



**Meet our college leaders: Pages 10, 11**



## Josephite spirit will live on

The Sisters of St Joseph Goulburn celebrated a ritual of thanksgiving on 9 December to mark the end of 54 years of mission at O'Connor.

Joined by staff from CatholicCare, the new owners of the O'Connor convent, the group reflected on the history of the place, the sisters who had lived there, and their involvement in Catholic education and other parish ministries.

The convent has been renamed Tenison Woods House, in recognition of the co-founder of the Sisters of St Joseph.

During the ritual, a Tenison Woods candle was passed from congregational leader Sr Noelene Quinane to CatholicCare chief executive officer Mr Neil Harrigan, marking the future mission of the place.

Sr Noelene spoke of the thanksgiving and joy in the hearts of the sisters

in knowing that St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods' charism of reaching out to those in need would continue to live on in Tenison Woods House in its new role as a temporary home for refugee families.

LEFT: Josephite Sisters Julie Connolly and Beryl Drew on their last day at the St Joseph's Convent in O'Connor.

# Brighter start for new refugees

Refugees arriving in Canberra will have a much more comfortable introduction to Australia thanks to CatholicCare's purchase of the Josephite convent at O'Connor.

The building, which has been renamed Tenison Woods House, will be used as transitional housing for families assigned to CatholicCare's New Arrivals Humanitarian Service by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

"We work with just over 140 clients a year, and finding immediate housing can be an issue," Family and Regional Services director Ms Juleen Schiefelbein said.

"Our current practice is to put people up in motels until suitable housing can be found. The convent will be a much better alternative, particularly for families.

"It's a safe area, close to amenities, on a bus route and close to the city.

"There's even a backyard where kids can play or kick a ball around."

The building will give CatholicCare more housing options, but Ms Schiefelbein stressed it did not mean they would assist more refugees this year, as the number of new arrivals is decided by the Federal Government.

With up to three families able to be housed at the former convent at any one time, Ms Schiefelbein said the building would be community orientated, allowing families to support each other as they settle in to life in a new country.

The old chapel has been decommissioned and will be used to run an orientation program for the residents about life in the ACT.

"Refugee communities in Canberra love to come and welcome new arrivals so this will be a place where they can really do that," Ms Schiefelbein said.



ABOVE: Bu Doh Wah and Say Eh Paw watch their daughters Paw Bea Yea and Eh Hai Hser Doh Htoo play in the garden at Tenison Woods House, where other new arrivals from their community in Burma will soon be living.

### WHAT'S NEW

Meet some of the most fascinating cooks in the Archdiocese - and find out what got them into the kitchen. Plus, of course, check out their favourite recipes. See Page 15.

### WHAT'S COMING

Next month, we start the countdown to Canberra's 100th birthday in 2013 with the first in a series written by one of the capital's most loved citizens Bishop Pat Power. Meet some of the most significant Catholics in our history.



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

## PASTORAL CARE POSITION VACANT

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**  
**Position Title:** Catholic Pastoral Care Worker  
**Site:** Kenmore Psychiatric Hospital and the Chisholm Ross Centre, Goulburn  
**Department:** Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care, Goulburn Health Service  
**Responsible to:** Parish Priest, Mary Queen of Apostles Parish Goulburn and the Archdiocese of Canberra/Goulburn  
**Accountable to:** Nurse Manager, Mental Health/Drug and Alcohol, Goulburn Inpatient Services  
**Hours of Work:** Minimum of 10 hours per week  
**Remuneration:** Honorarium – negotiated according to qualifications

**POSITION SUMMARY:**  
 The Pastoral Care Worker is required to:

- provide sensitive emotional and spiritual support to patients, their families and staff
- ensure all Catholic patients are offered access to pastoral care
- demonstrate an understanding and respect for diverse spiritual and cultural beliefs
- work as part of an interdisciplinary team caring for patients and their families
- organise and lead Prayer Services when necessary

**Essential Criteria:**

- Basic Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or equivalent (or willingness to undergo CPE training)
- commitment to the Catholic Faith
- experience working with and empathy for the mentally ill
- excellent communication and listening skills

**PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- the provision of pastoral care to patients, their families and staff
- to liaise with Catholic Chaplains for provision of Sacraments and religious support
- to assist with setting up for Catholic Mass on the ward once a month
- to liaise with the Anglican Chaplain for combined Prayer Services at Christmas and Easter
- to work in accordance with the Service Agreement between the Catholic Archdiocese and Mental Health/Drug and Alcohol Goulburn Inpatient Services
- to ensure patient, organisational and staff confidentiality is maintained at all times

Further enquiries please email Mrs Barbara Hall  
 Barbara.Hall@gsahs.health.nsw.gov.au or ph 4821 1022 during business hours.

# A century of peace and faith

"The greatest gift in life is the gift of acceptance". It is a saying that anyone who knows Gundagai parishioner Mrs Thelma Gardiner would have heard many times.

This personal motto has helped her reach her 100th birthday with a smile on her face.

Her only surviving daughter, Sr Carmel Gardiner RSM, said her mother's life was such an inspiration to others.

"She oozes peace and faith," Sr Carmel said. "She has a real sense of humour and is just such a wonderful person."

Surrounded by friends and family at Uralba Hostel in Gundagai, Mrs Gardiner celebrated her 100th birthday on 29 December.

In honour of the milestone she received letters of congratulations from the queen, governor-general, prime minister, opposition leader and politicians from her electorate.

A devout Catholic, Mrs Gardiner was also honoured with a papal blessing, which was read to the group by parish priest Fr Bernie Hennessy.

During the celebration, Mrs Gardiner's grandson Mr Charles Sheahan shared some of the highlights of his grandmother's life.

She was the eldest of six children born to James and Margaret Webb: Thelma, Edna, Wallace, Kevin, Jean and Marie. Her early years were spent in Whitefields in the Binalong area.

"Her fondest memories of that time were Sundays when they would put on their best clothes, hitch up the sulky and journey to Galong, Binalong or Bookham for Mass," Mr Sheahan said. "This trip could take up to two hours in all sorts of weather."

"Mass would provide a bush child with a spectacle of theatrical entertainment; candles, robes and bells in an atmosphere of awe. It was also a welcome social occasion."

Mrs Gardiner's father died when she was still a young child. Her mother moved the family to



Mrs Thelma Gardiner with her daughter, Sr Carmel Gardiner RSM, on the morning of her 100th birthday.

Gundagai to run a boarding house.

It was here she met Charles Gardiner. The pair married and raised four children, Meg, Carmel, Peter and Linda, in their loved home Villa Marie.

Sr Carmel said her mother had always enjoyed music and dancing. She was also quite partial to cards and bingo.

"She was known to call out to the Little Flower at local race meetings, 'Little Flower at this hour show your power', often bringing the horse to a winning position," Sr Carmel said.

Reflecting on his grandmother's life, Mr Sheahan noted how much change she had experienced; technological, social and cultural.

"Throughout her life, all the joys and sorrows that 100 years can bring, Thelma's faith and love for the Mass have been the basis for her strength of character.

"Her prevailing and persevering spirit she attributes to the gift of acceptance, which comes from the trust in and knowledge of a loving God."

## what do you know?

1. In what year were the Missionaries of God's Love founded?
2. Which two causes will be supported through this month's Vinnies Doorknock Appeal?
3. Who received an award in 2010 for 40 years service to the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine?
4. What does 100-year-old Mrs Thelma Gardiner believe is life's greatest gift?
5. Which school gave up \$200,000 of BER funding to help other schools with their projects?
6. By what name is the former Josephite convent in O'Connor now known?

Answers bottom Page 4.

# Facebook or textbook?

By Sheena Knight\*

As it turns out there are more than 500 million active users on Facebook and over 70 per cent of these people are outside the United States. On average 250 million active users log in on any given day and people spend more than 700 billion minutes per month on the social networking site.

From this site, a whole new world of social interactions, applications and fan pages has grown. People advertise events, voice opinions, and create/ play games all within the one social networking site.

Along with social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and MySpace, a whole new language has developed.

We have recently seen the release of GenY LOLspeak A-Z Dictionary of the 65 Most Popular Young Person's Colloquialisms, written by renowned blogger Matt Granfield.

We can see that Generation Y has been distinguished as the generation that altered the English language by creating many different forms of speech for their solitary use. They range from the better known phrases such as LOL (Laugh Out Loud/Lots Of Love) to the more unique idioms such as ROFLCOPTER (Rolling On the Floor Laughing, spinning around like helicopter blades) and n00b (someone who is new to things, eg, internet gaming).

Facebook is seen as a positive by the majority of Gen Y. A good friend of mine ACU student Emily Parker believes it is the "only way to be continually in the loop".

Students use the "status" update as a way to gain assistance from friends by posting a status. For example: "ENGLISH ESSAY!! HELP!". People use Facebook to reconnect with old friends and keep in contact with new friends and family.

## Changing our world

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



I find the most beneficial part of Facebook is having the ability to share photos with people around the world. Facebook gives me the ability to share my life with family in America and friends in Brazil. It makes me feel like they are only a tag or a quick wall post away. A friend can upload a photo, tag you, and then it is instantly on your profile. It makes sharing cameras easy and ensures that everybody involved gets all of the best snaps.

Facebook can be used for all purposes and is heavily used by Generation Y. Facebook translates into over 70 different languages, and in my opinion creates a boundless social network. Facebook is the world's fastest growing social networking site and I believe that it is the students of Generation Y who allow it to grow so rapidly.

So tell me, do students spend more time with Facebook or a textbook?

\* Sheena Knight is an primary education student at the Canberra campus of Australian Catholic University. "I live the life and love those around me," she says.

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# Doorknock to aid flood relief

Due to the enormity of the Queensland flood crisis, the St Vincent de Paul Society has pledged part of this month's Doorknock Appeal proceeds to help in the state's recovery.

The fundraising target is \$300,000 - a third of which will be donated to the Vinnies Flood Appeal.

The remaining proceeds will be used to support the society's Home Visitation Program locally.

Volunteers will be doorknocking in Canberra and Queanbeyan every weekend in February, as well as between 5pm and 7pm on weekdays in some areas.

The Home Visitation Program has been at the core of the society's work for almost 175 years.

Members and volunteers respond to requests for help by visiting people in their homes to offer support, friendship and material assistance. This help can come in many forms, including assistance with food and clothing, help for migrants and refugees, education support and prisoner visitation.

In 2010, volunteers of the St Vincent de Paul Society visited 11,000 homes and assisted more than 45,000 people in Canberra and Queanbeyan alone. The society spent \$800,000 to support these individuals and families by providing accommodation, bedding, clothing, food, utilities, health, and medical assistance.

Without financial donations, the society and its volunteers cannot continue to help local people in desperate need, such as families in crisis, living on the streets.

"When Vinnies comes knocking this February, we are hoping the Canberra community will give generously," Canberra/Goulburn Central Council chief executive officer Mr Bob Wilson said.



The St Vincent de Paul shop at Bundaberg was inundated by flood waters.

"We understand many Canberrans have been donating to the Flood Appeal, but we still have many families and individuals in Canberra needing assistance with day-to-day crisis including rent and mortgage related issues and increased food costs."

To volunteer for the doorknock, telephone 6234 7340 or e-mail [doorknock@svdp-cg.org.au](mailto:doorknock@svdp-cg.org.au).

To make a donation, telephone 6282 2722, go to [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au), or fill in your details in the envelope inserted in this issue of Catholic Voice.

## \$69mil boost to our schools

About \$69 million worth of school building projects are due to be completed this year in a program of extensive construction and refurbishments.

Last year, 26 schools across the Archdiocese received additions such as new halls, libraries, classrooms and amenities blocks through the Building the Education Revolution scheme.

Similar projects were started at another 19 primary schools and are expected to be finished by the end of the year.

Those schools are St Francis of Assisi, Calwell; St Thomas More's, Campbell; St Clare of Assisi, Conder; Holy Trinity, Curtin; St Monica's, Evatt; Mother Teresa, Harrison; St Jude's, Holder; Holy Spirit, Nicholls; St Joseph's, O'Connor; St Matthew's, Page; St Anthony's, Wanniasa; St Patrick's, Bega; Sacred Heart, Cootamundra; St Patrick's, Gundagai; St Gregory's, Queanbeyan; St Anne's, Temora; McAuley Central, Tumut; Mt Carmel Central, Yass and St Mary's, Young.

BER projects to be completed in 2011 total just over \$48 million. Four schools will also benefit from Block Grant Authority funded works.

In the ACT, St Mary MacKillop College will have its Wanniasa campus library and staff facilities refurbished. Eight classrooms and staff facilities will be added to the newest school, St Mother Teresa Primary in Harrison.

In NSW, Lumen Christi Catholic College at Pambula will receive a new hall, while \$6.6 million will be spent consolidating Trinity Catholic College Goulburn on one campus.

The Trade Training Centre announced last year is due for completion. The \$5.7 million project is a partnership between the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) and the Catholic Education Office. Hospitality facilities will be completed at St Mary MacKillop College, Merici College and St Clare's College. Construction training facilities will be provided to St Francis Xavier College and St Mary MacKillop College.

## Bishop's death 'lamented around the world'

More than 4000 people gathered at Sacred Heart Cathedral last month for the Requiem Mass of Sandhurst Bishop Joseph Grech, who died from a blood disorder.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge, who was with the late bishop when he died, spoke of the moment in his homily.

"Was it a death or a birth that we witnessed?"

"There was a death, certainly; we had evidence and no doubt. There was no way back for Joe. But there was surely a way forward - a great birth into God, foreshadowed long ago in Joe's baptism."

He went on to praise the Maltese-born bishop's great service to the Church in Australia.

He spent almost 30 years in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, as a parish priest, chaplain to the Catholic charismatic renewal, spiritual director of the seminary, vicar general and finally auxiliary bishop. In 2001 he was appointed Bishop of Sandhurst.

"To the diocese, he brought faith, energy, humanity, enthusiasm, encouragement, simplicity - all gifts of the Spirit," Archbishop Coleridge said.

"His death will be lamented around the world because he was such a servant of the universal Church."

To read the full transcript of Archbishop Coleridge's homily, go to [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au) and follow the links Our Archbishop, Homilies Letters and Messages.

## Parishioners stand by Qld disaster victims

Parishioners across the Archdiocese have been urged to help Queensland with prayers and financial donations.

Vicar-General Mgr John Woods called for support to assist Queenslanders as they battle to recover from their worst flooding in decades.

In Masses around the Archdiocese, parishioners prayed that "the character of our nation be evident in our practical and prayerful response".

The devastation has been wide spread, with three-quarters of the state declared a disaster zone. The official death toll stands at 20 and the damage bill is expected to run into the billions.

St Vincent de Paul Queensland's state council office was under water, as were many of the charity's outlet stores.

While there was only minimal damage to the Brisbane Archdiocese's cathedral precinct, churches and schools, more than one third of parish communities were affected by flood damage to homes, businesses and, in some cases, loss of life.

A special meeting of the Brisbane Archdiocese's main agencies was held on 17 January to plan recovery strategies. These include helping to rebuild the most affected parishes, providing resource kits on government grants available to individuals and establishing a flood counselling phone line.

In an open letter to the people of Queensland, Brisbane Archbishop John Bathersby offered prayerful support on behalf of the state's Catholic community.

"We remember especially those people who are still reported as missing and those relations and friends who are filled with enormous pain as they wait anxiously for news of their loved ones," he said.

The St Vincent de Paul Society has assisted thousands of people at evacuation centres by providing bedding, mattresses and toiletries.

State president Mr Brian Moore said what they needed most now was financial donations in order to provide ongoing support for people during the clean-up and recovery process.

He stressed that donations of material goods could not be used at this time, as the floods have damaged infrastructure, preventing items from being transported from different areas.

With some communities likely to be isolated for weeks, supplies will need to be sourced locally.

"When the water subsides, Vinnies is going to be there for months meeting the needs of people," Mr Moore said.

"Flood victims may have to wait some period of time to recover insurance costs, so we will also help by finding temporary accommodation for people displaced by flooding."

The Holy Father, through the charitable agency Cor Unum, directed \$US50,000 to the St Vincent de Paul Society to assist in the relief effort.

To make a donation to the Vinnies Flood Appeal, telephone 13 18 12 or go to [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au).

*Karinya House supports pregnant and parenting women in crisis throughout the ACT and surrounding region by providing supported accommodation, transitional housing and outreach services on a twenty-four hour basis.*

Karinya staff work as part of a dynamic and enthusiastic team, assisting women and their families who are among the most vulnerable in our community. The service is focused on early intervention and flexible service delivery. An ability to work compassionately with families, often with complex needs to promote their empowerment and independence, is an essential attribute.

### Caseworker

**Social and Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010**

Fixed Term Contract – Full Time Position. Applicants require tertiary qualifications, relevant training and/or substantial demonstrated experience in casework management and/or health care.

For further enquiries and a position package contact Marie-Louise Corkhill on 6259 8998 during business hours. Written applications addressing the selection criteria are to be received by COB Monday, 21 February 2011.

Applications should be addressed to:

The Coordinator  
Box 6 Evatt Newsagency  
Evatt ACT 2617  
[info@karinyahouse.asn.au](mailto:info@karinyahouse.asn.au)

**karinyahouse**  
for mothers & babies



Years ago, when I came back to Australia from Rome to be bishop in Melbourne, I said to myself that from now on I'd spend more time in the Asia-Pacific region rather than racing across the world to Europe. This was in part because I had become so Eurocentric and in part because I simply didn't know the Asia-Pacific region.

Then almost immediately I was nabbed for the Missal translation project, which meant that I was racing all over the world - usually to Europe or the US - for meetings. The Asian-Pacific region had to be put on hold once again. But things have changed now that my work with the Missal translation project has come to an end.

When the Archbishop of Samoa - an old friend of mine from student days in Rome - invited me to Apia to give some talks, I was quick to accept once we agreed that the talks would be in January when my diary was a bit freer than at other times of the year.

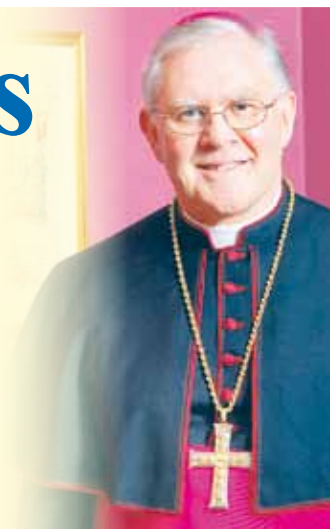
So I've recently visited Samoa for the first time and as I sit here writing this I'm wearing one of the rather flash shirts I was given as a gift.

It was the wet season in Samoa, and the rain absolutely belted down day after day. There was so much rain that they turned the water off where I was staying. Apparently the volume of water reaches such a pitch at times that it threatens to burst the pipes, and they simply turn the water off. So here was I, water everywhere but none in my room. So off to a comfortable hotel I was taken.

I was asked to give talks on the Apostolic Exhortation that was published late last year in the wake of the Synod of Bishops on the Word of God in 2008. I'd been part of the Post-Synod Council that had helped draft the document, and the Archbishop was keen that its riches be shared with the Church in Samoa. I had a three-hour session with the priests in the morning, and a 90-minute session with the deacons, catechists, religious and lay people in the afternoon.

The Archdiocese of Samoa has about 45 priests and more the 30 deacons, all of whom are married. This is in stark contrast with our own Archdiocese where we have over 80 priests but only a handful of deacons.

# Neighbours have so much to offer us



Another thing that struck me was the role of the catechist. In Australia, catechists are people who teach the faith to the young. But in Samoa the catechists are really lay pastoral leaders who are a crucial part of the way the Church works there. It's hard to see how else the Church could function in Samoa, given that most people live in small villages where it would be impossible to have a priest in residence.

We are basically a rural diocese, but we don't depend on village culture in the way that Samoa does. All of this was interesting to me at a time in Australia when we need to think more imaginatively about leadership in the Church without abandoning the Catholic sense of the necessity of the ministerial priesthood. I was impressed that there was no sense of antagonism between priests, deacons and catechists. There seemed to be instead a sense that for each vocation to flourish all had to flourish. This would be tied to the deep and powerful sense of community that marks Samoan culture.

Another thing that struck me was the unselfconscious dignity and spontaneity of the Samoans in ritual and song. They have a wonderfully natural sense of ceremony, as I saw not only in the liturgy but also in social rituals like the Ava (not Kava in Samoa!) Ceremony which greeted me.

This was a highly elaborate ritual in which everyone knew exactly what to do and when to do it, and did it with an ease and dignity I have rarely seen. The sing-

ing too is extraordinary. At the drop of a hat, it seemed, any group could break into beautiful song, singing in many-part harmony that seemed quite unrehearsed. I was also amazed that everyone seemed to know the words. Anything similar was unimaginable among us in Australia.

Meals too were ritual events, and I got quite used to a ceremonial breakfast where I was expected to meet people, receive their gifts and eat far more than I would normally eat. Part of the ritual was what an Australian might judge to be an excessive deference to me as a visiting bishop. Like many other parts of the world, Samoa is a much more hierarchically structured society than anything we're used to in Australia, and the modes of deference are not what we'd expect. "Your Grace" was about the lowest title I was accorded; a bit higher up the pecking order were "Your Eminence", "Your Highness" and (once only) "Your Holiness". But Samoa is a culture where everyone seems instinctively to know his or her own place, and there can be something strangely liberating about that. You wouldn't want to push that too far, but it was something I learnt in the years when I worked in the Vatican, which is also a very hierarchically structured culture. It can be exhausting if continually you have to negotiate your place in society. In a place like Samoa, no-one's place is necessarily fixed for ever, but for the time being you know where you stand and get on with it.

From Samoa, I flew to Auckland in one of those crazy flights across the dateline. Flying from Sydney to Apia, I left at 9.30pm on Sunday evening and arrived on 6am on the morning of the same day after a flight of five hours. Flying from Apia to Auckland, I left at 2am (yes, that's right!) on a Saturday and arrived at 5.30am on the following Sunday morning after a flight of four hours. Work all that out.

In New Zealand, they've already introduced some of the new translations of the Missal. Celebrating Mass, I was struck by how little is asked of the people in the new translations that we will see in the middle of the year. The real challenge will be for the priests, of whom much more is being asked. At times, people slipped back into the old familiar texts - especially "And also with you"; but for the most part, it all went smoothly enough.

Another thing I did in Auckland was spend some time with the Redemptorists (including Fr Pat Corbett from Galong) at a conference on inculturation being run for young Redemptorists who have come to New Zealand from places like Samoa, India and Indonesia. We all know what a challenge it is for men like this who leave their homeland to come and work in places like New Zealand and Australia. But they are making a vital contribution to the Church here, and they need all the help we can give to settle quickly and well. It's also good to remember that this sharing of resources and personnel is a crucial part of what it means to be the Catholic Church at this time.

My next foray into the Asia-Pacific region will be in May when I go to Bangkok to speak at a symposium being run by the Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences. The theme is 'Secularisation in Asia Today', and I've been asked to speak on secularisation from a Western point of view. We may have a lot to offer these churches of the Asia-Pacific region, but they certainly have a huge amount to offer us at a time when we can't just put up a sign saying "Business as Usual".

*Mark Coleridge*

## FEBRUARY DIARY

### Archbishop Mark Coleridge

3 Clergy reflection day.  
5 CAFF 1 course.  
7 Foundations Youth Day.  
11 Bombala talk to parish on new Missal translation.  
12 Blessed Cardinal Stepinac memorial, Croatian Church, Farrer.

13 Commissioning Mass CYM team.  
14 ACU opening Mass.

20 Golden jubilee Mass, St Thomas More Primary School, Campbell.

### Bishop Pat Power

2-4 International Conference on Jerusalem in Doha, Qatar.  
Rest of month on holiday.

## Aloysius Morgan Retirement Villas

CatholicCare Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

These lovely villas are situated in Campbell and are managed by CatholicCare on a Loan Licence Agreement.

There are 18 villas in this friendly little village situated close to the Catholic Church and the Campbell shops.

Each villa has a northerly orientation and lovely views of the wide open playing grounds and the Brindabellas. There are 9 x two-bedroom villas and 9 x three-bedroom villas with secured access to each villa from the garage, gas ducted heating and curtains to all windows.

CatholicCare provides domestic assistance, social support and transport to eligible residents under our Seniors in Networked Communities Program.



**For more information please contact:**

Damien Power on (02) 6295 4300 e-mail [damien.power@catholiccare.cg.org.au](mailto:damien.power@catholiccare.cg.org.au)



# Priests on the move

Several communities in the Archdiocese have a new parish priest for the start of 2011.

Fr Michael Mullen has moved from Narooma to Page to succeed Fr Phil Buckley who died while on holiday in Europe. He has been replaced by Fr Joseph Tran.

Fr Troy Bobbin has moved from the Western Mission to replace Queanbeyan parish priest Fr Mietek Markowicz, who died suddenly in Sydney.

Bombala parish priest Fr Mick MacAndrew has moved to the Western Mission and will live in West Wyalong. The Western Mission comprises the parishes of West Wyalong, Ardlethan/Ariah Park, Barellan, Ungarie and Weethalle.

Mgr Kevin Barry Cotter, parish priest of Cootamundra, has also been appointed parish priest of Harden-Murrumburrah. He will continue to live in Cootamundra.

Fr Paul Huthnance, who is parish priest of Cooma, has also become par-

ish priest of Bombala and Delegate. Fr John Vallayil is assistant priest of Cooma and will help Fr Huthnance in serving the parishes of Bombala and Delegate.

Fr 'Sammy' Irudeyasamy has been appointed administrator of Boorowa and Binalong parishes.

Fr Sunny Poovathumkudy ('PK') MS, one of two La Salette priests coming to the Archdiocese from India, has been appointed administrator of Grenfell.

The other La Salette priest Fr Joseph Punnakunnel MS has been appointed assistant priest at Young.

He will work with Mgr Barry-Cotter to provide for the sacramental and pastoral needs of Harden-Murrumburrah parishioners.

Fr Allen Crowe has retired in Young and he will sacramentally assist as his health permits.

Fr James Antony CMI has been appointed assistant priest at St Christopher's Cathedral.

**CATHOLIC VOICE**  
**Yours FREE every month.**

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Answers: 1.1986. 2. Vinnies Flood Appeal and the local Home Visitation Program. 3. Mrs Rita Fry. 4. Acceptance. 5. St Thomas the Apostle Primary, Kambah. 6. Tenison Woods House.



# Youth award winners give me confidence

**- Archbishop says**

Michelle Emmett of St Mary's parish Young and Liam King of Corpus Christi parish South Tuggeranong are the inaugural recipients of the Archbishop's Youth Ministry Leadership Award. They each received a \$2000 formation scholarship, which they are both considering using for the 2011 Archdiocesan World Youth Day pilgrimage to Madrid.

Miss Emmett is a member of the parish pastoral, liturgical and fundraising committees, Young Youth and the youth group church cleaning team.

The 19-year-old former Hennessy College student is a reader and Eucharistic minister and is involved with parish music ministry and children's liturgy groups.

She assisted during the Days in the Diocese and the Journey of the Cross and Icon, participates in parish retreats and has continued religious formation courses since finishing school.

"I don't think I do anything particularly amazing but I enjoy everything I do," Miss Emmett said.

"It's not a chore; it's my life, and it's very humbling to be recognised for this."

Mr King is the chapter head for Youth for Christ in South Canberra, a member of his parish's youth mission council and he leads youth ministry activities at Marist College.

The 20-year-old former Marist student is a regular reader, musician, data projector operator and Eucharistic minister.

He was a member of the Corpus Christi catechesis team during World Youth Day.

He also has a strong commitment to social justice in a parish context, demonstrated when he involved the whole parish community in the Cancer Relay for Life.

"You don't do youth ministry for awards, you do it for the smiles and happiness it brings to other young people," Mr King said.

"To be able to help someone build the same relationship with God that I have is an honour."

Archdiocesan youth and young adults coordinator Ms Daniela Kesina said the award was established to not only highlight the often unnoticed contribution of young people to the Church but to also provide them with practical assistance to further their spiritual formation.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge congratulated the two winners during a ceremony at Archbishop's House.

"Young people are the Church of the future but they are also the Church of now," he said.

"People such as Michelle and Liam give me every confidence for this archdiocese."

The award was co-funded by the Archdiocese, Australian Catholic University, the Catholic Education Office and Project Lighting.



Archbishop Coleridge congratulates Liam King (above) and Michelle Emmett (right) after presenting them with the inaugural Archbishop's Youth Ministry Leadership Award.



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# New head for Young college moves in

Dr Peter Webster is one of 16 new principal appointments in archdiocesan schools for 2011.

While most of the positions have been filled by existing archdiocesan principals or deputy principals, Dr Webster is among a small group of new educators to the Archdiocese.

He has taken on the role of principal at Hennessy Catholic College in Young.

Dr Webster, who has spent the past five years with the Catholic Education Office in Sydney, said he was really looking forward to the country appointment.

"About six years ago I was at De La Salle College in Caringbah, which is a sister-school of Hennessy," he said.

"It meant I was able to get out to Young a few times and visit, which was always a great experience. So when the position at Hennessy came up I jumped at it."

Dr Webster will take over from Br Christopher Peel CFC, who is going to St Mary's Cathedral School in Sydney.

"It's a huge responsibility to lead the religious direction of a school and I look forward to the challenge," he said.

"The parish and the school are very closely linked, which is great to see."

Dr Webster said he was amazed by the hospitality he received during a visit to the



Hennessy College in Young's new principal, Dr Peter Webster.

school in December to meet with staff and students. He also took the opportunity to house hunt, keen to set up in town as soon as possible.

He has two children, a son who is currently overseas and a daughter who is in

year 12 this year. So that she can finish her HSC at her current school, she will stay in Sydney with her mother.

"Young is a lovely community and I am so pleased to be here," Dr Webster said.

## 2011 new principals

- St Vincent's Primary School, Aranda - Mrs Marg Koenen
- St Mary's Primary School, Batlow - Mrs Chris Baron
- St Francis of Assisi Primary School, Calwell - Mr David Austin
- Holy Trinity Primary School, Curtin - Mrs Judy Spence
- Sts Peter and Paul Primary School, Garran - Mr John Vance
- Holy Family Primary School, Gowrie - Mrs Anne-Marie Marek
- St Patrick's Primary School, Gundagai - Mrs Mary Quinane
- St Michael's Primary School, Kaleen - Mrs Judy Walsh
- St Thomas the Apostle Primary School, Kambah - Mr David Thiele
- St Francis Xavier Primary School, Lake Cargelligo - Ms Florence Ross
- Holy Spirit Primary School, Nicholls - Mr Paul Russell
- St Joseph's Primary School, O'Connor - Mrs Sue Dempsey
- St Matthew's Primary School, Page - Ms Brenda Foley
- McAuley Catholic Central School, Tumut - Mr Michael Philpot
- Hennessy Catholic College, Young - Dr Peter Webster
- St Mary's Primary School, Young - Mr Peter Hughes.



St Thomas the Apostle Primary choir sing their new school song at the opening and blessing of the school's refurbishments.

## Renovated school shows it cares for others too

Catholic Education Office director Mrs Moira Najdecki was delighted to see how much St Thomas the Apostle Primary, Kambah had changed since her children had attended.

The entire school has been refurbished, inside and out, in record time, thanks to the Building the Education Revolution funding.

In 2007 the CEO commissioned a master plan for the school, to be developed over 10 years.

Block Grant Authority funding of just over \$600,000, along with \$400,000 from the school and parish community, paid for the junior school block to be redesigned and the library extended.

"Then the Building the Education Revolution was announced and suddenly, the whole master plan became possible," Mrs Najdecki said.

The senior classrooms, administration area and staff room were all refurbished and extensive landscaping was undertaken around the school grounds.

Through the National School Pride funds, an outdoor stage was also built around the school's iconic gum tree.

What was most impressive, Mrs Najdecki said, was the generosity and care for others shown by the school.



One of St Thomas the Apostle Primary's bright new learning spaces.

The BER funding allocated to St Thomas the Apostle was \$2.5 million but the staff decided they could achieve everything in the master plan for less.

They completed the work for \$2.3 million, allowing \$200,000 to be given to other schools that required assistance.

"Our Catholic schools have been adventurous and creative in their use of BER funding," Mrs Najdecki said.

"You'll note the extensive use of colour, glass and recycled Australian timber.

"Through these renovations they have made education interesting, technology readily available and learning areas a delight in which to teach."



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## Knights give military a helping hand

Former Defence Force chief General Peter Cosgrove was keynote speaker at a dinner that raised nearly \$3000 to help meet the costs of training future military chaplains.

The Knights of the Southern Cross Canberra branch organised the fund-raising dinner attended by guests from as far away as Western Australia.

The local KSC branch has joined with knights and supporters from across Australia to support the training of new chaplains for the Australian Defence Force.

Military Bishop Max Davis, also spoke at the dinner and thanked the knights for their support.

"There are currently seven men undergoing formation to be military chaplains, with another two expected to commence next year" he said.

"But there are many expenses involved and without the help of the Knights of the Southern Cross and other supporters meeting these would be difficult."





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# Women reflect on their strong spirituality

The Office of Participation for Women has released a new collection of prayerful reflections from women across Australia.

Titled Heart Space, it is available as both a prayer book and a CD.

It features entries from many women, including Andrea Dean and Margaret Ryan from the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Editorial committee member Ms Hannah Norgrove said the process of gathering together submissions and publishing took almost three years.

"The project required a very collaborative approach," she said.

"It was truly worthwhile to receive the large package of submissions which, as we read through them, we reflected prayerfully on."

Office for the Participation of Women director Mrs Kimberley Davis said that this was one of the most moving projects that she has taken part in, and she felt that it has given women a chance to affirm their spirituality in a collaborative way.

"This project was to give women an opportunity to share with others how they pray, to attest to the very strong spirituality of Australian women," she said.

Heart Space is available for \$7, in book or CD form, through [www.opw.catholic.org.au](http://www.opw.catholic.org.au).



## FACTS ON FUNERALS

### What does a Coroner do?

In Australia the Coroner's role is a very public one.

Apart from the fact that they are there to determine the identity of the person who has died, they will also inquire into the date, time and place, cause and manner of death. Once they've determined the facts, they will then explain their investigations, and if possible, will make recommendations on how to prevent death or injury by the same means in the future.

If in the course of their investigation, the Coroner discovers that a known person has committed an indictable offence in connection with a death, they then refer it to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

A little known fact is that Coroners also inquire into fires where property has been destroyed or damaged.

For more information please call 6297 1052.



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# Big MGL gathering 'a sign of promise'

All 49 men from the Missionaries of God's Love gathered in Narrabundah for a week-long convocation.

Held every six years, the convocation was an opportunity to "discern what the Lord is saying to us at this time and how we should go forward", MGL moderator Fr Ken Barker said.

To have all the MGLs in the same place at the same time is not a common occurrence, as they are posted in Canberra, Melbourne and even Manila in the Philippines.

So the week concluded with an early celebration of their 25th anniversary - their actual starting date was 3 February, 1986.

"We had Mass in St Peter and Paul's Church in Garran and there was such a strong turnout we had to bring in extra chairs," Fr Barker said.

"We had six guys make their promises before beginning their novitiate and another six made initial vows. It's a sign of promise for the future."

During the convocation, the men reflected on how much the MGLs had changed and what direction they should take in 2011.

"We were very green in the early days," Fr Barker said.

"The Lord protected us and we got through despite ourselves."

"When we started we had many young men start the discernment process but not follow through. Now we're in a time of consistent growth, with many new people coming each year and actually staying. I think our discernment process must have improved."

The MGLs have also branched out internationally, adding to their numbers and broadening their mission.

In 2010 three Australians and four men from overseas joined them.

"As the Lord sends us more men from other countries, we will be able to expand our ministry," Fr Barker said.



BELOW: Lenin Thenamirtham (back) with "The Daniels" at the MGL convocation. From left: novice Daniel Hartley, seminarian Daniel Serratore, Fr Daniel Strickland and Fr Daniel Benedetti.



LEFT: Archbishop Mark Coleridge with all the MGL priests and deacons at the convocation.

It is a ministry based on the new Pentecost, the new out-pouring of the Holy Spirit, Fr Barker said.

During the convocation there was much discussion about creative and alternative strategies of evangelisation, to allow people to experience the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Top of the agenda was youth evangelisation and the importance of using new media to help get the message across.

"We also discussed the possibility of establishing centres that weren't par-

ish based, but ministered to the wider region, as well as future short-term missionary activities," Fr Barker said.

The convocation was attended by Emeritus Archbishop Francis Carroll and Archbishop Mark Coleridge, who each celebrated Mass with the group and spent a few days joining discussions.

Fr Barker was re-elected moderator for another four years and was inducted by Archbishop Coleridge.

## Indigenous students get boost

Indigenous Australian Catholic University Canberra students may receive some extra assistance with the introduction of a new \$4000 scholarship.

The St Vincent de Paul Society and the university's Dhara Darramoolen Indigenous Higher Education Unit have joined forces to provide a scholarship to support indigenous students.

The inaugural recipient for 2011 is ACU Bachelor of Education (Primary) student Larissa Duncan, a Kamilaroi woman from Queanbeyan.

"This will assist me in achieving better higher education outcomes not only for myself, but for the wider Aboriginal community," she said.

"As an educator, I aim to help improve the education outcomes for Aboriginal people."

ACU vice-chancellor Professor Greg Craven and chief executive officer of the St Vincent de Paul Society Canberra/



Michael Blythe from the St Vincent de Paul Society congratulates ACU scholarship winner Larissa Duncan.

Goulburn Central Council Mr Bob Wilson signed a memorandum of understanding, pledging to support the program for the next three years.

"With this particular program we are helping to ensure university education for indigenous students is promoted," Mr Wilson said.

"We hope that once these students graduate they will become role models both to young students and their indigenous communities."

## Work starts on seminary

Construction has begun on a new Missionaries of God's Love seminary in Melbourne.

The project is expected to take 12 months, which Fr Chris Ryan MGL said would be just in time for the large intake of students for the priesthood expected in 2012.

More than \$700,000 has been raised so far, but a further \$250,000 is still required to cover building costs.

For more details, or to make a donation to the MGL's seminary fund, go to [www.mglvocation.org](http://www.mglvocation.org).

## Diocese appointment

Emeritus Bishop of Parramatta Kevin Manning has been appointed Apostolic Administrator of the vacant diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes until further provisions are made.

Pope Benedict XVI made the appointment at the end of last year.

Bishop Terry Brady has returned full-time to his duties as Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney.



# Working with youth just 'too much fun to miss'

By Claire Mitchell

Not one for sitting around, David Bresnik always tries to fit as much into his day as possible - particularly by volunteering for the St Vincent de Paul Society.

It's not something the 27-year-old Farrer resident has made a big deal about. Running youth and family camps and leading Vinnies' National Youth Council are just activities he squeezes into his spare time.

So when he was named 2011 ACT Young Person of the Year, he was more than a little surprised.

"I get enough out of just being with the kids and seeing their faces," he said.

"It's not like I'm doing anything special. Everything I do is being done in other states too.

"The beauty of Vinnies is that we don't do anything for recognition. There is so much the society does that I don't even know about. People all over the country are quietly giving up their time doing little jobs, which all add up.

"Hopefully I'm representing everyone with this."

Mr Bresnik first got involved with Vinnies in 2003 during his third year of an accounting degree.

A friend was leading a five-day youth camp and needed extra volunteers, so Mr Bresnik agreed to help out in-between classes.

After two days leading a group of kids in archery, campfire cooking and the fine art of building a top-secret base, he had to return to uni.

"I got half way through my lecture and decided camp was just too much fun to miss so I walked out and went back," he said.

"The volunteers I worked with were such an open and welcoming group that even though we'd only hung out for two days I felt like we were all best friends."

Mr Bresnik graduated in 2004 and took four months off to work on a summer camp in America.

He used the experience to gather more ideas to improve the camps he was now running regularly back home.

"Kids always come back from camp telling their families how much fun they've had," he said.

"There was some concern though that parents might feel bad that they weren't the ones providing this fun."

So Mr Bresnik helped introduce family camps, which parents and their children could attend together over a long weekend. "We do a lot of family versus family challenges and activities," he said. "This way the kids get to have fun with their parents. It's great for everyone."

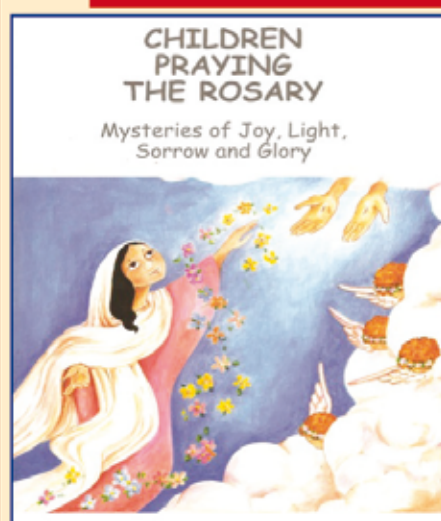
In 2006 he was elected president of the ACT Vinnies Youth Conference.

● Cont Page 12.



David Bresnik ... more than a little surprised.

## 'Children Praying the Rosary' Mysteries of Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory New publication helps children to pray



The new booklet **Children Praying the Rosary**, published by the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), encourages children to learn more about the lives of Jesus and Mary. It is beautifully illustrated by the Spanish nun, Minen Sorne, with images taken from the highly successful ACN Child's Bible (48 million copies in 162 different languages). Each Mystery of the Rosary is accompanied by a short Gospel passage, a meditation and a short prayer couched in easy and accessible language for children.

Many parents and grandparents will find this Rosary booklet a valuable introduction to prayer with their children and grandchildren. As we all know, the fam-

ily that prays together, stays together. This book is a precious addition to the Child's Bible and the Little Catechism already published by ACN. It would also make a beautiful gift for First Holy Communion and be something to accompany a child throughout the Church's year.

**This beautifully illustrated little booklet is now available for a donation of \$3.00. Also available are the Eucharistic Rosary beads.**

To obtain the Child's Rosary booklet and Eucharistic Rosary we ask for a donation of \$18.00 (includes postage). All proceeds will go towards the work of Aid to the Church in Need for the poor and persecuted Church worldwide.

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### Donation Form: Children Praying the Rosary - Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory

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ABOVE: Carroll College school leaders, back row: Rhys Voysey (MacKillop House Captain), Jessica Overend (Xavier House Captain), Anthony Ta (Chisholm House Captain) and Mikki Wignell (College Captain) Front row: Joshua Woodford (Xavier House Captain), Majella O'Sullivan (MacKillop House Captain), Kassandra Williams (Chisholm House Captain) and Matthew Favetta (College Captain).



ABOVE: St Clare's College leadership team, back row: house captains Alice Wallett, Kaitlyn Reedy, Kara Richardson, Grace Terry, Sophie Bouffler, Stephanie de Smeth, Hayley Douglas and Jessica Morwitch. Middle row: house captains Nicola Dahl, Bridget Perman, Georgie Holmes,

Bridget Allen, Kate Barton and Mikali Hill (absent: Narita Prieto, Madeleine Garrett-Rumba). Front row: college leaders Maddy Watchirs-Connolly (social justice), Catherine Brown (sport), Franchesca Maatouk (faith and community), Ellen Stokes (college captain), and Sophie Mico (arts and culture).



ABOVE: Trinity Catholic College captains Samantha Rose and Joseph Rowlands and vice-captains Tassi Keramianakis and Elizabeth Moore.

RIGHT: Daramalan College leaders (clockwise from left) captains Ned Hirst and Carissa Watts, vice-captains Daniel Da Cruz, Catherine Kambouris, Ryan Soegeng and Veronica Trow.

BELOW: Marist College vice-captain Stephen Boyle, college captain Andrew Santucci and college service captain Daniel Sandford.



LEFT: Hennessy Catholic College leadership team, back row: Georgie Gray, Daniel Slater, Daniel Gerrard, Joseph Murphy and Alexander Holding. Front row: Victoria Corcoran, Mak Cavanagh (school captain), Lauren Sheridan (school captain) and Tara Barrett.

RIGHT: St Edmund's College vice-captain Huw Warmenhoven and college captain Daniel Naef.





# Our new college leaders

ABOVE RIGHT: Lumen Christi Catholic College school leaders, back row: house captains Hugh Coman and Kate Guido (Monaroo), Liam McMahon and Catherine MacKinnon (Baringa), Marvin Maher-Smith and Anneliese Staubli (Bobberrer), and Timothy Butler and Caitlin Miller (Gudu). Front row: vice-captain Ashley Bujeya, college captains Charlie Shepherd and Monique Sayer and vice-captain Hamish Luck.



RIGHT: St Francis Xavier College captains Myles Burnett and Stephanie Orlando (left picture), and vice-captains John Camp and Lucy Kenny.




BELOW: St Mary MacKillop College faith and community captain Tim Walshe, college captains Adam Refki and Seanne Inkpen, arts captain Tess Hall and sports captain Lachlan Monger.




BELOW RIGHT: Merici College leadership team, back row: Erin McCullagh, Samantha Bruce, Jessica King, Nicola Daniels, Freya McGarry, Sara Davidson, Natalie Vigliotta, Kahlia Hogg and Gabrielle Ide. Middle row: Eliza Anlezark, Jenna Cornelly, Alannah Brady, Taylor Perrin, Taliya Devenish, Leah Savage, Hannah Foley and Georgia Wood. Front Row: Elizabeth Meehan, college vice captain Ella Masri and college captain Kate Thornber.



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## Youth work is 'too much fun'

● From Page 9.

He took over the planning and operation of all ACT youth activities, which included 11 camps and 12 weekend activities annually.

In 2008, he was appointed youth representative for St Vincent de Paul Canberra, which gave him a spot on the National Youth Council. Then the following year he became the council's national youth representative.

While organising camps came with plenty of responsibility, it was nothing compared to that required of the National Youth Council.

"We face some really tough decisions about how to use donations at a national level, what to spend in Australia and what should go to overseas projects," he said.

"Suddenly we're deciding between helping out a family here who can't afford their electricity bills, and helping out a family overseas that has no access to clean water."

Mr Bresnik said the stories they heard were very confronting and trying to decide the best way to help wasn't always easy.

"Our office is really basic by Australian standards and we make sure that we have no excess spend," he said.

"But when people from other countries come in you can feel pretty awful.

"We had an overseas national president give us a presentation, asking for a vehicle so he didn't have to walk everywhere.

"There we were sitting in a boardroom when he doesn't even have an office."

The role can be time consuming, with visits to other states, retreats and monthly meetings - often easier said than done when he is also working full time.

"I've been lucky to have a really supportive employer and a really supportive family," Mr Bresnik said.

"You've just got to be prepared. Don't take on too much, delegate, have a good team around you and be part of that team."

Once his time on the youth council is up, Mr Bresnik said he looked forward to supporting Vinnies at a state level.

"There's so much you can do to help that I'd feel guilty if I didn't put my hand up to do it."

Mr Bresnik said it was the support and example of his family that really drove him to continue volunteering.

"My family has been really important, especially my grandparents," he said.

"They've provided such a strong faith platform for all of us.

"Being part of Vinnies is so much fun - even the non-camp stuff. I'm just really excited about all the different things I can get involved in."

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## Pilgrim to give WYD a go, again

"You sometimes feel that there's not many young people in the Church, but then you go to World Youth Day and realise you're not alone."

This is how Watson man Matthew Toohey describes one of the many benefits of World Youth Day, and why he has decided to go again, this time to Madrid in August.

"It really struck me in Sydney that the Catholic Church is universal," Mr Toohey said.

"You're not just this little church at Kippax, or in Canberra. We're a church that covers the whole world and to see so many people gathered from around the world is amazing.

"I remember crossing the Harbour Bridge on the pilgrim walk to Randwick and, as far as the eye could see, in front of me and behind me, was this sea of people. I realised, we're all in this together.

"Madrid will be my sister Bernadette's third World Youth Day and she says it is the ultimate proof of the existence of God because, with so many people, you would expect things to go wrong, left, right and centre, but somehow it all comes together."



At 35 years of age, Mr Toohey will be one of the oldest in Madrid, but is unfazed. "I've been a late bloomer all my life," the Treasury bureaucrat said.

There is also special appeal in going to Madrid. Mr Toohey has been learning Spanish for two years and this year plans to join the Benedictine Monastery in New Norcia in Western Australia, a monastery founded by two Spanish monks in 1846.

"It's about giving it a go," he said. "It will be an exercise in putting my trust in God."

"I first thought about consecrated life at the age of 18 but started thinking seri-

ously about it in 2009. I visited New Norcia in November 2009 and fell in love with the place."

It was the ABC series *The Abbey*, about the Benedictine nuns at Jamberoo, that inspired Mr Toohey to investigate the Benedictine life.

"There was something really special about their life, so I started looking at options for men," he said.

"In the series, Sr Hilda says that you get to a point in your life where you have to decide, 'Do I want life or don't I?' Then it's about bucking up the courage to give it a go."

Mr Toohey is excited about visiting the Holy Land with Archbishop Mark Coleridge, a renowned scripture scholar, and keen to encourage Catholics to join him.

● To join Archbishop Coleridge travelling through the Holy Land and thousands of young people across the globe converging on Madrid for six days for WYD, register at [www.wydtours.com.au](http://www.wydtours.com.au). Registrations close on 1 March. Inquiries: Rebekah Fulop, telephone 6163 4300 or 0458 657 287, e-mail [rebekah.fulop@catholiclife.org.au](mailto:rebekah.fulop@catholiclife.org.au).

## Filipino reunion on coast

Filipinos and their families and friends from the South Coast gathered for a reunion Mass celebrated by Bishop Pat Power in Sacred Heart Church, Moruya. This is an annual event which started in the 1990s.

Filipinos from as far as Sussex Inlet and Ulladulla down to Bombala and Eden come together every year to celebrate and renew their allegiance to the Church and seek clarification on issues relating to their faith.

The day started with Mass followed by lunch and a talk and forum run by Bishop Power and Sr Angelita Marave of the MACE Sisters.

The gathering was also attended by MACE Sisters Sr Lydia Paola Marave, who teaches at De La Salle University, Manila, and Cecil Perto. The MACE Sisters carry out voluntary work with the Filipino community in the Archdiocese. Their special ministry is to pray the family rosary with families each week and to make referrals to those in crisis or in need.

Bishop Power stressed in his homily "the importance of seeing every event in our life through the eyes of Jesus." He explained that everyone was called to holiness.

Sr Angelita spoke about the way to sainthood, talking of how all are



At the gathering (from left): Vifa Pierce, Lily Cowan (South Coast region coordinator), Sr Angelita, Bishop Power, Sr Lydia Paola and two guests from Bega.

called to be saints, but those who aspire to canonised sainthood have to excel in heroic virtues and have two miracles attributed to them.

Sr Lydia talked of the importance of devotion to our Blessed Mother, which all Filipinos are noted for. Everyone felt inspired by the talks, as confirmed by the final speaker, Mr Michael Rowe, of Sussex Inlet.

At the Offertory procession, an array of gifts was brought forward by families from Batemans Bay, Ulladulla, Moruya, Eden, Narooma, Bermagui, Cobargo, Merimbula, Pambula and Eden. Moruya parish priest Fr Emil Milat, who concelebrated with Bishop Power, commented on the happy and generous nature of the Filipinos, which is a great contribution to Australian society.

## First Communion

LEFT: Jacinta Tarlinton with her parents Thuy and Paul Tarlinton and parish priest Fr Michael Mullen after making her first Holy Communion at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Cobargo.



Parishioners enjoy lunch after the official opening of the new St Mary's Church at Adaminaby.

## Community's church rises from ashes

After four years of fundraising, planning and construction, the Catholic community at Adaminaby has its own place of worship once again.

The new St Mary's Church was blessed and commissioned last month by Bishop Pat Power, replacing the previous building which was destroyed by fire in 2006.

The statue of Mary at the front of the church, which was the only object to survive the fire, stands in its original place.

The event was held 100 years to the day from when the foundation stone was blessed at the building of the brick church in Old Adaminaby.

The first Mass was concelebrated by Bishop Power, Cooma parish priest Fr Paul Huthnance, assistant parish priest Fr John Vallayil, Fr Joseph Tran and Fr Peter Miller. The congregation filled the church, the foyer and extended outside.

A group of Sisters of St Joseph led the procession at the end of Mass to a cairn that had been erected in the churchyard, which was then blessed by Bishop Power.

It contained the foundation stone from the Adaminaby convent, where the sisters lived while running a school in Adaminaby for more than 50 years.

The 300-strong crowd then enjoyed a barbecue lunch, with many going back for a second look at their new church.

Have you subscribed to the Archdiocese's weekly free e-news bulletin? If you haven't, you're missing out. Go to the Archdiocese website at [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au) and look for the E-News panel on the home page





**ABOVE:** Year 5 Gold gathers around the prayer mat for morning prayer.

**LEFT:** Georgia Ross and Caitlin Gattuso with the traditional Danish Christmas decorations they made.

**RIGHT:** Hayley Redman, Emily Hopkins, Tayla-Jane McIntosh and Kyrin Russell check their research to make sure they've set out the Christmas table correctly.

Ms Josie Featherston's Year 5 Gold class at St Gregory's Primary in Queanbeyan were preparing for Christmas when Catholic Voice visited. The students had been researching different festive traditions from around the world and were busy making decorations and posters.

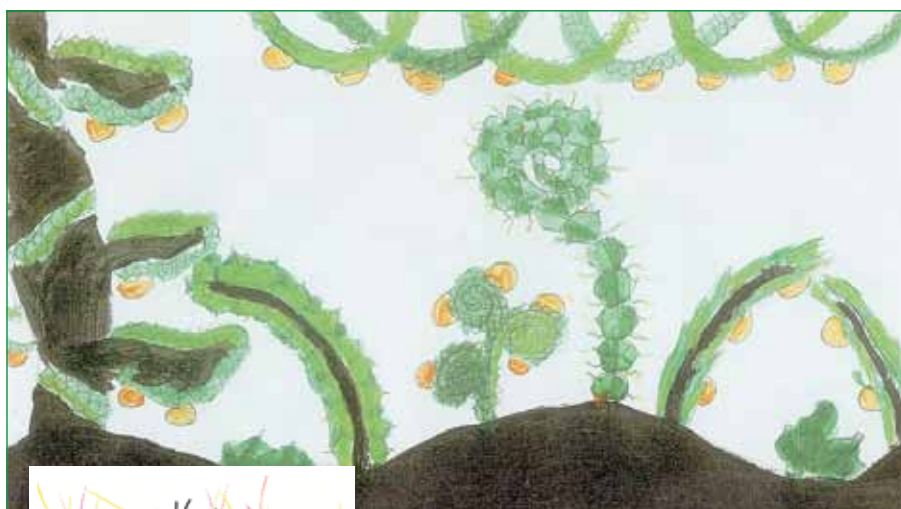


**ABOVE:** Logan Serafin and Nathan Tanti search the internet for information about Christmas in Greece.



**ABOVE:** Olivia Hall used pastels in her depiction of the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

**RIGHT:** This is what Tayla-Jane McIntosh thinks the new school crest should be.  
E-mail [ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au)



**ABOVE:** Catherine Gregoire's jungle art.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Erin Miller and Hayley McIntosh worked together on this colourful mandala.

**RIGHT:** Kimberlee Tutalo's flower inspired mandala.







Archbishop Mark Coleridge with members of the Canberra Mothers' Prayers Group.

## Mothers see many answers to prayer

The Mothers' Prayers Group was honoured by a visit from Archbishop Mark Coleridge, who prayed with and blessed the members.

"He was with us in amongst the reality of our lives - small children running in and out 'sharing' toys, joining in the singing and prayers - as we surrendered them to Jesus," group leader Mrs Anne Hartwell said.

The Canberra based group meets each week of the school term to pray for the members'

children and families, as well as all children of the world. It attracts mothers and grandmothers as well as women who do not have children but want to pray for others.

"It is a great privilege to share our children in prayer," Mrs Hartwell said.

"We have seen many answers to prayer - both big and seemingly small. God is interested in every detail of our lives."

The prayer group also gathers for other functions, like picnics,

movie nights and retreats. And morning tea is always an important part of every meeting.

"Our children and husbands love to hear we have been to Mothers Prayers - they love to know we have been praying for them and their particular needs," Mrs Hartwell said.

To find out more about Mothers' Prayers, or how to start a group in your area, contact Anne Hartwell, area coordinator for Mothers Prayers Australia, telephone 6282 0874.

## Bishops off to visit the Pope

Australia's bishops will travel to Rome in October on a spiritual pilgrimage designed to celebrate and strengthen their communion with the universal Church and the Pope.

The pilgrimage known as the "Ad Limina Apostolorum" visit - or "to the threshold of the Apostles" - will take place on 10-22 October.

All bishops who are charged with the leadership of a diocese, are required to make an ad limina visit every five years and present a report on the pastoral situation of the local Church.

It is an important spiritual pilgrimage and a reminder of a local bishop's wider role in communion with the bishops of the world.

Due to the increasing number of bishops in the world and the circumstances of the declining health of the late Pope John Paul II the visit was delayed two years.

The key events for Australia's bishops will be a visit to the tombs of Sts Peter and Paul, pastors and pillars of the Roman Church, and a personal meeting with the Holy Father.

The visit is also seen as an important part of the Holy Father's pastoral ministry, when he as head of the College of Bishops receives his brothers with whom he exercises pastoral ministry and listens and talks with them about their mission in their diocese.

## Ready to go prayer for your meeting

A resource is being made available to help people pray the scriptures.

On return from the Synod of Bishops on the Word of God in 2008, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, asked for "a Compendium on the Word of God" for the Archdiocese.

It should contain suggestions to encourage people to consider using the scriptures as the preferred prayer for meetings and gatherings in parishes, organisations or schools.

One idea that the Synod stressed was the need for everyone in the Church to enter more deeply into the experience of praying the scriptures.

The bishops were echoing clear and strong statements made by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, both of whom have seen the praying of Scripture as a key to the future of the Church.

The Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission has assisted in this task, producing a package which will be available on the archdiocesan website at [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au), following the links to Pastoral

Support, Resources, Lectio Divina. Hard copies may be available on request.

One accessible and beautiful way of praying the scriptures is that of Lectio Divina, reading a section of the scriptures, and letting God speak to our hearts. This is the prayer style chosen by the commission.

The package will contain the following:

- Letters from the Archbishop and the chair of the Liturgical Commission.

- Prayer sheets for each of the liturgical cycles (including three for Ordinary Time), a Marian feast and the Patron's feast of the parish Church. These follow the Lectio format.

- A link to an explanation of Lectio Divina by Bishop David Walker of Broken Bay Diocese.

- An abridged version of the same explanation.

- Placemats for families, which could be laminated.

- Bookmarks, which could be laminated.

## Workshop to help with new music settings

A workshop will be held this month to help members of music ministries prepare to use new musical settings for the Mass.

The Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission has arranged a workshop from 10.30am to 1pm on Saturday, 19 February, at St Peter Chanel's Church, corner of Weston and Loch Sts, Yarralumla. It will be led by Dr Bill Griffiths, who has studied liturgical music in Chicago and has a Masters degree in Liturgy.

The new translation of the Roman Missal, prepared over many years, will be implemented this year in several stages.

There are small changes to the words of the Gloria, the Creed, the Holy Holy and the Memorial Acclamation, and several musical settings for the new wording are now available for the congregation and the priest to sing.

There are no changes to the Lord have Mercy, the Lord's Prayer or the Lamb of God.

Last year, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference invited composers to submit musical settings of the new Mass translation for use in Australia.

More than 60 settings were received from 43 composers covering a range of musical styles. Some are revised workings of existing Mass settings.

Five were chosen for national use from last month and others may be cho-



To learn more about the background to the changes, 11 articles of "Liturgy Lines", published by the Brisbane Archdiocese from 23 May 2010, would be a good place to start. Go to [www.litcom.net.au](http://www.litcom.net.au) and follow the links to Liturgy Lines.

sen at the discretion of the local bishop, so that an Australia-wide repertoire will be available quickly, enabling unity at large national, state or regional celebrations.

Inquiries and registration for the workshop may be directed to Margaret Ryan, telephone 0417 418 838 or [margaret.ryan09@inet.net.au](mailto:margaret.ryan09@inet.net.au). Registrations may be made on [www.events.catholicnetwork.org.au/lms/cv](http://www.events.catholicnetwork.org.au/lms/cv).

The new translation does not mean that all music used at Mass will need revision.

It is the Mass settings, the stable Mass parts, that will change, and the changes will be made gradually, with time to learn and adjust. There is no obligation to use the new wording at this stage.

\* This article was prepared by the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission.

### RE-ADVERTISED POSITION VACANT

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- Capacity and willingness to work in and across a multiple range of tasks
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- Business development skills.

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The starting date would also be negotiable; however it would be expected that this would be as soon as possible.

For the Selection Package please contact:

**Sr Karen Muir**

Telephone : 02 48 21 4990

Email: [rsj@tpg.com.au](mailto:rsj@tpg.com.au)

**Applications close: 23rd February 2011**

Applications to be addressed to:

Sr Noelene Quinane rsj, Congregational Leader,

Srs of St Joseph,

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# Why aren't we more obsessed with God?

*"Like a deer yearns for flowing streams, so my soul yearns for you my God. My soul keeps vigil for you in the night."*

We've all heard these lines, prayed them, and in our more reflective moments tried to mean them; but, mostly, our hearts have belied those words.

We haven't really, at least not in our more conscious thoughts and feelings, longed for God with any real intensity and in our beds at night our souls are generally keeping vigil for someone other than God. But, for this, we need not apologize.

We are human beings, not angels, and nature and instinct conspire to direct our gaze and our desire towards this earth. It is persons and things of this earth for which our hearts long with intensity.

Moreover, our longings are wide and promiscuous. We ache for a lot of things, though most intense longings mostly have to do with yearning for a soulmate and with emotional and sexual consummation.

Those desires, at first glance at least, generally do not appear as holy or God-directed. Indeed, they seem the opposite. What we long for with deep intensity and what our souls keep vigil for in the night is, most times, someone or something much more earthy and erotic than what we associate with God.

For example, when we see someone hauntingly beautiful or when we experience strong sexual attraction, what are we feeling inside of ourselves in the face of that radiance? For whom is our soul keeping vigilance at that moment? For what are we longing?

We dare not associate what we are feeling at those times with the holy sentiments we express in our psalms and prayers. And we are the poorer for that, religiously and humanly.

First of all, that desire, far from being unhealthy, is in fact a sign of health. Beauty is meant to be honored; we are meant to feel that powerful attraction and pull, including its sexual component. Beauty, of course, is also meant to be respected and not violated. Our capacity to honor beauty is a sign of health and our capacity to not violate that beauty is a test of that health, though that's not the point here.

The point here is that, consciously and unconsciously, we understand these powerful earthy and erotic attractions as taking us away from God and as something we need to give up in order to move closer to God. Our desire for God and our more earthy and sexual desires are perceived as competitors, incompatible, demanding that we renounce one for the other. That misconception, more than we imagine, hurts us.

Why? Because everything that is beautiful and attractive, however

## Ron Rolheiser

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



earthy and sexual, is contained inside of God. God is the creator of all that is beautiful, attractive, colorful, sexual, witty, brilliant, and intelligent.

All that we are attracted to on this earth, including the beauty that allures us sexually, is found inside of God and our attraction and longing for it here on earth is, in the end, a longing for God. Our souls need to keep vigil at a deeper level.

This is what many of the saints and mystics intuited when they felt such intensity in their longing for union with God.

All that is beautiful and attractive is found inside of God and is found there in a form that exceeds our experience of it here.

The saints and mystics rightly intuited that God is more interesting, more beautiful, and more sexual than anyone or anything here on earth. Hence their longing for God could indeed be compared to a thirsty deer longing for a drink from a cool stream.

We experience the same longing and the same intensity, except we never associate those feelings with God, though we should.

The ache that we feel within ourselves in an obsession, in a powerful sexual desire, and in the face of stunning beauty is, ultimately, a yearning for God because everything we desire, be it ever so human, fleshly, or sexual, is inside of God, the author of all that is good.

Our souls, too, thirst for God and they keep vigil for God at night, even though mostly we are unaware of it.

But we never really understand this. If we did, we would, like the saints and mystics of old, become obsessed with God, instead of being obsessed only with what we find attractive here on earth.

Some of us are obsessed with beauty, some of us are obsessed with finding a soulmate, some of us are obsessed with sex, some of us are obsessed with truth, some of us are obsessed with justice, and some of us are obsessed with the energy, colour, and pleasures of this world.

But very few of us are obsessed, or even much interested, in God who is the author of beauty, sexuality, intimacy, truth, justice, energy, color, and pleasure.

Why aren't we more interested in the One of which these things are only a pale reflection?

## why I cook what I cook

A column in which well known and not so well-known people tell us about the food in their lives and why it has been important. This month we speak to Jorge Perez Barillas.

As the chef at Archbishop's House, Mr Jorge Perez Barillas is used to cooking for high profile people. Functions with international bishops, clergy and politicians are a regular occurrence giving him plenty of opportunities to try out new dishes.

Originally from El Salvador, he came to Australia with his family as a refugee 25 years ago.

He studied at CIT, where he went on to work as a chef and teacher for 10 years.

"I prayed to God and said, 'I want to be cook-



ing for you' and he said whenever I cook for someone I am cooking for Him," Mr Perez said.

He opened his own restaurant in Manuka,

which he ran for nearly three years, before taking on the position at Archbishop's House.

"Presentation is one of the most important

parts of cooking to me," Mr Perez said.

"I love to see their faces when I bring out the plate."

### VEAL OSCAR - JORGE STYLE

4 x 180g pieces veal fillet  
300g Alaskan king crab claw meat  
8 thin slices Serrano ham or prosciutto  
1 tbsp clarified butter  
1 tbsp olive oil  
Salt and pepper  
200ml veal jus to serve

1. Carefully make a hole in each veal fillet and stuff each fillet with the whole pieces of crab. The sharpener end of a knife steel makes this easy.
2. Wrap each fillet in 2 slices of Serrano ham or prosciutto and secure with string.
3. Season lightly with salt and pepper.
4. Heat the butter and oil in a pan over high heat and sear the fillets on each side. Remove from heat and when ready to complete cooking place in the oven at 180C for 10-12 minutes. Rest for 10 minutes before serving with some or all of the following:

- 1 bunch English spinach sautéed
- 300g cannellini beans (soaked overnight and cooked in the soaking water for 45-60 minutes or until tender)
- mixed mushrooms sautéed in butter
- risoni (rice shaped pasta) cooked and tossed with good basil and rocket pesto
- slow roasted cherry tomatoes
- drizzle the jus around the fillet

Serves 4.

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## SHORTS

**The King's Speech.** Starring: Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush, Helena Bonham Carter, Jennifer Ehle, Michael Gambon, Derek Jacobi, Guy Pearce, Timothy Spall, Anthony Andrews and Eve Best. Directed by Tom Hooper. 111 minutes. M (coarse language).

There aren't many films about which a normally reserved film reviewer can say with absolute confidence: everyone is going to enjoy this movie. Geoffrey Rush is splendid as Lionel, the likeable, complex Antipodean who doesn't find the social necessity of servility in the presence of royalty easy.

**The Dilemma.** Starring Jennifer Connelly, Winona Ryder, Kevin James, Vince Vaughn and Queen Latifah. Directed by Ron Howard. 119 minutes. M (sexual references, violence and coarse language).

It might seem a romantic comedy, or a boofhead comedy, or a drama about business and car manufacture and technology. Sometimes it is. It might seem a drama about fidelity and infidelity. And often it is. It makes for a heady mixture.

**The Tourist.** Starring Angelina Jolie, Johnny Depp, Stephen Berkoff and Paul Bettany. Directed by Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck. 102 minutes. M (infrequent coarse language and violence).

You can't help thinking how Cary Grant managed to make this sort of stuff delightful, witty and fluffy when paired with Audrey Hepburn or Eva Marie Saint. Depp and Jolie are a poor substitute. Far too laid-back for its own good.

**Yogi Bear (3D).** Voiced by Anna Faris, TJ Miller, Justin Timberlake and Dan Aykroyd. Directed by D. Eric Brevig. 84 minutes. G.

Yogi Bear is 50 years old and has now reached the 3D era. Actually, it's all pretty much the same as usual - which means that it keeps its popular formula and ensures its audience knows what it is getting. Dan Aykroyd obviously enjoyed voicing Yogi. Easy family entertainment.

**Unstoppable.** Starring Denzel Washington, Chris Pine and Rosario Dawson. Directed by Tony Scott. 98 minutes. M (infrequent coarse language).

Once the adrenalin starts to kick in the impact is unstoppable. An exciting and frightening story - the runaway train could happen. It also lets us leave the theatre pleased with and proud of the men and women who do their best to save situations and take risks.



# Swan Lake as never before

This dark film by Darren Aronofsky tells the story of a ballet dancer Nina (Natalie Portman), wanting, and eventually being chosen for, the lead role in a new production of Tchaikovsky's ballet Swan Lake.

As the White Swan, she is elegant, poised and controlled, and perfect in technique. As the Black Swan, she cannot let go to become something she is not. The White Swan represents purity, trapped by romantic love. The Black Swan resents evil, looking for lustful revenge.

Taunted by the lack of perfection, Nina slowly descends into madness so that she can dance the part of Odile, the Black Swan.

Natalie Portman gives a brilliant performance as an insecure, talented dancer, searching for perfection, and Barbara Hershey is wonderfully controlling and domineering as her mother, who has been a failed dancer in the past and can't let her daughter go.

The film keeps its tensions alive by first showing ordinary acts that take on sinister appearances. Then it progresses slowly into horror mode. A nail-cutting scene becomes one of self-mutilation, and

### Black Swan

Starring Natalie Portman, Vincent Cassel, Barbara Hershey, and Mila Kunis. Directed by Darren Aronofsky. 108 minutes. MA 15+ (Strong sex scene, themes and violence). Reviewer: Paul W Sheehan\*.

the use of mirrors allows Aronofsky to show reflections that indicate the dark side of Nina, lurking inside her, wanting, but unable, to come out.

As the film progresses, hallucinations take over, and for Nina the differences between reality and fantasy become almost indistinguishable. The hand-held camera work conveys a sense of unease that stamps the film somewhere between a horror film, a dark psychological thriller, and an intensive character study of a dancer losing control for art's sake.

As Nina becomes obsessed with self-doubt over whether she can dance the role of the Black Swan, the film becomes a portrayal of someone who descends into insanity in order to cope.

The final scene is ambiguous. Is Nina's dying on stage an act of self-mutilation on her part to gain artistic perfection, or is this another hallucination which shows that her madness has deepened? Whatever it is, it is a disappointingly melodramatic end to a taut, psychological thriller.

The heavy, frequent use of masturbation, and an intense, aggressive, lesbian sex scene make the film strictly for adult viewing. The film as a whole, though, is highly creative in making Swan Lake something that is realistically horrifying.

Portman is a trained ballet dancer and dances many of the scenes herself. Now a winner of the 2011 Golden Globe award for best actress, her performance as Nina has to be a contender for the 2011 Academy Awards.

This is not a movie for the faint-hearted and it certainly will not appeal to committed ballet-lovers, who don't like classical art forms being manipulated so much.

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

## Comedy as light as brekkie TV

### Morning Glory

Starring: Rachel McAdams, Harrison Ford, Patrick Wilson, Jeff Goldblum, Diane Keaton. Directed by Roger Michell. 107 minutes. M (Coarse language and sexual references). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC\*.

When you can advertise "from the writer of The Devil Wears Prada and the director of Notting Hill", you have a guaranteed audience.

With the attractive Rachel McAdams starring and the added presence of Harrison Ford, Diane Keaton and Jeff Goldblum, then audiences will turn up.

For integrity's sake, I should declare a lack of interest in the topic. My radio is not fixed on popular breakfast programs. Morning Glory is about one of those TV shows that people glance at as they are getting dressed, eating breakfast and getting ready to go to work, shows which rely on pop and popular stories, celebrities and weather personalities and so on.

This film tries to have its frittata (cooked by Harrison Ford) and eat it. It offers criticism of the breakfast show genre but then more than endorses it.

It is Rachel McAdams' film. Since she was one of the Mean Girls in 2004, she has had a series of good roles (The Notebook,



Rachel McAdams and Harrison Ford in a scene from Morning Glory.

Red Eye, State of Play, Time Traveller's Wife and Irene Adler in Sherlock Holmes) and is able to carry this film as a workaholic, overly ambitious morning television producer.

But, the pleasant surprise of the film is how Ford can do curmudgeonly and yet make it funny, sometimes appalling, with expert timing. He is the Pulitzer-prize winning journalist who is, according to Patrick Wilson his producer for many years, the third worst person in the world.

Ford does sardonic, arrogant, detached, petty, obnoxious - all in front of the camera as he co-hosts the show.

As light entertainment which doesn't bear too much thinking about, it is a comedy of errors, comedy of upsets, with dialogue which is sometimes spiky, sometimes sparkling.

\* Fr Peter Malone MSC is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

## Unlikely top film winner

The jury of the Australian Catholic Film Office awarded its 2010 Film of the Year to Claire McCarthy's The Waiting City.

For the first time in the many years of the award's history, the award has been given to a film which was not nominated in the best film category at the AFI Awards.

The Waiting City tells the story of a young Australian married couple, Ben and Fiona, as they arrive in Kolkata to collect a baby, Lakshmi, whom they have been negotiating to adopt for two years.

The title refers to the impossibility of hurrying things in India.

Filmed entirely on location in India, the jury praised this film for its distinctive atmosphere, the blend of beauty and squalor, the rich traditions and the variety of religious and transcendent spiritualities that are so sen-



sitively woven into the narrative of the film.

Previous film office winners include Samson & Delilah, The Black Balloon, The Jammed, Ten Canoes, Look Both Ways, Tom White, Japanese Story, Rabbit Proof Fence, The Tracker, Beneath Clouds, Black and White, Australian Rules, Facing the Music and Looking for Alibrandi.

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# Prayer: we just have to try

**Simple Prayer by John Dalrymple. Darton, Longman & Todd: London, republished 2010. pb 125pp, \$24.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.**

Basil Cardinal Hume was rumoured to say of his considerable prayer life, "Oh, I'm such a flop!" Writing about that mysterious relationship and communication called prayer would be more than slightly daunting. Dalrymple says that "Loving God is never easy. It becomes simpler the more we try it."

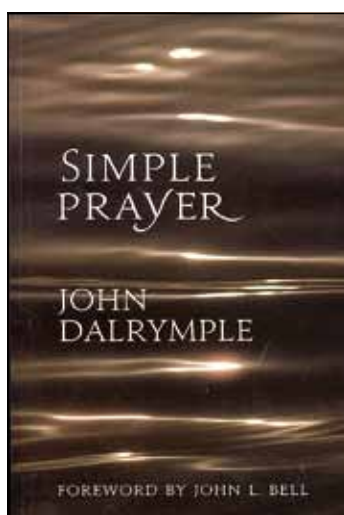
The book was born out of dissatisfaction with the impersonal scholastic theology that the author experienced in his seminary days. He desired then practised "simple, person prayer" (alone, without a group) for decades, and as well as writing and lecturing on it.

The book is a gem, perhaps a classic. Dalrymple writes simply, clearly, conversationally and personally ("We must not be

surprised to be bored in prayer."). Initially he describes prayer and what happens when we take prayer seriously, and God's desire to meet us, particularly in the silence of our hearts.

He examines the relative importance of time, spiritual reading and various techniques (not necessary).

He explores the relationship between prayer and life, our need for poverty of spirit as well as for external and internal freedom. In the last section, he compassionately outlines the normal challenges posed by dryness in prayer, by moving from apparent



intimacy with God to perceived absence and experience of total mystery, towards "the complete union with God that the saints enjoyed".

Dalrymple was a Scottish parish priest, university chaplain, spiritual director, counsellor and author. He also founded a refuge for homeless mothers and children. He had a passionate belief that the depths, wonder and delights of prayer are available to every baptised person.

The book encourages and draws us to move from reading about prayer, into a desire to engage with our God.

## Illuminating look at annulments

**Annulment: 100 Questions and Answers for Catholics by Pete Vere and Jacqui Rapp. Servant Books 2009 - rrp \$19.95. Reviewer: Fr Julian Wellspring.**

This is yet another work by Disciples of the Canon Law School in Ottawa, Canada. Pete Vere considers himself to be on a winning formula with the question and answer format. It's the same format he used in another work he co-authored, Surprised by Canon Law - 150 Questions Catholics ask about Canon Law.

For those who have little understanding of marriage law and annulments in the Catholic Church, this work will certainly be illuminating.

We are told in the publicity that it answers many questions in "everyday language free from legal jargon".

This is perhaps a little misleading. In chapter 6, the roles of those involved in an annulment case are identified. Terms such as petitioner, respondent, defender of the bond, procurators, are in fact legal terms.

Nonetheless, in a clear and non-complicated way, the authors do describe these and many other roles successfully.

One of the most intriguing aspects of this work is that it contains a whole chapter about keeping a marriage together.

Some will wonder how appropriate this is, especially for those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and are looking to find assistance.

Will such a chapter reinforce a sense of failure in those whose marriage has failed? Obviously any readers may, however, benefit from the thoughts that are offered in this chapter.

What is new about this work is that it attempts to consider all the different processes by which the person may establish their freedom to marry in the Catholic Church apart from a formal nullity process before an ecclesiastical tribunal.

This is particularly useful in a country such as Australia where there are many mixed marriages or marriages involving people who are not baptized.

This is yet another useful work seeking to make known the pastoral efforts of the Church to care for those who have suffered a marriage breakdown.

Those involved in pastoral ministry will find this useful and it would be a good addition to any theological library.

## Understanding the old

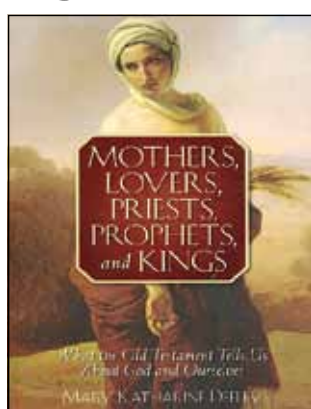
**Mothers, Lovers, Priests, Prophets and Kings: What the Old Testament Tells Us About God and Ourselves by Mary Katharine Deeley. Ligouri Publications, 2010, 120pp, \$16.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**

If you are in a prayer group and you like to use a resource that is based on scripture then you are spoiled for choice. There's lots of them around.

I always prefer those compiled by writers with an academic background. They speak with authority and often have interesting little facts for the experienced and the casual reader to ponder.

Deeley is a respected biblical scholar. She employs humour and insight to examine figures from the Hebrew scriptures - the Old Testament. She believes we have much to gain by delving into these stories to strengthen our relationship with God. These stories are about us as well.

Deeley surprises in her selection of categories. She names priests, prophets and kings but begins with mothers and lovers. Within the categories there are surprises, too.



For example, who knew that Rahab, named as a harlot in the Book of Joshua, risked her own safety to save two Israelite spies from the King of Jericho? She had heard of their God and had come to believe in him. She was marginalised from society but lived with dignity and integrity. She deserves being described as a lover.

Each chapter follows the same formula. It gives the biblical text, then the context, an expansion on its meaning for us today and finally meditation questions and prayer. It works for me.

The book offers a greater understanding of the God of the Old Testament and the God of the New. He is, after all, the same One.

## Eight ways to move on

An appealing title, but rather surprisingly the contents of this little book deal with the recovery process after the trauma of divorce.

There are two million divorces in the US every year; in Australia more than 49,000. That's a lot of people who are sad and who need a fresh start.

Rabor is a counsellor with a long history of helping those who have been left with a sense of loss, loneliness, mistrust and failure.

These effects of divorce are often felt most heavily by Catholics.

He identifies eight key factors which accelerate healing. Using examples from real-life case studies he charts a method to regain equilibrium and to move towards a bright future.

These are his essentials: Work through the grief, befriend anger, forgive your former spouse and yourself, let God help, talk things out, give service to others, find the benefits of laughter and manage stress.

He places particular value on the benefits of counselling. He believes talking about our problems with someone we trust opens the windows of our soul to healing.

Rabor has chosen to make this helpful little book as user-friendly as possible. It is filled with hope and optimism and makes eminent good sense.

As the author concludes, "You have an appointment with life - your life. Don't miss it".

**The Joy of You: Your Life After Divorce by William Rabor, ACSW. Ligouri Publications, 2010, 78pp, \$10.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**



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## Ideal with a cuppa

**A Catholic Woman's Book of Prayers, by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle. Our Sunday Visitor 2010. hb 80pp, \$13.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.**

This pocket-sized hardback is attractively presented, with eight short chapters speaking of women's giftedness, joys, challenges, prayers, mission, trustworthiness...

O'Boyle is mother, author, radio show host, creator of an EWTN television series and founder of a Marian mothers group.

Each chapter includes selections from scripture, and primarily from her friend Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II and various saints, as well as O'Boyle's own thoughts and prayers (sometimes simplistic, at times didactic, always sincere).

The chapter on challenges includes prayers/thoughts on fatigue and stress, complicated pregnancies, infertility, divorce, menopause, loss through death, miscarriage, family estrangements and cultural exploitation. The brevity of the thoughts and prayers and the book's size provide a potential for reflections on a bus or over a cuppa.

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

## Prayers

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

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Contributions of news items and photographs to the columns of Catholic Voice are welcome.

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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.

**From 1 February, 2011, Catholic Voice Classifieds will cost \$7.70 for the first 30 words, and \$2.20 for each 6 words after that.**

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- The Editor.

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# Coming Events



**ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT** - St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 4.30pm - 5.30pm; Wednesdays 11.30am - 12.30pm (one hour before weekday Mass), Fridays 11am to noon.

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

**CURSILLO** - Southside Ultreya at Gowrie parish, 7.30pm, Tuesday, 22 February. Northside Ultreya at Page parish, 8pm, Thursday, 24 February. All welcome. Canberra Women's Cursillo 19-22 May at Galong. Inquiries: Sandra Franceschini, telephone 0411 555 641, e-mail sanfra5@yahoo.com.au.

**LIGHT TO NATIONS** - Easter pilgrimage, live music, dynamic liturgy, catch up with old friends and make new ones. 21-24 April 2011. Information: www.lttn.org.au.

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

**MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED** - Mentoring program for newly married couples. Next program starts February. Inquiries: Vivien and Leigh and Debbie and Brian, telephone 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167, e-mail: mnm@grapevine.com.au.

**MUSIC WORKSHOP** - Free workshop for new Missal translation. Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission workshop for music ministries and others interested, with several of new Mass settings. 10.30am-1pm, Saturday, 19 February, St Peter Chanel's Church, Cnr Weston and Loch Sts, Yarralumla and the Rheinberger Centre. Presenter: Dr Bill Griffiths. Inquiries: Margaret Ryan, telephone 0417 418 838, e-mail margaret.ryan09@iinet.net.au.

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

**ST VALENTINE'S DAY MASS** - St Thomas the Apostle parish, Kambah, Mass 6.30pm, Monday, 14 February, to celebrate the love, romance and joy of Christian marriage, including a renewal of marriage promises for married couples, and a special blessing for engaged couples. Those who are married, engaged couples, those who have lost a partner, couples of all ages, families, and children welcome. Mass will be followed by a meal out together. RSVP to Tracey, telephone 6231 9219 or Trish 6231 8468 (ah).

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** - Weekend for married couples, 25-27 March, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Bookings: Telephone 4283 3435 or www.wme.org.au

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

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# Proud Italian who served many

Mario Damo

Mario Damo OAM, KSG, Comm Omri was born on 7 July, 1924, in Motta Di Livenza, Province of Treviso in Italy.

He was the first of seven siblings from a family of farmers. The stimulus for him to emigrate from war torn Italy was the extensive crisis that followed World War II.

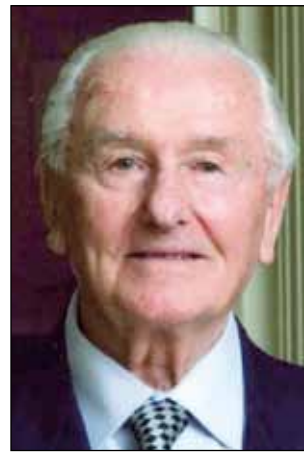
Young people could not find work, crops were not sufficient to meet the needs of families and landlords were ever more demanding.

His family never went without, although there was always a sense of an austere future for young people. For example, there was no money to buy a new pair of shoes, a jacket or a bicycle, which at the time was the only means of transport. He helped on the land worked by his parents and before that his grandparents.

Mr Damo left for Australia from Genoa on the ship Flaminia in 1955. He headed for North Queensland with a contract for two seasons to cut sugar cane. At the end of the contract, he went to Sydney and not long after to Canberra where he found work with a builder, Jennings.

Having mastered the building trade and with a firm grasp of his new English language he set up his own building firm which he managed until he retired. Truth be told, he never really retired as he always maintained an interest in his work.

In 1960 Mr Damo became an Australian citizen.



At that time people had to renounce any former citizenship. In 1996 he requested to regain his Italian citizenship and the Italian Government agreed so he held dual citizenships.

Mr Damo's character was constantly resolute and positive with a will to succeed and overcome adversity, especially as an immigrant far away from his homeland.

Before his death Mr Damo had been unwell and losing strength for some time, suffering from leukaemia and kidney and heart problems. But, when people would ask how he was he would reply, "I'm not bad" or, "I'm hoping for the best".

He was a proud Italian and Trevisano, well known in and around Canberra for his commitment to many multicultural organizations. He was the first president of the Associazione Trevisani Nel Mondo from 1979 to 2004.

He was awarded the OAM in 2009 for service to the multicultural community of Canberra. He was an executive member of the Ethnic Communities Council from 1981 and was heavily involved in promoting multiculturalism in Australia, a difficult task at times.

In 1999 Mr Damo received from Pope John Paul II the order of Knight of Saint Gregory the Great for service to the migrant community and to the Carmelite Monastery and Villaggio Sant Antonio in particular. - Michael Damo.

# A priest 'enriched by the poor'

Fr Gerard Monaghan

"Thank you for being companions on my journey and walking me home." Two months before his death on 12 November, 2010, Fr Gerard Monaghan wrote these words at the beginning of a message prepared for his funeral Mass booklet.

They typified the faith and courage which he had lived for nearly a year after having received a definitive prognosis of impending death.

Faced with death, like the great saints, he continued to live his life without fear and with the same openness to God's grace and to the many people who had been part of his life.

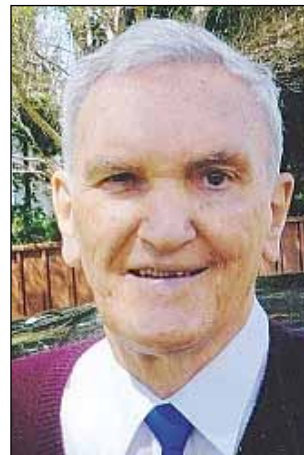
Ordained to the priesthood in St John Vianney's Church, Fairy Meadow (Wollongong) on 17 July, 1961, his Requiem Mass was celebrated in the same church on 16 November, 2010.

Gerard Monaghan was born in Boorowa and was the oldest surviving child of John and Thelma Monaghan's nine children. As a policeman, John Monaghan was transferred later to Bombala, Bega and finally Wollongong.

Gerry valued his bonds with each of those towns as he did his time as a boarder at St Patrick's College, Goulburn.

As a young priest in St Christopher's parish in Canberra, as well as building up a fruitful pastoral relationship with the regular parishioners, the newly ordained Fr Monaghan was to become chaplain to the RAAF base at Fairbairn, to the Marian Club and to many of the Commonwealth hostels which housed mainly young people coming from interstate to work in the public service.

He continued with apostolic zeal in the parishes of Cooma and Young before becoming director



of the Propagation of the Faith which meant preaching in the parishes of the Archdiocese most weekends. He was a dynamic preacher who moved people's hearts not only with his words but the witness of his own deep convictions.

In 1976, Archbishop Cahill appointed him the first parish priest of St Anthony's, Wanniasa. Both in Wanniasa and later in Bega he promoted the life of the Spirit among parishioners giving them a sense of ownership and responsibility which created a joyful witness to God's presence in these vibrant parishes.

The centrality of prayer and devotion to the Eucharist so integral to his own life was shared by the parish communities. He led many people to a deepening of their relationship with the Lord through Marriage Encounter and Cursillo and he was part of a Jesus Caritas group with his brother priests.

Later he would rarely miss an opportunity to give support and affirmation to his fellow priests. The number of priests at his funeral Mass from many strands of his life was testament to the appreciation of all he had been to them.

He spent a few years in the Brisbane Archdiocese before

retiring from active ministry in 1994. While he keenly felt the loss of ministry, it provided him with the opportunity to care for his ageing mother in Wollongong until her death in 2003. Fr Monaghan became her carer and would speak movingly about celebrating Mass with her around the kitchen table when he was not attending Mass at Wollongong cathedral.

During this time but especially after Thelma's death, he became more involved with people on the margins of society as well as being part of a self-help 12 Step program. He worked at "David's Place" with the inner city poor in Sydney as well as with a number of other similar groups.

In the final message, recorded in his Mass booklet, he humbly wrote "These so-called 'poor' enriched me and showed me my poverty."

He developed an apostolate of visiting and corresponding with people in prison and promoted a group called Living Waters which prayed for and supported people in prison in a variety of ways.

He was aware of his own human failures, but was ever reliant on God's grace and forgiveness and he sought the forgiveness of anyone he may have hurt. He saw his last year as a special time of reconciliation. It was a grace for me to have shared some significant moments of that year with him and his dear friend, Fr Hilton Roberts.

Preaching at his funeral Mass I expressed gratitude for the many ways in which God had touched my life through Fr Gerard Monaghan. I conclude by passing on his final request. With St Thomas More, I beg you. "Pray for me as I do for thee, that merily we may meet in heaven."

- Bishop Pat Power.



Our prayers go to those who have died; their families and friends and to those facing the daunting chore of recovery across much of Queensland, Northern New South Wales, and Carnarvon and South of Perth in Western Australia. Thankfully, as a country, we can respond to such great need.

Internationally, Catholic Mission has learnt of the ongoing loss of missionary lives. One bishop, 15 priests, a religious brother and a religious sister, two seminarians and three lay people died violently during 2010. Yet the good news they shared and the hope it offers still needs to be heard. The training of others to undertake such work continues to need our support and generosity.

The formation of students for the priesthood, religious life or as catechists within such communities draws essential support from funds raised each year through Catholic Mission's St Peter Apostle Appeal and our Seminarian Supporters Program which invites people or groups to assist a seminarian for 3 years by committing to give \$1500 annually to support and share in their journey.

The St Peter Apostle Appeal is conducted primarily via a mail out and relies heavily on our response.

Many places do not have Australia's capacity to respond to tragedy or to train people for their future needs. Help us help them.

God bless,  
**Deacon Joe Blackwell**

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# 'Fill-in' catechist marks 40 years service to children

When she filled in as catechist for a year after she finished school, Rita Fry never imagined she would one day receive an award for 40 years service to the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Her initial stint in Goulburn had involved no training, no guide-books, and was really done as a favour to the parish priest.

She enjoyed the year, but didn't think much more about it.

She married, had six children, but once her youngest started school, the parish decided to call on her teaching services again.

"The woman they had doing it was in a really bad car accident and couldn't continue teaching," Mrs Fry said. "Sr Joachim asked me if I'd fill in and I thought, sure, I could do that."

Conditions were far from ideal and training was non-existent. Her first class was in a demountable used to store sporting equipment.

"As the years went on it all got much more organised," she said. "Now we have training and meeting days. We've even got proper books and programs to follow. We can still mould the lesson as we feel is appropriate but it's a big help to have the programs as a guide."

Mrs Fry said working with other Goulburn region catechists had become even more enjoyable when Sr Ann Steenberg RSJ became the coordinator and decided to add social activities such as a Christmas lunch and end-of-term events to the calendar.

"We have an annual garage sale to raise money for more books," Mrs Fry said. "There's an annual Mass, which is always



Goulburn catechist Mrs Rita Fry with her award for 40 years service.

lovely, and awards and certificates are usually presented then too."

Catechists in NSW go into public schools once a week and give a half-hour religion lesson to students who have permission from their parents.

It is a service that is vitally important, Mrs Fry said. "If we didn't do this, many of the children wouldn't learn about their religion at all."

"In the early days we used to visit the children's families after school. You're not allowed to do any of that anymore. Our half an hour goes very quickly."

With many schools teaching in stages (for example, year 3 and 4 are stage three), Mrs Fry said she often saw the same children two years in a row, which gave her more opportunity to bond with students. "We do it for the children," she said.

"The friendships you make with other catechists, the people you meet that you would never have otherwise - that's wonderful."

With more and more families having two working parents, fewer adults are available during school time to teach a class.

For those who can spare a half an hour a week though, Mrs Fry

strongly advises they give it a go.

"You don't need a teaching background or any great experience," she said.

"We're all mothers and grandmothers so we're used to children, and there's so much help available from others and resources to use."

"I never thought I'd do it this long, but I've just always kept that Tuesday morning free for class and never felt the need to stop."

For more information about the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine contact CatholicLIFE, telephone 6163 4300.



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