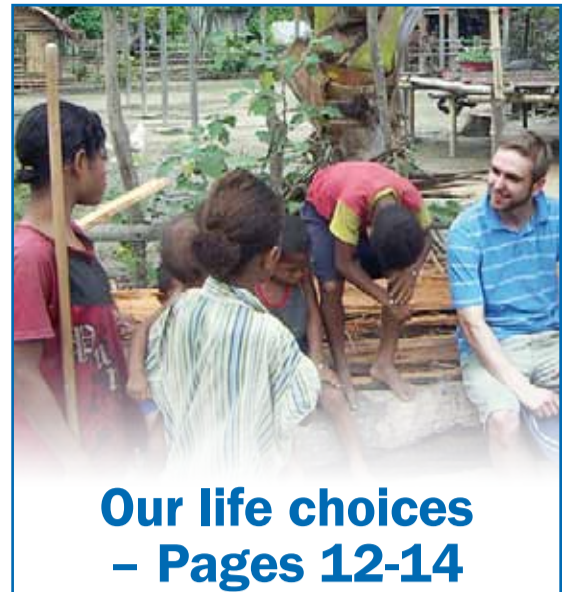


CATHOLIC VOICE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

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Our life choices
– Pages 12-14

FREE

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A double celebration takes the cake

Fr Bill Kennedy had plenty to celebrate last month, as 16 July marked both his 80th birthday and 60th anniversary of ordination.

The O'Connor parish priest gave thanks to God, his family and all those who had shown their support over the years during the homily of his celebration Mass.

He reflected on his strong links to his hometown of Crookwell, where he had received all seven sacraments, including ordination on his 30th birthday in 1950. "I even received the Anointing of the Sick from the Crookwell parish priest," he said.

In discussing his own history, Fr Kennedy also delved into the history of the Catholic Church in Australia. He fondly recalled the eight stained glass windows in St Mary's Church, Crookwell, which use scenes from early Australian Church history to depict the seven sacraments.

After leaving his hometown, Fr Kennedy was appointed to St Patrick's parish, Braddon, in 1960 and has since served in a number of parishes across the Archdiocese.

Before his current appointment at O'Connor he was parish priest at St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah, where he performed 1750 baptisms.

"We had no church, presbytery or Catholic school when I started there," he said. "We had Mass in the government school for two years before things started to be built.

"When I left Kambah I thought, 'that's the end of building. No more of that for me'.

"Well it didn't quite work out. O'Connor church was destroyed by fire and with the help and support of the parishioners we spent another 18 months rebuilding it."

The O'Connor branch of the Catholic Women's League hosted a morning tea in honour of Fr Kennedy after Mass. Branch president Ms Judith-Ann Sjöstedt presented him with an \$80 book voucher - \$1 for every year of his life.

"He has been the spiritual director of the Catholic Women's League for more than two decades," she said. "He comes to every one of our meetings and is just a fantastic man."

ABOVE RIGHT: Fr Bill Kennedy is congratulated as he cuts his jubilee cake.



Support urged for schools

Support for Eden's St Joseph's School from the local Catholic community, and others who value diversity and excellence in schooling, is vital for the ongoing success of Catholic primary education on the far south coast, Catholic education authorities say.

The support was particularly necessary in encouraging enrolments, acting Catholic Education director Mr Mark Hogan said in a statement.

As a result of a meeting held in June, a promotions committee is being formed with members drawn from the school community, parish and the CEO to sustain and build enrolments.

The committee will promote the provision of Catholic education in Pambula parish, which includes the communities of Pambula, Eden, Merimbula, Tura Beach, Towamba, Kiah and Wyndham.

"The major challenge facing the committee and school community is the ongoing provision of access to Catholic education in the face of an apparent drop in demand and significant underutilisation

of costly human and physical resources," Mr Hogan said.

The CEO's commitment to St Joseph's community was shown by its ongoing financial assistance and the provision of educational expertise and experience.

"St Joseph's is fortunate to have the experienced and dedicated leadership from its principal, Mrs Anne Maddock," he said. "Together with the school staff and the Catholic Education Office, she has been active in developing the school in the areas of pedagogy, curriculum development, budget and finance, compliance requirements and leadership.

"This partnership is evident by the fact that St Joseph's is well staffed and resourced, achieves good educational standards in national tests, meets all compliance requirements and provides high-level pastoral care to its students."

Mr Hogan said he was also "extremely pleased to report that St Joseph's Primary School, Bombala, has confirmed enrolments for the 2011 school year.

"This is seen as an affirmation of the commitment by the community to keep St Joseph's operational into the future."

The number of student enrolments played a major factor in the viability of schools, he said.

"The nature of the provision of education is changing in small rural communities with a declining population. The Bombala Catholic community has been aware of its changing demographic and has undertaken to support the school in an effort to ensure its long term viability.

"St Joseph's Primary School provides quality Catholic education to the children of Bombala and the surrounding areas. All those who wish to come to St Joseph's are welcomed, valued and treated equally, regardless of their faith or religious persuasion.

"Each child is guided to come to an understanding of a loving and compassionate God. Enrolments at St Joseph's Primary School will continue to be monitored in the hope that the partnership between the community and school will enable its continuing success."

INSIDE

Pope Benedict XVI has called for a focus on children and minors during this year's Migrant and Refugee Week. The international event will conclude with the 96th World Day of Migrants and Refugees on 29 August. To learn more about migrants and refugees in the Archdiocese, read the profile of Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office national director Fr Maurizio Pettena on page 9 and our focus on cultural communities on the centre pages.

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How about saving the people first?

By Nicole Semmler*

For me, the beginning of the school holidays was warmly welcomed in the midst of a blistering cold winter, which gave me the perfect opportunity to catch up on some well deserved reading.

In fact, I even read my first article about my blissful future with a mental disability! I was surprised when reading; I didn't take the information badly at all. This was probably due to the media hype nowadays, questioning the sanity of everyone on the planet; not to mention the state of mind of my fellow students.

In the past 2 to 3 years the access to, and therefore purchased, antidepressant medication has skyrocketed; up to 16.3 million scripts sold in 2009!

If the government isn't dedicating it's time to saving the planet, how about saving the people first?

I would imagine that making these changes will never have to come to prohibiting prescription pills, but just because something as successful as antidepressant medication is presented to the society as the fastest answer does not mean it is the safest.

Prof Pat McGorry, Australian of the year and mental health expert, said the lack of availability of other options was increasing the number of prescriptions for antidepressants.

"You should not go straight to medications or reach for the prescription pad, you should try counselling first," McGorry said. "The problem is, in many parts of Australia, the lack of availability of counselling and psychology means the only option is the local GP who doesn't have the skills to provide counselling and, therefore, reaches for the prescription pad, particularly in rural and remote areas."

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



Changing our world

From what McGorry is implying, I would suggest everyone attempt treatment with a counsellor before taking a trip to the local drug store.

I wonder how effective these antidepressant drugs may be when some research shows they only have an approximate 50 per cent success rate. If we are going to be putting mysterious elements and drugs into our bodies, we should expect results and successful ones.

Some side effects which are common in all antidepressants include drowsiness and dizziness, more problematic issues such as heart palpitations and anxiety, and physical outcomes such as blurred vision, weight gain and rashes.

Another reasonable factor, antidepressant withdrawal: when a patient can be addicted to the medication after their prescription has run out; much like a drug addict. I work in a chemist, and although I don't know any of our customers personally, us staff have information about many people who cannot be provided with medication due to these problems.

So, although I am no doctor, I would not be advising any patient to accept the first possibility, for example, the guy with the medical certificate's approach. If anyone you know, or you yourself, might be suffering from a mental illness, ask yourself: Do I really want to have to go through those ridiculous side effects?

* In her free time Nicole Semmler loves to sit by herself reading, usually in the library - "secluding myself from my reality and coming up with ideas for hopeful short stories".

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what do you know?

1. What are the two special annual events celebrated by the Archdiocese's Vietnamese community?
2. Name two Eastern Catholic churches active in the Archdiocese.
3. This young fellow (pictured right) is now part of the Catholic Church's global mission to achieve life for all.
4. Which cultural community in the Archdiocese is the Society of Christ dedicated to?
5. Which historic figure will be honoured by a mosaic in Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral?
6. How much was raised from the Canberra Vinnies CEO Sleepout? More than \$30,000, \$130,000, \$340,000?

Answers: Bottom Page 4.



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Pedestrian plan is a popular idea

Closing Franklin Street and creating a pedestrian thoroughfare was a popular new suggestion discussed during last month's Cathedral precinct redevelopment public meetings.

"It's something we've always talked about and we received really positive feedback," Archdiocesan financial administrator Mr Herbie O'Flynn said.

"It would allow the Cathedral to become more a part of the commercial centre of Manuka. It would also help to humanise the area, which is what the Cathedral is all about."

About 50 people attended the public meetings, mostly parishioners interested in the aged care development planned for the site. A number of people added their names to a list for more information about how they could apply for one of the 55 to 70 proposed independent living units.

Some concern was raised about the time the project would take to complete and how environmentally friendly the redevelopment would be.

Mr O'Flynn said there were also questions about how the redevelopment would



Parishioners discuss the plans on show at the first Cathedral precinct redevelopment public meeting.

improve the current limited parking options. "Parking has always been an issue with cathedrals and St Christopher's is no exception," he said.

"The committee will be focusing on parking and particularly ways we could alleviate the problem during peak times."

Mr O'Flynn said one option the committee would consider was making a set number

of underground parking spaces available during events such as funerals.

He also assured parishioners that parish offices would remain easily accessible and that a meeting room would be provided.

The Archdiocese will hold further public meetings as the development progresses.

The National Capital Authority and ACT Planning and Lands Authority will

House bought

In preparation for the Cathedral precinct redevelopment, the Archdiocese has bought a house on Franklin Street, Manuka.

It will be used as the Cathedral presbytery during construction. Its purpose will be reassessed once the redevelopment is complete.

Archdiocesan financial administrator Mr Herbie O'Flynn said the house may be used for respite care in conjunction with the planned independent living units, but that no final decision had been made at this time.

also offer public consultation over the coming months.

"The Cathedral is the jewel in the crown of the Archdiocese and we want everyone to be right across the development," Mr O'Flynn said.

For more information, or to register your interest in the independent living units, telephone 6201 9800.

Queanbeyan shows the way as home opens its doors



HOME in Queanbeyan co-chairs Mr Tony Carey and Fr Peter Day, patron Sir William Deane and his wife Lady Helen Deane unveil the plaque at the opening.

In all his years in public life former Governor-General Sir William Deane said he had never seen anything like the support the Queanbeyan community has shown to its most disadvantaged members.

For the past five years the town has been lobbying and fundraising to make Fr Peter Day's dream of providing a loving home for the mentally ill a reality.

Then on 1 July, close to 700 people gathered to celebrate their success at the official opening of HOME in Queanbeyan.

The residential facility consists of 20 self-contained one-bedroom units, two of which will be used for respite care.

One of the first to move in will be Justin Wilson who was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia at the age of 19.

"When I took him to the psychiatric hospital he said, 'Dad, why are you leaving me in this place? I'm not mad'," Justin's father Mr John Wilson said.

"Picture having one of your loved ones locked away, not being able to have access to them. We experienced the heartache of watching our son go through hell, and I mean hell."

Mr Wilson said Justin, now 35, was really looking forward to having his own place where he could live independently, with dignity.

This, Fr Day said, was what HOME was all about.

"It is our joy and pleasure to share our lives with you," he told the future residents during the official opening ceremony.

"We are not here to help you. We are not here to hand out charity. We are here to walk alongside you."

Australian of the Year Prof Pat McGorry gave the keynote address, highlighting the need for the rest of Australia to follow Queanbeyan's example and make mental health a priority.

"Mental health is our most precious resource," he said. "We need to design and build a 21st century model of care that brings mental healthcare up to the standard of physical healthcare."

The speakers stressed that this was just the beginning, and that ongoing support would be needed to cover HOME's \$350,000 annual running costs.

The Federal Government contributed \$2 million and the NSW Government put in \$750,000 to help get the project up and running, but HOME chairman Mr Tony Carey said it was hoped the facility would be self-supporting within 10 years.



Guests tour the newly completed courtyards and residences.



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For much of my life, I have had little or nothing to do with indigenous people and communities. In the Melbourne and Adelaide I knew growing up, indigenous people, if they were there, were invisible, unless of course they were on the sporting field where they tended to be quasi-fictional characters anyway. That was true, too, of my early years as a priest in Melbourne.

It was only when I came to Canberra as bishop that I had real contact with indigenous people and communities. This is not a diocese with a large indigenous population, but there are communities in places like the coast, Yass and Lake Cargelligo; and there's a fledgling Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Canberra, as we saw recently when the ACM organised a special Mass at Narrabundah which I celebrated. The group is not big but it is important, with Fr Steve Fletcher offering pastoral support, for which he's well qualified after years of working with indigenous people in the Northern Territory.

I was in Darwin recently to take part in a two-day session on The Sense of the Sacred. My brief was to speak about sacred language, in particular the new translation of the Missal. The local bishop, Eugene Hurley, spoke about sacred space, but then came what was for me the highlight of the two days.

A stately full-blood indigenous woman called Miriam-Rose Baumann spoke about sacred time. I had never heard of her, but Miriam-Rose is very big news in the Territory and beyond. She's described as a leader, teacher and artist - but after listening to her, she could be described as much more. Her presentation was extraordinary.

Its tone was understated, even laconic, but somehow that

The quiet lessons we need to learn from indigenous Australia



gave it greater power. She spoke at certain points of the suffering of her people, but she did so in a way that seemed to have transcended sorrow or anger. It was as if a deep calm had come beyond the tears.

I was especially moved when she mentioned the death of a young indigenous man whom they nicknamed "Pope". That's because he was the baby in a famous and delightful photograph with Pope John Paul II in Alice Springs in 1986. Then he was dead by his own hand in his early 20s. I hope he meets the Pope in heaven.

The central point of Miriam-Rose's reflection was what she called "dadirri" - a local indigenous word which means deep silence and listening, by which she meant not just an action or attitude but a whole spirituality, an attention to the sacred.

It hadn't struck me until she mentioned it, but what a quiet world Australia was until the Europeans came and built their noisy cities. In fact, Miriam-Rose seemed to exude a deep quiet even as she spoke. There

was something unusually tranquil about her.

Even indigenous art can have about it a sense of stillness and calm. I hadn't realised until quite recently that much indigenous art is painted, as it were, with a bird's eye view. The depiction is from above looking down upon the earth, which is remarkable for a people who didn't have the easy bird's eye view of the earth that we have.

That sense of elevated gaze can give a painting a particular sense of composure and calm which is the fruit of "dadirri". These are not "dollar-a-dot" decorations; they are the images of a deep and ancient spirituality which can prove surprisingly consonant with the contemplative traditions of Christianity and from which contemporary Australia has much to learn.

Miriam-Rose spoke of sacred time, but in some ways she spoke still more of sacred timing. We have to get our timing right; and it is a spirituality of "dadirri" which allows the human being to live in harmony with the sacred rhythms of God. These can be for us dislocating

rhythms, and we can prefer to make God move according to our own rhythms; but it's only the dislocating rhythms of God which bring peace, a stillness of soul. That's what it means to get our timing right.

Miriam-Rose made the point that people in Australia often think that the challenge is for indigenous Australians to catch up to the rest of us and that "we" have to wait patiently for "them" to catch up. Not so. According to her, the challenge for non-indigenous Australians is to learn from the indigenous people just as they have had to learn from "the white fella" for a couple of centuries and more. I had heard this sort of claim before but no-one I have ever heard put it as compellingly as Miriam-Rose.

But it's hard to learn if indigenous Australians remain for the most part unseen and unheard. They need to be seen and heard, which isn't always easy or comfortable.

Miriam-Rose was at the final Mass of the two-day session, and she joined in with the rest of us, praying the prayers, singing the songs, taking communion - all with a stately calm. She'd been taught by the nuns; she had learned a lot and seemed grateful for what she had received. Her learning had come early and gone deep.

My own learning from her and her people has come late and remains shallow at best. But I have an invitation to return to the Territory some time and to go "out bush" with Miriam-Rose, who at the end of Mass rolled up her paintings, got into her four-wheel drive and headed back to Daly River. She doesn't really like the city. I may not really like the bush, but I think I'll go ... on retreat perhaps.

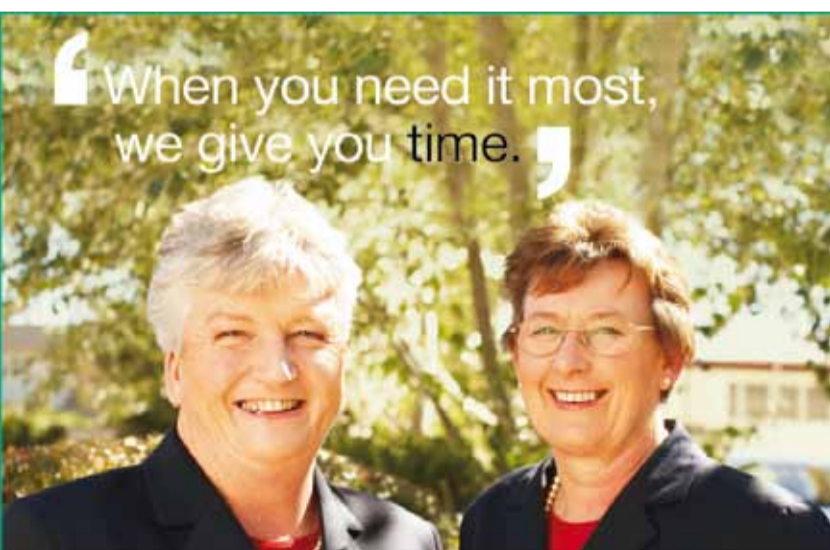
Mark Coleridge

AUGUST DIARY Archbishop Mark Coleridge

- 1 Confirmation, Crookwell.
- 2 MGL Mass and dinner.
- 5 Liturgical Commission meeting.
- 6 Confirmation, Watson.
- 7 Confirmation, Boorowa.
- 8 Mass Cathedral.
- 10, Council of Priests meeting.
- 11 Missal presentation, Bendigo.
- 14, 15 Confirmation, Narooma.
- 19 ACU chapter meeting.
- 20 Permanent Committee meeting, Sydney
- 21 Charismatic Renewal Mass, Goulburn.
- 27 Youth leaders forum.
- 28 Confirmation, Moruya.
- 31 Confirmation, Goulburn.

Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power

- 1 Vietnamese Mass, Kambah.
- 3 Cathedral precinct meeting.
- 10 Council of Priests.
- 12 Meeting with CatholicCare staff.
- 12, 13 Meeting, CEO secondary principals, Galong.
- 17, 18 Meeting, Catholic Social Services Australia.
- 22-25 Catholic Health Care conference, Adelaide.
- 28 Mass, Missionaries of Charity, Queanbeyan.



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Parish gets visitors

Kippax parishioners got a taste of the broad Christian church when delegates to the National Council of Churches forum being held in Canberra paid a visit and spoke at Sunday Masses.

With Bishop Pat Power (far right) at St John the Apostle, Kippax, are (from left): president of the Catholic Institute of Sydney Fr Gerard Kelly, Kippax parish priest Fr John Bosman MSC and president of the NSW Ecumenical Council Major Paul Kinder.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Answers: 1. Lunar New Year and the Feast of the 117 Vietnamese Martyrs. 2. Melkite and Ukrainian Catholic Churches. 3. Deacon Joe Blackwell, director Catholic Mission. 4. Polish community. 5. Caroline Chisholm. 6. \$340,000.

Sisters' have 'wonderful problem' to overcome

If they can't find a new home by the end of the year the Missionaries of God's Love sisters may have to leave Canberra.

Congregational leader Sr Patti Jo Crockett said the order now faced the "wonderful problem of having outgrown ordinary accommodation".

While she was delighted so many young women were hearing God's call to join them, she said the five-bedroom home they occupied in Dunlop was not going to be big enough.

The sisters had looked at buying a convent earlier in the year, but it is no longer available. "There are six of us living here at the moment and there are a group of five young women who are actively discerning," Sr Patti Jo said.

"It is essential for who we are to live together in one place. So if anyone has any ideas we would love to hear them. We need something with at least 10 bedrooms, preferably 12.

"We were founded in Canberra. Our network of friends and supporters and ministry is here. But if we can't find somewhere big enough to house us all then we will have to leave."

The order was founded in 1987 and exists within the wider Missionaries of God's Love community of both lay people and religious.

Sr Kelly Ku said one of the things that attracted her to the Missionaries of God's Love was that it

was a local order which understood her as an Australian woman.

"The spirituality also really appealed to me. We are contemplatives in action. That means we are internally prayerful when we take God into the lives of the people we talk to and work with.

"Plus, sisterhood life is just so much fun. Every Monday is dedicated to just hanging out and having fun together."

The MGL sisters work with youth groups and ministries, offering retreats, faith formation and pastoral care.

They also work with the marginalised and unchurched by implementing community programs in government housing; providing friendship to the house-bound and mentally ill; and providing indigenous outreach and support in urban and remote communities.

To donate to the MGL Sisters Convent Appeal, or if you have any suggestions for possible housing for the sisters, email pattijo@mgl sisters.org or telephone 6258 0319.

RIGHT: Missionaries of God's Love sisters (clockwise from left) Kelly Ku, Kate Cleary, Kate Atkins and Patti Jo Crockett outside their current home, which is too small for their growing numbers.



Record compassion

Australians gave close to \$9.4 million this year to Caritas Australia's annual Project Compassion appeal, setting a new benchmark of generosity and compassion for the world's most vulnerable communities.

Project Compassion, the largest aid and development fundraiser in Australia, runs throughout Lent raising funds for Caritas Australia's emergency relief efforts and international development programs. Project Compassion 2010 has been Caritas' most successful campaign in more than 40 years.

'Tough rhetoric' fear

Leaders of religious institutes and societies have expressed serious concern about the direction of both major political parties in their proposed treatment of people who are asylum seekers and refugees. President of Catholic Religious Australia Sr Anne Derwin RSJ said members were concerned that scaremongering and tough rhetoric played on the fears of some in the Australian community and created false assumptions.

Inspiring song for Mary

A song written for Mary MacKillop's canonisation, "Saint Mary MacKillop" by ARIA award winner Gary Pinto is available for download on iTunes.

"Saint Mary MacKillop" may be bought on iTunes, the video clip can be viewed on YouTube, and the Sisters have made the sheet music available on the official Mary MacKillop website at no cost.

Art weekend at Gunning

Artists who want to take part in the 15th annual Gunning Catholic Parish art show have until the end of the month to get their entries in. The show will be held over the weekend of 10-12 September and always attracts a wide range of art. This community event is officially opened at 7pm on Friday and runs from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday. Devonshire teas and lunch are available on both days. Information and entry forms: Maureen Hewitt, telephone 4845 1308.

Quality of life

People with intellectual disabilities, their families, carers and industry professionals are invited to a public lecture at ACU's Canberra campus. Prof Roy Brown, renowned researcher and practitioner in the field of intellectual disability, will speak on "Individual and family quality of life: a challenge for society and services" at 5pm on Tuesday, 10 August. Inquiries: Rhonda Faragher, telephone 6209 1142.

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

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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CATHOLIC VOICE August 2010 - 5

Towards a better world

Caritas Australia's travelling global poverty exhibition Blueprint for a Better World will remain open at Old Parliament House until August 18.

The interactive display explores the eight Millennium Development Goals and how individuals can help to ensure they are achieved.

"In a creative and interactive space, Caritas Australia invites visitors to learn more about breaking the cycle of entrenched poverty and to take local action to ease the burden on vulnerable communities worldwide," program coordinator Dr Ingvar Anda said.

"The exhibition gives a human face to the Millennium Development

Goals and forms part of Caritas Australia's commitment to enabling public participation in local and international responses to the eradication of global poverty."

The exhibition will move to St Francis Xavier College, Florey on 23 August, where school groups will have the chance to visit until 1 September.

Admission to the exhibition at Old Parliament House costs \$2 for adults, \$1 for children and concessions and \$5 for families. School visits at St Francis Xavier will be free.

For more information go to www.blueprintforabetterworld.org.



This annual collection in support of our Archdiocesan retired clergy will be conducted in all parishes of the Archdiocese over the weekend of 4 and 5 September.

*Father's Day
Appeal*
Sunday, September
5

Donations may be sent to: The Clergy Retirement Foundation
GPO Box 3089,
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e-mail inquiries: kevin.croker@cg.catholic.org.au
ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Young people stand to answer the call

Close to 400 young people, catechist couples and seminarians of the Neo-catechumenal Way travelled from across Australia for a vocations rally in Canberra.

Held at Merici College, the highlight of the event was Archbishop Mark Coleridge's call for vocations.

Four young men stood up to show they were ready to start discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

The call was also for women, with five standing to show they were prepared to enter religious life.

The rally was the culmination of a pilgrimage from each of the capital cities, beginning the spiritual journey to World Youth Day in Madrid next year.

"It was a chance for them to listen to each other's stories, learn from each other and evangelise," Canberra member Mr Michael Claessens said.

The pilgrims stopped in towns and cities along the way, playing music in the streets to draw crowds so they could then talk about the love of God.

"People really open up and are touched by the Holy Spirit," Mr Claessens said.

While in Canberra they were billeted at Kambah, Kaleen, Charnwood, Campbell and South Tuggeranong parishes.

Barbecues and other events were held to welcome the pilgrims. Some young people were also invited to give testimonies during parish Mass.



The icon of the Virgin Mary (above) was processed into the Merici College hall during the Neo-catechumenal Way vocations rally (below).



The Neo-catechumenal Way is an approved body within the Church that offers a post-baptismal catechumenate. It is focused on the formation of adults, particularly those who have been baptised but since separated from the Church. It is deeply committed to evangelisation and operates in small parish-based communities throughout the world.

It's a school with big heart



It was a mix of religious and special activities for students on Sacred Heart Day at Daramalan College. The major event was Mass. Then staff and students braved the elements on a 4C winter's day for the annual "school heart photo".

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Justice, peace hope for all

Justice and peace for all was the goal addressed by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at the inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass.

Held in St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah, the Mass was a celebration of indigenous peoples and cultures.

Archbishop Coleridge acknowledged that the injustices inflicted on the indigenous population since colonisation were something that needed to be addressed by all.

He asked the congregation to pray for the hope of an Easter resurrection for Aboriginal people so that, like Christ, their wounds would be transformed and shine a new era to their story.

Symbols of indigenous culture were included in the offertory and Gospel processions. The Aboriginal Our Father was also said.

Archbishop Coleridge gave a special blessing to the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry team, who organised the Mass.

It was followed by a community barbecue, face painting from the Gecko Gang and music by Johnny Huckle.

"The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry is very fortunate to have many friends supporting and celebrating with us and we would like to thank them for their contribution to the Mass," ministry co-chair Ms Kerrie Hogan said.

The next event for the ministry is a Cultural Healing Mass on Tuesday, 10 August, from 5.30pm at St Benedict's Church.



Archbishop Mark Coleridge blesses the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry team. From left: Peter Withers, Sally Fitzgerald, Kerrie Hogan, Ruth Bell, Bronnie Schlager and Wayne Thompson.

"We welcome indigenous people and friends to join us for healing, prayer, reflection and a cuppa afterwards," Ms Hogan said.

For more information about Aboriginal Catholic Ministry telephone Ms Hogan on 0402 049 650 or telephone the ministry's acting chaplain Fr Steve Fletcher on 6259 7879.

Sleepout tally hits \$345,000

The final tally for the St Vincent de Paul Society's CEO Sleepout has been taken with Canberra raising more than \$345,000 of the \$2.8 million national total.

The money will be used by Vinnies to fund services for homeless people in the Archdiocese.

But their call for generosity doesn't stop there.

The 2010 Winter Appeal will continue until the end of the month through which the society hopes to raise \$4.5 million nationally.

The facts the society has asked Australians to consider this year are the survival techniques employed by thousands of people in crisis that Canberra/Goulburn Central Council chief executive officer Mr Bob Wilson said "no one should have to know".

Many disadvantaged people know to sleep together in one room to save on heating. Many homeless people know it is safer to stay together in groups to avoid violence on the streets. Many people with no other option know the cheapest rent in the city is in a storage facility.

Donations to this year's Winter Appeal will help support those people who have to rely on such measures. Telephone 13 18 12 or go to www.vinnies.org.au.

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CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND of CANBERRA & GOULBURN



Rhien Finlayson, Lubomir Gorgievski, Dean Karadonis and Liam Glasgow do their bit for Jump Rope for Heart.

Heart campaign has 'em jumping

Students at St John the Apostle Primary School, Florey, have given a health campaign their whole-hearted support.

As part of the Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart 2010, the whole school took part in the "Jump Off" day and raised \$4395 in sponsorship.

The children took part in a range of fun skipping skills and new tricks.

They wore red mufti on the day and were encouraged to eat red fruits and vegetables for the fruit break.

The day emphasised the importance of regular physical activity, such as skipping, as well as enjoying healthy eating as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is an exciting and non-competitive program which encourages children to become active, learn new skills and raise vital funds for cardiovascular research and community health programs.

The school says it is proud to help save Australian lives by fighting heart disease.

Compassion, kindness praised

A huge crowd of parishioners and community members from Boorowa, Harden/Murrumburrah, Binalong, Galong and district farewelled Fr Greg Beath after six years as Boorowa parish priest.

They spoke of his inspiring commitment as a priest not only in Boorowa from 2004, but from 2006 in Binalong and Galong and from 2008 in Harden/Murrumburrah.

Guests included Fr Beath's mother Doreen and his brother Michael and sister-in-law Sandra from Gooloogong, Fr Patrick Corbett, Fr Leo Coffey and Fr Peter Ryan and Sr Helen Barnes from St Clement's Monastery, Galong, Federal Member for Hume Mr Alby Schultz and Boorowa Mayor Mrs Wendy Tuckerman.

Mr Dermot McGrath welcomed people from Harden/Murrumburrah, Binalong, Galong and surrounding centres of Rugby, Frogmore and Rye Park.

Chair of St Patrick's parish pastoral council Mrs Teena McGrath paid tribute to Fr Beath's commitment, compassion and kindness. His involvement in World Youth Day and his overwhelming support to all families, especially those who had lost loved ones, would never be forgotten, she said.

She highlighted the guidance and encouragement he gave children and youth. He was also responsible for repair of the stained glass windows in St Patrick's Church and renovations and painting in the church and presbytery.

Mr Schultz spoke of Fr Beath's encouragement of all young people and their families in Christian values. Mrs Tuckerman paid tribute to his community involvement, especially during Woolfest.



With Fr Greg Beath at his farewell are (from left): John Blair from Binalong, Dianne Moorby from Harden and Noel Tilden from Boorowa. Picture: jeremymcgrathphotography.com.

At a school assembly, St Joseph's Primary School principal Mr Peter Hughes paid tribute to his work with children.

Principal of Trinity School Harden/Murrumburrah Mrs Trina McGrath spoke of his encouragement to children in their faith journey and sacramental life and made a presentation on behalf of staff and students.

In response, Fr Beath highlighted three areas of commitment; his ministry to the sick, suffering, frail, aged, lonely and grieving members in the communi-

ty, his encouragement of children in their faith and sacramental journey and the support of their families and the preservation and enhancement of the churches and presbyteries.

His sudden serious illness last December helped him come to the decision to resign and take on lighter duties.

As a final tribute, Mrs McGrath, assisted by Mrs Dianne Moorby, of Harden/Murrumburrah, and Mr John Blair, of Binalong, presented him with a gold watch and a handcrafted box containing a donation.

FACTS ON FUNERALS

Burial in Ancient Times

Throughout history, the most common way to dispose of the dead has been burial in the ground.

In some of the earliest graves of prehistoric Europe, stones were often laid on top of the body. It is believed this was done in the belief that this would stop the dead from returning to haunt the living. The feet of the deceased were sometimes tied together for the same reason.

Red ochre was sometimes sprinkled on the body – perhaps representing the blood and strength the deceased would need in an afterlife.

The Vikings sometimes buried the dead under the thresholds of their houses. This was because they believed that the souls of the dead could defend their houses against evil spirits.

Today, burial in the Canberra region occurs in public cemeteries.

If you would like to know more about the funeral options available these days, please call (02) 6297 1052.



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Chisholm tribute unveiled



Artist Nola Diamantopoulos discusses her mosaic plans with Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral works supervisor Mr Brian Watchirs, restoration committee secretary Ms Ruth Vial and Goulburn parish priest Fr Dermid McDermott.

The 110 people who attended Mary Queen of Apostles parish dinner in Goulburn were given a sneak preview of the Caroline Chisholm mosaic planned for Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral.

Ms Clara Geoghegan spoke about the life of Caroline Chisholm and her efforts to help young women find employment in Goulburn and the surrounding areas during the 1840s.

Parish priest Fr Dermid McDermott felt it was appropriate her work be commemorated so Balmain artist Ms Nola Diamantopoulos was commissioned to create a mosaic in the gothic window on the northern wall of the church.

Unlike the other windows in the church, it was never fully completed with stained glass, and the bulk of the space was filled in with brick and cement to help provide a constant temperature for the organ located on the other side.

Ms Diamantopoulos showed her plans to transform the space into one of the country's largest Caroline Chisholm monuments.

The Old Cathedral Restoration Committee still needs help from the general public to complete this project. Tax deductible donations may be made to Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral Restoration, PO Box 11, Goulburn, NSW 2580.

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Sharing the lives of 'people on the move'

By Claire Mitchell

For Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office national director Fr Maurizio Pettena, life has always been about one thing: providing pastoral care to migrants.

It was this call to share God's love with those "people on the move" that first led the Italian-born priest to join the Scalabrinians, the Missionaries of St Charles Borromeo. The order, originally founded in 1887 to care for Italian migrants, was expanded after Vatican II to include migrants and refugees of all nations.

Such a broad direction meant the missionaries were likely to require knowledge of more than just Italian and English - which is why Fr Pettena also speaks Spanish, French and Tagalog.

After all, as a Scalabrinian priest you know you're going to be doing a lot of travelling.

"I came to Australia just over 20 years ago to be the chaplain for the Italian community in the western suburbs of Sydney," Fr Pettena said.

His job was to meet the linguistic and cultural needs of those migrants new to Australia. Of course there was more to it than just giving people the option to celebrate Mass in their native language.

"I shared their lives and experiences," he said.

"To really share with someone, rather than just learn about them, is so important."

His Italian chaplain role eventually broadened into that of a Sydney parish priest. But before too long he was called back overseas.

Making the most of his multilingual skills, Fr Pettena spent time working with communities in Taiwan and teaching in Scalabrinian formation centres in the Philippines.

On his return to Australia he also got to put his Spanish to the test as chaplain to the Latin American community in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Each location was an opportunity to meet new people and become part of their journey.

In 2006 he moved south to Victoria to become parish priest of St Brigid's, North Fitzroy.

"It is a very multicultural parish. We had five priests, each from a different country," Fr Pettena said.

"The diversity was wonderful."

"Our pastoral work helped to encourage a dialogue, respect and breakdown barriers caused by fear of the unknown."

While still in Melbourne, Fr Pettena started working part time for the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office.

In November last year, he was officially appointed national director.

While his current position has a bureaucratic side, he said pastoral work was still at the heart of everything.

The office is part of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Commission for Pastoral Life.

It is responsible for overseeing the pastoral care of migrants and refugees in Australia and helping dioceses and eparchies bring new migrant priests to the country.

"Previously, priests came from overseas specifically to be migrant chaplains," he said.

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

"These days however they generally come to help the difficult situation here with vocations."

"Australia is largely an immigrant Church so I think it is a blessing to have more migrant priests here. It is so beautiful to see the diversity of the Church reflected in the faces of our priests and religious."

As national director, Fr Pettena has been invited to speak at conventions with all manner of organisations, from state bodies to the World Council of Churches.

"It is my honour to communicate what the Catholic Church in Australia does to support migrants and refugees," he said.

"Our office was invited by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to a meeting with service providers from around the world. This was not a church event and yet we were there, as was Caritas and representatives from all the Catholic bishops conferences."

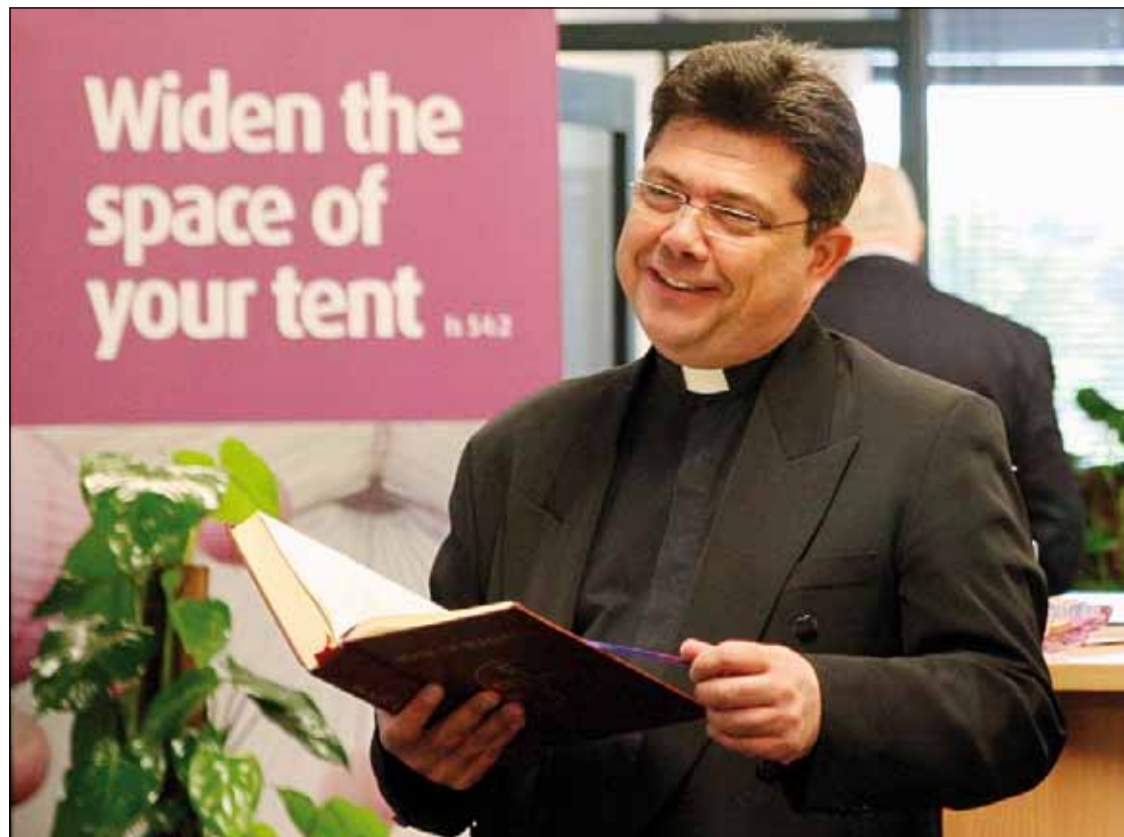
"To look out and see just how involved the Church is was so uplifting."

Looking back over his international vocation as migrant chaplain, parish priest, teacher and administrator, there was no role Fr Pettena could single out as the most rewarding.

"All the different positions I've had, the places I've worked, are all an answer to the one call."

"Being a priest and missionary to migrants is the key to my life in whatever situation I find myself."

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au



ABOVE: Fr Maurizio Pettena ... "It is so beautiful to see the diversity of the Church reflected in the faces of our priests and religious."

BELOW: Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office staff (from left) Philippa Woonton, James Voortman, Brad Tarrant, Rayla Barcelona and Carolina Leon-Marillanca, Bishop's Commission for Pastoral Life executive secretary Bruce Ryan, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference business manager Glenn Mowbray, Sandhurst Bishop Joseph Grech and Fr Maurizio Pettena.





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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 Neda Kesina, founding member of the Good Shepherd Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group



what I do

How and why did the prayer group begin?

It started out about 15 years ago as a Croatian community prayer group. My husband and a friend of his thought of the idea of praying together. It started out just in a private house, then as more joined we moved it to the Croatian Retirement Village and then eventually to the Croatian Centre in Farrer.

How has the group changed since it first began?

In the beginning a couple from the Disciples of Jesus came to show us how to set everything up and so most of what we did was in English.

Once we were established and no longer needed the couple's assistance we started using more Croatian prayers and song. We were mostly older people as the younger people were part of the Croatian Youth Group. Once it closed, some of the youth came to join us too. Over the years it has become more and more multicultural and the group has really opened up to everyone.

What do the weekly prayer group meetings entail?

We begin at 7pm each Wednesday with the Rosary. Then we move into praise and worship with song and music. We have teaching and testimony where members might do a reading or dramatisation or meditative reflection. It's a chance for people to really use their gifts. Finally we have prayers of intercession or we break into small groups and pray over each other.

What are some of the challenges you've faced?

All the members come from different spiritual traditions and prefer different styles of prayer, so the challenge for us is to try and include everyone. That is why we have so many different forms of prayer during the meetings.

Some people may not like to sing, others may be uncomfortable with charismatic prayer, so we make sure there is something for everyone. While most of the prayers are in English we still sing some Croatian songs.

We also have four Italians that come and they like to say the Rosary in Italian while we answer in English. It's a beautiful way to involve everyone.

What are the benefits of group prayer?

Being part of a prayer group provides support for spiritual growth. There is a power in the combined effort and it is a chance to open up to others. Being part of the group is a powerful witness to give others hope. And it's more than just a weekly meeting; we build strong friendships and really become like a little family. Our group also offers outreach seminars and supports the Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Ministry Team through monthly intercession and Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Good Shepherd Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group meets from 7pm-9.30pm each Wednesday in the South Woden parish hall at Sacred Heart Church, Hodgson Crescent, Pearce. Inquiries: Neda Kesina, telephone 0415 266 019 or 6258 3992; or Susanna Taylor, telephone 0419 902 293.

40-year history is time for local celebration

Since arriving in Australia in August last year, Fr Miroslav Mandic has been tasked with the role of chaplain to the Croatian community.

With members spread across Canberra, Queanbeyan and the South Coast, the Bosnian-born Franciscan priest certainly has his work cut out.

Luckily, he said, he has had strong support from the local people.

A Croatian-language Mass is celebrated at St Augustine's Church, Farrer, each Sunday, and attracts around 300 people.

An additional Mass in Croatian is also held once a month at Batemans Bay.

The Croatian community has its own altar servers, organists and pastoral council, as well as three prayer groups in Belconnen, Farrer and Queanbeyan.

Fr Mandic said the community was primarily made up of Croatian families who had lived in Australia for decades, with few migrating in recent years.

"It's very hard to get a visa to Australia," he said.

"I know. I had to wait a year to get mine and I'm a priest."

While there are some young people attending the Croatian-language Mass from Belconnen, Fr Mandic said a large proportion of the congregation was elderly.

"A lot of the older people like to go to Mass every day so they will attend services in English during the week and then the Croatian-language Mass on Sunday," he said.

The Croatian Catholic community will celebrate its 40th anniversary on 13 March next year.



Croatian chaplain Fr Miroslav Mandic outside St Augustine's Church in Farrer. Fr Mandic hopes to mark the 40th anniversary of the community in the Archdiocese with Mass next March celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

Filipinos mark their independence

Filipinos in Canberra and surrounding areas of the Archdiocese gathered at St Peter Chanel Church, Yarralumla, for the Philippine Independence Day Mass. It is the 112th year since the country gained independence from Spanish rule.

Celebrant Bishop Pat Power spoke about the need for tolerance of people different from us.

There was an offertory of various gifts, and the prayers of the faithful were recited by men and women representing different regions. Philippine Ambassador Mr Ernesto De Leon delivered a message. The thanksgiving and concluding remarks were given by Sr Angelita of the MACE Sisters, who offered a prayer-blessing for those present:

"May the power of your truth lead us to exercise justice in all our dealings, and may there always be love, harmony and understanding in Filipino communities all over the world," she said.

"Give us the courage and strength to begin the task of building our nation, so that our children, and our children's children, may be proud to bear the identity of being a Filipino. And may God's presence always illuminate our ways, so that we may be guided towards unity, equality and peace. Amen."

Those gathered went to the Philippine Embassy after Mass for a flag-raising ceremony, message from the president and lunch.



Sr Angelita of the MACE Sisters speaks at the Mass watched by celebrant Bishop Pat Power and acolyte Pieter van Gent.

'We forget what separates us...'

St George Melkite Catholic Mission priest Fr Faye Assaf plans to give everyone the opportunity to experience the Melkite Catholic Mass by holding a weekly Sunday service in English.

The aim is to make the liturgy accessible to a wider range of people and to help clear up common misconceptions about Eastern Catholic Churches.

The English language Masses will begin from 22 August at Sacred Heart Church, Calwell. This will be in addition to the 11am Arabic service held each Sunday.

"We welcome any Roman Catholics who wish to share our Byzantine tradition," Fr Assaf said.

The Melkite Catholic Church is an Eastern Catholic Church which originated in Constantinople (formerly known as Byzantium) and consequently follows the Byzantine tradition.

Like all of the 22 Catholic Rites, it is self governing and has its own cultural customs.

In the Melkite Catholic Church a single man who becomes a priest must remain single but a lay man who gets married can then be ordained a priest.



Fr Faye Assaf celebrates a Melkite Catholic wedding.

The Melkites also confer the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion at the same time as Baptism.

Another notable difference between the two rites is within the church building itself. Melkite churches feature a solid partition between the altar and the congregation called an iconostas, which is covered with icons.

There is a large door at the centre where the priest stands to celebrate the

Mass as well as two smaller doorways on the left and right for use by altar servers.

There are no Melkite Catholic churches in Canberra so Fr Assaf serves St George's Mission through the sponsorship of South Tuggeranong parish, and says Mass in Sacred Heart Church, Calwell.

Fr Assaf said people should not dwell on differences but celebrate the unity of the Catholic faith.

"I am the only priest who celebrates Mass in Arabic in Canberra so we attract a lot of people from other traditions to our Church," he said.

"We incorporate the Maronites, Chaldeans and Armenians, who follow a different Rite to us but have no church of their own here yet.

"In this way I think we are giving the best example on earth. We forget what separates us, never emphasise our differences, because regardless of what tradition you are from we consider ourselves all part of the same family of God."

Inquiries: Fr Assaf, telephone 0402 243 373 or e-mail fasil@fayeassaf.com.au.

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

Communities enrich each other

From 3pm every Sunday, Kambah parish priest Fr Peter My slips into Vietnamese chaplain mode.

First, the Eucharistic Children's Movements arrive for catechesis and activities in the parish centre.

He offers reconciliation from around 4.15pm before celebrating Mass in Vietnamese at 5pm. Then he has a meeting with either the community's Marriage Encounter, Legion of Mary, family or youth groups. About 9pm, it's time to switch back to English.

His chaplaincy role is only a part-time appointment; one that Fr My feels has enriched his life.

"I really enjoy being able to say Mass in both languages," he said. "It gives me the opportunity to compare and experience two cultures and to enrich the parish by mixing the good points of both communities."

"Before my time in Canberra I worked in different country parishes in the Archdiocese, which was great, but I really do enjoy the opportunity I now have to serve the Vietnamese community as well as Kambah parish."

The community has been established in the Archdiocese for 31 years and caters for about 190 families. Most live in Canberra but there are also Vietnamese Catholics in Yass and Goulburn.

Fr My said offering Mass in Vietnamese was helpful for overseas students and other new arrivals to Australia.

"It is also an opportunity for older generations to pass on their traditions to the young," he said.



Vietnamese chaplain Fr Peter My with members of his community at the shrine of the 117 Vietnamese martyrs at Penrose Park.

Through the year there are two major Vietnamese celebrations, the Feast of the 117 Vietnamese martyrs, who are the patron saints of the community, and the Lunar New Year. Thousands of martyrs were killed for their faith in Vietnam between 1798 and 1861. Pope John Paul II collectively canonised 117 martyrs and their feast day is 24 November.

Each year Fr My leads a contingent from the Vietnamese community to worship at the martyrs' shrine at Penrose Park in the Southern Highlands.

The Lunar New Year celebrations involve four Masses held on 31 December

and 1-3 January, with themes of thanksgiving, peace in the Vietnamese community and the world, for ancestors; and for work.

"It's important for people to connect with their parish as well as the Vietnamese community," Fr My said.

"We encourage children to take part in the sacramental programs offered in their parishes. "Sometimes I have English Mass so people can get used to Mass in the English language too."

Fr My said the Vietnamese community was grateful they could use the facilities at Kambah and for the ongoing support of parishioners.

The word "Catholic" literally means "universal" so it should be little surprise that Catholicism is expressed and influenced by different cultures around the world.

The Catholic Church encompasses eight distinct traditions: Armenian, Byzantine, Coptic, Ethiopian, East Syrian (Chaldean), Maronite, Roman and West Syrian. From these, 22 different rites or churches have evolved. Each holds the same faith and beliefs but the practices reflect the culture of the location where the particular church or rite was established.

The majority of the world's Catholics adhere to the Latin Rite, an expression of the Roman tradition. Some make the mistake of assuming this is the only form of Catholicism.

Yet within the one Catholic Church there are also 21 Eastern Rites. They have their own style of liturgy based on one of the eight Catholic traditions. They also have their own hierarchy, but they all respect the Pope as the ultimate authority.

Within Canberra and Goulburn there are two active Eastern Rites, the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Melkite Catholic Church, which are both expressions of the Byzantine tradition.

Of course, the diversity of the Catholic Church doesn't just end with East and West.

Within the Latin Rite there are also a number of different cultural communities who gather together to share Mass and the sacraments in their own language.

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn currently provides chaplains for the German, Croatian, Vietnamese and Polish communities.

During the Second Vatican Council the importance of embracing the diversity of the Catholic Church was officially identified. It decreed that all Catholic individual Churches, whether east or west, although they differ in liturgy, ecclesiastical discipline and spiritual heritage, are of equal dignity; none is superior to the others.

Stories, pictures by Claire Mitchell

Eastern Catholic Church facts

- The apostles travelled across the known world, which was effectively the Roman Empire, to spread the Word of God. Their message was then developed according to the customs of each area, which is how the 22 particular Catholic Churches evolved.

- In 292 Emperor Diocletian divided the Roman Empire in half, with Rome the capital of the west and Byzantium the east. The Churches in the eastern part of the empire became known as the Eastern Catholic Churches, while the rest of the empire belonged to the Roman or Western Catholic Church.

- During the early years of the Church, a number of councils were held on matters of theology and doctrine. Whenever a group disagreed they broke from the Catholic Church to become a separate Christian church.

- The Great East-West Schism occurred in 1054 when most of the Eastern Rites decided

to break away from the Catholic Church and become the Orthodox Churches. There had been ongoing debate between the Patriarch of Constantinople and the Bishop of Rome over who should be head of the Catholic Church and over an addition to the Creed. Both the Pope and the Patriarch issued excommunications on each other.

- Eventually, sections of those Rites that separated during the schism accepted the primacy of the Pope in Rome and returned to the Catholic Church. Those that did not remained Orthodox Churches. Consequently some of the Eastern Catholic Churches have an Orthodox Church counterpart.

Welcome link to native language



Polish chaplain Fr Henryk Zasiura with the statue dedicated to Pope John Paul II at the Polish Centre in Narrabundah.
E-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

The Society of Christ is dedicated to serving Polish migrants around the world and has had priests based in the Archdiocese for the past 40 years.

Fr Henryk Zasiura is chaplain of the Polish community and he continues the order's mission by caring for 100 to 120 Polish families in Canberra and Queanbeyan. "Most of the people have been in Australia for 50 years," he said.

"They speak English in their workplaces without any problem. But it is very important to them to be able to pray in Polish, which is why we're here."

In 1993, on Pope John Paul II's 25th anniversary as Pope, the Polish Centre in Narrabundah was officially opened and blessed in his name.

It serves as a base for visiting Society of Christ clergy from around Australia, as a retreat destination for a number of different groups, and as a central meeting place for the Polish community.

A Polish-language Mass is held in the chapel at 6pm on Saturdays and 11am on Sundays. A service is also held at St Gregory's Church in Queanbeyan at 8am every Sunday. "Sometimes we do services that are half Polish, half English, particularly for funerals, so younger generations also feel included and can understand," Fr Zasiura said.

A significant number of Polish migrants moved to the Canberra/Queanbeyan area after World War 2 but Fr Zasiura said, in more recent times, new arrivals had tended to settle in larger cities such as Sydney or Melbourne. As a result, there was a high proportion of older people in the community who Fr Zasiura said were passionate about their faith and grateful for the opportunity to celebrate Mass in their native language.

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Catholic life choices

Members of the laity

- Are called to live out their Baptismal promises daily and so give witness to Christ by a life lived according to Gospel values

- Are called to nourish their Christian life by prayer (both private and communal) and service to the Body of Christ (normally within a local parish)

- Are called to ongoing formation in their faith

- If single, are called to live an appropriately celibate life

- If married, are called to serve God through the faithful love and partnership with wife or husband, and with them to love and care for their children

- May belong to one of the many forms of Associations of Christ's Faithful which are a support and encouragement in living as a committed Catholic Christian

- Share their resources (both personal and financial) to build up the Body of Christ (this is normally done within the local parish structure)

- May be called to give time as a missionary at home and overseas

- May be called as a woman to live as a Consecrated Virgin or a Canonical Hermit, or as a man to live as a Canonical Hermit.

- with thanks to Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia

www.catholicovocations.org.au

Walking with people in need

The Sisters of St Joseph of Goulburn arrived in Goulburn from Bathurst in August 1882, at the invitation of Bishop William J Lanigan.

Initially the sisters staffed the small parish primary school in Goulburn. Over time their influence on the growth of Catholic education across three dioceses was considerable.

As Josephite women their mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus.

They are women who nurture and support life: "going where others may not go, reaching out a helping hand, offering a listening ear, and with a gentle heart lifting up others to the fullness of their dignity and destiny in Jesus, while walking with them in the ordi-

nariness of everyday life" (Mission Statement).

Today, sisters retain their strong commitment to Catholic schools while their ministry focus now is across a range of areas.

These include working with families, with the aged, in parish situations as coordinators and pastoral assistants, in prison ministry to inmates and their families, in pastoral ministry, and with children and adults through various programs.

They are active in advocacy for justice and in lobbying for human rights for all people.

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



Sr Julie Connolly

Aussie 'ready' to taste brothers' life



On 7 August, Lewis Harwood will leave Sydney to join four other De La Salle novices in Napa, California.

His 15-hour flight to the Golden State will mark the beginning of a year-long journey as he enters the final stage of the De La Salle Brothers' training program.

"I'm really excited about the novitiate in the USA," he said.

"It's a great opportunity to strengthen my relationship with God and to deepen my understanding of the Lasallian tradition.

"Going to the novitiate is a big step and it's not a decision that I reached without careful consideration. But I'm definitely ready for it."

Lewis, 24, has been living and working with the De La Salle Brothers since mid-2009.

As a qualified teacher, he has worked at the brothers' schools in Mentone, Victoria, and Bankstown, New South Wales.

He first made contact with Br Mark McKeon, director of vocations, in 2008 and since then he has been learning more about himself, the brothers' life, and considering whether or not it is something that is right for him.

"In the last two years I have seen Lewis grow in his determination to become a De La Salle Brother," Br Mark said.

"It's certainly a life which is not suited to everyone, but he has gone

from strength to strength in being able to connect with the life of a brother and the Lasallian mission.

"I have no doubt that he will shine as a De La Salle Brother."

The novitiate is at Mont La Salle, the brothers' 138 hectare property 11km north-west of the city of Napa.

"The property in Napa is perfect for the novitiate because it is peaceful and secluded," Br Mark said.

"The novices only spend one day working at the local school because the novitiate is less about the ministry and more about taking time to reflect, deepen your spirituality and develop a greater understanding of the founder of the brothers and the Lasallian heritage."

Br Mark admits that Lewis is the first young man that Australia has sent to the novitiate in a number of years.

And while religious life is something which many young people may not consider nowadays, the fact is that it is still an option worth considering.

"Lewis is proof that religious life is not a thing of the past. It is still a possibility for young men today.

"If you are passionate about your faith and have a desire to help young people in need, then the brothers' life is definitely worth considering.

"It has a lot to offer to the right person."

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National Vocations Awareness Week

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

The focuses for the two Sundays of National Vocations Awareness Week, 8 and 15 August, are the baptismal call of all and specifically how it is lived in a call to the single life and the call to marriage, and the specific vocations of consecrated (religious) and ordained life (priesthood and permanent diaconate).



Pray for Vocations

Each month members of the Serra Club of Canberra visit a parish in our Archdiocese to pray for vocations before the Blessed Sacrament.

We would like to receive an invitation from your parish to come and pray with you to ask the master of the harvest to send labourers for his harvest.

secretary@serracanberra.org
Serra Club of Canberra
www.serracanberra.org

Mary is welcome in the forgotten village

Sr Joan Westblade LCM*

Through seven rivers and into the land that God forgot, Mary came to the village of Lissadela in Timor Leste.

At the time it seemed a simple request, "Could I find a statue of Mary for a poor, isolated village?"

Without much commitment I said, "Yes", but as time went by it seemed as if Mary herself was saying something more to me.

This was no ordinary request and I became focused on buying a very good statue, one that would be suitable for an open, bamboo type village chapel.

Finally, on Easter Monday, 5 April, 2010, the people welcomed Mary to Lissadela.

Less than 2km from the chapel, a welcome arch had been erected under which the people of the village all gathered dressed in their traditional dress.

Mary was unwrapped and with great devotion, was placed on a small platform which was carried by four young villagers.



Mary was crowned and a traditional tais was placed around her neck.

After this, a tais was also placed around our necks. The old men welcomed Mary and the procession moved up the road.

The women and young girls danced before Mary all the way to the chapel where there was another magnificent arch.

More prayers were said before Mary was welcomed to her new home.

I was deeply moved by the devotion and the solemnity given to this great occasion.

They asked me to name the chapel. "Queen of Peace Chapel," seemed a fitting title.

* Sr Joan Westblade is a Sister of the Little Company of Mary and has worked for the past 14 years with Mary MacKillop Mission, East Timor.



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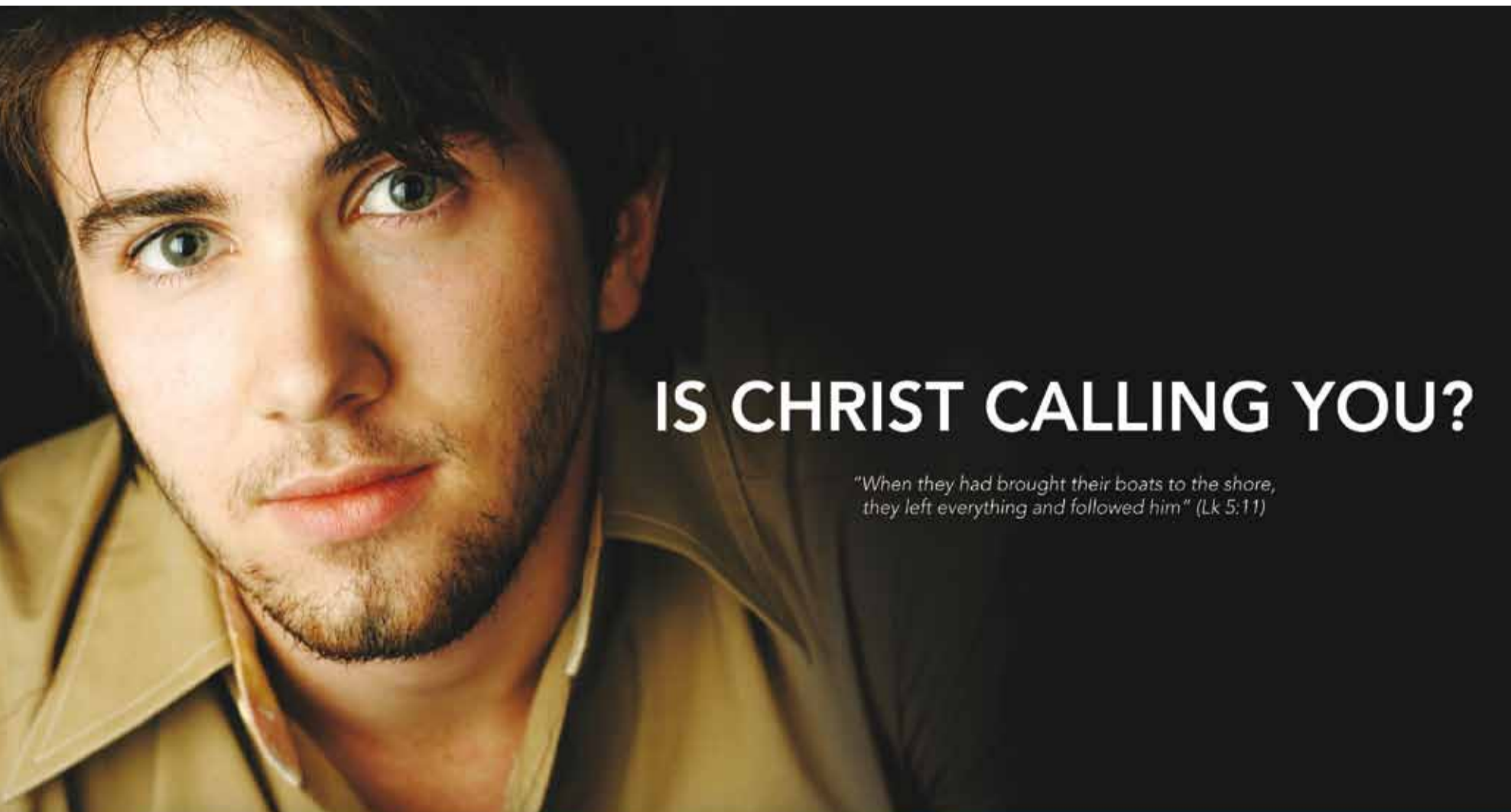
Our inspiration is drawn from our foundress, Catherine McAuley, and the many Sisters who came to our land to set up communities.

Today, our Sisters and their ministry partners throughout Australia and beyond can be found carrying on the vision of Catherine McAuley.

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IS CHRIST CALLING YOU?

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FOLLOWED BY AN INFORMAL DINNER**

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Fr Emil Milat on 4474 2024 or email: emil.milat@cg.catholic.org.au

Standing before God

Mount Carmel, meaning Garden of God, has always been seen as a symbol of God's beauty and transcendence.

Here, where the prophet Elijah "stood before God", the first Carmelites, who sought to live lives of holiness in the spirit and power of Elijah, laid the foundation of the Carmelite Order, taking God's own Virgin Mother as their Queen and inspiration.

Generations of Carmelites have felt themselves called to follow after the great prophet in this contemplative way of life which has produced numerous saints such as the mystical doctors, St Teresa of Avila and St John of the Cross, St Therese of Lisieux, the Carmelites of Compiegne, St Edith Stein and Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity.

All of these felt called to total service of God through pondering and living the Word on behalf of all His people.

The Spanish Carmelite, St Teresa of Avila, was inspired to set up a Carmel according to its first, more austere rule, in Avila, Spain, in 1562; she founded 17 monasteries throughout Spain, travelling the rough roads by mule-cart.

After her death in 1582, Carmels were founded in France, Belgium, and throughout the world.



From this line descended the monastery of Melbourne, from which the monastery of Canberra was founded in 1974.

The call to Carmel is above all a call to prayer, contemplation and union with God through the exercise of the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity.

The Carmelite's vocation, as St Therese summed it up, is to be "love in the heart of the Church."

Their apostolate finds liturgical expression in the Eucharist and Divine Office celebrated in the chapel of the monastery, where the participation of people is most warmly welcomed.

An important aspect is concern for the many people who come burdened with diverse problems, and the nuns are available to speak with them.



At the Marist Brothers vocation weekend (from left): Br Justin Golding, Br Patrick Connell, Daniel Lynch, Gerard Barklmore, Ashley Higgins, Fr Brian Mascord and Br Greg McDonald.

3 simple questions need answers

"What do you want?"

"Who do you say I am?"

"Do you love me?"

Three seemingly simple questions, when taken in the context of a religious vocational story, demand serious discernment and considered responses.

These were the questions posed to several young men in different stages of formation for the Marist Brothers.

They were invited to present their responses to other young men in conversation about possible religious vocation at a weekend held early in July at Marist Hermitage, Mittagong.

The young men spoke with honesty and conviction demonstrating a deeply personal journey, which articulated authentic lived experiences of God in their different stages of life.

Br Justin Golding, a temporary professed brother, answered these questions in context of his current ministry in Lismore.

Br Patrick Connell, a novice preparing for his first profession, described an intimacy with God, reflecting a contemplative youthful heart.

Daniel Lynch, a postulant completing his honours degree, expressed a desire to continue to embrace these questions into the novitiate.

Ashley Higgins, an aspirant, approached these questions as a desire to continue to unpack what God's call involves for him and is not daunted by whatever the demands may be, knowing that others are with him on this same journey.

When confronted with these questions, a young Queensland man enquiring into the life of the brothers said: "What is lacking in the 21st century is a greater sense of spirituality.

"Coming from a family, which has a strong spiritual leaning, I have come to appreciate that this is an important part of my life as a young person.

"I attended a Marist school where I encountered the brothers and I found that the way they educated me made me seriously see that spirituality is an important part of my life.

"We need people like these brothers to continue asking us these questions when it comes to our relationships with God."

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

- with thanks to Catholic Vocations Ministry Australia.

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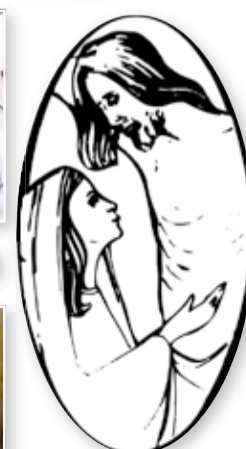
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Before we die we need to forgive

Sometime after his 70th birthday, Morris West wrote an autobiography which he entitled, *A View from the Ridge*. By ridge, he meant the angle that 70 years of living had given him.

And what he offers is an exceptionally mature perspective on life.

When you get to be 75 years old, West says, your vocabulary should be pretty simple. You only need to have two words left: "Thank you!"

Gratitude is the real mark of genuine maturity, of spiritual health. Don't ever be fooled about this.

Moreover, for West himself, gratitude wasn't easy to come by. His life, as his autobiography makes clear, had its share of hurts and rejections; not least by the Church which he loved.

So his story also highlights that gratitude is predicated on forgiveness, on letting go of hurts, on not letting the past bitterly colour the present. To be grateful is to be forgiving.

And we all have hurts, deep hurts. Nobody comes to adulthood, let alone to old age, without being deeply hurt.

Alice Miller, the renowned psychologist, puts it this way: All

of us, from the time that we are infants in the cradle until we are self-possessed enough to write an autobiography like

Morris West's, are not adequately loved, not adequately cared for, not adequately recognized, not adequately valued, and not adequately honored.

Moreover all of us also suffer positively some rejection and abuse. None of us is spared life's unfairness.

She calls this the drama of the gifted child, namely, the drama of being a unique, sensitive, intelligent, deep and gifted person who in this life is never quite loved enough, recognized enough, respected enough, or honored enough, and who is sometimes positively rejected and abused.

Small wonder that it is easier to be bitter than grateful, paranoid than hospitable, angry than gracious.

What can we do about this, beyond first of all admitting that we do nurse a grudge against life?

Miller suggests the most important task of mid-life and beyond is that of grieving.

We need, she says, to cry until the foundations of our life are

Ron Rolheiser

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



shaken. At a certain point in our lives the question is no longer: "Am I hurt?" Rather it's: "What is my hurt and how can I move beyond it?"

It's like having been in a car accident and carrying some permanent scars and debilitations.

The accident happened, the limp is there, nothing is going to reverse time, and so our only real choice is between bitterness and forgiveness, between anger and getting on with life, between spending the rest of our lives saying "if only" or spending the rest of our lives trying to enjoy the air, despite of our limp.

An important idea within the Jewish and Christian concept of

the Sabbath is the notion that, while the celebration, rest, enjoyment, and prayer of the Sabbath is largely for its own sake, these are also in function of something practical, namely, forgiveness.

We are meant to rest regularly, pray regularly, celebrate regularly and enjoy life regularly both because this is what we will be doing in heaven and because, by doing these, we might find within us the heart we need to forgive.

It's no accident that, often times, our vacations don't really do for us what they should.

We get over-worked and tired and we look forward to a vacation, some time away to rest, to relax with friends, to drink wine and enjoy the sun.

Then we take a vacation and do, in fact, very much enjoy it. Sadly though, within days or weeks after we return we find ourselves as tired as we were before the vacation. What happened? Why didn't our vacation work?

Our vacation didn't work because we didn't forgive anybody.

We didn't let go of any grudges. The most tired and stressed

part of us didn't get to go on vacation, didn't get to let go and relax, and didn't find itself warmed by wine and friends. It stayed cold, anxious, stressed, over-worked.

There's a tiredness that cannot be cured by a good sleep, a good vacation, or by the right time with the right friends with the right wine, and it's the deepest tiredness inside us.

It's the tiredness that stings because of hurt, that's cold because it hasn't been loved, that's calloused because it has been cruelly cut, and that burns with resentment because of the neglect and rejection it has experienced.

This is a bone, deep tiredness that isn't cured by a vacation, but only by forgiveness.

There is only one ultimate imperative in life: Before we die, we need to forgive.

We need to forgive those who hurt us, to forgive ourselves for not being any better than those who hurt us, to forgive life itself for some of the things that it dealt us, and, not least, to forgive God for the fact that life is unfair, so as not to die with a bitter and angry heart.

Gratitude is the fruit of that struggle.

Resources for our youth

The Catholic Education Office library holds a number of resources, including DVDs, VHS videos, sound recordings and books suitable for youth and personal spirituality.

DVDs

Fr Stan Fortuna

Many participants at WYD were inspired by the lively but deeply spiritual presentations by Fr. Stan Fortuna from New York City.

The library holds three of Fr Fortuna's DVDs as part of the CAFE series of faith exploration resources.

Amazing Gift. (90 mins, ages 12 to adult).

This CAFÉ program provides instruction on the parts of the Mass. Fr Stan Fortuna explains the elements of the Eucharist. He is an absolute delight to listen to as he explains the parts of the Mass in an engaging and inspirational way.

Deeper: Why Jesus? (40 mins, ages 15 to adult).

This CAFÉ series program explains why Jesus came, and how we can experience the effect of Him in our lives, especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This fast moving presentation features input from Fr Stan Fortuna, and a number of young people.

Plugged in: Youth Café (3 DVDs, 1 music CD, 1 leader's guide, 1 poster, 6 post cards, 3 leaflets, ages 12 to 18).

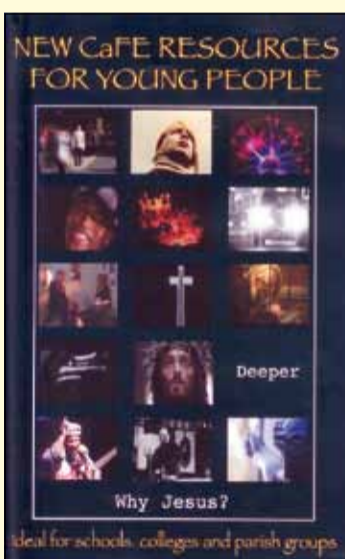
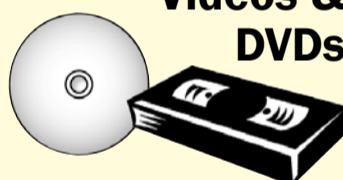
Youth Café is a series of six programs designed to inspire teenage Catholics. Each of the programs contains several elements including: a personal witness, questions and thoughts, scripture dramatization, songs and challenge from Fr Stan Fortuna.

Nooma Series DVDs

The library holds all 24 titles in the Nooma series of spirituality short films.

Nooma :Trees(13 mins, ages 14 to adult).

Videos & DVDs



Nooma is a series of short films about God and our lives. Like parables, they use the experiences of our lives to teach about the fullness of life through Jesus.

Trees looks at why we are here. If our lives really matter, how is religion relevant to our life today.

We want to know if all the choices we make now will shape our world and lives for eternity.

Alex. The Spirit of a Champion (52 mins, ages 9 to adult).

This inspirational film, based on the classic New Zealand novel by author Tessa Duder, tells the true story of Alex Archer's bid for a place on the 1960 Rome Olympic swimming team.

Despite setbacks, challenges and a personal tragedy, Alex shows the true courage and determination of a champion to achieve her goal. Suitable for topics such as reaching goals, perseverance and using gifts and talents.

Online Library Services

Library services information, and the Online Library Catalogue, are available at <http://www.ceocg.catholic.edu.au/> and

option CG online

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

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.

Contact Details

Telephone: 6163 4350.

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SHORTS

Skin. Starring Sophie Okonedo, Sam Neil, Alice Kridge, Tony Kgoroge and Ella Ramangwane. Directed by Anthony Fabian. 107 mins. M (mature themes and infrequent violence).

The apartheid issue in the South Africa of the 1960s is personalised in the story of Sandra Laing who was born to white parents and, for going to school, was classified as white despite her black appearance and then re-classified as coloured, again as white but, when she had her own children, wanted to be classified as coloured so that there would be no danger of losing them.

Farewell. Starring Emir Kusturica, Guillaume Canet, Philippe Magnan, Fred Ward, Alexandra Maria



Lara, and Ingeborga Dapkunaite. Directed by Christian Carion. 109 mins. M (mature themes and infrequent coarse language).

Espionage thriller, a thinking person's movie, presented intelligently, and it unquestionably entertains. The last scene in the movie gives the title of the film an unexpected and provocative second meaning.

The Hedgehog (Le Hérisson). Starring Josiane Balasko, Garance Le Guillermic, Togo Igawa and Anne Brochet. Directed by Mona Achache. 100 mins. M (mature themes).

Quietly small but pleasing French portrait of eccentric people. This is what the French seem to do best. The ending is not anticipated.

Predators. Starring Adrien Brody, Topher Grace, Alice Braga, Danny Trejo, and Laurence Fishburne. Directed by Nimrod Antal. 107 mins. MA15+ restricted (strong violence).

Third film in the series attempts to offer a military updated and more sophisticated version of sci-fi action-adventure. It is more violent than some of its predecessors, and at times looks as if it is knocking at the door of the horror genre

The Horseman. Starring Peter Marshall, Christian Caroline Marohasy, Brad McMurray, Peter Marshall. Directed by Steve Katrissios. 98 mins. R 18+ (high impact violence).

Not a horse in sight. This particular horseman drives up the Queensland coast in a van full of pest control tools. He is a modern horseman of the apocalypse, bringing death to the evil, an avenger. The name on his overalls is Christian. He is on a mission to confront those responsible for the 'adult' film in which his daughter appeared.

Jo.Hall
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Aussies in India touches the heart

Sydney writer-director Claire McCarthy's experience eight years ago as a volunteer worker at Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity orphanage in India provides the inspiration and invaluable background knowledge for this warm, insightful, well-crafted film.

The title refers to the impossibility of hurrying things in India. Everything takes time, particularly where paperwork and protocols are concerned, as young Australian couple Ben and Fiona find when they arrive in Kolkata (Calcutta) to collect baby Lakshmi, whom they have been negotiating to adopt for two years.

Fiona is a high-powered corporate lawyer and workaholic. Ben is a laidback guitarist-singer who had enjoyed success in the pop industry before a medical condition caused him to drop out. They seem a balanced, well-suited couple, but their different temperaments are the first sign of possible problems in their relationship that are triggered by the waiting game they are forced to play. Her ceaseless phone calls, e-mails and video conferences about a case going on back in Australia start to get on his nerves. She is irritated by his casual demeanour, particularly after he bumps into an attractive Aussie musician friend (Isabel Lucas), with whom he shares an impromptu jam session with some Indian musicians.

They have a tiny photograph of baby Lakshmi, but when are they going to meet her? As appointments are not honoured



Ben (Joel Edgerton) and Fiona (Radha Mitchell) in Kolkata.

and meetings postponed, the couple start to bicker, and Fiona calls into question her suitability to be Lakshmi's mother. Are they adopting a baby as a way of papering over cracks in a troubled marriage?

As a study of a relationship and, by extension, the process of adoption, The Waiting City is an impressive, captivating achievement. Cleverly constructed, it develops almost like a thriller, drawing the audience to be constantly anxious about the next move and what will be revealed.

As an observation of the differences between the West and mystical India, it is equally satisfying. McCarthy is uniquely qualified on this subject, and you feel we are seeing a very truthful look at the way visitors can be alternately charmed and intimidated by Indian culture. McCarthy has a keen eye for oddities: a man squat-

ting in a gutter brushing his teeth, a threadbare hotel named Delite Luxury Resort (sic) in which an unexpected amenity is a live chicken in the bed.

An important character is Krishna (Samrat Chakrabarti), a young hotel employee who becomes Ben and Fiona's unofficial guide and a confidant of both. He comes from the same village where Lakshmi was born, and takes the prospective parents on an important trip there so they can absorb something of the baby's early circumstances. Krishna bluntly asks the sort of questions we want answered.

Faith plays a part in this story, too. Ben is at least a nominal Catholic, whereas Fiona is not a believer. But the way India accommodates the coexistence of Hindu, Muslim and Christian causes her to question her own agnosticism.

The performances are exceptional. Mitchell and Edgerton, who have tremendous ease in front of the cameras, are convincing as the married couple working through their problems, and the Indian supporting players are especially well chosen for their roles, notably Tillotama Shome as an orphanage nun, Sr Tesilla.

The Waiting City, claimed as the first Australian production to be shot entirely in India, really touches the heart and is a splendid achievement by all concerned.

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

Powerful story of a couple's love

Creation

Starring: Paul Bettany, Jennifer Connelly, Jeremy Northam, and Martha West. Director: Jon Amiel. 108 mins. PG (Mild themes). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan*.

This is a movie that re-creates the drama of the personal conflicts and religious scepticism of English naturalist Charles Darwin. The film depicts Charles Darwin (Paul Bettany) living in a picturesque English village, surrounded by his loving wife and children.

Death strikes Annie (Martha West), his beloved 10-year old daughter, at the same time as he is creatively grappling with the writing of his book, "On the Origin of the Species", which sets out his famous theory of evolution.

His internal struggle whether to publish the book, or not, reflects the conflict between love of his deeply religious wife



Martha West as Annie Darwin.

(Jennifer Connelly), and his developing conviction that God has no place in the world. The movie has been released in the year of the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth, and the 150th year of the publication of his book on evolution. The title of the movie does not refer to the biblical account of creation, but to the creation of the book that Darwin was trying to write.

The movie is torn between being the story of the ideas of a genius, whose theory changed the course of scientific thinking, and a more modest tale of an author with

writer's emotional block. Ultimately, it is a film about the struggle of writing, rather than one that offers an uncomplicated testimonial to an author's brilliance.

Annie's death convinces Darwin that there can be no divine intervention. The relationship between Emma and Charles becomes estranged. Darwin makes a pilgrimage to the place where Annie died. The emotional journey enables him to reconcile with Emma, and they fall in love again. The movie argues that despite Emma's dislike of his work, and Charles's disdain for religion, it is their love that matters, and Darwin makes Emma an accomplice to his work.

There are some powerful moments in the movie. The final scene where Annie walks alongside her father with the image of the postman and his book fading in the distance is deeply affecting.

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

There's strange goings-on in the family

Noah Baumbach has made some small idiosyncratic films about family, the dysfunctional family in The Squid and the Whale, the family assembling for Margot at the Wedding. This time, he offers a portrait of a strange, or not-so-strange 40-year-old American male, Roger Greenberg. Along with this picture of Greenberg, is a side portrait of the 25-year-old Florence, the next generation to Greenberg.

The setting is straightforward, contemporary LA. Florence works as an assistant to a family and is asked to keep

an eye on the husband's brother, just out of a mental institution who will babysit the house and the dog while the family visits Vietnam.

While the setting is straightforward, Greenberg is certainly not. It is an advantage that he is played by Ben Stiller, not in raucous comedy mode, but more like the put-upon Greg in the Focker comedies, except that he is messed up psychologically.

He has a past with drugs, with a band that never achieved the single record because of his interference. He writes para-

Greenberg

Starring Ben Stiller, Greta Gerwig and Rhys Ifans. Directed by Noah Baumbach. 107 mins. MA 15+ (sex scenes and drug use). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC*.

noid letters of complaints to companies and can burst out in hurtful plain truths as the mood takes him. He is a case.

Florence herself has the makings of a case: broken relationships, pregnancy, abortion, educated but little job satisfaction, a would-be singer who is

attracted by Greenberg though his responses to her can be particularly insensitive, nasty and hurtful. Greta Gerwig is very good in this role.

There is no particular ending in view of this portrait. The film just stops - but could go on in the same way. A plus is the restrained performance by Rhys Ifans as Greenberg's best friend who has made efforts with his own life.

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

What's the greatest thing you can do?

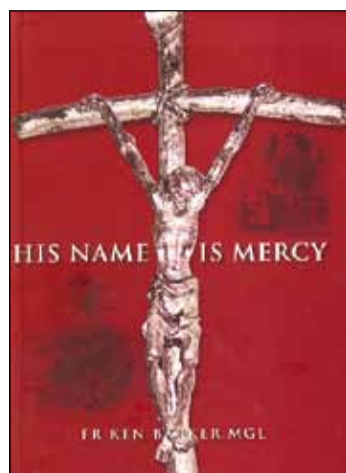
Ken Barker. His Name is Mercy. Modotti Press, 2010. 147pp. PB \$22.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Your question for the month is: What's the greatest thing a human being can do? Ken Barker believes it is to forgive: others, ourselves and perhaps God (or rather, our misunderstanding of who God is).

There have been many books written about mercy and forgiveness. The power of this one is its simplicity, built around many stories of people who, having suffered wars, torture, civil or communal strife, human experimentation, forced separation from family and every imaginable conflict, managed to forgive those who had previously been enemies.

The stories, selected from many cultures and countries, are inspiring and moving. The stories and reflections are derived from scripture, John Paul II (whom the author calls "an icon of mercy for the world"), Sr Faustina, Thérèse of Lisieux, Catherine of Sienna and a range of priestly and other writers and websites on forgiveness. It's an impressive marshalling of resources.

Parts I and III are short, containing several reflections on mercy, while the longer central section is about forgiveness.



Barker is not naïve about forgiveness, recognising its source is the infinite mercy of God and our decision to accept the gift. God's gift of mercy and forgiveness of us empower our forgiveness of others and self.

He is clear about what forgiveness is not (eg, excusing or forgetting), recognises it is a process and powerful (releasing internal poison and burdens of hatred and resentment, setting us free to experience peace and see others and ourselves in new ways).

The author lists tips for resolving conflict in daily life and recommends the Sacrament of Penance as a way of experiencing "the mercy of God in the heart of Jesus."

Fr Ken Barker MGL is the founder of the Missionaries of God's Love, a new congregation which began in our archdiocese. He is involved in charismatic renewal, an author and conference speaker.

This would be a great book to be read by adults and adolescents anytime, and perhaps especially when we're feeling self-righteous, hard-hearted or cheesed off with God and life!

I wonder if Fr Ken missed an opportunity, when discussing the meaning of "mercy" (from "hesed" and "rahamin") to allude to the "feminine tenderness" of God?

Grief, guilt motivates author

Is Your Child Safe?: A Mother's Fight Against Paedophilia by B J Harvey. St Paul's, 2010, 124pp, \$19.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

This is a sobering read. Written with courage and passion it addresses the dreadful subject of paedophilia within the family.

The writer, understandably, uses a pseudonym. She is a local and the offences occurred some decades ago. Her children were sexually abused by their uncle, her brother, over a number of years and she was quite unaware of it.

Often the abuse happened when the children visited his farm some distance away. The busy mother was pleased for them to have a break. She had always been protective of her "baby" brother and made him welcome when he stayed overnight with the family.

When the behaviour of one particular daughter uncharacteristically became demanding and attention-seeking the mother sought professional advice.

All too frequently remedies for the child's behaviour were offered without identifying the cause.

Yet the signs were there. It is this loving mother's grief and guilt which motivates her to write this book. With her children's approval she does so in the hope that others may learn from the family's experience.

She gives pointers on how to recognise the signs that sexual abuse may be occurring; what steps to take if such abuse is discovered; how to care for the abused child and how to move forward to a stage of recovery.

Wisely she avoids detailing every twist and bump on her family's subsequent journey to health and healing. Her moving poems interspersed throughout express her deep regrets and intense longings for what might have been. Yet there is balance and wisdom in her account and a measure of peace.

This is an honest, confronting book. Ideally it should be within reach in the teachers' section of school libraries.

A saint for all

Mary MacKillop: A Spiritual Model for All by E J Cuskelly MSC. St Pauls, 2010, 48pp, \$4.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

This was published originally in 1999 shortly before the death of its author. It has since been updated in anticipation of Mary MacKillop's canonization.

In its present booklet form Bishop Cuskelly describes Mary as being a woman who had walked the way of Jesus, told his truth and lived his life. Cuskelly selects six aspects of Mary's spirituality. He states that she lived in God's presence; brought Good News to the poor; walked in the way of God's will; went the way of the cross; walked the way of love and that she loved her enemies.

He recognises the value of re-interpreting 19th-century spirituality for present-day Christians. He does this admirably in a warm homiletic style. He goes further in claiming that Mary could well be the saint of reconciliation for all the world. The brevity of this little booklet only brushes the surface of the big challenges which Mary had to confront.

User-friendly guide to our core beliefs

What Catholics Believe by Gerard Hore. St Pauls Publications, 2010, 96 pages, \$17.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

What Catholics Believe is a welcome guide to the core beliefs, tradition and practices of the Church.

Written by Gerard Hore, an educator and consultant in Townsville, this book is designed for parents, teachers and catechists.

It is a response to the perceived difficulty that many have in expressing what Catholicism is.

Its particular target is those who work in Catholic schools.

Wisely, Hore restricts his content to central tenets of the faith.

He gives a definition of Church, a concise outline of Church history and a clear outline of Revelation's twin streams - tradition and scripture.

Some of the other chapters concern the sacraments, prayer, the role of conscience and what happens after death, with an excellent explanation of the doctrine of Purgatory and of the "non doctrine" of Limbo.

Hore states definitively that liturgy is the public worship of the Church usually requiring an ordained minister.

He says that other very worthwhile prayer celebrations in

schools are not and should not be called liturgies. Amen to that.

At the end of each of the short, readable chapters there are several questions. These might well provide a focus at staff or team meetings.

There are some disappointments in this concise book.

The place of Mary, the mother of Jesus, is treated in a minimalist way.

The index gives three page references to her, one of which is not relevant. Perhaps this was lost in the editorial process.

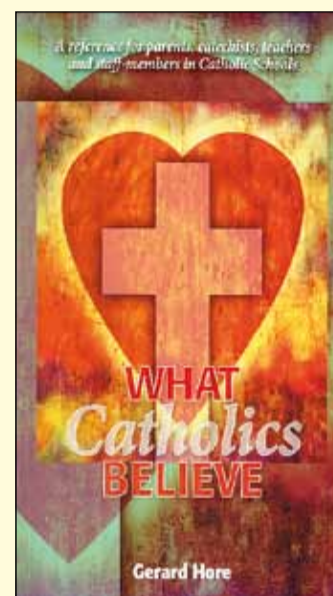
The glossary and the index could do with some cross-referencing.

For example the Incarnation of Jesus has its own heading whereas the term Immaculate Conception is embedded in the entry about Mary.

While this is accurate, I often find there is some confusion between these two doctrines. A separate glossary entry would clarify the point that the Immaculate Conception is Mary's title.

However these are minor points and Hore's is not the only resource available to teachers.

He is to be applauded for recognising the need for, and providing a user-friendly reference for those charged with passing on the Faith.



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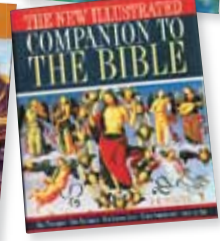
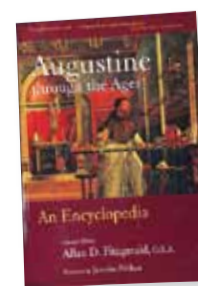
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The deadline for material is the 15th of each month.

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

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Coming Events



CURSILLO - Canberra/Western Deanery men's Cursillo, Galong 28 - 31 October. Contact David, telephone 6294 2979, e-mail javecunneen@grapevine.com.au. Southside Ultreya Gowrie parish, 7.30pm, Tuesday, 24 August. Northside Ultreya Page parish, 8pm, Thursday, 26 August. Inquiries: Merran, telephone 6258 3431.

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

MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED - mentoring program for newly married couples. Just married or soon to be married? Contact Vivien and Leigh and Debbie and Brian 6231 3389 (h) 0414 878 167, e-mail mnm@grapevine.com.au. Next program starts February 2011.

PRAYER MINISTRY - Fr Richard McAlear OMI from Boston USA. Mass and prayer ministry, 5.30pm, Friday, 17 September, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Teaching and healing day, 10am-4.30pm, Saturday, 18 September. Registration with \$25 payment by 13 September. Charismatic Mass, 7pm, Sunday, 19 September. Inquiries: Mary, telephone 0403 395953 or 6248 7264, parish office: 6295 7879.

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

SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA - Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, 6.10pm, Thursday, 12 August, followed by dinner. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

TALK FOR FRIENDS OF IRELAND SOCIETY - 8pm, Wednesday 4 August, Canberra Irish Club, Weston. "The Irish of County Bondi", by Fr Tom Devereaux, Irish migrant chaplain, and Martha McEvoy, consular attaché, Irish Embassy. Inquiries: Conor, telephone 6254 4896.

TWILIGHT RETREAT - 5.30pm-9pm, 26 August, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. 5.30pm Mass, light meal, tea, coffee, talk: Embracing Mary as our Mother and Healing the Mother relationship, reflection and prayer. Gold coin donation for dinner. Registration: Bronnie. Schlager@gmail.com or Mary, telephone 0403 395 953.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Presented by Call to Connect, women's ministry for country and city women, weekend 9, 10 October. Inquiries: Bronnie.Schlager@gmail.com, Diane, telephone 0404 228 396.

Written entries are invited for the September issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Monday, 16 August.

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Centuries of chivalry



Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto and Military Bishop Max Davis concelebrated Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral which included special observances by the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. Members belong to the oldest extant order of Christian chivalry, founded around 1050. Their motto is "defence of the faith and assistance to the poor".

Students' handy art skills



Year 9 Lumen Christi photographic and digital media students show off their hand art skills. Front from left: Gary Lonesborough, Murray White, Michaela Wilson, Ellen Simonson, Bede Carr, Sam McGown and Kate Smith. Back: Jami-Lee Tasker and Jess Arnold.

Contributions of news items and photographs to the columns of Catholic Voice are welcome. They may be sent to the editor at ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

Parish honours priests' dedication

St Thomas Aquinas parish, Charnwood, marked the end of the Year for Priests with a dinner on the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul.

All the priests of the Belconnen region, both retired and active, were invited so parishioners could thank them for their years of dedication and service.

Twelve priests attended and are pictured (right) in front of the crowd of supporting parishioners. They were Fr Neville Drinkwater, Fr Phil Buckley, Fr Michael Fallon, Fr John Bos-



man, Fr Frank Dineen, Fr Peter Doai, Fr Warrick Tonkin, Fr Henry Byrne, Fr Brian Maher, Fr Hilton

Roberts, Fr Paul Tarpey and Fr John Ryan. Fr Frank Fuchs was unable to attend.

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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.

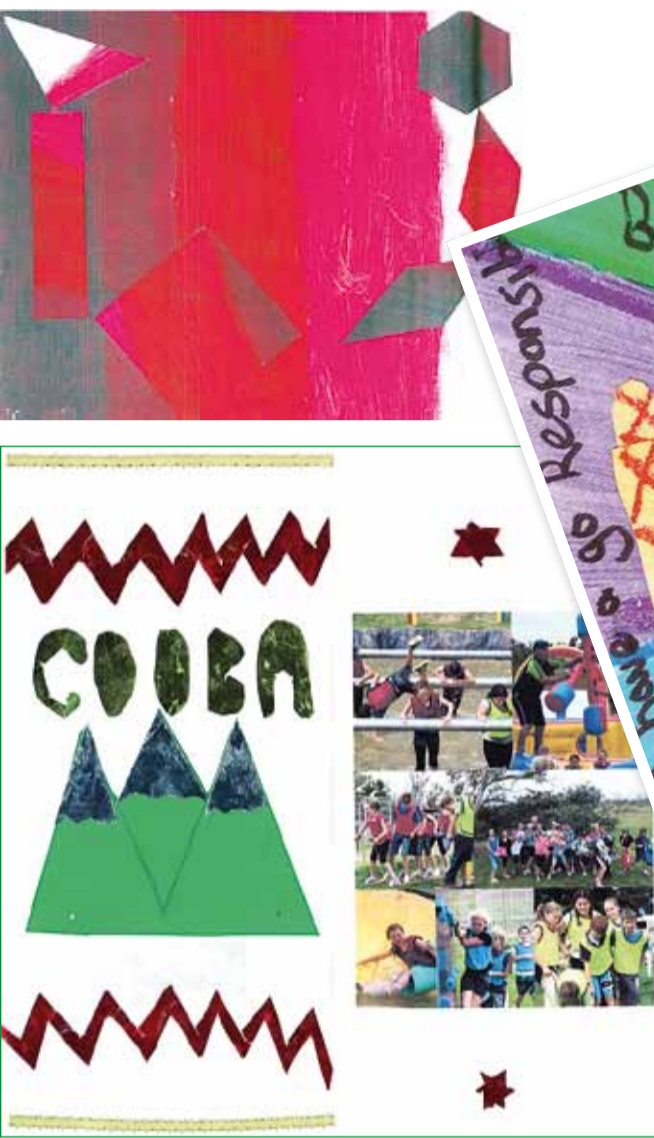
Another less talked about way of supporting Christ's Mission through Catholic Mission is by including Catholic Mission in your Will. Such bequests enable people, after making provision for family and others, to continue assisting faith communities to bring the face of God and his care for all people,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

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

Deacon Joe Blackwell

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The Stage Three class at St Patrick's Parish School in Cooma had been studying Antarctica when Catholic Voice visited. Wintery themed art projects encouraged the children to test their creativity. The year six students in the class also managed to fit in a woodwork lesson over at the high school campus, as part of St Patrick's program to ease the transition from year 6 to year 7.



ABOVE: Jade Elliott's colourful reflection on ways to be a better person.

ABOVE LEFT: Isaac Singh's work explores colour range and shape.

LEFT: Emma Locker made this tourist brochure based on the class' visit to Cooba.



TOP: St Patrick's Parish School Stage Three class with their Antarctica display.

ABOVE LEFT: Angela Sullivan concentrates on her woodwork project. LEFT: Max Walker helps Troy Freebody get the last nail in. ABOVE: Florance McGufficke and Jessica Brown's model is a team effort. ABOVE RIGHT: Annagh Weston cuts up the elements for her art project.