to be done in a short time. Mind you, we do have the help of a formidable array of experts.

Rome was full of priests from every corner of the globe - so many that it felt at times like World Youth Day for clergy. I say "Youth Day" because so many of them seemed so young. I felt like a grandfather, meeting many of them. Seeing them together, it's hard to believe that we have a shortage of priests world-wide. But the Catholic Church is the greatest show on earth, and we need lots of priests to meet the needs. Still, there is movement on the vocations front, as we see in our own Archdiocese. The celebrations I attended were simple and deep. There was no blare of clericalism, no false triumphalism, but rather a sense of brotherhood and of gratitude for the gift of the priesthood and the mystery of divine vocation.

I came north to the city of Este, which lies between Padua and Venice. I'm here because I met the parish priest, Mgr Luciano Carraro, in Canberra early this year. He's a seminary classmate of Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto, the Apostolic Nuncio in Australia;

# Building on the past to open a future



and most of the Nuncio's classmates were in Australia for a reunion and a time of prayer together - to say nothing of a bit of tourism on the side.

Coming here, I've seen close-up the extraordinary riches of the Church in this part of the world. I don't mean just the artistic riches, which are stupendous. I mean also and more particularly the human and spiritual riches which are so striking. By our standards, Padua is a vast diocese - not so much in size or numbers but in spiritual and artistic patrimony.

I was in Padua for the feast of St Anthony, and it is huge news. People were there from everywhere and their devotion was deeply moving. The only pity was that there was a tremendous downpour just as the procession left the Basilica to make its way through the streets of the city. We all had to rush for the nearest shelter, as the statue of St Anthony was rushed back into the Basilica.

Padua contains other gems, like the enormous Benedictine church of Saint Justina where the tomb of St Luke lies.

Padua was once part of the Venetian empire, whose patron was St Mark. I have the second name of Benedict, and I wrote my doctoral thesis on St Luke. So I felt strangely at home in what was part of the Venetian empire in a Benedictine church where probably St Luke lies buried.

I was also moved to visit a nearby Camaldolese monastery where the seven monks of all

ages live largely as hermits. I discovered from the German Prior that their spiritual father was St Romuald. This really struck me, because on the feast of St Romuald (19 June) four years apart I was ordained Bishop and named Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn. I commended my ministry to their prayers and promised them a prayer of my own on the feast.

Beyond the historical and artistic glories of the region, I've also visited in Este a hugely energetic "summer school" for young people, a wonderful centre for the care and formation of the disabled and a large nursing home for the care of the elderly - all in the parish where I'm staying. So much for those who think the Church in this part of the world is dead. Change is upon all of us, but there is a real Christian vitality here in Este.

Tomorrow I return from Este to Padua before flying to Lyon. I'm to meet with the Archbishop of Padua before greeting the priests who will be together to celebrate the feast of Saint Gregory Barbarigo, a former Bishop of the diocese and one of its beloved patrons.

I'm going to Lyon to meet with the leadership of Chemin Neuf (New Way), one of the communities that have sprung up since the Second Vatican Council. They were founded by a French Jesuit; they have a charismatic spirituality and they have a strongly ecumenical vocation. In recent times, they have assumed responsibility for

some old religious houses in France and have turned them into vibrant centres of many things. I will visit two of the houses - the monasteries of Dombes and Hautecombe. I'll also be having a look at some of their work in Lyon itself.

My first contact with the community was in Canberra where I met Tim and Kate Watson, who are Australian members of Chemin Neuf and who will be my hosts. I mentioned to Tim and Kate that in time we would be looking for someone to succeed the Redemptorists at Galong.

The Redemptorists have provided magnificent witness and service at St Clement's for a century, but the time may come when they will no longer be able to continue there. What then are we to do in order to ensure that this unique facility is still available for the service of the Gospel in this part of the world? That is one of the questions which I raised with Tim and Kate Watson and which I want to pursue with the leaders of Chemin Neuf.

The discussion will be strictly exploratory, but in the Archdiocese we need to prepare now for what lies ahead. We don't have members of religious orders as we once did, but one or other of the new communities - which tend to comprise priests, religious and lay people - may be able to provide a similar if not identical witness and service in the future.

In Rome and northern Italy, I have seen how past, present and future are mysteriously intermingled; and France will be no different. The same is no less true in our own part of the world, as we are called now to build on the past in a way that opens new vistas for the future.

*Mark Coleridge*

## JULY DIARY Archbishop Mark Coleridge

4 Inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mass.  
8 Novena for Feast of Our Lady of Mt Carmel.  
11 Neo-Catechumenal Way service of the Word.  
13, 14 Missal presentation, Darwin.  
16 Townsville.  
18 Confirmation Latin Rite.  
19 Clergy mid-winter reflection.  
22 Launch of Caritas Blueprint for a Better World.  
23 NAIDOC Mass.  
24 Confirmation Lake Cargelligo.  
27 & 29 Confirmation Queanbeyan.  
30 Blessing of renovations and 25th celebration, Gowrie.  
31 Confirmation Crookwell.

## Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power

1 Attend Opening of the Home in Queanbeyan.  
4 Confirmation, Young.  
5 Archdiocesan Mission and Planning Group.  
9-12 National Council of Churches in Australia meeting, Canberra.  
12-16 National Council of Priests meeting, Parramatta.  
24 National Council of St Vincent de Paul, Mass and dinner.  
25 & 30 Masses at Alexander Maconochie Centre, Canberra.

## Novena of Masses

Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel  
7th-15th July, 2010

CARMELITE MONASTERY  
28 Mugga Way, Red Hill, ACT

Wednesday, 7th July at 10.30am	Father Frank Leo
Thursday, 8th July at 10.30am	Archbishop Mark Coleridge
Friday, 9th July at 10.30am	Father Hilton Roberts
Saturday, 10th July 8.30am	Father John Eddy
Sunday, 11th July 9.00 am	Father John Eddy
Monday, 12th July at 10.30am	Father Henry Byrne
Tuesday, 13th July at 10.30am	Father Neville Drinkwater
Wednesday, 14th July at 10.30am	Father Kevin Flynn
Thursday, 15th July at 10.30am	Monsignor John Woods



Friday, 16th JULY, FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL  
10.30am - Solemn Mass and Occasional Sermon

Principal Celebrant: Father James Presta  
(Rector, St. Joseph's College Seminary, Chicago)

Concelebrant: Father Frank Leo

After Mass enrolment in the Brown Scapular will take place

The Novena of Masses will be offered for the following intentions:

1. The priests and people of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.
2. Peace and freedom for oppressed peoples throughout the world.
3. All the sick and suffering.
4. Peace and harmony in family life.

Those who wish may forward their intentions to be placed at Our Lady's Shrine in the Chapel.

## Plan picks up pace

- From Page 1.

Other church offices from Favier House and elsewhere in Canberra were also likely to be accommodated.

He expected between 55 and 70 independent living three, two and one-bedroom units would be provided under arrangements which entailed the Archdiocese retaining ownership of the units while residents occupied them under licence agreements.

The Cathedral parish would gain new offices, meeting rooms and facilities to provide for social gatherings after Mass. The presbytery would be incorporated into the office building.

"The Cathedral and its surrounds is the jewel in the crown of the Archdiocese," he said. "It has special significance for the Archbishop and for all Catholics. The special role of Cathedral parishioners is being acknowledged and their views on the proposal will be vital to the detailed plans."

The Department of Housing and Community Services had developed an extensive plan for the re-development of the "ABC Flats" in Braddon and had proposed inclusion of Favier House, Sisters of Mercy and Australian Catholic Bishops Conference sites. The Favier House site can be separately developed and will encompass a mixed residential development of up to 300 units, requiring a change to the Territory Plan. • See story Page 7.

## A Six-Day Journey and a Weekend Introduction to Icon Painting

St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong

Six day Retreat

26 July to 2 August

An introduction to Gospel of St Luke

Sr Helen Barnes RSJ,

Fr Patrick Corbett CCsR

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Saturday 4th September

An invitation is extended to schools, parish groups, choirs, bands, musical and cultural groups, artists, stall holders etc to participate in the inaugural St. Clement's Spring Festival.

For more details check our website or ring for a brochure



## WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Answers: 1. Moruya parish priest Fr Emil Milat. 2. Holy Family, Gowrie. 3. Victor Dunn, manager of the CDF in the Archdiocese. 4. Nimmitabel. 5. 30,000.



# Retreat gives men clues to come alive

After the success of the May MenALIVE weekend in Yass, two more retreats for men are being planned for the Archdiocese next year.

The Yass weekend attracted 37 men from Canberra, Young, Gunning, Murrumbateman and Yass who spent two days listening to talks and personal testimonies, working in groups and reflecting on their role as men in the Church.

Topics covered included The Father's Love, The Father's Dream, the Father's Son, What Then Must We Do and To Be a Man of God.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge took a break from the vocations weekend at Galong to greet the men and give his blessing.

In the final session, the men were given four instructions: converse with Jesus daily in prayer; join a group with other men and meet regularly to share your life; get active in the Church; and support your parish priest.

Organisers received a lot of positive feedback from participants who found the program challenging but worthwhile, with many realising a call to action from what they had heard and talked about.

Mrs Kate Seselja said she noticed a huge difference in her husband Phil when he returned from the retreat.



The group of men who attended the MenALIVE retreat in Yass.

"He was obviously moved by the Holy Spirit," she said.

"He had found a renewed commitment to prayer and had been touched by seeing how the weekend had affected others. I am so glad that he went. It has had the most wonderful effect on our family."

MenALIVE was founded by Robert Falzon in Brisbane to help men who felt disconnected with their families and with God.

The purpose of the retreat is to bring men together, renew their faith in God and encourage them to become an active force of renewal in the Church.

For more information, or to organise a retreat in your parish, telephone Perry 0432 120 362.

# Parish gears up for big 25th celebration

Past and current parishioners of Holy Family, Gowrie, are being urged to mark their diaries for this month's 25th anniversary celebrations of the opening of the church.

The celebration Mass, including the blessing of new extension works and supper, will be held at 6.30pm on Friday, 30 July, at Holy Family Church, corner of Castleton Cres and Budgen Ave, Gowrie.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge will be principal celebrant, assisted by many priests who have served in the parish.

More than 700 people are expected to return for the celebrations, including Archbishop Emeritus Francis Carroll.

Parish priest Fr John Armstrong, is encouraging all who have been affiliated with the church to join in the celebrations.

"We are delighted to be welcoming back former parish priests and pastoral associates and many former parishioners," he said.

Named by founding parish priest Fr Mick Burke in recognition of the

large number of new and young families moving into the area at the time, Holy Family Parish was established in 1983. For the first 18 months, Mass and other services were held in local government school halls and the historic Sacred Heart Church at Calwell.

In Holy Family's 25-year history, more than 360 marriages, 330 funerals, 3990 baptisms, and 3700 confirmation ceremonies have been held.

"Given the large number of people who have been through the church's doors over the past 25 years, we are encouraging anyone who has a history with the Church to come," Fr Armstrong said.

A large pictorial history of the church, the parish and its people will also be on display in the new foyer extension during the celebration weekend, and for a couple of weeks afterwards.

Since 2005, Holy Family Church, together with Sacred Heart Church, Calwell, has formed Corpus Christi Parish. Inquiries: The parish office, telephone 6291 6688.



SFX College student Nicole Best helps Aboriginal elder Janet Philips bless the school's new garden of reconciliation.

## Seeing it through

A 1330-person sea of hands and an indigenous garden were established at St Francis Xavier College, Florey, for National Reconciliation Week.

Staff and students planted a decorated cut out of their hands in the rose garden at the front of the school as a symbolic gesture to "let's see it through", the theme of this year's national event.

The indigenous garden has been years in the making.

Five totem poles designed by staff and students in 2003 now have a new home in the garden. They are surrounded by native plants, five symbolic pavers painted by year 12 student Nicole Best, and backed by a stone wall. The totems and pavers represent each of the college's five houses featuring indigenous art designs that tell a variety of stories.

Local Aboriginal elder Janet Philips, who officially opened the garden, said it was a powerful symbol of reconciliation. "What happened yesterday no longer matters," she said.

## SOS! .... Christianity in the Middle East

**THE urgent need to assure Christians of a future in the Middle East has become a defining mark of Benedict XVI's pontificate.**

Profoundly saddened by the mass emigration of the faithful, the Pope's recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land showed that he was determined to throw a lifeline to Christian communities, enabling them to stay in the place that bore Our Lord and Saviour.

Weakened by grinding poverty, under threat from rising religious extremism and dwindling in numbers and influence, it takes courage for these ancient Christian families to be heralds of hope. They cannot do it all by themselves.

The Catholic charity, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), is helping to keep faith and hope alive throughout the region by providing urgent aid to priests, religious and lay people, offering subsistence help to refugees and building and repairing Churches and convents. Please help ACN strengthen and rebuild the Church in the Middle East.

A beautiful olive wood carving of the Holy Family's 'Flight into Egypt', handcrafted in Bethlehem, will be sent to all those who can give a donation of \$25.00 or more to help the campaign.



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



### Donation Form: SOS! – Christianity in the Middle East

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# A confirmation of faith for everyone

Gone are the days when preparation for Confirmation was left to teachers and catechists.

The whole approach to the sacrament has become a much more collaborative effort between families, the parish and schools.

So while the candidates are the ones being confirmed, the process is just as much a confirmation of faith for the adults and families supporting them.

"For me, the really nice thing about preparing kids for Confirmation is that each year it affirms why I'm here, why I'm Catholic," Sts Peter and Paul Primary, Garran, religious education coordinator Mrs Donna Anderson said.

St Gregory's Primary School, Queanbeyan, year 6 teacher Mr Ben Mockler agreed and said he really took to heart responses from his students when he taught them about Confirmation.

"When I see their eyes light up and say 'I want to be like that saint' it's so rewarding," he said.

Bishop Pat Power, who confirms around 1000 children each year, said he never fails to be moved by the sacrament.

"Confirmation is the nicest thing I do as a bishop," he said.

"I see their openness to the Spirit and I'm really touched by it. I come away uplifted myself to see the effect it has on the candidates and on others in the congregation as well."



Bishop Pat Power with Lachlan Barrett and Will Hartwig after their Confirmation in Temora last month.

St Patrick's Parish School, Cooma, chaplain Mrs Lou Mackay, who is also the sacramental coordinator for the parish, said having a program that was not just school based was very important.

"Faith is nurtured in the home so we offer our program in home groups run by parents," she said.

"Parents then take responsibility for the preparation of their own children. It helps parents articulate what they believe in and it becomes a faith journey for the whole family."

The collaborative approach to Confirmation also means that students from different schools within a parish can prepare together.

In most parishes, candidates for Confirmation are split into home groups where they meet with other families to discuss and prepare for the sacrament. At least one parish Mass is held during this time so that parishioners can pray for the children. The home sessions are then supported by the religion program in schools where students learn more about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and usually complete a research assignment on the saint they have chosen.

As technology improves, the range of saints students can find information on increases.

"Due to the multicultural community in the parish, many children have chosen names that reflect their cultural background, which is really nice to see," Mrs Mackay said.

Bishop Power said there really were not any restrictions on the saints candidates can choose - they don't even have to be of the same gender.

"Joan of Arc has been chosen by boys before, presumably because they are inspired by her courage. Girls have also been known to take the name of St Francis," he said.

"As long as the saint inspires them, that's all that matters."

## what saint did you choose?



**Tyler Pielli**  
St Patrick's Parish School, Cooma  
St Peter

because he was an apostle who followed Jesus and helped other people just like Jesus did.



**Angela Sullivan**  
St Patrick's Parish School, Cooma  
St Mary Mac-

Killop because she is Australia's first saint. She saved a lady dying of cancer which is amazing because it's a leading disease.



**Max Shanahan**

Sts Peter and Paul Primary, Garran

St Francis de Sales because it was my grandfather's middle name, my great grandmother's maiden name and my third cousin's name. He was really dedicated to the Church and I like that he used sign language to preach to deaf people.



**Sandra Phan**

St Gregory's Primary, Queanbeyan

St Elizabeth because she was dedicated and devoted to helping the sick. She was a princess who gave food to the poor and made sure everyone was treated equally. I also have an Aunt Elizabeth who I look up to.



**Lachlan Mason-Cox**

St Gregory's Primary, Queanbeyan

St Joseph of Calasanz because he set up free Catholic schools in Rome for all the children. The other schools got angry because kids stopped going to theirs so they put him in jail where he died. Joseph is my grandfather's name and he has always been a role model for me too.



**Jaimie Jugovac**  
Sts Peter and Paul Primary, Garran

St Faith because her name will help me remember the way she always had faith in herself and stood up for what she believed in. That's what I want to be like.

## Celebrating Mary



A committee set up to consider how the archdiocesan family might prepare for and celebrate the canonisation of Mary MacKillop has had its first meeting. From left, back: Mr Neil Harrigan, Mgr John Woods, Pam Floro and Matt Casey. Front: Sr Colleen Howe RSJ, Andrea Dean and Fr Mark Croker. Other committee members are Fr Philip Buckley and Fr Henry Byrne.

## POSITION VACANT PARISH SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR

St Thomas More Parish, Campbell, ACT, is seeking a person to coordinate a new parish based sacramental programme commencing in 2011. The ideal applicant will:

- Have excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- A background in religious education or CCD work or sacramental preparation of children and young adults
- Be able to work with parents and children
- Experience with parish based sacramental programmes would be an advantage
- Comply with child protection requirements
- Worship either at STM Campbell or another Catholic Parish

Hours and remuneration are negotiable. The position is part time. The successful applicant would be required to commence some duties in Term 4 or 2010.

St Thomas More Parish is a small Catholic community east of Canberra city. Sacramental classes over the last few years averaged some 15-25 students. The co-ordinator will have access to secretarial support and other resources.

Applications with two referees should be marked 'confidential' and addressed to:

**The Parish Priest GPO Box 89 Canberra ACT 2601.**  
Applications should arrive no later than 31 July 2010.

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# Needs 'best served' by including St Pat's

The needs of the wider community and those of the Archdiocese, in particular the inner city and Cathedral precinct, were best served by including St Patrick's Church in the planned ACT Government redevelopment in Braddon, Vicar-General Mgr John Woods said.

"The ACT Government, through ACT Housing and Community Services, is seeking to acquire and redevelop the land on which Favier House and St Patrick's Church are situated and over which the Archdiocesan Trustees have title," he said.

"To exclude the church from redevelopment would see it abutted by a tall housing block and with reduced parking.

"Besides, the proposal is that a dedicated Catholic church would be located within the proposed redevelopment.

"In other words, the inner city community would retain a church, the ACT Government would fully redevelop the Favier House and St Patrick's site and, without apology, this would realize a greater amount for input to the badly needed redevelopment of the run down Haydon Centre site behind St Christopher's Cathedral."

Mgr Woods could not see heritage value in a rather simple building that had been markedly changed, although he acknowledged the social significance of the site, especially to the faithful of the inner north. "However, the needs of the wider community and those of the Archdiocese, in particular the city and Cathedral precinct, would be best served if the proposed redevelopment included rather than excluded St Patrick's."

Mgr Woods said he could personally identify with an emotional attachment to a place. "From 1992 to 2005 I was privileged to be parish priest of St Francis of Assisi Parish, Calwell, then the largest parish in the Archdiocese.

"We celebrated Sunday Mass in our parish school halls and undertook many pastoral initiatives to build on that as we lived in hope of building a suitable parish church. That was not to be.

"In 2005, in recognition of the change to which we were being called, we celebrated our last parish Sunday Mass. We prayerfully ritualized our story and committed ourselves to the continuing faith journey. There was hardly a dry eye as the congregation processed out, open to the call to be foundational members of the new parish of Corpus Christi, South Tuggeranong.

"We had lost our parish, our name and our place of worship. It hurt and in some ways it still does.

"Perhaps there needs to be a similar liturgical celebration to remember and to move on from St Patrick's.

"Indeed, the call of our Christian faith is always onward and to new life; 'Why look amongst the dead for someone who is alive?' (Luke 24:5)

"Similarly, and more personally, I can no longer go past my childhood Canberra home; there are stylish apartments on the site now. That's life and I have my memories.

"It is so important to cherish the past but it is tragic to be bound by it. If Mary MacKillop had been stuck in the past, the Josephites would not have emerged in response to new challenges.

"I like to think that I am a true conservative, seeking to preserve that which is of abiding value and willing to let go of that which is not."

## Queen honours two dedicated parishioners

Tumut parishioner Mr Martin Farrell and Queanbeyan parishioner Mr Noel Reid have been awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to their communities.



Queanbeyan parishioner Mr Noel Reid

Mr Reid has had for many years a strong involvement in the Church.

He was an acolyte for 20 years, was a founding board member of the Church Development Fund, chairman of St Edmund's College Parents and Friends Association while his sons were students there and a former chair of Queanbeyan's parish council.

He has also spent the past 20 years on the parish finance committee because, "trying to raise enough money to run the parish isn't getting any easier so there's still plenty of work for us to do".

In addition to his parish work Mr Reid has been a prominent member of the Lions Club since 1957.

His five daughters and two sons were proud when they

heard their father had been recognised on the Queen's Birthday Honours List but Mr Reid was humble about the announcement.

"I'm not real hot up on these award things," he said.

"If you do something you want to do and you enjoy it then you shouldn't

expect thanks."

The other OAM recipient, Mr Farrell, died on 3 April this year.

Tumut parish priest Fr Brian Hassett said Mr Farrell would not have been too fussed on the idea of an OAM either.

"Martin was a very quiet and unassuming man who was totally dedicated to others," Fr Hassett said.

Mr Farrell was an active member of the parish council, the finance and maintenance committees.

He was heavily involved on the school board, in local sport, and was a member of the Lions Club with his wife Jan.

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# Pesky fly carries stinging message on life

Queanbeyan priest Fr Peter Day has taken a creative approach to exploring homelessness and mental illness with his first book.

Fly Ponders on his Pollen Pillow is his tribute to the beauty and dignity of the homeless and mentally ill. It is brought to life by the colourful illustrations of Claire Cimbora.

The main character is a fly named Kevin who is rather

er miserable with his lot in a life - that is until he starts listening to advice from a voice inside him named Soul.

The story takes a serious twist, making it suitable for older teenagers and adults rather than primary school children.

"The main character, in both halves, is a composite of many different people that I have met and spent time with," Fr Day said.

"The fly makes an appropriate metaphor because it is a creature people dislike, that we swat away, and that's often how homeless and mentally ill people feel."

Fly began as Fr Day's personal jottings during a retreat in 2005 but with the support of Ms Cimbora and editor Frank O'Shea it has been published.

All proceeds from book sales will go to HOME in

Queanbeyan, a community initiative inspired by Fr Day to provide supported accommodation for the mentally ill.

"Fly is the story of what HOME is all about," Fr Day said. "HOME is not about helping people; it's about walking alongside them."

"Giving money or items is great but it doesn't change us and it allows us to stay distant."

"To really be with people though, that transforms both

parties. Fly is about the people who walked alongside me and transformed my life."

"Both Fly and HOME come down to simply washing feet. There's nothing above and beyond in that, it's not something special only some are called to do, it's just what Christians do."

Copies of Fly cost \$15 and are available from St Gregory's parish, Queanbeyan, telephone 6299 4611.



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## Bringing indigenous people back into church is priority

Getting more indigenous people back into the Church is the top priority of the ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry.

"There are a lot of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families who have faith and send their children to Catholic schools but they don't use the Church," co-chair Ms Kerrie Hogan said.

"For many, fear is what stops them. They remember the Catholic Church as an institution that worked with the government to remove Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families."

"Regardless of the Church's good intentions at the time, people have been hurt, and that's hard to come back from."

The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry has been operating from Narrabundah parish since 2008 and was officially endorsed by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in March.

It offers guidance to parishes attempting to be more inclusive and support for indigenous people trying to bring the Catholic Church back into their lives.

At the group's Sorry Day event, the ministry's Melbourne coordinator Ms Vicki Clark spoke about her success with parish reconciliation plans.

Ms Hogan is keen to introduce the plans in Canberra.

With support of the ministry, individual parishes are invited to devise strategies to be more inclusive of indigenous people in their communities.

While each plan would be different, Ms Hogan said ensuring indigenous culture was represented in the Mass would be a great start. This could be anything from having gum leaves in the church to incorporating a smoking ceremony.

Ms Hogan said Catholicism and Aboriginal spirituality were much related.

"The creation stories and the Dreaming link very closely to Catholicism," she said.



Mark Heiss, La Perouse Reconciliation Church coordinator Elsie Heiss, ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry co-chair Kerrie Hogan, ACT ACM elder in residence Aunty Ruth Bell and Melbourne ACM chair Vicki Clark at Narrabundah's Sorry Day event.

"Oral histories on how to live a good life link into the Ten Commandments and the words of Jesus in the New Testament."

The next event on the ministry's calendar is the inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass to be celebrated by Archbishop Coleridge at St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah, on 4 July. The 11am service will be followed by a community family barbecue to mark the beginning of NAIDOC Week.

The ministry is also introducing monthly cultural healing Masses at St Benedict's, with the first scheduled for 10 August.

For more information about ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, telephone Kerrie on 0402 049 650, Sally on 0422 066 080 or email [bronnieschlager@gmail.com](mailto:bronnieschlager@gmail.com).

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## What a week

Students and staff at St John Vianney's Primary School, Waramanga, packed a lot into a week.

Students made their First Eucharist, took part in Indigenous Week and Sorry Day activities, were visited by one of the Canberra Raiders, enjoyed National Simultaneous Storytime and finished with a grandparents day and showcase assembly.

Forty students made their First Eucharist, where they took the next step in their religious journey. Families, friends and teachers were very proud of the way the children prepared for this very special sacrament.

To mark the thirteenth National Sorry Day and Indigenous Week, St John Vianney's was visited by the Beatty Clan Crew, who gave a dynamic per-



Kindergarten children all dressed up for Grandparents Day.

formance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander songs and dances.

Another highlight was the visit of Troy Thompson from the Canberra Raiders as part of the Adopt-A-Raider program. He presented the students with a signed Canberra Raiders flag and photograph.



# No ordinary job for this military man

By Claire Mitchell

For most of us, our spiritual wellbeing is guided by our parish priest and supported by the parish community we live in.

But what about those who spend months at a time overseas? Who can't take part in regular parish life because of the work they do? Who looks out for these men and women while they're serving the nation?

That would be where Max Davis comes in, Military Ordinary of Australia, better known as the Bishop of the Australian Catholic Defence Diocese.

Together with his team of military chaplains he is responsible for the spiritual wellbeing and care of all members of the Australian Defence Force and their families, wherever they might be serving.

Bishop Davis started out like most of his chaplains, in the military.

His father was in the Air Force and young Max, fresh out of high school, was determined to follow in his footsteps.

When the recruitment officer told him he had an eye condition that would prevent him from flying he went next door and tried his luck with the Navy who were only too happy to send him to sea.

"I remember going home proud as punch," Bishop Davis said.

"When Dad asked how it went I said, 'I didn't join the Air Force but I signed up with the Navy'. He cracked it. But then I explained about the eye thing and I was forgiven."

Bishop Davis spent four years in the Navy before he felt his call. With the support of the chaplains around him he discerned his vocation and in 1964 he was granted a discharge to begin seminary training for the priesthood.



Bishop Max Davis celebrates the Good Friday liturgy in Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan this year.

He was initially assigned to the Army but thanks to his experience as a sailor, in 1975 Bishop Davis was transferred back out to sea. He served as a military chaplain in the Navy until 1998, and then continued part time while working at St Christopher's Cathedral, and St Edmund's and Marist colleges.

"In 2003 the Nuncio called to say the Holy Father had appointed me Military Ordinary of Australia," Bishop Davis said.

"These things are technically optional but when the Holy Father calls you had better have a very good reason to say 'no'. So, of course, I accepted."

He was immediately faced with the problem of not having enough chaplains. Less than half the required positions are currently filled and of those, not all are priests.

Deacons have been used to combat the priest shortage for the past 15 years but more recently Bishop Davis decided to go a step further and take on two pastoral associates who had 10 years experience as chaplains in the Canadian Defence Force.

A number of priests and deacons are in formation but many more are needed.

Regardless of the struggles of recruitment, Bishop Davis said

military chaplains were absolutely necessary to support those who serve.

Their transient lifestyle and shiftwork schedule means that even when they aren't deployed, defence personnel find it hard to take part in parish life.

And while parishes were generally very supportive of families when personnel were deployed overseas, Bishop Davis said the parish priest was simply not equipped to deal with the experiences of defence force work.

"I don't mean this as a criticism to either party, it's just the way it is," Bishop Davis said.

"In 2008 when I was in Baghdad I was talking to an Australian soldier who had been on check point duty.

"A vehicle approached and despite all the warnings in every language imaginable the driver showed no signs of stopping.

"The soldier followed all procedures and when the vehicle didn't stop it was his duty to fire on it.

"He did what he had to do. He followed all laws to the letter but he felt terrible about what he had done, about the loss of life, and needed to talk it through with a priest."

In addition to prayer and counsel, the military chaplain is there to administer the sacraments.

● Cont Page 12.

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## 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 Mrs Pat Smith, principal of St Joseph's Primary School, Bombala



## what I do

**How long have you been principal at St Joseph's and why did you take the position?**

I've been here 18 months. The Catholic Education Office originally asked me to fill in as principal for 12 months but I enjoyed my time so much that at the end of last year I applied to stay and thankfully, I was accepted.

**What does your role as principal of a small school entail?**

I have a three-and-a-half day teaching allocation, I'm the librarian, the religious education coordinator, the sports master and then there are my administrative duties as well.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?**

Definitely the teaching. That's what gives me the real buzz.

**What are some of the special challenges faced by principals of small schools?**

Balancing your time correctly is always a challenge but you need to make sure both the teaching side and the administrative side of the job is done really well. For small schools there's always the pressure of numbers. We have to make sure we have enough enrolments to keep us going. And we need to make sure we're seen as part of the community, as giving something back all the time. We want our children to be seen as good Christians.

**How does being principal of a small school compare with being principal of a large school?**

I've been principal of schools with 600 to 700 kids before yet here there seems to be the same amount of paperwork. But you get a different perspective in a small school. I've got to know all the members of the community, the parents and grandparents, the whole lifestyle. That's something special.

**What is important about small schools?**

We're catering to a specific need. We allow parents in rural areas to offer their children a Catholic education and to be part of their parish. Without small schools this often wouldn't be possible.

**If you could change anything about the education system what would it be?**

I wish there was an understanding that small rural schools need to stay open. We're very well supported by the Catholic Education Office and very grateful for that support. We understand running a small school is expensive. But to have certainty that we're staying open, for there to be an understanding that numbers are always going to go up and down. That would be my wish.

**When you're not at work how do you spend your time?**

I only live in Bombala during the week and on the weekends I drive home to my family in Goulburn. I like to spend time with my six children and four grandchildren. It's nice to see my husband sometimes too. I enjoy reading, watching movies and I sing in the choir in Bombala.

# A view of God's creation



The view of Lake Jindabyne from Fr Peter Miller's office window (above) and outside the church (below).

How do you run a parish that grows to five times its normal size during the tourist season?

"That's a very good question," Jindabyne parish priest Fr Peter Miller said.

Encompassing the villages of Berridale, Dalgety and Moonbah, the Jindabyne township and up to the snowfields at Thredbo and Perisher, his parish's population of around 5000 swells to nearly 30,000 with tourists and seasonal workers.

"I have to get another priest in to help me at Easter and Christmas just to cover all the extra Masses," Fr Miller said.

The ski season is Jindabyne's busiest time and plenty of holiday-makers like to ski over to the Thredbo and Perisher chapels for Sunday Mass.

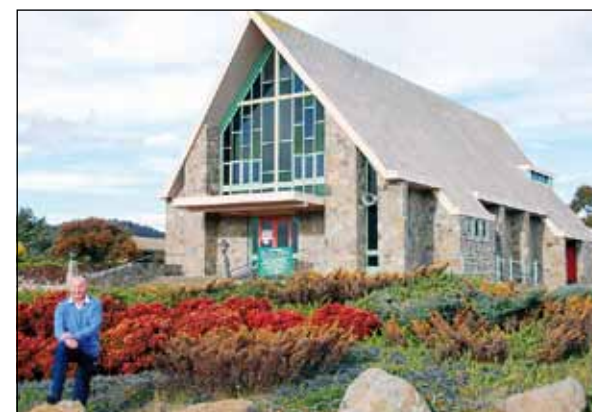
"We also do a lot of weddings, particularly at Thredbo because it's an ecumenical chapel," Fr Miller said.

"People come from all over Australia to get married in the snow."

While winter is the star attraction, Jindabyne parish also gets plenty of summer visitors keen on trout fishing, water sports and bushwalking.

Just as the tourist season dictates the parish population, it also impacts on programs and ministry.

Jindabyne has never had a Catholic school so Fr Miller runs a School of Religion for the



children after school - but only in the summer because they have usually got ski lessons in the winter.

With such a transient population Fr Miller said pastoral work can be difficult as people do not stay around long enough for him to get to know them.

But there are plenty of upsides to being parish priest of Jindabyne.

After 12 years in the town Fr Miller said he's still captivated by the view of Lake Jindabyne from his office window.

"I love being able to appreciate God's creation, to walk through the mountains when they're covered in snow and then see how different they become in summer," he said.

"You can really see God's hand at work."

## Retreating from the busy-ness

The cold weather was no match for the determination of a group from the St Andrew's Nimmitabel Faith Community who took time out for the recent Retreat for Busy People.

Retreat director Sr Pauline Ferguson RSJ travelled from Sydney to spend a week with the participants and help them reflect on their personal prayer stories.

The group began by examining their childhood memories of God, their early forms of prayer and who had influenced their faith.

As the retreat continued the participants applied the same process to their school years, their early adult life and finally the present.

Retreat convenor Sr Bernadette O'Sullivan said one of the highlights of the week was that all the participants had the opportunity to speak with Sr Pauline one-on-one for some personal spiritual direction.

On the final day of the retreat, Sr Pauline shared with the group the kind of things the par-

ticipants had spoken to her about, which she said demonstrated a great faithfulness among the group.

She noted that the week had been a time of grace not only for the participants but also for her as she had spent many hours listening to and reflecting with others.

Sr Pauline said she had been confirmed in her own faith and trust in God.

She had been filled with wonder at the utter goodness of God reflected in the lives of those gathered.

She had been humbled by the trust placed in her as so many had shared intimate moments of life with her.

Sr Bernadette said the grace of the week could be summed up by a comment made by one of the participants to Sr Pauline:

"We have had other speakers and they have been very good. They spoke to us, but you listened to us."

Stories and pictures in this feature by Claire Mitchell



# Nimmitabel's link with our Mary

With a continuous presence of Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart since 1902, the small Cooma parish town of Nimmitabel has a strong connection with Mary MacKillop.

Mary had visited the town many times before the sisters were established there, as her mother's cousins lived in the area.

Diary entries show that she stayed with her relations in Nimmitabel on several occasions and knew the town well.

In 1900 the sisters were asked to open a school in Nimmitabel.

Sr Bernadette O'Sullivan RSJ, the present pastoral worker at Nimmitabel, said Mary wrote to the Cooma parish priest with instructions for the convent.

"She said they should have a convent prepared near the church, not in the town, so

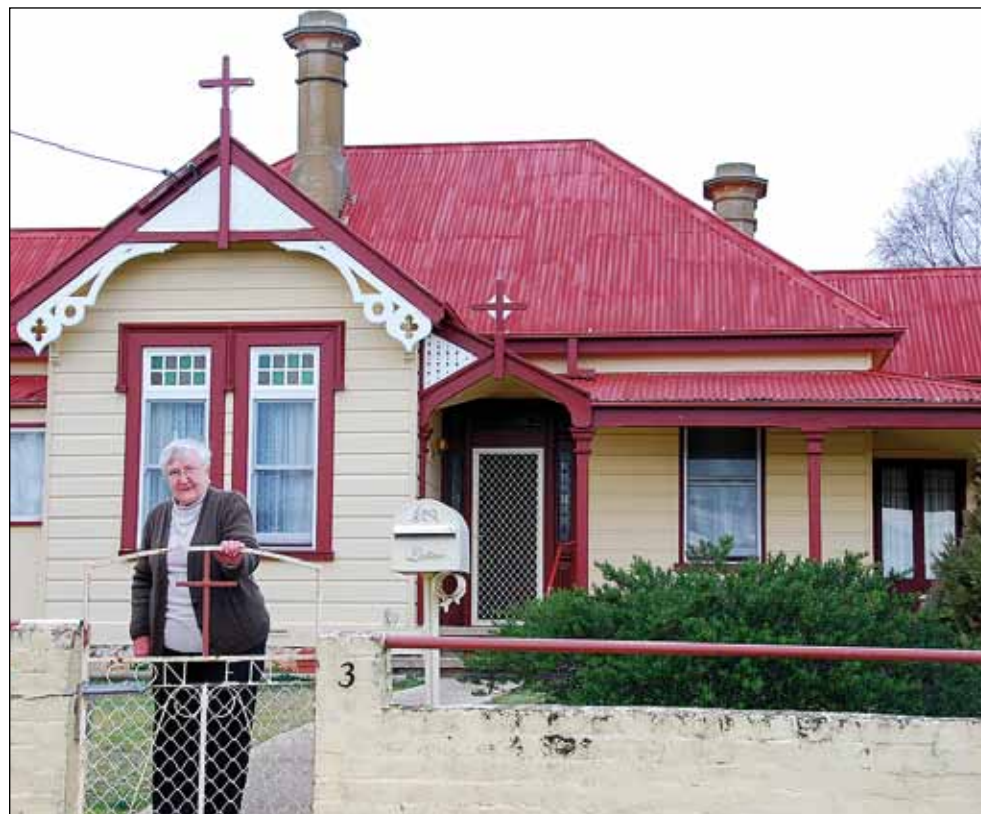
the sisters wouldn't have to walk up the steep hill to the church," Sr Bernadette said.

The convent was opened on 26 January 1902 and the sisters ran classes in the church until the school was completed in 1908. There were 127 children attending.

The school continued to provide Catholic education for the children of Nimmitabel until 1982 when the drop in numbers forced it to close.

"Numbers at the local public school had also decreased as people moved away and the families tended to have fewer children," Sr Bernadette said. "It was not unusual in the early days for families to have eight, nine, 10 or more children."

With such a strong link to Mary MacKillop, Sr Bernadette said the canonisation of Australia's



Sr Bernadette O'Sullivan is now the only resident of the original Sisters of St Joseph Nimmitabel convent built at Mary MacKillop's request in 1902.

first saint was important to the town. "Nimmitabel will have celebrations to mark the occasion and the St Andrew's Faith Community

Committee is currently working on these," she said. "Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart will give talks on the life of Mary MacKillop."

## Michelago 'isn't dying, it's growing'

With an average of 12 people in the pews each Sunday, Michelago is a small parish by any standard.

Adding the two or three who attend the monthly Masses at the outlying churches in Jerangle and Bredbo doesn't bring the tally much higher.

But with the support of dedicated parishioners such as Jan and Bill McLean, parish priest Fr Adrian Cork is able to continue to foster the faith in the northern Monaro villages.

"Fr Adrian doesn't want to give up," Mrs McLean said.

"His age and health are challenging him. But he still says Mass here on the first, third and fifth Sundays, at Jerangle on the second Sunday and Bredbo on the fourth.

"We still have all the sacraments here. I'm an ex-teacher so I do sacramental work at the public school.

"I've got two kids up for Communion next month and then three for Confirmation."

Mr McLean said that despite the small numbers at church each week there were a lot of Catholics in the area and that is was important Michelago was maintained as a parish.

"Michelago isn't a place that's dying, it's growing," he said.



Mr Bill McLean outside St Patrick's Church, Michelago.

"We need to keep the church going while the population catches up.

"It's an ideal spot, so close to Cooma, Canberra and Queanbeyan and more houses are going up all the time."

Top of the to-do list for the McLeans at the moment is maintaining the 103-year-old church.

A ramp has been added for disabled access, some of the deteriorating brickwork has been repaired and the front gate is the next project to be tackled.

"We've set up an account and we're going to start fundraising to get the church fixed up before it gets too bad," Mrs McLean said.

"We're also looking at activities we can get started to keep people interested.

"Hopefully we can have a barbecue once a month after Mass in summer. It'd be nice to get people more involved."



What's left of the original Michelago church stands next to the bell tower that is still used to signal the start of Mass each Sunday.

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)

## Bombala plans to celebrate

Commemorative MacKillop wine, local pilgrimages and a community canonisation Mass and dinner are all part of Bombala parish's plans to honour Australia's first saint.

Mary's influence has been in Bombala for more than a century so parish priest Fr Mick MacAndrew and resident Josephite Sr Helen Madden said they were only too happy to host the celebrations for the Monaro deanery.

The first event was a wine tasting evening on 23 June when the Crooked River Winery at Gerringong supplied wine labelled with a picture of Mary MacKillop and the caption "Celebrating Canonisation". Commemor-

ative wine glasses and other memorabilia were on sale.

Next on the list is a pilgrimage from the current St Joseph's convent and school in Bombala to the original convent, which is now owned by council. The Josephite Association Group received permission to add a display to one of the rooms to showcase aspects of Mary's life.

On canonisation day, everyone is invited to morning Mass. A parish dinner will follow, with an opportunity for people to watch the high-lights from Rome.

Sr Helen said a larger event for the Monaro/South Coast area was also being planned.



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## Students get lunch invite



Student leaders from Trinity Catholic College Goulburn and Carroll College Broulee were invited to lunch at Archbishop's House by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

Archdiocesan vocations director Fr Emil Milat said the 23 students were cautious at first but soon relaxed and joined in discussion on youth issues, spirituality and involvement in the Church.

The Catholic Youth Ministry team helped on the day, and a barbecue lunch was provided by the Serra Club.

In his invitation to students, Archbishop Coleridge said the lunch was part of an initiative to

stir an awareness of and interest in vocations.

"In similar gatherings previously, young people have enjoyed tasting the spiritual heritage which Archbishop's House embodies and also meeting the Archbishop in a more personal and relaxed way," he said.

"I would also like to see the gatherings as a sign to young people that the Church wants to walk with them, make space for them and pray for them as they move into the future asking which path to follow."

Students from St Francis Xavier, Marist, Daramalan, St Edmund's and St Clare's colleges will attend another lunch later in the year.

## No ordinary job for military bishop

• From Page 9.

Mass in the middle of a war zone may seem odd, not to mention a logistical nightmare, Bishop Davis said it was all part of the job.

"I was recently in Tarin Kowt in Afghanistan to be with the troops for Easter and I had to perform some liturgical gymnastics," Bishop Davis said.

"One group couldn't get to the Easter Vigil or any Sunday service and wanted me to do an Easter Mass for them on Saturday afternoon. Now on Saturday you're supposed to be thinking about Jesus buried in the tomb, not celebrating his resurrection, but I thought, 'it had to be Easter somewhere in the world', so I did a service for them."

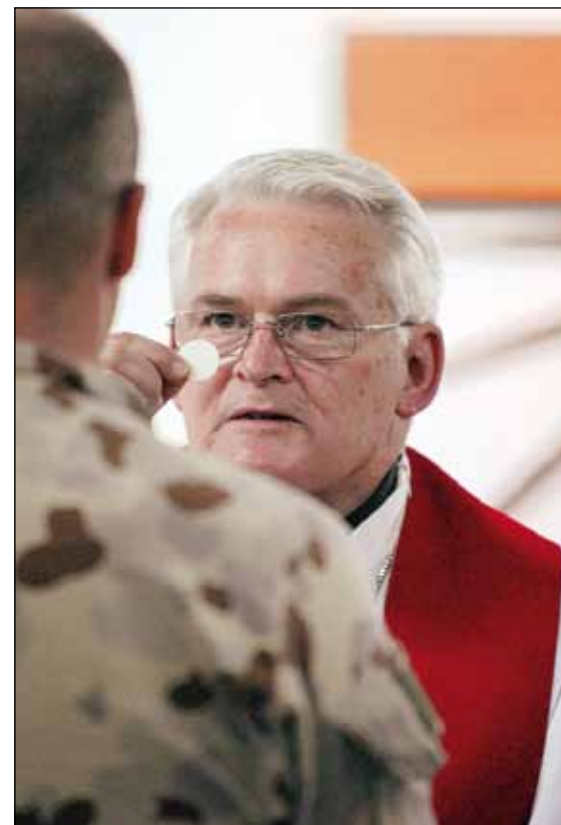
A month later Bishop Davis was on a plane again, this time headed to France.

He led a 10-person Australian contingent to the International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes which attracts tens of thousands of defence personnel and chaplains from all over the world.

The group prayed at graves on the Western Front and then joined in the three-day celebrations at Lourdes.

"The event is a petition to Our Blessed Lady, which is brilliant, but to have that sense of Church where we share a calling to military service, to pray together for peace, was an unforgettable experience."

While he would have liked to see more people from the diocese take an interest, Bishop Davis said it was experiences such as visiting Lourdes that showed him how great the faith in the defence forces could be and how important the work of military chaplains was to Australia's service men and women.



Bishop Davis with the troops in Afghanistan.



Bishop Max Davis with the security detail assigned to the Pope during his visit to Sydney in 2008.

### FACTS ON FUNERALS

## Early Christian Burial

The early Christian practice of burial within a church began during the Roman Empire.

The ancient Greeks and Romans used to bury their dead outside their cities. However, during the Roman Empire the practice changed to burial within the city of Rome in underground chambers, called catacombs.

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

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

*If you would like to know more about the funeral options available these days, please contact M.H. O'Rourke on (02) 6297 1052.*



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## Tony's outstanding service

Branch manager for Catholic Church Insurances in Canberra Mr Tony Cassar (pictured right) was acknowledged at the company's national sales and service conference for outstanding service to the company and to his clients.

He joined Catholic Church Insurances in 1975 as claims manager for NSW and became account executive for the state.

He spent much of the next 20 years on the road, visiting clients and building strong working and personal relationships.

## Special day at Jugiong

Katie Butt, Emily Fitzgerald, Sam Lenehan and Anna McGuirk (pictured right) received the Sacrament of First Eucharist at St John the Evangelist Parish Jugiong.

The children were prepared by sacramental leader Paula Butt. Gundagai parish priest Fr Bernie Hennessy celebrated Mass.

The children were brought forward individually by their parents to receive Holy Communion, renewing the commitment they made on their



Mr Cassar was appointed branch manager for Canberra in 1994 where his focus has continued to be relationships with clients, along with the provision of other services such as risk management and property valuation.

"I think what has kept me with the company so long is what made me want to work for Catholic Church Insurances in the first place," he said.

"To me, this is not simply a job but like a calling, a commitment to serve Church and be part of the fabric of Church."



Baptism day when they presented their children to the Church.

They were presented with certificates and a pair of rosary beads from the parish. After Mass everyone enjoyed morning tea and the First Communion cake made by Sam's Dad Tony was cut. The parish thanked Joy Coggan and Colleen Honner for their preparation and Fr Hennessy who is a wonderful support of faith to the parish.

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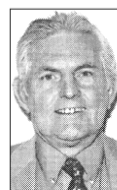
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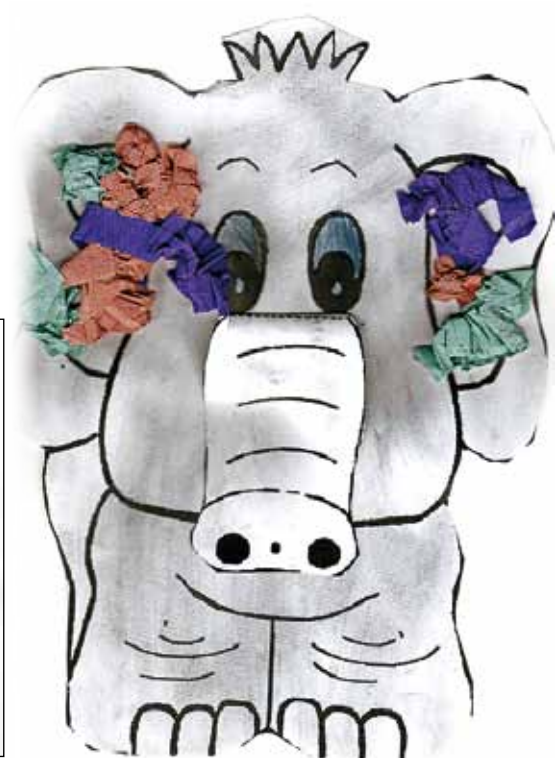


It was reading and writing time when Catholic Voice visited Miss Anna Cooper's kindergarten class at Sacred Heart Primary in Pearce. Some children were reading books and others were practicing their letters. One lucky group tested their English skills with word games on the classroom computers.

The children used pastels to create portraits of Sacred Heart staff - this is Tobit Louis' depiction (right) of assistant principal Mrs Anne Gowen.



ABOVE: Miss Anna Cooper (left) with her kindergarten class. Drawings by Henry Wilsmore (right) who used crepe paper to decorate his elephant; and Gabriella Toti used lots of different materials in her caterpillar design (below).



LEFT: Callum Finnigan enjoys writing.

RIGHT: Classroom helper Mrs Mary Nicholls does some reading with Eric Blakers.



BELOW RIGHT: Helen Derix likes the bright illustrations in this book.

RIGHT: Panayioti Katoulis, Piper Ellis and Sarah Rosin play word games on the class computers.





# Learn about parables

The Parables of Jesus

The Catholic Education Office library holds a number of resources, including DVDs, VHS videos, sound recordings and books that deal with the teachings of Jesus through Parables.

## DVDs

Parables: Unveiling God's Truth Through Stories. (Study guide, 8 mins, ages 15 to adult).

Based on the book: "A Tale of Two Sons" by John MacArthur, this video, hosted by John MacArthur, analyses the Parable of the Prodigal Son. A dramatisation of the parable is included, along with analysis of the parable and questions from the Leader's Guide. The DVD is suitable for small group or individual use.

The Sower. (15 mins, ages 12 to adult).

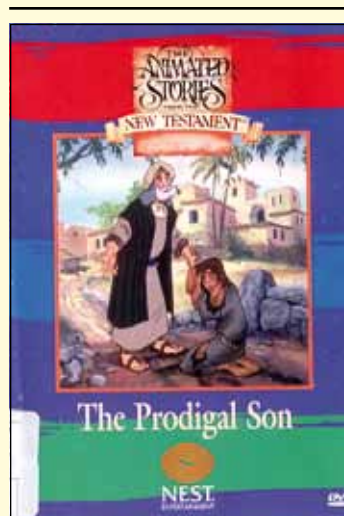
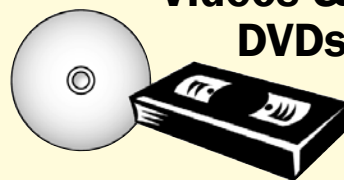
A short documentary film about 80-year-old American wheat farmer, Joe Jack Dement, who describes the processes of growing his crop from planting to harvest. Segments are separated by Bible quotations from Matthew 13:1-23. The film is accompanied by a separate application video (11 mins.), a commentary segment (15 mins.), and a user booklet.

Samaritan. (15 mins, ages 12 to adult).

This video is a retelling of the parable of the Good Samaritan in a modern context. It is based on passages from Luke 10:25-37. The film is accompanied by a separate application video (9 mins.), a commentary segment (15 mins.), and a user booklet.

The Kingdom of Heaven (30 mins, animated stories from the New Testament, ages 5 to 12).

## Videos & DVDs



This video includes an animated series of small stories such as the sower of the seed, and the parable of the ten virgins, which show children how to live each day and what the Kingdom of Heaven is like.

The Prodigal Son. (25 mins, animated Stories from the New Testament, ages 5 to 12).

This animated video for children re-tells the parable of the prodigal son, a once wayward son reunited with his father and family after having squandered his means.

Parables of Jesus: Through the Lens of Bible times. (60 mins, ages 9 to 14).

This video includes seven short dramas portraying the parables of Jesus. The Parables include: The Good Samaritan, the unmerciful servant, the Treasure and the pearl, the Lost son and the Midnight visitor.

## Online Library Services

Library services information, and the Online Library Catalogue, are available via the Catholic Education Office's Internet Home Page and option CG online

<http://www.ceocg.catholic.edu.au/>

Access the library's online catalogue by clicking the 'Online Library Catalogue' box on the left.

The Catholic Education Office Library is located in the Rheinberger Centre, corner of Weston and Loch Streets, Yarralumla, on the site of St. Peter Chanel's Church.

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

# Women speak of their many roles in Church life

Forty women and men from western deanery parishes and faith communities gathered to hear six women highlight their own and others' involvement in the Church.

The forum was part of a program by the archdiocesan Commission for Women to run sessions on women in the scriptures and the Church in each of the five deaneries.

The western dean Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter set the context for the gathering: a deanery with insufficient clergy for a priest to live in each town.

It was a time of reconfiguring the best way forward, with top priority given to retaining parish identity and the centrality of the Mass, rewriting parish programs and forming teams of lay people and religious to support and complement priests' efforts in evangelising, educating in the faith and pastoral care.

"There will have to be many changes, including changing of attitudes," he said.

Miriam Millgate, from Cootamundra spoke of the foundational importance of Baptism as the basis of all ministry.

She spoke with passion and humour of her many roles in the Church over the years, in country and city areas, as parish secretary, auditor for the Marriage Tribunal, catechist, member of the parish liturgy committee, bereavement team (which organises and leads funeral liturgies in the absence of clergy), parish pastoral council and St Vincent de Paul Society.

Sr Helen Barnes provided joyful and entertaining stories of key events which had affected her formation and understanding of the Church as faith communities.

She is a Sister of St Joseph, and has served as teacher and school principal, religious education consultant and pastoral associate.

She is artist-in-residence at St Clement's Monastery, Galong, where she encourages participants to express their faith and spirituality through paint. She brought along her evocative painting of Mary MacKillop, and her recent book on The Stations of the Cross.

Jill Jones from Gundagai spoke of the family focus and strength in faith achieved through a family trag-



At the western deanery gathering (from left) back: Sr Margaret Hart (Western Mission), Sr Helen Barnes (Galong), and Miriam Millgate (Cootamundra). Front: Colleen Honner and Joy Coggan (Jugiong), Jill Jones and Marie Carberry (Gundagai).

edy when she was a child. She listed the recent expansion of ministries in the parish, where woman have major roles, encouraged by Fr Bernie Hennessy.

She believed the parish had become more generous with their parish priest needing to be shared with another parish and the Army.

Sr Margaret Hart from West Wyalong has been a teacher, worked as house mother with young people in special need, in motor mission, in family ministry and is now a pastoral associate.

She works closely with Fr Troy Bobbin and three Josephite sisters, each of whom is a town's community leader in the Western Mission. In the absence of a resident priest, townspeople had become accustomed to "ask Sister".

Sr Margaret said community leaders were considering a succession plan for when the sisters leave the region in the not distant future.

Colleen Honner and Joy Coggan, both from Jugiong, a town with 150 years of parish history, are passionate about retaining parish identity.

Mrs Honner traced the history of the past 30 years without a resident priest: the desire to retain parish identity, the struggle to understand the implications of Vatican II, and seeking educational formation and pastoral support.

Mrs Coggan spoke of the importance of openness and acceptance in a time of transition, of roles being talent, not gender, based, and of the attempt to balance the genders in involvement in liturgical, environmental and sacramental preparation, and financial ministries.

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Closing date for EOI is 23rd July 2010.

## Towards unity

More than 100 people from Christian churches in Canberra gathered together at an ecumenical prayer service at Holy Family Church, Gowrie, to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The evening was hosted by Corpus Christi Parish, South Tuggeranong, and included song, worship, prayer and fellowship.

Pastor Steve Janes, senior pastor of C3 Church Monash, spoke of the common purpose in being "fishers of men" to bring others to Christ. Unity did not mean uniformity, he said. In the diversity of churches, there was more potential to reach out to many people.

Fr Constantine Osuchukwu spoke of the importance of working towards Christian unity and of the scandal of disunity. Bishop Pat Power gave the final blessing.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated nationally every year in the week leading up to Pentecost Sunday.

## History book launch

Anyone with a connection to Moruya parish may attend a Year for Priests lunch on Sunday, 1 August. A locally produced book about the history of each priest who has served in the parish will be launched on the day. Inquiries: Netta, telephone 4474 2333.

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# Your touch is Christ's touch...

Twenty-eight years ago, when I first began writing this column, I wrote a piece that I entitled Binding and Loosing inside the Body of Christ. Among all the things I've written, I have probably received the most feedback on this.

What is the concept? How can we bind and loose each other inside the Body of Christ? Here are the essential lines:

Imagine you are a parent who has a child who no longer goes to church, no longer prays, no longer observes the Church's moral commandments, no longer respects your faith, and is perhaps even openly agnostic or atheistic. What can you do?

You can continue to pray for them and you can live out your own faith convictions, hoping that the example of your life will have power where your words are ineffectual. You can do that, but you can do more:

You can continue to love and forgive them and, insofar as they receive that love and forgiveness, they are receiving love and forgiveness from God.

Your touch is God's touch. Since you are part of the Body

of Christ, when you touch them Christ is touching them.

When you love them Christ is loving them. When you forgive them Christ is forgiving them because your touch is the Church's touch.

Part of the wonder of the incarnation is the astonishing fact that we can do for each other what Jesus did for us. Jesus gives us that power: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven... Whose sins you forgive they are forgiven.

If you are part of the Body of Christ, when you forgive someone, he or she is forgiven.

If you love someone, he or she is being loved by Christ because the Body of Christ is not just the body of Jesus but is also the body of believers.

To be touched, loved, and forgiven by a member of the body of believers is to be touched, loved, and forgiven by Christ.

Hell is possible only when someone has put himself completely out of the range of love and forgiveness so as to render

## 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)



himself incapable of being loved and forgiven.

And this is not so much a question of rejecting explicit religious or moral teaching as it is of rejecting love as it is offered among the community of the sincere.

Put more simply: If someone whom you love strays from the Church in terms of faith practice and morality, as long as you continue to love that person and hold him or her in love and forgiveness, he or she is touching the "hem of Christ's garment", is being held to the Body of Christ, and is being forgiven by God, irrespective of his or her official external relationship to the Church.

How? They are touching the Body of Christ because your touch is Christ's touch.

When you touch someone, unless that person actively rejects your love and forgiveness, he or she is relating to the Body of Christ.

And this is true even beyond death: If someone close to you dies in a state which, externally at least, has him or her at odds with the visible church, your love and forgiveness will continue to bind that person to the Body of Christ and will continue to offer forgiveness to that individual, even after death.

G K Chesterton once expressed this in a parable: "A man who was entirely careless of spiritual affairs died and went to hell. And he was much missed on earth by his old friends.

"His business agent went down to the gates of hell to see if there was any chance of bringing him back. But though he pleaded for the gates to be opened, the iron bars never yielded.

"His priest also went and argued: 'He was not really a bad fellow; given time he would

have matured. Let him out, please!'

"The gate remained stubbornly shut against all their voices. Finally his mother came; she did not beg for his release.

"Quietly, and with a strange catch in her voice, she said to Satan: 'Let me in.' Immediately, the great doors swung open upon their hinges.

"For love goes down through the gates of hell and there redeems the dead."

In the incarnation, God takes on human flesh: in Jesus, in the Eucharist, and in all who are sincere in faith.

The incredible power and mercy that came into our world in Jesus is still with us, at least if we choose to activate it. We are the Body of Christ. What Jesus did for us, we can do for each other.

Our love and forgiveness are the cords that connect our loved ones to God, to salvation, and to the community of saints, even when they are no longer walking the path of explicit faith.

Too good to be true? Yes, surely. But how else to describe the mystery of the incarnation!

## The 'green season' is time for growth

**Q: Apparently green vestments means we're now in Ordinary Time. That seems to go on forever, and be pretty pointless and joyless. What can we do?**

Certainly Ordinary Time is the longest by far of the five liturgical seasons, lasting 33 or 34 weeks. It falls roughly into two sections: after Christmastide until before Lent; and after Pentecost till before Advent.

"Ordinary" is better translated as "ordinal", meaning "numbering in order". Some liturgists have suggested that calling the weeks, e.g. "13th Sunday after Pentecost" could focus better attention on the spirit of the season.

Ordinary Time aims to encourage us to live out the daring adventure of becoming better disciples of our inspiring leader and lover, Jesus Christ, and to continue to spread the good news of Easter and Pentecost.

The green of the season calls us to life and growth.

Ordinary Time is not designed to be ordinary at all, as the readings reveal. This year we follow the gospel of Luke. Luke's presentation of Jesus is that of a healing prophet, a man of prayer, inspired by the Spirit, conscious of social justice and desiring to bring salvation to people of all nations, religious affiliations and languages. Let's follow the readings closely. Let them be a challenge.

This season is definitely not same old, same old. The focus of Ordinary Time is Sunday. In the early Church,

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



## In the liturgy

**Chair of the Archdiocese's Liturgy Commission Margaret Ryan answers a question posed by a reader. Send your questions to Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra 2601.**

Sunday was the feast, the original and only feast. Sunday is a mini-Easter.

It changes our status from that of helpless sinners to that of saved and exuberant sisters and brothers of the One at the right hand of the Father. Hardly ordinary.

The season of Ordinary Time can be thought of as akin to that of the mature faithfulness and perseverance of a Monday to Friday period, rather than that of weekend festivities, where commitment can be intense but short-lived.

Parishes are not condemned to dreary sameness or unimaginative and dull lit-

urgies for 30 plus weeks. Ordinary Time gives opportunities for many involved in liturgy.

Priests might preach on aspects of the Eucharist and liturgy, deepening parishioners' appreciation; they might review the size of the host used in Mass, and perhaps use more of the beautiful Eucharistic Prayers for Masses for Various Needs and Occasions.

Musicians could review their repertoire, teach a new Mass setting, some common Responsorial psalms and processional hymns (eg, psalms, chants).

Ministers of the environment could prepare banners with different shade of green for the appropriate stage of the season, remove clutter from the gathering space and storage cupboards.

Liturgy committees need to review formation for existing ministers, educate new ones, and examine the balance of speech, music and silence in the liturgy.

There is much to be attempted; 34 weeks might seem short!

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## SHORTS

**The A-Team.** Starring Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper, Quinton Jackson, Sharlto Copley, and Jessica Biel. Directed by Joe Carnahan. 117 mins. M (action violence).

Adventure film based on the popular television series. Entertains in modern style. It joins fun with realistic violence. Overall, different from what was seen in the softer television series, more than two decades ago, but it carries you along. The film version has shifted a little to the right, and now aggression outweighs any obvious form of noble virtue.

**Mother and Child.** Starring Annette Bening, Naomi Watts, Samuel Jackson and Kerry Washington. Directed by Rodrigo García. 125 mins. MA 15+ (strong sex scenes and coarse language).

Storylines created by writer-director Rodrigo García are the stuff of pure TV daytime soap opera. But seldom have they been written and acted and directed with such delicacy, verity and skill.



There is some language and two candid sex scenes, but for the most part adult issues are played in an unsensational manner for the pleasure of discerning adult audiences.

**Furry Vengeance.** Starring Brendan Fraser, Ricky Garcia, Eugene Cordero and Brooke Shields. Directed by Roger Kumble. 92 mins. PG.

The story is the old one. Greedy real estate entrepreneurs (who pay lip-service only to environmental concerns) want to destroy the forest to build suburbia. Who is the target audience? Younger kids who might like the slapstick and physical humour. And any (very) indiscriminating adults.

**I Am Love (Io sono l'amore).** Starring Tilda Swinton, Edoardo Gabbriellini, Flavio Parenti and Alba Rohrwacher. Directed by Luco Guadagnino. 119 mins. MA15+ (strong sex scenes).

Can anyone remember any other movie in which lovers are betrayed by a bowl of soup? None of the actors is allowed to make any impact. They all seem rather robotic, kept at arm's length by the director's cold style in which every scene is clinically staged and spontaneity is discouraged. Exasperating with about the most irritating soundtrack.

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# Chill out with top Aussie crime film

All Melbourne knows about the so-called "Walsh Street murders", when two young police constables were lured to their deaths in Walsh St, South Yarra, in 1988. David Michôd's engrossing drama Animal Kingdom echoes that infamous crime, although the murder in the movie takes place in another suburb altogether.

Former film journalist Michôd, who also wrote the screenplay, brings something new to the all-too-familiar "underbelly" depiction of underworld characters. His family of criminals, the Codys, are anything but glamorous and "cool". They are nasty bits of work, and their mother, the archetypal underworld matriarch, is more cold-bloodedly ruthless than any of them, despite her maternal exterior.

The key element that sets Michôd's treatment apart is telling the story through the character of the crims' 17-year-old nephew, Joshua (a most impressive debut by teenager James Frecheville). At the opening, quiet, introverted Joshua has to deal with his mother's death from a heroin overdose, and he turns for help to grandmother, Janine Cody (Jacki Weaver).

This brings him into contact with his three uncles, from whom his mother had tried to shield him. There's a fourth member of the Cody gang, Barry (Joel Edgerton), but he is the only one to realise

the futility of pursuing their old ways; he reckons more money can be made in the stockmarket.

Andrew "Pope" Cody (Ben Mendelsohn) and his brothers, Craig (Sullivan Stapleton) and Darren (Luke Ford), are low-intellect career criminals, specialising in armed robbery and trafficking drugs. Pope is in hiding because members of the police Armed Robbery Squad have sworn to kill him, and this vendetta with the corrupt police dominates the Codys' lives.

When one of their number is executed by their police foes, Pope's revenge is swift. Leaving a car with doors wide open in a suburban street after midnight, he lies in wait for whatever constables come to investigate and summarily executes them.

Young Joshua is implicated, because Pope had got him to steal the car used as bait in the trap. And the police seeking to avenge the murder of their colleagues see young, inexperienced Joshua as the one member of the infamous Cody family from whom they might be able to obtain admissions. Cody realises this too, so Joshua and his nice girlfriend Nicky (Laura Wheelwright) become targets for elimination.

The events that lead Joshua to eventually realise how deeply he has been drawn

into the murderous web are, in a Shakespearian kind of way, inevitable. The ordinariness of the characters' lives makes the story all the more chilling, and you are on the edge of your seat as the climax approaches with potential for grand tragedy.

Michôd directs with assurance and style, without falling back on gratuitous violence or other cinema excesses to milk audience emotions. There's no need, because the performances of the first-rate cast are gripping enough, particularly ever-reliable Mendelsohn as the psychotic Pope, Weaver as the coldly smiling gangland mum and Guy Pearce as the detective who has the sense to methodically and patiently chip away at Joshua to try to persuade him to turn informer.

In the end, the film, which won the Grand Jury Prize at America's Sundance Film Festival, stands as a stark account of crime and corruption and the corrosive effect of revenge.

It is confronting, with frequent coarse language and its pervasive air of menace, but it is a powerful and entirely believable drama - for this reviewer, the best Australian crime movie since Lantana.

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

## ‘Shrek 4’ last but not least

Various advertised as "Shrek 4", "Shrek - the Final Chapter", and "Shrek Forever After", this movie has been made especially for Real D 3-D, and is intended to be the last of the Shrek movies. The first film captivated movie audiences around the world, the second was almost as good, and the third plainly disappointed. In this film, the series takes an imaginative turn for the better.

Shrek is disillusioned and frustrated by his lot in life. He is sick of his celebrity status, his three little ogre children are starting to annoy him, his wife is criticizing him, and he has lost his status as a respected "ogre". He is experiencing a mid-life crisis, and clearly missing the good old days.

Rumpelstiltskin, the evil Brothers Grimm character, who tried to outwit Shrek in the first film, resents Shrek for doing him out of a promised kingdom, and offers him a day in which he can be a real ogre again, in exchange for a day from Shrek's childhood. Rumpelstiltskin outwits Shrek by choosing the day on which he



**Shrek Forever After.**

Voiced by Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, Eddie Murphy, Walt Dohrn, Antonio Banderas and John Cleese, and Julie Andrews. Directed by Mike Mitchell. 93 mins. PG (mild themes and animated violence). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan\*.

was born, and Shrek fights not to lose forever the day that defines his existence.

Being made for 3-D, the film makes excellent use of that format, and devotees of the Shrek series should try to see it in that medium. The usual voices play their characters well.

The film is a fun-ride with characters we know, and it achieves some magical moments, which include the ogres forced to dance to the Pied Piper's tune, the ogres

playing trumpet music with their noses, and the sweeping aerial spectacle of the witches' first arrival.

The fairy-tale allusions of Shrek 1 and 2 are missing, though there are smart references to other Hollywood movies, such as the Harry Potter series. This time around, the adult story-line is more sophisticated and reflective than the movies that have gone before. This will appeal to adults, and children will enjoy the colourful, special effects. There is a lot of emotion in this movie, and although the overall humour is not as apparent, several of the scenes are touching and capitalize cleverly on what we already know, and like, about these characters from the past.

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

## It's debatable, but not so spellbinding this time

Rocket Science is riding on the fact that Jeffrey Blitz made that delightful and frightening documentary Spellbound, about the national spelling bee competition and its effect on contestants and families. This time the subject is junior debating and the film is a fiction rather than a documentary.

Many audiences will concentrate on the adolescent story, the focus on Reece Thompson as Hal Hefner who

is a moody young man, clashing with his brother, saddled with a huge stuttering problem.

Meanwhile, we see a number of high school students who are as dedicated to debate and preparation and delivery as were those young spellbound contestants. And the pace at which they deliver seems just too much, too fast to make debating sense.

When a driven girl, frustrated at the champion surren-

**Rocket Science**  
Starring Reece Daniel Thompson, Anna Kendrick, Nicholas D'Agosto, Vincent Piazza. Directed by Jeffrey Blitz. 97 mins. M (sexual references and infrequent coarse language). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone\*.

dering the trophy that she coveted, picks Hal to be her associate, it is clear that there is trouble in store. He is clever

but stuck on enunciating his words. He is also love-struck.

The audience around me was obviously very taken with Hal and his misadventures. I was wanting to be the same but found I was not drawn into the film.

It's not the subject; I think it was Hal himself.

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

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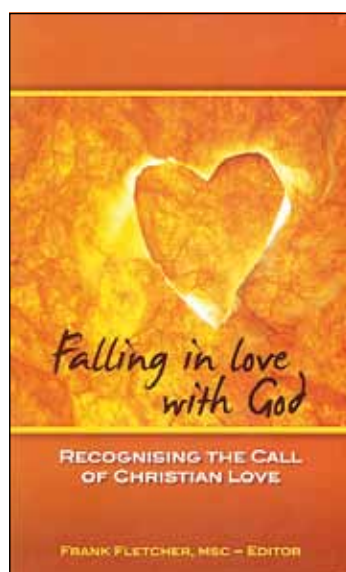


# Ideal for your next discussion group

**Falling in Love with God. Recognising the Call of Christian Love. Frank Fletcher (ed). St Pauls 2010, pb 145pp, \$24.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.**

After Easter, people often ask "What can our Lenten group do next?" Here's a suggestion! The chapters average nine pages in length, and could form the basis of private or group reflection. Each attempts to distil something of the beauty of MSC spirituality, not just for clergy and the mature, but for those with a "lay" vocation, and the young.

The book reads like a Who's Who of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSCs). There are chapters by Frank Fletcher, Peter and Philip Malone, Paul Brennan, Barry Brundell, Anthony Arthur, Dr Kerrie Hide and Michael Fallon wrote the Introduction. Though most contributors are respected and well-known clergy, there are also chapters by three married people. Frank Fletcher, lecturer, author and worker for many years with the



Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in the Sydney Archdiocese, edited the book and wrote six of the 12 chapters.

Part One, Discovering the Heart, explores the human and divine need to make deep mutual contact via prayer, listening, contemplation, friendship and experience, rather than via reason and logic.

Part Two, Loving the World, which outlines the impacts that falling in love with God has on our lives, emphasises that spirituality needs to be real, connected with and involved in daily life.

Many theologians, including Rahner and these writers, believe that "spirituality of the heart" is not only an antidote to profound secularism but a vital spirituality to live by. As the chapters point out, nature, symbol, scripture, art (including film), reflection and silence all have a part to play. Read this book if you are seeking intimacy with the heart of Jesus, of God, and true humanity. It's conversationally written for the interested adult.

logian and is convinced each of us is a theologian too.

Her focus, although not exclusively, is on women. She invites women to appreciate the theology of their daily lives. She calls for a practical spirituality that will change lives for the better. She then defines that spirituality and what she terms as theology's gifts to spirituality. Good theology, she says, can save spirituality from mindless, chaotic enthusiasm. Theology helps us to live our spiritual lives intelligently, becoming

more precise in how we talk about the faith and preserves us from being narrow and individualistic. Christian life, she says, is not about "me and God".

Dreyer is also a noted writer on spirituality. She highlights the gifts that spirituality brings to theology, keeping it faithful to the truth of spiritual experience on the ground. Spirituality and theology belong together, each feeding the other. We need both poetry and doctrine.

Dreyer writes simply and powerfully in her chapters on Creation,

## Brave woman's story

**Ciara's Gift: Grief edged with gold by Una Glennon. UWA Publishing, 2010, 115pp, \$29.95hb. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**

Most of us know what it is like to experience the death of a loved one. The shock, the sense of desolation and the enduring loneliness are inevitable and overwhelming.

Imagine what it must be like to lose a beloved daughter to a brutal crime. This is precisely what happened to Una Glennon. In 1997 Ciara Glennon's murder was linked to the infamous Claremont serial killer. Now, more than 10 years after her daughter's death, Glennon has written about her grief and loss. It is a book she became impelled to write, as a gift to every parent who has lost a child. Hence the title Ciara's Gift.

Although Glennon's daughter was twenty-seven when she was killed, the author rightly points out that the mother-child bond is always there. Her family's story about the difficulties in coping with their grief has been compounded by intense media interest in the unsolved case.

Courageously Glennon holds nothing back when documenting the

pain-filled period since Ciara's death. She does so in the hope that relatives and friends gain some understanding about the depth of feelings in a grieving person, and of the length of time it takes to come to some acceptance of the loss. Glennon says all they need to do is to be there as a silent presence for however long it takes. There is no need to have answers.

Although my own experience is quite different I found myself gasping in recognition at many of Glennon's disclosures. She writes, not as a grief counsellor, but as one plumbing the depths of the human heart. She admits that often she couldn't find the words. It was then that poetry became important. She has included some in her book.

Ciara's Gift is a remarkable book showing no bitterness or rancour from a brave, brave woman. Glennon believes that suffering is part of our human existence and that suffering is the only thing that will open us up to discover the deeper meaning of life. That life, she says, is a precious gift to be enjoyed in full.

# The aim is to act to transform the world

**Making Sense of God: A Woman's Perspective by Elizabeth Dreyer. St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2008, 105pp, \$24.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**


How's this for a definition? "Grassroots theology is the prayerful, informed, thoughtful reflection on our lives locally and globally in light of the loving, challenging presence of God".

A number of concepts are packed into that one sentence. Elizabeth Dreyer skilfully unpacks them for us. She is a working theo-

has received and returns to the themes in her primary definition. She names feminist theology as the ordered, prayerful reflection on the experience of women in light of God's desire for our freedom and fullness of life. The aim is not only to think theologically, but to act to transform the world.

This is a ground-breaking book with many applications. It is for everyone who asks questions and seeks to understand their faith more deeply and broadly.

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## A blessing for busy traveller

**Beds and Blessings in Italy. St Pauls Publications, 2010, 416pp, \$29.95. Reviewer: Geoff Orchison.**

You can tell it's the height of the European tourism season given the new guide books that are on the market. This (Italian) guide to religious hospitality in Italy is published in English for the first time by St Pauls Publications.

It is an absolute gold mine of information, given succinctly, ranging geographically from the ski slopes of Valle d'Aosta in the north to Sicily and the foot of Mt Etna in the south. There is nothing in the way of amusing anecdotes about the 1400 establishments but some useful description such as for the Villa Aurelia, "near St Peter's, in the relaxing green of a hill facing the Via Olimpica, easily reachable by any transport". Now, that's the sort of stuff a traveller likes to hear!

Contact details are plentiful including e-mail and web addresses, where available. Throw in colour pictures of many of the houses and, in some cases, a guide to tariffs (priceless) and you have an aid to travel that is well worth having. The book covers who runs each monastery, convent or religious house, what activities they provide for, when the place is open, what style of guest they cater to, the type of accommodation and what features are on offer.

Size is convenient, but it might be a bit heavy for the backpack so, sacrilegiously, a traveller may wish to rip out the bits they need in advance. If you're thinking of fitting in a visit to Italy for the forthcoming canonization and adding a few days on the side, Bed and Blessings would be a blessing.

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## Prayers

**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.)

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**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.**

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.



# Coming Events



**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY MASS** - Inaugural Mass provided by ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, 11am, 4 July, St Benedict's, Narrabundah. Celebrant Archbishop Mark Coleridge. Community family day barbeque and entertainment, Gecko Gang face painting, performances by Johnny Huckle. All invited to Mass and to welcome new committee members of the ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. RSVP 30 June, Kerrie, telephone 0402 049 650, Sally 0422 066 080, Bronnie, e-mail [bronnieschlager@gmail.com](mailto:bronnieschlager@gmail.com)

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

**CURSILLO** - Ultreya north-side, 8pm, Thursday, 22 July, at St Matthew's Page; southside 7.30pm, Tuesday, 27 July, at Corpus Christi Gowrie. All welcome. Inquiries: Merran, telephone 6258 3431.

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Ph: 6201 9870 Email: [cdf@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:cdf@cg.catholic.org.au)

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

**REUNION** - Ex-students of Sisters of St Joseph, 9 October, at Temora. Contact: M Mooney, telephone 6978 0740.

**SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA** - Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, 6.10pm, Thursday, 8 July, followed by dinner. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** - Weekend for married couples, 30 July to 1 August, Winbourne, Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa (near Penrith). Bookings: Telephone 4283 3435 or 6379 1125 or go to [www.wmme.org.au](http://www.wmme.org.au)

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

## Another link with Ireland is lost

Fr Paddy Lynch, the brother of well-known archdiocesan priest Fr Benedict (Barney) Lynch, died at Ennis, County Clare, on 2 June. He was 90.

Fr Barney Lynch, who died in 2008 at Batemans Bay, was parish priest of Holy Trinity, Curtin, and first director of Catholic Social Services.

In later years he became pastor at Calvary before he retired to Bermagui. His brother visited for extensive periods at Curtin and Cobargo and he became well known to local parishioners and clergy.

Following his retirement from the Parish of Doonbeg, County Clare, Fr Paddy Lynch went to live at the family home "Deer Park" at Dova near Ennis. He provided hospitality both at Doonbeg and Dorra to visiting Australians sent by Fr Barney Lynch.

Doonbeg is a charming locality on the west coast of Ireland, and Fr Paddy Lynch knew the history of ancient Doonbeg and Clare in great detail.

He would drive visitors for hours over his territory. In his retirement he was cared for by housekeeper Mary Casey, to whom he bequeathed "Deer Park", a comfortable double-storey house more than 300 years old. She was wonderfully devoted to the two priests.



Fr Paddy Lynch (left) with his brother Fr Barney Lynch and housekeeper Mary Casey.

Paddy and Barney had a young sister Agnes who is a nun in the Poor Clare convent at New Newry, County Down. An older brother Kevin had emigrated from Ireland to Australia and died in New Guinea in 1943 on service in the Australian Army.

Their mother Ellen Josephine Cahill married Michael Lynch. She had three sisters as nuns in NSW convents of Mercy, and three brothers as diocesan priests here.

Best known in the Archdiocese was Fr William Cahill, parish priest at Binalong NSW for many years and previously administrator at the then Goulburn Cathedral. From one County Clare family, seven members served on the Australian "mission".



It has often been said that 'from little things big things grow.' That is very much the case for Catholic Mission which started from one young French woman, Pauline Jaricot, who decided to ask 10 others to give a small amount regularly and for each of them to find 10 more that would do the same. And now over 190 years later Catholic Mission is part of an international group of Mission Societies operating in more than 160 countries.

The capacity to make regular donations to Catholic Mission continues. These funds enable Catholic Mission to assist faith communities to worship as well as serve those around them, especially children. From as little as \$15 per month, our Children Mission Partners support orphanages, schools and community programs aimed at providing health, hope and opportunities to children and those caring for them.

Another less talked about way of supporting Christ's Mission through Catholic Mission is by including Catholic Mission in your Will. Such bequests enable people, after making provision for family and others, to continue assisting faith communities to bring the face of God and his care for all people, alive.

Contact us for more information on regular giving or making a bequest.

God bless,  
**Deacon Joe Blackwell**

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## Vocations weekend

A group of men and women attended the archdiocesan vocations weekend at St Clement's, Galong, together with six seminarians, Archbishop Mark Coleridge and vocations director Fr Emil Milat.

"This is my seventh weekend and it is always interesting how new young adults contact me via email or phone and I get to know them and then help them discern their call," Fr Milat said. Anyone who would like more information on events run to help people discern their call, contact Fr Milat e-mail [emil.milat@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:emil.milat@cg.catholic.org.au). The next weekend is set for 3-5 December.

## Their first Communion



ABOVE: Eleven children from Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harden, at a Mass celebrated by Fr Laurie Bent in St Anthony's Church. The children found the journey of preparing themselves for this special sacrament a memorable experience. They are (from left) front: Lara Whatman, Jamie-Lea Stephenson, Lilly Potts, Molly Fredericks, Claudia Flanery. Middle row: Mrs Kylie Winsor, Grace Smith, Joshua Menz, Sam Phillips, Mark Irving, Talah Smith, Oliver Murphy, Mrs Kerry Wooldridge. Fr Bent is at the back.

RIGHT: Bradley O'Sullivan, James Read, Riley Read, Jordan Sharpe and Zali Betts from Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Narooma, received their First Holy Communion. They are pictured with catechists Christine, June Robinson and parish priest Fr Michael Mullen.



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ABOVE: Deacon Paul Rummery took this photograph while on pilgrimage of a man swimming in the Sea of Galilee.

RIGHT: Vicar-General Mgr John Woods loves to get out on the slopes.



**As the Year for Priests came to a close Claire Mitchell looked behind the scenes at what our clergy do in their all-too-sparse spare time.**

Say the word priest and you might imagine a conservatively-dressed man in a white clerical collar or a pastor robed up behind an altar.

Images of clergy skiing down the slopes, teaching photography or entering chickens at the town show wouldn't be the first to come to mind.

That's because for most parishioners, what they see of their clergy is limited to inside the walls of the local church.

But in between celebrating Mass and looking after the myriad other aspects of their ministry, the clergy of our Archdiocese have found all sorts of ways to keep themselves busy.

For Archbishop Mark Coleridge, in addition to an appreciation for art, literature, good wine and good company, sport is considered very important.

"I've always been more than a little interested in sport, with some describing me as a true cricket tragic," he said.

He's also a big fan of the AFL and a proud Western Bulldogs supporter.

As chaplain for the Canberra Raiders, Vicar-General Mgr John Woods has been cheering on the side since 1986. He manages to squeeze as much activity into his busy schedule as possible, including jogging and road bike riding. While studying canon law in Canada he learnt to ski and now enjoys hitting the slopes of Thredbo or Perisher when he finds the time. He's even been known to take out the old .22 for a bit of rabbit pest control.

Moruya parish priest Fr Emil Milat enjoys rollerblading around his coastal home.

He is keen to get in on community agricultural events and is proud to have had two hens win awards at the Eurobodalla District Show this year.

"I used to own a rooster but that only lasted for a day," Fr Milat said.

"It was a horrible sound to wake up to, especially when the rooster can't tell time."

For many, the natural beauty of the Archdiocese is a big attraction.

"I love walking along the beach, just on the edge where the water comes in and out," Bega parish priest Fr Bernie Patterson said.

He's also a keen bushwalker and is determined to get through all the trails along his stretch of the south coast.

## Spare time - what spare time?

Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power is regularly out walking too and can often be seen tramping Mt Ainslie.

Out west, Cootamundra parish priest Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter has secured his own little patch of paradise by creating a native bird garden. It's been 10 years in the making and now about 15 varieties come to visit.

"I'm not really a bird watcher; I just thought it would be nice to have native birds around," he said.

"It's my little way of appreciating God's creation."

Gungahlin parish priest Fr Mark Croker is also keen on getting in touch with creation. He makes the most of Canberra's bike paths and enjoys longer, more challenging rides through the mountains as well.

"I've always had a really great interest and connection to the land - I love being outdoors and soaking up nature," he said.

When time permits Fr Croker heads home to the family farm at Taralga to help out his brother, who now manages it.

The Archdiocese has its fair share of artistic clergy who enjoy the chance to express their creativity.

Deacon Paul Rummery was trained as a professional photographer with a particular interest in portraiture.

"I teach semi-formally at the moment, give talks at the local photography club and I'm going to judge their latest competition," he said.



Batemans Bay parish priest Fr Tom Thornton has become well known for his entertaining caricatures.

"They help keep me awake in boring meetings," he said.

Many priests of the Archdiocese have starred in one of his drawings at some stage.

And then there is Cathedral parish assistant priest Fr Joseph Tran, who has built a reputation over the years for his artistic talent.



ABOVE: Fr Emil Milat tries his hand at drenching sheep.

BELOW: Fr Joseph Tran painting in his studio several years ago.

Working in an assortment of oils he paints everything from still life to portraits to Australian landscapes.

"Art and spirituality go hand in hand," he said.

"God gave me something I can do so I should share it."

Fr Tran hopes to start up a hobby group where priests can come together and paint.

\* This is just a snapshot of some of the leisure-time activities the Archdiocese's clergy enjoy. Why don't you ask your parish priest what he likes to do in his spare time? You may discover more about what you have in common.