

Peace to all...

The message of the season is peace... About 70 students from kindergarten to year 6 at Queanbeyan West Public School staged a Christmas presentation for Archbishop Mark Coleridge with the help of sisters from the Missionaries of Charity. RIGHT: Shairrah Lao, Ella McKenzie and Michael Pito ensured the message got across.

Come to the carols

Everyone in the Archdiocese is invited by Archbishop Mark Coleridge to celebrate the spirit of Christmas by attending the annual Carols of the Nations.

The event will take place from 2pm to 4pm on Sunday, 18 December at Archbishop's House.

A sausage sizzle, tea, coffee and soft drinks will be on sale.

Children are invited to bring baby Jesus from the nativity set for Archbishop Coleridge to bless.

Your generosity needed

You can help make Christmas a little brighter for others by putting a gift under the Christmas tree in the Catholic Bookshop in Favier House, Braddon. Gifts will be distributed by the Missionaries of Charity sisters at Queanbeyan. New clothes and toys for children, unwrapped or in clear wrapping, are particularly needed.



Now it's time to shape the future

It's time for decision and action following the Archdiocesan Assembly, Archbishop Mark Coleridge says.

More than 420 Catholics from across the Archdiocese gathered to share their thoughts under the theme "The Changing Face of Sunday".

The energy, prayer and goodwill of the Archdiocesan Assembly could not be allowed to evaporate, Archbishop Coleridge said.

"The future just won't happen; it has to be made to happen, even as we acknowledge that in some deep way the future will always be within the providence of God," he said.

"The future will be God's gift. But it's also our task; and the assembly was a turning-point in our taking up that task together."

Archbishop Coleridge said it was important now to gather up all the data of the assembly, "to sift it carefully, to feed what we sift into the consultative bodies of the Archdiocese – especially the Episcopal Council, the Council of Priests and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council – and then to make some decisions about how we move into the future in a way that accords with the mind and heart of Christ.

"In response to the six questions that structured the day, comments of every kind were made, and these have been recorded. Some of them were predictable, some were more lateral or imaginative – which is what I was hoping for.

"Most were realistic, though some took us beyond the parameters of Church doctrine and discipline and were therefore less realistic.

"The challenge is to be as imaginative and energetic as possible while staying faithful to what the Church believes and teaches. Some think that's impossible, but I think it's decidedly possible and necessary."

Archbishop Coleridge said the assembly had exceeded expectations in a number of ways. Many more people came than initially expected, and the energy level through the day was unexpectedly high.

"Everyone comes with his or her own expectations; some of these are met and some are not," he said.

"Not everyone will be equally pleased with the assembly, but I doubt that there would be many or any who regretted coming or thought it a waste of time."

• More Page 6.

Cathedral precinct project's first step



The first formal step has been taken by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn in the multi-million dollar redevelopment of the St Christopher's Cathedral precinct at Manuka.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has approved the submission of a development application to the ACT Planning Authority for the construction of church offices and independent living aged care apartments.

The project should begin in the middle of next year and be completed late in 2013 or early 2014. The development application is in keeping with the Development Control Plan approved by the National Capital Authority and the Cathedral Heritage Assessment. • Cont Page 11.

We wish all readers a Christ-filled Christmas

what's inside

- 4 Archbishop's letter**
- 5 New deacon at Kippax**
- 7 Harden aged care opening**
- 8 Pat Power's century of Catholics**
- 12 Young Voices visits Batlow**
- 13 Our newest school officially opened**
- 17 Ron Rolheiser**
- 19 Books for the holidays**
- 20 Obituaries**
- 21 What's on around the Archdiocese**
- 23 What I cook at Christmas**
- 24 Your calendar for 2012**

contact us

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

JOURNALIST: Laura Edwards
Telephone 6201 9872
E-mail cathcomm@cg.catholic.org.au

ADDRESS: GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601.
Favier House, 51 Cooyong Street, Braddon ACT 2612.

Internet - www.cg.catholic.org.au

DEADLINE: Editorial and advertising 15th of the month before publication.

Catholic Voice is published by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and printed by Capital Fine Print, Fyshwick. It is a member of the Australasian Catholic Press Association and the Australasian Religious Press Association.

Every month 21,000 copies are distributed.

Print Post Publication No. 238684/00009

From near and far A right royal surprise

Ten minutes before the Queen arrived in Canberra two students from St John the Apostle Primary School, Florey, were given the surprise of their lives. They were asked to present flowers to her and to meet her. The children, Catherine Smith and Ashley Jefferys, were in a contingent of pupils and parents from every primary school in the ACT selected to welcome her.

"Ashley and Catherine were asked, with three other children, to present flowers to the Queen," Catherine's mum Elizabeth Smith said.

"The yellow roses were given to the Queen with Catherine bowing and saying 'Your Majesty'. Ashley liked the Queen's reply, 'Thank you for the lovely flowers from lovely children'.

"Prince Philip asked them what school they attended to which they both replied 'St John the Apostle'. It was a wonderful time and it's something that Ashley and Catherine will remember forever."



ABOVE: Catherine (in white holding flowers) and Ashley (standing behind her) line up to present flowers to the Queen.

ADELONG - BATLOW: Christmas vigil 7pm Batlow. Christmas Day 9am Adelong.

ARANDA: Christmas vigil 6pm. Christmas Day 9am.

BATEMANS BAY: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm. Christmas Day 9am.

BEGA: Christmas vigil 6pm Bega, 7pm Bemboka, 8pm Tathra, midnight Candelo. Christmas Day 8.30am Bega.

BOMBALA: Christmas Day 10am Bombala, 8am Delegate.

BOOROWA: Christmas vigil 6pm (families) Boorowa, 8.30pm Frogmore, 8.30pm St Clement's Galong. Christmas Day 8am Boorowa, 9am St Clement's Galong, 9.30am Binalong.

BRAIDWOOD: Christmas vigil 8pm. Christmas Day 9am.

BTRIBAREE/ QUANDIALLA: Christmas vigil 7.30pm Bribaree.

BUNGENDORE: Christmas vigil 6pm (outdoors). Christmas Day 8.30am.

CAMPBELL: Christmas vigil 6pm (children). Christmas Day 10am.

CATHEDRAL: Christmas vigil 6pm Cathedral, 9pm St Peter Chanel's Yarralumla, midnight Cathedral (carols 11.15pm). Christmas Day 8am Cathedral, 9.30am St Peter Chanel's, 11am Cathedral. No 5.30pm Mass at Cathedral. Reconciliation: 7pm, Wednesday, 21 December Second Rite Cathedral, 3.30pm-5.30pm English and Italian at Cathedral.

CENTRAL CANBERRA: Christmas vigil 6pm Dickson. Christmas Day 8am Braddon, 9.30am Dickson.

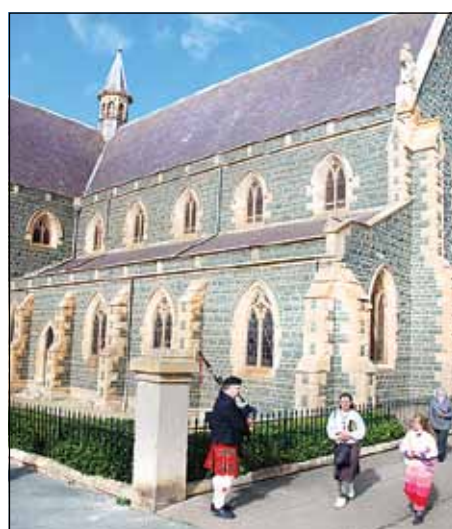
CHARWOOD: Christmas vigil 7pm midnight. Christmas Day 10am (no 8am).

COOMA: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm Cooma, 9pm Nimmitabel. Christmas Day 8am Adaminaby, 10am Cooma.

COOTAMUNDRA: Christmas vigil 7 pm, Cootamundra, 7pm Wallendbeen. Christmas Day: 8am Stockinbingal, 9.30am Cootamundra.

CROOKWELL: Christmas vigil 9pm. Christmas Day 9am.

EVATT: Christmas vigil 6pm 8pm Evatt, 10pm Hall. Christmas Day 8.30am Evatt.



GOULBURN: Christmas vigil 5.30pm Marulan, 6pm (children) 9pm Old Cathedral. Christmas Day 8am Our Lady of Fatima, 10am Old Cathedral.

what do you know?

1. What religious order does Kippax's new deacon belong to?
2. Where has an aged care complex opened?
3. Archdiocese's newest school is named after which famous woman?
4. Who founded the Little Company of Mary?

When and where to go to Mass at Christmas

GRENFELL: Christmas Day 8am.

GUNDAGAI: Christmas vigil 6pm (family) 8pm. Christmas Day 8am Gundagai.

GUNDAROO: Christmas vigil 8.30pm.

GUNGAHLIN: Christmas vigil 7pm (children) 10pm (carols 9.30pm). Christmas Day 9am. No 8am or 5.30pm Mass on Christmas Day.

HARDEN - MURRUM - BURRAH: Christmas vigil 7pm.

JINDABYNE: Christmas vigil 5pm Thredbo, 7pm Berridale, 8pm Jindabyne, midnight Jindabyne. Christmas day 9am Jindabyne, 9am Dalgety.

KALEEN: Christmas vigil 7.30pm, 10pm. Christmas Day 9am 5.30pm.

KAMBAH: Christmas vigil 7pm (children), 9.30pm Vietnamese Mass, midnight. Christmas Day 10am.

KIPPAX: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm midnight (carols 11.30pm). Christmas Day 9am. No evening Mass.

LAKE CARGELLIGO: Christmas vigil 7pm Tullibigeal, 9pm Lake Cargelligo. Christmas Day 9.30am Lake Cargelligo.

MICHELAGO: Christmas vigil 7pm.

MORUYA: Christmas vigil 6pm (outdoor) midnight. Christmas Day 8am Tuross Head, 10am Moruya.

NAROOMA - COBARGO: Christmas vigil 6pm Cobargo, 8pm Narooma. Christmas Day 7.30am Bermagui, 9.30am Narooma.

NARRABUNDABAH: Christmas vigil 6pm, 8pm (charismatic). Christmas Day 9am.

NORTH WODEN: Christmas vigil 5.30pm Curtin (children), 7pm Garran, midnight Curtin (preceded by carols). Christmas Day 8.30am Garran, 9.30am 5.30pm Curtin.

O'CONNOR: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm. Christmas Day 9am.

PAGE: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm. Christmas Day 9.30am.

PAMBULA: Christmas vigil 5pm Merimbula (children) 7.30pm Eden, midnight Pambula. Christmas Day 10am Merimbula.

QUEANBEYAN: Christmas vigil 6pm (children, Macquoid St), midnight St Raphael's (carols 11.15pm). Christmas Day 8am 10am St Raphael's.

SOUTH TUGGERANONG: Christmas vigil 6pm (children's out-

door) Calwell, 9pm Gowrie, midnight Gowrie (carols 11.30pm). Christmas Day 8am Gowrie, 10am Gowrie. No 6pm Mass. Boxing Day 9am Gowrie.

SOUTH WODEN: Christmas vigil 6pm 9pm. Christmas Day 8.30am 10.30am, all Sacred Heart, Pearce.

TARAGO: Christmas Day 10.30am (carols 10am).

TARALGA: Christmas vigil 6pm.



TEMORA: Christmas vigil 6.30pm in park (children), 9pm. Christmas Day 8am Barmedman, 10am Temora.

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Christmas vigil midnight Garran. Christmas Day 8am Campbell, 10am Garran.

TUMUT: Christmas vigil 7pm (outdoor). Christmas Day 8am Talbingo, 10am Tumut.

WANNIASSA: Christmas vigil 7pm (children) 9pm. Christmas Day 9am. No evening Mass Christmas Day.

WATSON: Christmas vigil 6pm (children), 10pm. Christmas Day 8am 10am (no 6pm).

WESTON CREEK: Christmas vigil 6pm Holder (children, carols 5.30pm), 6pm Waramanga (children), 9 pm Holder (carols 8.30pm). Christmas Day 9am Waramanga.

WESTERN MISSION: Christmas vigil 5.30pm Tallimba, 6pm Weethalle, 7pm West Wyalong, 8pm Aria Park, 8pm Binya, 9pm Ungarie, 10pm Barellan. Christmas Day 8am Ardlethan, 8.30am West Wyalong.

YASS-GUNNING: Christmas vigil 5.30pm Gunning, 7pm Yass, 8.30pm Murrumbateman recreation hall. Christmas Day 8.30am Yass, 10.30am Wee Jasper.

YOUNG: Christmas vigil 6pm (outdoor family), 9pm. Christmas Day 9.30am.

5. Sacred Heart Church has celebrated its centenary.... where is it?
6. Who was first Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn?
7. Who is the retiring chief executive officer of Vinnies?

Answers bottom Page 4.

New discount in school fees

A new sibling discount across ACT systemic secondary and primary schools is a feature of tuition fees approved for next year.

Tuition fee increases approved by Archbishop Mark Coleridge are 3.5 per cent for ACT primary schools, 6 per cent for ACT secondary schools and 3 per cent for NSW schools.

Catholic Education Commission chair Mr Daryl Smeaton said there had been long-standing generous sibling discounts in ACT primary and secondary schools.

"We are very pleased to now be able to offer sibling discounts where parents have children in both systemic primary and secondary schools to provide further support for families seeking a Catholic education," he said.

"This discount is on top of the existing discounts available."

The 30 per cent discount will be applied to the tuition fee of the oldest sibling in the primary school.

"Sibling discounts across the primary and secondary sectors

have been in place in our NSW schools for many years," Mr Smeaton said.

Director of Catholic Education Mrs Moira Najdecki said, as in previous years, tuition fee increases had been kept to a minimum.

"We believe we have found a good balance between keeping Catholic education affordable and providing a high quality education choice in an environment that emphasises Gospel values," she said.

"Catholic schools are open to all who are willing to commit to support the philosophy, values and aims of Catholic schooling.

"Fee remissions are available for parents suffering financial hardship.

"Where parents are having difficulty meeting their school fee obligations, they should discuss their circumstances in confidence with the school principal or secondary bursar."

Each school also has its own local levies and charges for specific purposes such as book hire and cleaning.

Kinders get taste of future



The first kindergarten class to start next year at Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula, has had a taste of what is to come. They arrived for orientation day with their parents, wide eyed and very excited.

The morning was designed as a fun time for the students, playing games, getting to know each other, meeting teachers and being helped by Year 10 students.

Parents were given a sense of what it means to be at Lumen Christi, by principal Mr Paul Carroll, head of primary Mrs Anne Maddock and parent Ms Jo Clark.

The story of the rainbow fish, which describes how being friendly brings rewards and takes away loneliness, was shared. The kinders then prepared delicious smoothies as a focus on healthy diet and good nutrition.

LEFT: Brodie Cook gets a helping hand from his big sister Jaime.



Dear Friend,

This Christmas we are asking Australians to take a moment and think how a change in their spending could change the lives of others. Here's why...

Nearly 4 out of 5 Australians say they'd be happy with a donation to charity instead of a gift*.

Instead, this Christmas Australians will spend over \$750 million on unwanted presents*. That's an amazing statistic. It means we're spending millions every year buying things for people who don't actually want those things.

How will you spend this Christmas?

Vinnies will spend time helping over half a million people and you can help. By supporting Vinnies with a donation to the Christmas Appeal, you'll be helping to provide services which make a real difference to people's lives: presents for children, basics like food and clothing, practical support for struggling families and emotional support for those who have no-one to turn to. And isn't that something everyone wants?

You can make a donation by using the envelope inserted in this edition of the Catholic Voice, or through our website vinnies.org.au, or by calling 13 18 12.

We wish you and your family every happiness for the Christmas season.

Thank you and God Bless,

Evan Brett
President - Canberra/Goulburn Central Council
St Vincent de Paul Society

* Australia Institute, Media Release, "Australians planning on wasting hundreds of millions this Christmas", 14 December 2010.

Donate now to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal and help over 500,000 people in need.

Visit your local Vinnies Centre, vinnies.org.au or call 13 18 12. Vinnies changes lives every day.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Looking ahead to year of grace



World Youth Day in Madrid. This was a heavy combination in a number of ways. The Holy Land is an intense experience, especially perhaps for those visiting for the first time. That was true for many of our Archdiocesan pilgrims, for whom the Holy Land pilgrimage was a very rich experience.

Pope Paul VI once described the Holy Land as "the fifth Gospel", and it's true that the Land speaks powerfully for those with eyes to see and ears to hear. I kept saying to the pilgrims: you have to let these places speak to you; don't just gawk and snap them like a tourist; listen like a pilgrim; and they did.

I had wondered whether World Youth Day might be an anti-climax after the Holy Land, but I don't think it was. It was in some ways chaotic, and not every moment was quite what we'd hoped. But it again was an extraordinary experience of the Church which is so much bigger than our own backyard.

When people of any age see a Church which is young and energetic and joyful and universal, it has a real effect on them.

We saw it in Sydney, and we saw it again in Madrid. As a strategy,

World Youth Day is not enough, but it has a power of its own which is hard to explain but impossible to deny.

After World Youth Day, I began to look to the Ad Limina visit to Rome in mid-October. But before that I raced up to Thailand for two days to speak at a conference organized by the Office of Evangelization of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences. The theme was "Secularization, Fundamentalism and Evangelization", and I'd been invited to speak on secularization from a Western perspective.

It was all a bit of a rush, but many of the speakers were excellent and I caught up with a few old mates from student days whom I hadn't seen for ages.

I've long thought that the Church in Australia needs to develop stronger links with the churches of Asia, and this was a chance to strike a blow in that direction.

The fortnight-long Ad Limina visit was a rich and intense time, combining pilgrimage, prayer, fellowship, fun and a lot of business. By the end, we were all tired but refreshed – tired physically and emotionally, but refreshed spiritually.

The Ad Limina visit is a unique opportunity to focus again on what really matters in the episcopal ministry. The focus can blur, given the rush of things that fill a bishop's life and the complexity of the challenges we face.

But at the tombs of the apostles the essence of the apostolic ministry becomes clearer, as it does in meeting and listening to the Successor of Peter.

Since the Ad Limina visit, we have had the clergy retreat, which was in its own way very refreshing, and also the Archdiocesan Assembly, which stirred real energy and was a great help in charting our course into the future.

Now we have the second of the two annual meetings of the Australian Bishops Conference in Sydney, where we will be talking in detail about the Year of Grace which the bishops have announced and which will combine neatly with the Year of Faith announced by Pope Benedict.

The Year of Grace will run from Pentecost 2012 to Pentecost 2013, and the Year of Faith will run from 11 October, 2012, to 11 October, 2013 – 11 October next year being the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council.

The two fit neatly together – grace as the gift of God and faith as the human response to that gift.

As I look back across 2011, I'm conscious of something I've said more than once: as a bishop, you might die of many things, but not boredom.

It also makes me think that, whatever the wear and tear of the task, there's nothing else I'd rather be doing. For that I'm grateful.

I wish you all a happy Christmas. May the peace of God reign in your hearts and homes.

DECEMBER DIARY

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Archbishop Mark Coleridge | 16 CCD Mass, Bermagui | and Captains Flat; Year |
| 1 Reflection day; Liturgical Commission meeting | 18 Carols of the Nations | 12 Graduation Mass, |
| 2-4 Vocations weekend, Galong | 20 Jubilee Mass Archbishop Adrian Doyle, Hobart | Merici College |
| 2 Catholic Education Commission Mass, dinner | 21 Second Rite of Reconciliation, Cathedral | 9 Ordination to diaconate, Joshy Thekkinedath |
| 7 Year 10 graduation Mass, Temora | 24 Midnight Mass, Cathedral | 14 Farewell to Howard Lipscombe |
| 8 Catholic Education Office staff Mass, lunch | 25 11am Christmas Day Mass, Cathedral | 20 Golden jubilee celebration, Archbishop Adrian Doyle, Hobart |
| 9 Ordination to diaconate, Joshy Thekkinedath | Bishop Pat Power | 24 Christmas Vigil Masses, Bemboka and Nimmitabel |
| 10 Post World Youth Day reunion | 1 Meeting of ACT Churches Council | 25 Christmas Day Masses, Delegate and Bombala |
| 11 Christmas lunch with deacons and families | 3 Mass Cooma | January: |
| 14 Serra Club Mass | 4 Confirmation, Jindabyne, Berridale; Faith and Light Christmas celebration | Parish supplies |
| | 7 Visit State School children, Bungendore | |

Schools head re-appointed

Director of Catholic Education Mrs Moira Najdecki (right) has been offered a further appointment of five years.

This follows a review of her roles as director and as executive secretary to the Catholic Education Commission.

Br Kelvin Canavan, who carried out the review, highlighted the many achievements and personal qualities that Mrs Najdecki has brought to the role of leader of Catholic education over the past five years.



Migrant advocate dies

The foundation director of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office in Canberra, Mgr John Murphy, died last month. He was awarded the Order of the Medal of Australia for services to Catholic immigration in 1994. He worked in Canberra from 1995 to 2009. Mgr Murphy died in Melbourne where he had begun his priestly service more than 48 years before.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. MSC Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. 2. Harden. 3. Mother Teresa. 4. Mary Potter. 5. Arian Park. 6. Terence McGuire. 7. Bob Wilson.

Homeless kids in need of more help

More support is needed for children living in homeless families, the Institute of Child Protection Studies at the Australian Catholic University says.

A recent snapshot released by a number of children's organisations, including the institute, showed that children under the age of 12 represented roughly 12 per cent of the homeless population in Australia.

Homeless families were interviewed and support services responding to children in homeless families were monitored.

Director of the Institute of Child Protection Prof Morag McArthur said the snapshot showed that children were often overlooked by policy makers and support systems. "There was the argument that if you support the parents, you support the kids and that they'll be okay," Prof McArthur said.

"Children have their own needs that need to be assessed, to make sense of their homelessness, to be looked after, and that needs to be done quite specifically."

Prof McArthur's primary concern is the "inconsistency in support services for homeless children."

Currently there are no national targets for homeless children specifically, and specialised support services for children vary according to state.

"In the ACT, our services have special children's workers who can take special attention to children, but this is not the case in all states in Australia," she said.

"If children are in specialised homeless services it is important that we do respond to each of them in a comprehensive way.

"Doing things like making sure that their needs are assessed, that they are safe, that they are connected to people and to services like school and health; this is all so important."

Prof McArthur believes people do not often realise the serious impact homelessness has on children.

"Homelessness can have some serious aspects on a child's education and health aspects, these effects sometimes lasting a lifetime," she said.

"You can imagine if you are moving around and you're in unstable housing, there's nowhere to study, you don't have any books, there's no kitchen table, and you're not at the same school for more than a few weeks.

"Some kids say how they didn't go to school for a whole term because it took their parents that long to get everything sorted; so you can imagine that those basic needs are really jeopardised when kids are homeless.

"Along with that, the housing they are living in is quite unsafe. The kids in our study were frightened."

Just like one family

Deacon Salfinus Buarlele MSC (right) recalls how from the tender age of four he decided he wanted to become a priest after reading stories of holy people and saints.

"After reading many books I asked my father how do I become a saint, and he said if you would like to become a saint you should first become a priest," he said.

"I learnt more about it and decided it was something I wanted to do."

Deacon Buarlele arrived in Canberra from Indonesia in August to join St John the Apostle Parish, Kippax, for 12 months in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

He was born in the Indonesian province of the Malaccas. His family is Catholic and his brother is a Missionary of the Sacred Heart priest in Indonesia.

Deacon Buarlele completed his initial formation with the MSCs in Indonesia and was chosen to spend a year in Canberra for his placement.

Deacon Buarlele says his time at Kippax will teach him about



the responsibilities and demands of parish ministry.

"I am very excited to be here to gain some pastoral experience and also learn about the Catholic Church culture in Australia," he said. "I believe I have come to my family here and I have come to a place where God is with me.

"I have noticed Australia is so multicultural, and in this parish after celebrating Mass I always meet so many people from different countries like China, India, Vietnam, Philippines, Iraq or Saudi Arabia," he said. "I feel that we are like one big Catholic family here." Deacon Buarlele is due to be ordained in February.

my world is

A PRIVILEGE



my world is

IN FULL COLOUR



my world is

OPENING DOORS



my world is

MOVING RAPIDLY



my world is

SEEING A NEED



your future starts here

INFORMATION SESSION
 Monday 19 December
 5.30pm – 7pm
 Canberra Campus
 223 Antill Street
 Watson ACT 2602

www.acu.edu.au/youracu 1300 ASK ACU

arts and sciences | business | education | health sciences | theology and philosophy

Key themes identified

1. How many Sunday Masses are needed? Facilitator: Mgr John Woods

- Need to improve music, liturgy and homilies. Many people feel excluded so we also need to focus on outreach and evangelisation;
- Catholics want to feel part of vibrant, loving and engaging communities;
- Overwhelming feedback about the priority of community;
- Lots of questions about the tension between maintaining the integrity of community and fulfilling obligations of attending Mass;
- We need family-friendly churches and we should do more to promote the Mass to families;
- If people do have to travel for Mass, we need a sensible formula for that – 10-15km in Canberra and 50 km in rural areas;
- Be mindful of the differences between the city and rural areas and the importance of maintaining and building communities;
- Lay communities need better training in the absence of a priest;
- Need to consider the well-being of priests and communities;
- Strong support for the use of Information Communications Technology to support remote areas;
- Need to make our churches social places as people desire connections.

2. Sunday Liturgy - Challenges and Opportunities. Facilitator: Shane Dwyer

- Strong consensus that the Eucharist is extremely important but that Catholics don't always understand what we are doing and why we are doing it;
- Need strong and effective catechesis – to better understand the Eucharist;
- Important that people feel welcomed and we foster a sense of belonging;
- The quality of the experience – are lay people/priests well trained and do they know what they are doing?
- How can priests communicate more effectively and how can parishes give feedback to priests?
- Need more silence in mass and time for personal prayer and reflection;
- People want engaging, relevant and educative homilies.

3. Work/Life/Family balance and Sunday – how do we understand “Sabbath Rest” in contemporary society? Facilitator: Shawn van der Linden

- Strong consensus that Catholics must “reclaim the Sabbath” and not compromise that; to actively promote the Sabbath and its many benefits for Catholics and wider society;



- Catholics see the Sabbath as a family and community day. There was healthy discussion about how parishes can support that, through morning tea after Sunday Mass, a children's liturgy, family groups and regular social events. There was also agreement about the need to focus on children as a way of attracting parents to make the Sabbath a priority;

- Catholic schools have a role to promote Sabbath Rest to families by not scheduling sport on Sundays and encouraging families to not schedule events such as birthday parties on the Sabbath.

4. Youth and Young Adults. Facilitator Daniela Kesina

- Need to value and listen to young people and meet them in their environments;
- We should not see young people and youth ministry as separate to the Church as a whole. Stop talking about “them and us”;
- Young people like being active and involved in parish and church life;
- We should consider an annual local youth celebration (similar to World Youth Day) as well as an Archdiocesan Youth Assembly;
- We should focus on intellectually challenging young people and engaging them through social justice issues;
- The Church should engage with the latest technology, multimedia and social networking options;
- The Archbishop could address a personal letter to the parents of school children to affirm and encourage them in their roles as teachers.

5. Mass Absenteeism – Why Catholics have stopped going to Mass. Facilitator: Matt Casey

- Very important to be a genuinely welcoming and inclusive community and accept everyone;
- A lot of people feel alienated and think they cannot come to Mass so we need clear teaching on the big issues;
- People should attend Mass because they want to, not because they have to;
- Consider signs outside churches with welcoming messages;
- We need to focus on outreach and evangelisation to share our faith.

6. Sunday collections - How might the expanding mission and diminishing resources give rise to new ways of doing things? Facilitator: Helen Delahunty

- Strong consensus about the importance of, and need for, accountability and transparency;
- Need for regular updates about parish and Archdiocesan finances;
- Consider targeted appeals, creative fundraising strategies and project-based initiatives and causes;
- Need education about the spirituality of giving – people are more likely to give when they understand the need and value;
- Provide realistic guidelines for people about how much to contribute;
- Examine a rationalisation of the property portfolio;
- Consider sponsored work (eg, roof repairs) plus using volunteers for maintenance work.

Action plan

- Video of the Assembly, including Archbishop Mark Coleridge's key-note address, is available at www.cgas-assembly.org.au.
- Further feedback, comments and responses to this preliminary document can be provided by emailing sharon.brewer@catholiclife.org.au.
- A more considered and detailed analysis of the feedback received at the assembly and in the evaluation survey will be undertaken over the coming weeks.
- A concise report will be completed by the end of February / early March 2012.
- This report will be made available to all people of the Archdiocese and will be formally considered by the various consultative groups of the Archdiocese.
- The response to the assembly will inform the ongoing process of mission planning that will continue in 2012 and beyond.

Some of the feedback

Ninety-five per cent of parishes were represented at the assembly, as well as 35 clergy, school leaders and representatives of groups and movements.

Of the 140 who submitted feedback forms, 91 per cent said they were satisfied with the assembly.

Some of their comments:

- There was great enthusiasm and common concern for the future of the Church's mission in the Archdiocese;
- There is a desire to change some of the current ways things are done;
- This was a very sound format for sharing our faith with other Catholics;



- Discussions were held in a spirit of charity, generosity and listening;
- Archbishop Mark gave a brilliant and visionary opening address;
- I found it very encouraging for the future of our Church to be with so many committed people;
- Whilst sessions were run tightly there was a feel-

ing a little more time was needed in some sessions, but overall day length understandably limited adjustment scope. Overall succinct and gave opportunity for all to have their view recorded;

- The major satisfaction factor for me will be to what degree what was said influences future Archdiocesan decisions. If I heard

correctly, the summary of the assembly will not be available to those who attended but only to decision-making bodies. If this is so, I find that very disappointing and a waste of time;

- The best assembly I have been to for a long while.
- I learned that it is possible to waste a truly wonderful and amazing opportunity. There is so much potential in a group such as gathered but I feel that this really was not reflected in the summaries presented at the plenary session, and I wonder why not?
- It seems that a lot of people are very much aware of the concerns mentioned by the Archbishop, and many have some unique proposals. I think there is already a large groundswell of support for some radical rethinking.

\$9m boost for aged care and for town

A man who became synonymous with aged care at Galong was chosen to officially open a \$9 million complex for the elderly.

Mr John Killick, who had been a board and committee member at St Lawrence's, Galong, since the 1970s, opened the newly completed Southern Cross Care St Lawrence apartments at Harden.

Twenty-four residents from Galong have moved into the Harden apartments which provide single rooms with ensuite for 45 people.

More than 300 people crowded the Harden complex for an ecumenical blessing led by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and including past and current Harden parish priests Fr Frank Keogh and Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter, Anglican minister the Rev Beth Dimmick and Uniting Church pastor Rhana Wright.

Management committee chairman Mr Brian Dunn said the development of the complex, which offers a range of services from independent to supported living, meant a great deal to the future of Harden-Murrumburrah.

He paid tribute to Mr Killick saying "he is a humble man. Nothing was too much trouble for him when it came to the care of residents at Galong".

Harden Mayor Cr Chris Manchester said the facility was a wonderful boost for the town and would be "a catalyst to move this community along".

Archbishop Coleridge said some in today's world see older people as a burden, "but we say that old age is as beautiful, powerful and productive as any age."

"Old people are wonderful gifts to us all."

St Lawrence apartments provides dining room, lounge and activity areas, several quiet sitting rooms as well as a prayer room/chapel.

Southern Cross Care NSW and ACT chief executive officer Mr Paul McMahon said older people are "the most valuable and valued members of our community – they deserve only the best."

"We are very proud of what has been achieved and we are excited about seeing the building completed and the residents relocated from Galong."

The project was fully funded by Southern Cross Care without any contribution from the Government or other sources.



ABOVE: Archbishop Mark Coleridge leads an ecumenical group of clergy as he blesses the new St Lawrence Apartments.



LEFT: Part of the large crowd of locals and guests who attended the opening.



LEFT: Former Harden parish priest Fr Frank Keogh reads an intercession at the opening.

a centenary of canberra's catholics

Formidable but gentle, she earned the trust of all

In the tenth in a series of portraits of significant Catholics of the national capital, Bishop Pat Power remembers one of the city's great characters Olive Mulholland.

It takes a formidable woman to keep four Archbishops on course. Olive Mulholland was such a person.

Remembering that the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn came into being only in 1948 (previously it had been the Diocese of Goulburn), Olive began work in its service in 1950.

At that time the Chancery was located in the presbytery behind Sts Peter and Paul's Cathedral in Goulburn. Archbishop Terence McGuire was the first Archbishop and Mgr Edward Favier the Vicar-General.

When the second Archbishop, Eris O'Brien, moved to Canberra in 1960, Olive was "part of the furniture". Her home in Bonython Street, Downer, was arguably the last street in north Canberra.

She played a key part with Mgr Favier, Fr George Weissel and Fr Eddie Bourke in establishing the Chancery in the Archbishop's House in Canberra. Frs Adrian Cork and Paul Rheinberger would become part of the scene prior to Archbishop O'Brien's retirement in 1967.

It should be remembered that office equipment in those days lacked the sophistication we take for granted today. Computers, faxes, even photocopiers were unheard of then.

Olive laboured skillfully on a manual type-writer and produced the diocesan circulars on a gestetner machine.

She also kept a watchful eye on the account books, but, most of all, acted as a very important and trusted person especially in relation to the priests of the Archdiocese.

They recognised her great integrity and saw her love for the Church and the Archdiocese translated into doing whatever she could to help it carry out

its mission of bringing the love of Christ to his people.

These were the days following the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and there were monumental changes taking place in all sorts of ways.

Olive was secure in her own faith and open to the adjustments which were needed in those times. Often she provided a shoulder to cry on for some who found the challenges difficult to handle.

Every Archbishop has his own particular style and personality, so when Thomas Cahill succeeded Eris O'Brien in 1967, Olive was working for a man who had very definite ideas and was probably more hands-on than his predecessor in the running of the office.

Olive played an invaluable role in providing continuity and had a great store of knowledge of the Archdiocese and the people and offices associated with it.

'Her love for the Church and the Archdiocese translated into doing whatever she could to help it carry out its mission of bringing the love of Christ to his people.'

She had the trust of the clergy and her own unthreatening way of communicating both to priests and bishops. A few months after his arrival, Archbishop Cahill chose another Goulburn person, Fr Ron Flack, as his secretary.

He and Olive were a powerful combination bringing their experience, wisdom, good humour and executive skills to bear on the episcopate of Thomas Cahill.

The Archbishop showed his gratitude to Olive by sending her on the inaugural Qantas one-stop flight to London. If Archbishop Cahill is often posthumously praised for the kindness he brought to his ministry as Archbishop, it should be acknowl-



Olive Mulholland (right) with her sister Betty McAlister. Betty spent many years as parish secretary at St Peter and Paul's, Goulburn while Olive was contributing mightily on the Archdiocesan level. The sisters died within a few days of each other.



The first two Archbishops Olive Mulholland served - Terence McGuire (left) and Eris O'Brien (far left)

edged that Olive and Ron played important roles behind the scenes.

Fresh from three years study in Rome, I succeeded Fr Ron Flack in mid-1975 and greatly benefited from the gentle guidance provided by Olive.

With the death of Archbishop Cahill in 1978, the leadership of the

en's conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Dickson in the early 1960s with Olive maintaining her membership of the society until failing health in 2003 necessitated her retirement.

The Vincentian apostolate included home visitation, the shelter in Turner, Ainslie Hostel, and visiting and supporting unmarried mothers and their babies in a women's refuge and in the flats around Civic. As a Justice of the Peace, she was an advocate for people in all kinds of need.

Olive was also a member of the Catholic Women's League for a time and active in other community work. She was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 1999 for her work for the Church, the St Vincent de Paul Society and the community.

Her home was always open house where visitors experienced her hospitality and sound advice. Olive had a special love for the trainee teachers at Signadou College. Eventually, she had to give up her trusty VW Beetle (now in the proud possession of her daughter, Terri).

After independent living became impossible, this gentle but spirited lady spent her last days in Ginninderra Gardens, Page. Her death on 26 November, 2006, marked the passing of one of Canberra's great characters.

Archdiocese passed temporarily to Bishop Morgan who relied on Mrs Mulholland for background and advice.

Edward Bede Clancy, the fourth and last Archbishop Olive was to serve, came to Canberra at the beginning of 1979. Olive did three more years before deciding that full-time work was getting beyond her.

She officially retired in February 1982 and was given the Papal award Benemerenti (well-done) in April 1982.

Olive had a life outside her career, raising her three children, Terri, Robyn and Peter in Goulburn and being very much part of the life of the community in Canberra.

She and her good friends, Iris Sloane and Flo Cobb, set up a wom-

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

Repay kindness - it's Bronwyn's way

Pay it forward. It's the guiding concept for community council chair at St John the Apostle Primary, Florey, Mrs Bronwyn Ward.

The best way to repay someone is to carry out their good deed for someone else in need, which is what Mrs Ward's diverse teaching career has been all about.

"As a kid I struggled with some issues but there were a few really great teachers who took the time to help me, so I like to pay it forward and repay them by helping other troubled kids," she said.

"I come from a disadvantaged background.

"I had a brother with a disability who passed away when I was younger.

"It was a tough time but we had a lot of support from some wonderful people, so this is my way of giving something back."

Her first role was as a music teacher at Karabah High School in Queanbeyan, which soon evolved to include offering distance education modules to indigenous and Brethren communities.

"In Queanbeyan I taught a class that was all indigenous students," Mrs Ward said.

"Their parents and extended family members would come in too.

"We'd be doing a literacy lesson and the adults would be learning just as much as the students."

Her next appointment was at Alfred Deakin High School, where she was the only music teacher for 1000 students.

There had been no music program before she arrived so she got to work establishing bands and organising music tours.



Bronwyn Ward with husband Robert and children (from left) Benjamin, Miller, Caitlin and Sally.

As her career progressed, Mrs Ward found herself working more and more with at-risk youth.

She was involved in an education program offered to pregnant and parenting teens, homeless youth, those in out-of-home care and students who had just been released from detention.

"We focused not just on education but on greater well-being as well," she said.

"We taught life skills, helped them find work and really focus on the person as a whole."

The position gave her plenty of experience in youth justice and mental health, which stood her in good stead for her next two jobs.

She spent part of the week at Quamby Youth Detention Centre, where she taught music

and took on case management roles.

The other half of her time she was behaviour management consultant for the ACT Department of Education.

"This involved working directly with teachers in their classrooms to develop individual learning plans for students with behavioural issues," Mrs Ward said.

"I believe behaviour is symptomatic - there's always some other factor that leads to poor behaviour.

"This may be learning difficulties, problems at home, or any number of things.

"So we try to work with the student to identify those issues and work out a plan to deal with them."

Mrs Ward is currently employed at UC High School, where she has held a range of

positions including deputy principal, autism program coordinator and pastoral carer.

"My work is challenging and it really drives me," she said.

"It's very rewarding but there are times when things go wrong for the kids and that's really disappointing.

"In those instances I turn to my faith."

Teaching wasn't always on the cards for Mrs Ward.

She originally trained as an opera singer and had a scholarship with Opera Australia.

But just before the end of her music degree she broke her jaw in an accident.

"Like the John Lennon song says, 'life is what happens when you're making other plans'," she said.

"I still finished my music degree, went on to study edu-

cation and have been teaching ever since.

"I love to be learning all the time.

"I recently completed my masters in education and I'm currently completing a diploma of theology at ACU."

Of course, life isn't all about work.

Mrs Ward is married with four children, who keep her and husband Robert busy at weekends attending soccer and pony club events.

"We try to keep as involved as possible in what the kids are doing," she said.

"I was on their school (St John the Apostle Primary) community council last year and was appointed chair this year, so that really helps keep me connected.

"It's a wonderful school. My husband and I moved to the neighbourhood before the kids were born so that they'd be able to attend there."

When she's not running around at one school or another Mrs Ward indulges her other passion, horses.

In addition to pony club activities, the family is involved in rehabilitating rescued horses.

"It's like my work with the kids actually. I take a damaged horse and make it trusting again."

One day she hopes to combine all her skills and retire as an equine psychotherapist.

But until then she's classroom bound, repaying the kindness shown to her as a child by guiding other troubled youth and showing them that there can be a brighter future.

Focus on health care for clergy

The Archdiocese has appointed Ms Carmel Gibbons to the role of clergy healthcare coordinator for the Clergy Retirement Foundation.

The position is a joint venture between Calvary Healthcare and the Archdiocese.

Ms Gibbons will assist with the holistic care of the Archdiocese's aged and infirm priests and be available to provide health assessments and guidance to clergy.

The foundation directly assists 17 retired priests who live across the Archdiocese.

Chairman of the foundation Fr Tom Thornton said the position was designed to empower clergy to care for their own wellbeing and to allow them to remain active in ministry for as long as possible.

"With the valuable assistance of Calvary Healthcare and the ongoing professional support they will provide for Carmel, I am sure the clergy will enthusiastically support the appointment," he said.

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



Ms Carmel Gibbons ... "priests deserve high quality care".

Ms Gibbons said she believed priests who "have given so much of their lives to their vocation, are deserving of high quality care in their retirement, or on those occasions when they might be suffering from an illness or medical condition".

Internet www.cg.catholic.org.au

When you need it most, we give you time.

Christine Walters, Manager

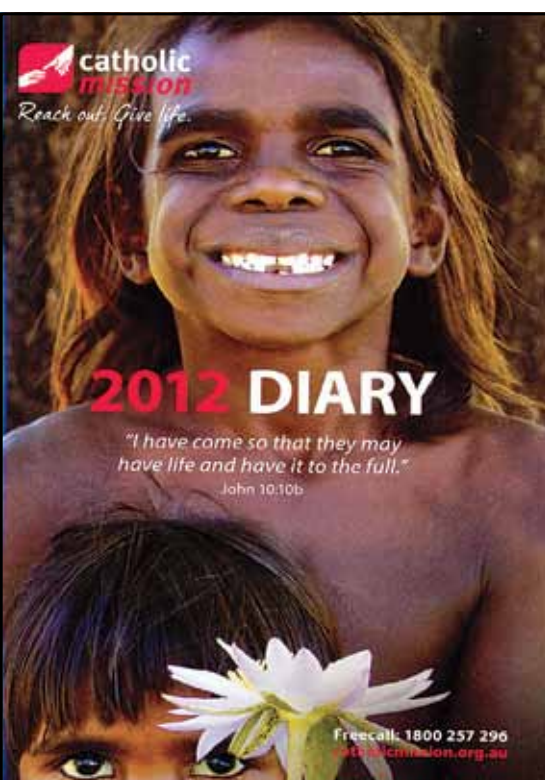
Proud local sponsor of World Youth Day Canberra and Goulburn Diocese.

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| BELCONNEN | 6251 2344 |
| KINGSTON | 6295 2799 |
| QUEANBEYAN | 6297 1546 |
| TUGGERANONG | 6293 3177 |

TOBIN BROTHERS FUNERALS
A GUARDIAN FUNERAL PROVIDER

To embrace a lifetime, we give you time.

Proudly Australian | All areas | Prearranged Funerals | www.tobin Canberra funerals.com.au



**2012 Diary
FREE**

We'd like to send you, free, this pocket diary.

It carries monthly Mission Intentions, as well as key school term, holiday, holy and saint day dates.

Awareness and prayer are invaluable to any mission undertaking and encouraging these is part of our mission within Australia. Your prayers are important and we hope using this diary helps to bring you closer to the missionaries and people assisted by Catholic Mission.

There will be opportunities to support our endeavours financially during 2012, whether for communities, children or the educating of future faith leaders to make present the Gospel in their communities, but prayer underpins these efforts.

Please post the coupon below, once completed, or contact us now directly on 6163 4321 and join us in our continuing prayer for mission

Please send me free of charge my 2012 Diary

Name:.....

Address:

.....

Rev Joe Blackwell, Director
CATHOLIC MISSION
PO Box 7174, Yarralumla ACT 2600

Appeal is call to give generously

Catholics of the Archdiocese once again will be invited to contribute to the annual Archbishop's Appeal at Christmas Masses.

"The generosity of our communities enables us to provide support for the needy through the National Council of Churches' Christmas Bowl Appeal and also to assist neighbouring church communities in the Asia-Pacific region," Catholic Mission director Deacon Joe Blackwell said.

The appeal will help the Congregation of Mary Queen of Peace in Buon Me Thuot, Vietnam, to establish a workshop for people with disabilities, and to assist in providing facilities and training for catechists in Noumea, Bangladesh and East Timor.

Last year's appeal raised \$65,200 to help build and maintain two churches in Bacau Diocese, East Timor, support clean water projects in PNG and Kiribati, help develop a catechist centre in Noumea and support Christmas Bowl projects. In Australia, flood recovery projects were supported in the community of Marmun in the Broome Diocese.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

I would like my donation to be

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ Other \$_____

Mr/Mrs / Miss/ Ms/ Dr/ Rev _____

(Block letters please)

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please find enclosed my ☐ Cheque ☐ Money Order

I prefer to use my ☐ Bankcard ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Signed _____

Expires ____/____

**Please send to Mission & Development Office,
The Rheinberger Centre, PO Box 7174, Yarralumla ACT 2600.**

Inquiries: Tel: 02 6163 4321

Not too late for Phil's music dream

Singing and song writing always came naturally to Phil Murray, but it took him years to realise it was a gift he could share.

Now Mr Murray, a parishioner at the Corpus Christi Parish, South Tuggeranong, has released his first album.

The album name, "Never Too Late", has two meanings for Mr Murray.

"One meaning is that it's never too late to fulfil your dreams, and the Christian interpretation is that it's never too late to realise your gifts and fulfil your Christian calling," he said.

While only two of the album's 10 songs are religious, Mr Murray believes all the songs stem from Christian values.

"What I'm trying to do is to sing about what I think are good values that any Christian will identify with," he said.

"Each song is about relationships and each song has a different story. I hope people will find the stories encouraging, hopeful and positive."

Mr Murray has had many roles at national, diocesan and parish levels over the years, including working as the director of vocational services for Catholic Social Services Australia for 10 years until 2009.

He had always had an interest in music but was a shy performer.



Word travelled about Mr Murray's singing and song writing abilities at his parish, and he was often invited to write songs as well as perform. The feedback he received and the experience of touching people through song inspired him to continue performing.

"I was initially so slow to realise what people were saying to me," he said.

"Whenever I performed one of my own songs at the parish, I was overwhelmed with the comments from people there.

"Some people say they loved my voice, some just pat you on the back,

and others come and want to share their life story, because words from the song opened up something to them. I've sat with someone after Mass for 20 minutes while they sob their heart out telling me something important in their life; so it seems to be it's not just the music, but there's something in the words."

It was the called and gifted program, which teaches people to discover their unique spiritual gifts, that led Mr Murray to pursue singing and song writing as a career, where he could speak to a broader audience.

He engaged a producer and a number of highly credentialed session musicians to work on the album with him.


For more information visit www.philmurraymusic.com.

Parish website looks to push its boundaries



A Canberra parish that attracts high-profile speakers and politicians to its regular forums has launched a website to expand its reach. A group

of Campbell parishioners started the St Thomas More Forum in 2005. Speakers have been included Mr Kevin Rudd and Mr Tony Abbott. Parish

priest Fr Julian Wellspring said the website "will help take the forum beyond the boundaries of our parish". Go to www.stthomasmore.org.au.



M.H.O'Rourke
Funeral Directors
Our Family cares for your Family

The history and future of funeral transportation

Please call 6297 1052
or visit www.orourkefunerals.com.au

Aloysius Morgan Retirement Villas – CAMPBELL ACT

VILLAS AVAILABLE NOW





- Are you looking for retirement accommodation which is a little different from the average?
- Would you still like to live independently but like the idea of being in a community?
- Are you at the fantastic age of 65 or older?

You have the choice of 2 or 3 bedrooms Villas with all the little trimmings you would expect like ducted heating, ensuite, dryer, washing machine, curtains, carpet, built in robes, stove, dishwasher and the list goes on. Affordable retirement living is available as Aloysius Morgan Villas.

Want more info? PH: 02 6295 4300 or www.catholiccare.cg.org.au

Enquiries are also being taken for St Vincents Retirement Villas in Aranda, ACT.

Manuka precinct project takes another step forward



• From Page 1.

Archdiocesan project officer Mr Herbie O'Flynn said design of the church offices comprised two three-storey buildings connected by an atrium to maximise light and ventilation.

The ground floor will incorporate a meeting hall and parish offices together with a location for the Catholic Bookshop.

Flexible office space for the Archdiocesan offices will be the dominant feature of the two upper floors.

The office complex will be connected to the Cathedral by a

piazza to provide public community space.

Underground parking will be provided to the entire site.

The aged care facilities will feature four levels of 49 one and two-bedroom plus study apartments in three wings, each with lift access.

A design feature is cross ventilation and good solar access with all apartments having a balcony.

"It certainly will be great place to live, with access to the Cathedral and Manuka," Mr O'Flynn said. For further details, e-mail herbie. oflynn@cg.catholic.org.au

Sue makes illness more bearable

For Sue Hueston, the struggle of trying to explain a mental illness to children or other loved ones is personal.

Shortly after the birth of her first child, Amy, Ms Hueston was hospitalised with a bipolar episode. Her father was also diagnosed with the disorder.

Writing a children's book on mental illness was something she believed was necessary to help all parents in her situation.

The difficulty of understanding the illness herself, as well as knowing she would have to one day explain it to her children, inspired her to write a fictional children's book featuring a character who has the disorder.

The story, *Bipolar Bears*, follows a family of polar bears. Father bear has an episode of bipolar and is taken to hospital, eventually returning to his family once he is well.

The book includes watercolour illustrations by Shena Hayden, a lecturer in visual art at the Australian Catholic University.

It is aimed at children over five, parents with bipolar disorder who want their children to learn what they are going through, or parents who want their children to learn about mental illness in general.

"I want this book to be an easy way for children to understand bipolar disorder and the behaviours involved, to show that it's not



Sue Hueston with her children Tom and Amy.

this big scary thing and that it does happen to people," Ms Hueston said.

The book was first published during ACT Mental Health Week in 2009, then self-published by Ms Hueston this year. It is supported by the Mental Health Foundation.

Ms Hueston, a teacher at Holy Trinity Primary School, Curtin, is on maternity leave and studying for her masters in education at Australian Catholic University.

"People I've been talking to such as librarians and teachers think it's a resource that should be in all schools," she said.

"Mental health is an important issue and this is an easy way to explain to children what their parent might be going through." Ms Hueston hopes to write a series of bear books, each covering a mental illness. For more information visit www.bipolarbears.net.au

Personal Accident Insurance ONLY \$32 per year.*

'Cos kids will be kids.



As we all know, kids will be kids and accidents unfortunately happen. Our personal accident insurance covers children 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, anywhere in Australia or overseas, wherever they may be – at home, school, even on the sports field.

Benefits include:

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ✓ Loss or damage to teeth Benefit limited to \$1,000 per accident | \$250* per tooth |
| ✓ Full capping of damaged teeth | \$250* per tooth |
| ✓ Broken/fractured/dislocated arm or wrist | \$500* |
| ✓ Third degree burns | \$5,000* per accident |
| ✓ Emergency transport Benefit limited to \$1,000 per accident | \$1,000* |

For the full list of benefits*, see the product disclosure statement available from us.

Call 1300 655 003 or visit
www.kidswillbekids.com.au



Catholic Church
Insurances

Serving You ~ Serving Church

* \$32 per kid, per year inclusive of GST and statutory charges. Prices based on a policy with one insured person. This Insurance is underwritten by Allianz Australia Insurance Limited (Allianz) ABN 15 000 122 850 AFS Licence No. 234706 and is arranged by Catholic Church Insurances Limited ABN 76 000 005 210 AFS Licence No. 235415, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, as a promoter for Allianz. A Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for insurance products can be requested by calling 1300 655 003, or online from www.catholicinsurances.com.au. Any advice here does not take into consideration your objectives, financial situation or needs, which you should consider before acting on any recommendations. You should read and consider the PDS before deciding whether to acquire any products mentioned. If you purchase this insurance, Catholic Church Insurances will receive commission on these insurance products as a percentage of the premium paid for each policy. Ask us for more details before we provide you with any services on these products. CCI0048



ABOVE: Atea Karauna and Gracie Cooper-Wilson using the school's new laptops.



ABOVE: Jessy-Ray Shoveller, Georgia Copper-Wilson and Gianna Noldin prepare to give a presentation to the class.



ABOVE: Year 6 student Angela Ovenden.



LEFT: Molly Baron, Makenzie Glynn, Charlotte Ovenden, Jack Cobden and Ryan Glynn are ready for recess.

RIGHT: Year 6 students Loren Murrell and Amy Glynn get ready to buzz in their answer.

It was a busy day at St Mary's when Catholic Voice visited. The K/1/2 class was having fun with the school's new laptops, while in Year 6 the students were using their active expressions buzzers and the electronic whiteboard to do a quiz about the earth. The Year 4/5 class were learning about significant places in Australia, for a class presentation. And after a morning of hard work, everyone was happy to go out to recess and enjoy the sunshine.



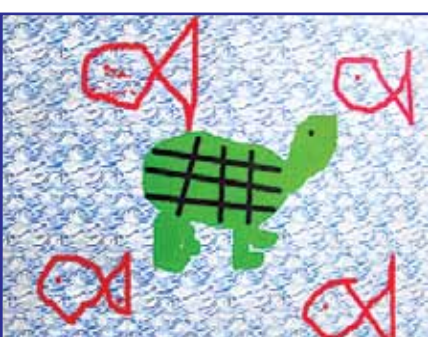
ABOVE: Ashley Christian shows off her doll.



TOP LEFT: Sailing boat, by Aidan Jones.



TOP RIGHT: Monet's Poppyfield, by Rebekah Gardner.



BOTTOM LEFT: Turtle swimming in the ocean, by Molly Baron.



BOTTOM RIGHT: Monet's Waterlilies, by Cassie Brennan.



ABOVE: Mitchel Glynn and Darcy Brennan research significant places in Australia.

Small start but great future

After two years of planning, design and construction, the Archdiocese's newest school, Mother Teresa Primary in Harrison, has been officially blessed and opened.

Parents, community council members and the public attended the opening, which allowed students and staff to show what they have accomplished in the short time the school has been running.

Guest speakers included Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Holy Spirit parish priest Fr Mark Croker, Director of Catholic Education Mrs Moira Najdecki and Member for Fraser Dr Andrew Leigh.

Fr Croker remarked on the strong sense of belonging and community the school already had built, despite being less than two years old.

The school opened at the beginning of 2010, but building delays meant the students had to be bussed to neighbouring Good Shepherd Primary for the first three weeks.

Mrs Najdecki acknowledged tremendous support from the government, community and fellow schools

within the Archdiocese. To go towards the school's construction, the Catholic community donated \$4 million and Good Shepherd Primary contributed \$3 million of their building funds from the government.

Archbishop Coleridge told the story of Mother Teresa, who "did small things with great love" – the school's motto – and anticipated that the school would teach its students in the same way that Mother Teresa taught those around her.

To show what they had achieved, students treated the audience to a musical presentation, acting out the stages of the school's development, from the first brick laid to the birth of a successful primary school with almost 300 students.

Principal Mr Michael Lowe said the school was still growing. It currently offers education from preschool to year three, but expects to increase to year six by 2014.

For more information on Mother Teresa school and enrolments go to www.motherteresa.act.edu.au.



ABOVE: Xavier Hartley, Thaiciel Chamtaprieo, Nataliya Ciampa and Alyssa Quirk sing and dance.

RIGHT: Gabriel Comacchio presents the cross as a symbol of the school.

BELOW: William Machin, Riley O'Grady, Olivia Uphill, Max Markezic, Ashley Cremin and Tayla Miranda show how they travelled to neighbouring school, Good Shepherd Primary, while their school was being built.

BOTTOM LEFT: Sophie Yang, Olivia Uphill, Tarni Hamilton, Maddy Christie, Jeffrey Miller and Emily Sadjler show the qualities the school sought in its principal – intelligence, humour, bravery and kindness.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The Archdiocese's newest school, Mother Teresa Primary.



Family welcomed by community



It was a red letter day for a Jugiong parish family when four members were baptized and one presented in the RCIA rite of welcome.

Joe and Angie Fitzgerald presented their four children, Leah, 8, Jacob, 6, Jessica, 2, and Michael, 1, for baptism in St John the Evangelist Church at Mass celebrated by Fr Bernie Hennessey.

Mother Angie was presented as a catechumen to the community as her journey continues to be part of the Catholic faith.

Parishioner Joy Coggan co-ordinated members of the church community to take part in the journey with Mrs Fitzgerald and the children.

ABOVE: The Fitzgerald family on their big day.

Hospital staff honour foundress

A record number of staff received recognition at this year's Mary Potter awards ceremony at Calvary John James Hospital.

Held annually since 2008, the awards are peer-nominated and recognise employees who continuously work at an excellent standard and emulate the values of hospitality, healing, stewardship and respect.

Award categories are staff excellence for non clinical and clinical areas, customer service and length of service.

Director of Mission Ms Frances Brown said the number of people nominated had doubled since last year.

"There were a record 45 nominations for staff excellence – which is around 10 per cent of the staff," she said.

"Length of service awards totalled 30 for five, 10, 20, 25 and 30 years of service collectively."

Ms Brown said the awards were special because they reflected the values of foundress of the Little Company of Mary, Mary Potter.

The longest serving employee was Colleen Waters from theatres, who has served for 30 years.

Calvary also launched its Welcome to Canberra booklet, an initiative set up by a physiotherapist at Calvary who came to Australia from South Africa a year ago.



The booklet is a resource for new employees moving to Canberra from another country, providing useful general and local information to help make their transition smoother.

Award winners (from left) Annette Quinn for customer service, Jess Little for clinical staff excellence and Janina Salisbury for non-clinical staff excellence.

ABOVE: Award winners (from left) Annette Quinn for customer service, Jess Little for clinical staff excellence and Janina Salisbury for non-clinical staff excellence.

Filipinos celebrate

More than 100 South Coast Filipinos, their families and friends from Ulladulla to Bega came to celebrate the traditional annual Mass with Bishop Pat Power in St Bernard's Church, Batehaven.

Lunch was provided after Mass, with the generosity of the Filipinos seen in the abundant food prepared for the festival. Bishop Power spoke on the importance of the Eucharist in the life of a Christian, and Fil-Care adviser Sr Angelita Marave, MACE, developed the topic of cultivating a genuine devotion to Mary.

An open forum followed, during which participants were able to clarify issues of faith and morals. Sr Angelita invited the group to send a representative to the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin in June.



The gathering after Mass with Bishop Pat Power, Sr Angelita Marave seated next to him and South Coast area co-ordinator Lily Cowan (in black) in front.

Teams' couple chosen

Canberra couple Faye and Kevin Noonan were commissioned as the new super-regional couple of Oceania for the International Leading Team of Equipes Notre Dame. Teams of Our Lady celebrated 50 years in Australia at the Oceania conference held in Adelaide. In this time, married couples have strengthened their marriages by joining the movement of Equipes Notre Dame, begun in France by Fr Henri Caffarel during World War 2. It was brought to Australia in 1961 by Stephanie and Max Charlesworth. In Oceania today, there 150 teams comprising about 1500 members.



Looking for a beautiful nativity set
for your Christmas table centrepiece,
or as a gift for that special person?

Perhaps you would love one for your home entry, to welcome Christmas time visitors? Thumbelina has an extensive range of quality nativity sets for Advent and the Christmas season.

Also: Mary MacKillop commemorative pins, medals, rosary beads plaques and prayer cards.

Available from **Thumbelina Miniatures and Gifts**
The Old Schoolhouse,
Ginninderra Village, Nicholls.

OPEN Tuesday to Sunday 10am to 5pm
CLOSED Monday
Public Holidays 11am to 4pm
Telephone - 6230 9599
Email - trish@thumbelina.net.au

Vinnies boss to retire

Chief executive officer of the central council of the St Vincent de Paul Society in the Archdiocese Mr Bob Wilson will retire next year after almost 22 years in the position.

"I feel proud to have been available to an organisation that embraces core Christian values and works selflessly to assist those in need through conferences, special works, youth and centres," Mr Wilson said.

He will retire on 9 March, the date of his last central council meeting as chief executive officer, 20 days short of 22 years in the job. Applications have been called to fill the position.

Where comfort leads, I'll follow

Choose them for how they look and love them for how they feel – Ziera



MONA
Orthotic friendly

IPSWICH
Orthotic friendly

Frawley's Comfort Centre
26 Garema Place, CANBERRA CITY 2601
Ph/Fax 02 6247 9104

WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS



Bill & Christine Cole

EXCELLENCE IN FUNERAL SERVICE

HEAD OFFICE & CHAPEL
60 NETTLEFOLD STREET, BELCONNEN

Canberra's Family Owned Funeral Home

Canberra, Queanbeyan & Interstate

"Caring For You Personally"

24 hours – 7 Days

Phone 6253 3655

Wed for 50 years



Watson parishioners for more than 40 years, John and Catherine Green (above) have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Canberra with a weekend of family celebrations.

The couple returned to St Christopher's Cathedral, where they were married on 21 October, 1961, for Mass and a special blessing by Fr Bonney.

Celebrations with their five sons, 13 grandchildren and their partners included returning to Albert Hall, the venue of their wedding reception.

John was born in Canberra in 1936 and Catherine, in Crookwell in 1940. They met in 1954 and were married just over six years later.

The secret to 50 years of marriage? The couple says "they became one with God and that is the success of married life".

"A bit of give and take and the occasional dance take goes a long way," Mr Green said.

Followers of Francis



Mr Tony Di Michiel presents the Franciscan cross to Mr Tony Dunicliff-Hagan (right) following his profession into the Secular Franciscan Order.

Mr Anthony Dunicliff-Hagan was professed as the newest member of the Canberra fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order.

The group consists of lay people who live and work in the world, but are committed to following the spirituality of St Francis of Assisi.

Mr Dunicliff-Hagan first made contact with the group 20 years ago, but decided it was not for him. In 2008 he met with the members again and discovered that their way of life would now fill the spiritual void he had. "Franciscan spirituality makes more sense to people in the middle of their lives," he said.

"We support each other in living out the Gospel in the world."

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

Helping parishes face change

The challenges faced by parishes in changing times have been uppermost in the mind of Howard Lipscombe for the past 18 years.

The Archdiocese's parish and administration services manager, Mr Lipscombe retires this month.

He joined the archdiocesan staff in January 1994 as the fund-raising professional. Over five years he helped about 25 parishes increase their planned-giving income by an average of 65 per cent.

"I have experienced many challenges over the years, but I believe being able to help parish clergy and staff with changing times has been significant," he said. "Putting something back into church after all I have received is very rewarding."

Mr Lipscombe took on his current role in 1999 due to the introduction of the GST. "This government initiative created some major financial reporting requirements, not experienced by the Archdiocese up to that date," he said.

"MYOB was introduced for parishes which started the move into new forms of technology. From there technology once again moved us into PACS as an overall reporting system for parish statistics and financial accounting."



Mr Howard Lipscombe (middle) with the gathering at a day for parish secretaries.

Another role Mr Lipscombe has taken on is to work with parishes and archdiocesan agencies on employment and work, and health and safety issues.

He has represented the Archdiocese on a committee of the Catholic Commission for Employment Relations.

Mr Lipscombe came to the Archdiocese after nearly 20 years as a public servant in the Lands Division and a period involving land economy in the private sector.

On the question of retirement activities, he said: "When you mention retirement the question is always asked, 'what are you going to do?'"

"I have no hesitation in saying that I am looking forward to reducing my golf handicap, revisiting my swimming days and enjoying some travelling."

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

Help Keep Christianity Alive in the Land of Christ's Birth

The Holy Father's concern for the Christian presence in the Holy Land and Middle East led him to call on the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) to prioritise support for a Church that is "threatened in its very existence". Benedict's XVI's plea for the faithful in the Middle East follows an upsurge of anti-Christian fundamentalism, which has helped cause a mass exodus from the region.

Among the places worst affected is the Holy Land, where the number of Christians has dwindled to barely 150,000. Over the past 60 years, the percentage of Christians in Bethlehem has plummeted from 85% of the population to only 12%. In Jerusalem the figure has fallen from 20% to just 1.1%. What would Christmas Day at the birthplace of Christ be like if the faithful were no longer there to gather, worship and celebrate?

Please help us to sustain the 'living stones' - the faithful themselves - who walk the lands Christ knew so well, otherwise Christianity worldwide runs the risk of losing this first-hand witness and the Holy Places simply becoming museums for tourists to visit.

Your donation will help ACN's projects to support the faithful in the Cradle of Christianity. These include support for priests, religious and lay people, offering subsistence help to refugees and building and repairing churches and convents. Help is also given to crucial media projects aimed to promote the message of Christ.

A beautiful set of six handcrafted Christmas tree ornaments, made of olive wood in Bethlehem, will be sent to all those who give a donation of \$15.00 or more to help this campaign.

Please tick the box below if you would like to receive the Christmas tree ornaments*.



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



Donation Form: Help Keep Christianity Alive in the Land of Christ's Birth

Send To: Aid to the Church in Need, PO Box 6245 Blacktown DC NSW 2148
Phone/Fax No: (02) 9679-1929 E-mail: info@aidtochurch.org Web: www.aidtochurch.org

I/We enclose \$..... to help keep Christianity alive in the land of Christ's birth.

☐ **Yes please send me the set of 6 Christmas tree ornaments***

Made from olive wood, this delightful set of hand carved ornaments is powerfully evocative of Christ's birthplace, The Christmas tree ornaments are lovingly, handcrafted by families in need in Bethlehem and your donation helps them survive.



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

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Exp. Date ____/____/____ Signature

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Sr/Rev

Address

.....Postcode

Ph Email

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

By Fr Peter Day

The small room is bulging with people. Some are on chairs, some on the floor; while others straddle the staircase. The air reeks of body odour and cigarette smoke. The priest sits on a tired, dirty sofa and shares a laugh with those near him, while the house dog rests comfortably under the altar: a low lying wooden coffee table.

Mass is about to begin at Cana: a community house in inner-city, Sydney that offers prayer, support and friendship to people on the margins. It is always a special occasion, too, because it is one of those rare moments when the Eucharist is indeed a banquet for all: the homeless mentally ill, university graduates, pimps, religious, addicts, professional types, street workers, students, seminarians, and anyone else so inclined.

(Mass at Cana - August 1991)

It was at Cana where I first met Dennis Kearney: a truly princely man whose battle with mental illness led him to the misery of asylums, the streets, and hostels for the lonely.

Mr Kearney was tall and thin, at least six foot three; and a two-pack-a-day smoker. He walked with a confident, elongated gait, and spoke the Queen's English as it should be; "proper like". He enjoyed a truly catholic faith, spending time on Methodist, Baptist, Anglican, Salvation Army, Catholic, and Evangelical pews throughout the city. He was especially fond of the Mass.

He loved clothes. It was unusual to see him without a combination of hat and tie and jacket; sometimes the tie was replaced by a cravat; and he always tried to wear nice trousers. But rarely did he wear anything new; the cigarette budget made sure of that. So he tended to be a clothing horse for unwanted hand-me-downs that he picked up from a small clothing room located on the ground floor of his hostel: a three-storey monstrosity with 80-odd rooms for homeless men, mostly alcoholics, run by St Vincent de Paul. And while his second-hand ensembles tended to be messy mix-and-match affairs featuring zipper-less trousers, stained shirts, and shoes that allowed toes to be seen; what he wore, he wore proudly, regally.

He loved animals. His face would always light up when a dog, or cat, or guinea pig allowed him some patting time. Hello beautiful creature; it's good to be with you, his eyes would sing.

He loved plants. I remember walking back to Surry Hills with him from a funeral at St John's Church, Kings

A prince of the church

Cross; normally a leisurely 15 minutes walk, but on this occasion 45. Every hundred or so metres we would stop while Mr Kearney stroked a plant as though he was greeting a friend; all the while sharing with me its common and Latin names, its origins, and what climate best suited its thriving.

He loved people; but he wasn't sentimental or outwardly affectionate - except towards animals and plants, of course. Rather, it was the way he wore humility and dignity and silence and suffering that belied a deep respect for others, for life. Every so often when I was on duty at St Canice's soup kitchen, he would come in and, without saying a word, pull out from his coat pockets a couple of bread rolls. It was his way of thanksgiving; and what better way than an offering of bread.

While my encounters with him tended to be fleeting at best, with very few words spoken other than pleasantries; there was never any prolonged conversation; I don't think I've held anyone in such high regard, and I don't know why. I really loved him. He was a holy man.

Every now and then I look back fondly on a brief 18 months period in which I occupied a space at Mr Kearney's hostel. I used to earn my keep by cleaning some of the rooms, his included. Vacuuming his floor, clearing out his ash tray, and making his bed became a sacred ritual for me; something akin to washing the feet of a teacher.

It all seems rather strange; this admiration; and I'm loath to project sentimentalism. I can only turn to an old spiritual director of mine to make sense of it all. He once told me that he would often imagine Jesus wandering the streets disguised in rags, as if to test our humanity. "The question then is," he mused out loud; "How in my life have I greeted this hobo?"

I have no doubt that Jesus would have been very comfortable wandering the streets in Mr Kearney's skin. I think this is why I loved him so.

Why protect human life?

The Catholic Church is widely recognised for its consistently strong advocacy of the right to life. What does this mean in practice? How can the right to life be best protected amid the practical realities that Catholics face today? In this article, the Catholic Social Justice Commission for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn addresses these questions.



Australian community, at least in principle if not always in practice.

In relation to abortion, however, the Church's stance is at odds with prevailing attitudes.

Catholics face a difficult dilemma in considering how we should respond publicly to the issue.

Do we demand legislation that completely prohibits abortions? If not, do we insist on an end to public funding of abortions through Medicare and hospital services?

Or do we accept that neither of these options is politically realistic, at least in the short term, and, therefore, look for strategies that will minimise the extent of abortion in the community?

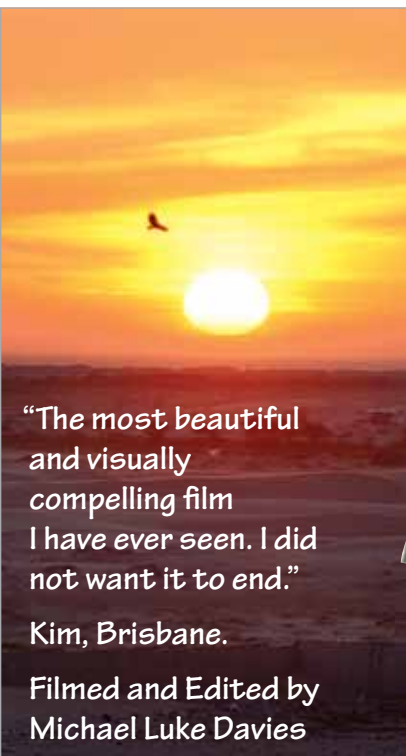
There are risks in taking the politically realistic path. It can easily be mistaken for surrender of the basic principle that each and every unborn child has the right to live.

Just the same, most Catholics in public life choose political realism. In doing so, they are duty bound to say explicitly that they are not abandoning unborn children, but are simply seeking strategies that will minimise the number of abortions.

It can be argued that nothing short of a complete ban on abortions or the withdrawal of all public funding of abortions is morally defensible.

The end-result of taking such a position, however, could well be the loss of any opportunities to achieve changes that will reduce, if not eliminate, the risks to the life of the unborn. That has, undoubtedly, been a critical factor in dissuading Catholic law-makers from proposing such prohibitions.

* The Catholic Social Justice Commission is seeking to establish a Building Bridges not Walls sub-committee to follow-up on the workshop it ran in response to the Australian bishops' social justice statement on prisons and the justice system, and to seek to apply the statement in the Archdiocese. Anyone interested in joining the sub-committee should contact the commission, telephone 6235 5452 or e-mail: csjc@cg.catholic.org.au.



TYBURN CONVENT



GLORIA DEO
A Film Documentary

A unique inside portrait of the world of the Tyburn Nuns.

"This film takes you into another realm..."

What is life in a cloistered Benedictine community really like? Let the Tyburn Nuns take you to their 9 monasteries around the world. Witness the nuns' holy life of prayer and work, centred on the Eucharist, in this remarkable film.

ORDER ONLINE:

www.tyburnconvent.org.uk
or send cheque/money order for \$25 payable to:

Tyburn Priory
325 Garfield Road East
RIVERSTONE NSW 2765

Name

Address

.....

.....



Toscan • Dinn
FUNERALS

simple • honest • dignified

Liardet Street, Weston
Phone 6287 3466



Pre-paid funerals available
www.toscandinn.com.au

Battle to keep love and faith alive

It's not easy to sustain love, at least not with constant emotional fervour.

Misunderstandings, irritations, tiredness, jealousies, hurt, temperamental differences, the familiarity that breeds contempt, and simple boredom invariably chip away at our emotional and affective edges and, soon enough, fervor gives way to routine, the groove becomes the rut, and love seems to disappear.

But we can easily misread this.

First off, just because the surface of a relationship seems clouded with misunderstanding, irritation, and hurt doesn't mean we don't love each other.

Love sits at a place beneath the ebb and flow of irritation and boredom. You can be willing to die for someone, even as at that very moment you are seething with anger at him or her.

John Shea, in the brilliant series of homilies published through Liturgical Press, gives us a wonderful example of this.

He shares the story of a woman who took in her aging mother to help her while she was recovering from a stroke. The daughter was painstakingly attentive to her mother's

every need; yet, at a point, a dreadful fight broke out - over a trivial incident regarding a hard-boiled egg.

In the middle of their war of words, the mother asked her daughter: "Why are you doing all of this for me anyway?"

Her daughter responded by listing her reasons: "I was afraid for her; I wanted to get her well; I felt maybe I'd ignored her when I was younger. I needed to show her I was strong. I needed to get her ready to go home alone; old age, and on and on. I was amazed myself. I could have gone on giving reasons all night. Even she was impressed."

"Junk," she said when I was done.

"Junk?" I yelled. Like, boy, she'd made a real mistake with that remark.

"Yes, junk," she said again, but a little more quietly. And that little more-more-quiet tone got me.

"And she went on: 'You don't have to have all those reasons. We love each other. That's enough.'"

Irritation, anger, and boredom within a relationship do not necessarily mean that love has died, as this story illustrates.

Ron Rolheiser

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



Love rests at a deeper place. But how do we touch that place inside less-than-idyllic feelings?

We do it through ritual. Our lives together within every kind of community are sustained by small and big rituals that keep us together, keep us respectful, and let us wait in patience throughout the ups and downs of shared life.

For example; sometimes we greet each other with real warmth and sometimes our greetings barely mask our irritation or boredom. But, we still greet each other.

Saying "Good morning" is a ritual act, an important one. It says that we love and care for each other, even when that isn't exactly what we may be feeling on a given day.

That's also true of the perfunctory peck on the cheek as we greet or say goodbye, the ritual hug, the sign of peace in our churches, and (especially) our commitment to sit down with each other at regular times for meals and other get-to-gathers.

These are important rituals that say with our action and our commitment what our feelings sometimes cannot say, namely: "I love you! I'm here for you, even when we are both too tired, too over-familiar with each other, too pre-occupied and busy, and too irritated by our differences to feel much fervour in our love at this moment."

Ritual speaks for love, even as it needs always to be undergirded by love.

The same holds true for faith. In faith, just as in love, there is a surface and there is an undergirding.

The deeper reality is in the undergirding and we should be prepared for lots of shifting ground on the surface.

In our faith journey, there will be moments of fervour, of emotional warmth, of warm security; but there will also be periods, long periods, sometimes bitter ones, where on the

surface we will feel only dryness, boredom, a sense of God's absence, and perhaps even a positive distaste for the things of God and faith.

This doesn't necessarily mean we lack effort or that we are suffering in our faith from the familiarity that breeds contempt.

We can, as Chesterton classically suggested, try to look at things familiar until they look unfamiliar again, but that won't, as the mystics assure us, always cure the problem.

Faith, like love, needs to be sustained through ritual, through ritual acts that let our commitment and our action say what we cannot always say in our words and our feelings.

And our faith tradition provides these rituals for us: reading the scriptures, participating in the Eucharist, praying the office of the Church, praying the rosary, praying from various kinds of prayer books, sitting in silent centering prayer, and, most important of all, simply showing up regularly for church.

All of these say what the woman whose story we shared said to her daughter: "Beneath all this, we love each other. That's enough!"

Of theology, team work and touch football

By Bernadette Ramsey*

Growing up on a cattle property in Central Queensland, it is a wonder I ended up on the Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) team in the Archdiocese.

But the Lord does work in mysterious ways, and I know that I was meant to experience this year of being on the team.

I was asked to write this article about something I'm passionate about.

First and foremost I'd say the Catholic faith is central to my existence, and following on from that, I love playing touch football, and I have enjoyed being challenged this year on the team to live in community and evangelise.

Since I left school, I have lived in six different places, had eight jobs, and started two degrees.

My interests are so broad that I've had ideas of becoming a jillaroo, chef, surfer, den-

tist; you name it, I've thought about it.

I'm hoping after this year to continue studying and become a high school teacher.

I've always questioned my purpose and what I'm supposed to do with my life.

However, there's one thing I've always been certain of, and that is my Catholic faith.

In the Catholic faith it is a blessing to know that, through my obedience to the Magisterium of the Church, I am guaranteed a place with the saints in heaven.

This certainty allows me to trust in God, learn more about my faith, and to remember that my purpose in life is to serve God in all that I do, no matter what that is.

In this year serving on the CYM team, I have been able to live this out.

Our day consists of starting Divine Office at 6am, doing a half an hour of team

Changing our world



Each month we focus on the views of a young person and what he or she sees as an important issue of the day

prayer, heading to Mass at 7, breakfast, and starting our work day at 8 (either in our office or on a retreat day at a school).

At 4pm we have an hour of personal prayer, exercise at 5, and dinner at 6.

We have some free time in the evenings and on the weekends; our days are very full.

Previous to being on the team, I did not have a full understanding of what it meant to live in community, nor had I actively gone out to evangelise people.

These two things have provided a great challenge to me.

Firstly, while I have lived with people before, living in community is more than that - it is about challenging myself and others, and being challenged by others, to grow in faith and virtue.

Conflict is never easy, however, in a loving environment, it is more about encouragement rather than confrontation.

The second challenge this year has been to actively evangelise the young people in our diocese.

I have always had the doubting Thomas attitude and thought that no one wants to hear about religion; they will just mock me.

I have been surprised time and again at the positive responses of students throughout the diocese to hearing the Good News.

It reminds me every time that, of course, God is calling each one of us!

This experience has made me less timid in sharing what I believe with those around me.

The last thing I'm passionate about is playing touch football. I have found this a very useful tool to have in youth ministry in a twofold sense.

Firstly, as a female, not many people expect much in terms of being able to play footy. So, when lunchtime arrives and we go onto the field, I feel that the level of respect that the students have for me increases a fair amount.

The second, and perhaps more important, factor, is that it proves to them that I am just a normal person - I go about my daily activities, I love sport, I'm from the country, I have many interests, and in all of these things I also love God. I believe this speaks volumes to the students.

This year has deepened my faith, and equipped me with many tools so that I can continue my faith journey with confidence.

* Bernadette is 22, the fourth oldest of nine children, grew up on a cattle property in Central Queensland, loves sports. She has lived in Sydney, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Tannum Sands, and Biloela before joining the CYM team in Goulburn.

A thinking sports movie

Moneyball. Starring Brad Pitt, Jonah Hill, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Robin Wright, and Christ Pratt. 133 minutes. M (Coarse language). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan*.

Based on a 2003 book called *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game* by Michael Lewis, this film tells the story of the Oakland Athletic baseball team, and its manager, Billy Beane (Brad Pitt).

Billy hires a numbers man, Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), who is an economics graduate from Yale University, to help him rebuild the team. Brand advocates the unusual strategy of mathematically analysing players in ways that have not been done before, and he uses statistical analysis to capitalise on the team's strengths.

The method brought the Oakland team to a series of 20 winning games in a row, and came to revolutionise the way America thought about baseball.

The film's focus on method essentially makes it a thinking movie. The underdog team succeeds against all expectation, and shows that there is a rational path to doing very well. The film is not

just a sports movie. It combines intelligence with play, and the story aims to counter the common conception that money is always needed to buy the best players.

It is rescued from obscurity by the wider issues that it raises, its overall quality, and the impressive acting of its cast. It is hard these days for Brad Pitt to turn in a poor performance, and he excels in the role of Billy Beane.

With the focus on how statistics can shape success, the question to ask about the movie is whether it loses, or maintains, the thrill of the sport.

The film never loses the sense of a team pulling together for a purpose, and illustrates effectively how determination and intelligence can win the day.

The film has a lot of positive messages, has tight scripting and editing behind it, and has the added advantage of containing minimal sex and hardly any drinking, which is unusual for a lot of sports movies. Also, there are no drug peddling, assaults, or graphic violence.

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

SHORTS

Santa's Apprentice. Animation film voiced by Shane Jacobsen, Magda Szubanski, Delta Goodrem, Hugh Sheridan, Georgie Parker and Max Cullen. 80 minutes. G (General audience).

A Christmas story for very young audiences (and not too long for parents and grandparents). Easy to look at animation. Santa has a time limit on his role and must train an apprentice. The message is obviously, be good, be kind – and look what happens when you are!

The Debt. Starring Helen Mirren, Jessica Chastain, Sam Worthington, Marton Csokas, Tom Wilkinson, Ciaran Hinds, and Jesper Christensen. 93 minutes. M (Mature themes and violence).

Drama-thriller remake of the 2007 Israeli film of the same name. The plot twists and turns,

but the film maintains tension as an intelligent espionage thriller that poses significant moral questions. Backed by a stellar cast.

The Orator. Starring Faafiala Sagote, Tausili Pushparaj, and Salamasina Mataia. 106 minutes. PG (Mild themes and coarse language).

The first feature film made entirely in Samoa to be released. A rhythmic, beautiful film, which conveys unique insights into a rich and appealing culture. Family drama that highlights traditional aspects of Samoan culture, but also some of the conflicts associated with contemporary life.

This is not a Film. Documentary. 75 minutes. G (General audience).

"This is not a film" has to be the title of this home movie because respected Iranian director Jafar Panahi has been sentenced to six years in jail and forbidden to make a film for 20 years.

Explore providence of God

Divine Providence in the Bible. Meeting the Living and True God. Volume 11: New Testament. By John H Wright. Paulist Press, 2010,. 304 pages, PB, \$44.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

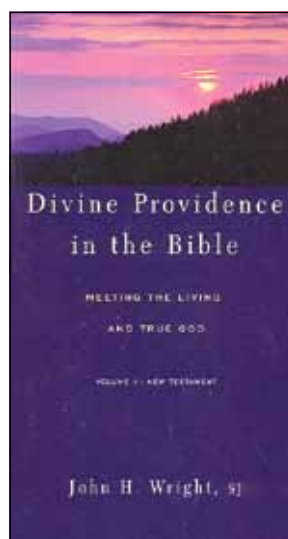
Some days, when the family is fractious, colleagues are tetchy and politics depressing, it's important to remember who we are as Christians, and so, as recipients of "the providence of God".

Hopefully we've heard about it before (and experienced it) and it can become even more precious and appreciated on reflection.

God's providence is explored through the New Testament writings, with chapters on Mark/Matthew, Luke/Acts, John, Paul, other Letters and the Book of Revelation.

The author approaches each via the lens of the nature of God (as loving, wise, faithful, generous, powerful, forgiving, judging, inviting, merciful, gracious...) and God's purpose in the world.

Wright pays particular attention to the divine-human interaction: God's initiative, the



human response (loving acceptance, indifference, resistance or outright rejection) and God's response to humans' response.

Jesuit priest John Wright was past president of the US Catholic Theological Society, lecturer and author.

Volume 1 of this series focussed on the providence of God in the Hebrew scriptures. This second volume was published posthumously.

The book doesn't assume great knowledge of scripture, explains major issues clearly and in detail and provides a helpful overview

of the NT writings.

It's comforting, somewhat provocative and challenges the Augustinian view of divine providence.

Will goodness really triumph? How does God respond to prayer?

Does God permit suffering for the sake of conversion?

Can evil serve God's purpose? Is the divine plan flexible? Aah! Read on!

Age and the meaning of life

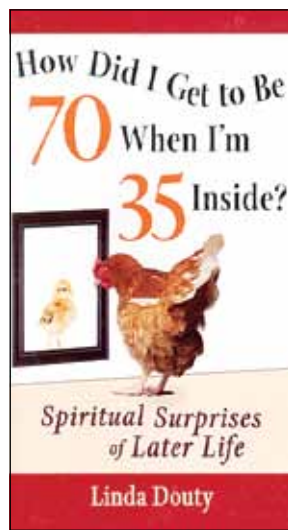
How Did I Get to Be 70 When I'm 35 Inside? Spiritual Surprises of Later Life. By Linda Douty. SkyLight Paths Publishing, 2011, 183 pages, \$21.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Recently I was on a bus catching up on some reading when an elegant woman in the seat across the aisle caught my eye, chuckled and said, "Been there, done that".

She was referring to the title of this book.

We chatted for a while and later I realised that my companion epitomised the message that Linda Douty, author and spiritual director, so clearly advocates - how to find meaning in your later years.

This is a beautiful, beautiful book and a joy to read. Douty discusses the challenges and surprises of aging by talking about how you actually feel, not what you're supposed to feel.



With great wisdom, humour and honesty, she looks at surprises, welcome and unwelcome, which concern self-image, the physical body, relationships and spiritual life.

She incorporates dozens of responses from the seniors she has interviewed (and there were some surprises there too!).

These give real authenticity to her spiritually grounded method on how to adjust to the unexpected as you/we grow older.

Perhaps this quote from the introduction sums up the content most succinctly: "No one has ever

won the fierce battle against aging, though many a skirmish has been fought. But the meaning emerges and the fun begins when you put down your sword."

Thank you, Linda. Now I'm off to compile my bucket list.

CATHOLIC VOICE

Share yours with a friend

Marriage, warts and all

marriage 911: How God Saved Our Marriage (and can save yours too!). By Greg and Julie Alexander. Servant Books, 2011, 129 pages, \$21.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Greg and Julie Alexander are members of the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers, an American organisation, and are trained as marriage coaches. They have been married for over 20 years and have seven children. They declare they are more in love today than ever. With this background one could reasonably expect they would know how to make marriage work.

Yet some years ago, in a loveless joyless marriage, this couple found themselves on the brink of divorce. They tell the story of their relationship warts and all (and there are plenty of those) from the time they first met until they consulted a faithful priest

about an annulment. Instead, he unexpectedly challenged them to seek out the Church's teaching on marriage.

Bit by bit they turned their lives around, quit their jobs and put all their business and communications acumen into a non-profit apostolate dedicated to the education and enrichment of marriage and family life. They are great believers in seeking forgiveness through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Their candour takes a bit of getting used to but there is no denying their courage, their trust in God and in their dedication to the cause.

Their book sets out what they teach in their seminars and in their meetings with couples.

They write primarily for those who recognise they need help with "how to do this marriage thing".n readers.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Sunday 25 December 2011

Indulge in style and celebrate a traditional Australian Christmas lunch at one of our Canberra Southern Cross Club venues.

Choose from a lavish three or four-course lunch in a sophisticated festive atmosphere, take the family to enjoy a buffet of succulent roast cuts finished with pudding and brandy custard or enjoy a stunning three-course meal overlooking dazzling water views at our Lotus Bay Restaurant on Lake Burley Griffin.



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
To download our menus visit csc.com.au
*Full payment required at time of booking.



PREGNANCY SUPPORT ACT
Client Based Counselling 8am-10pm
6247 5050
For appointment **6249 1779**
FREE CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE
www.pregnancysupport-act.com

Jo.Hall
H A I R

02 6257 9111
GAREMA CENTRE UPSTAIRS

Searching for way through the morass Cultivate the joy of living

Remaining a Catholic after the Murphy Report. By Kevin Egan. The Columba Press, 2011, 168 pages, \$22.95.

Why Be A Catholic? By Mark Dooley. Burns & Oates, 2011, 126 pages, \$21.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

The Murphy Report was published in Ireland following investigations into the clerical child sexual abuse crisis there.

Dr Kevin Egan is the head of behavioural sciences at All Hallows College, Dublin University. He has researched and taught on the topic of clergy sexual abuse since the mid-'90s and has worked clinically with both victims and perpetrators.

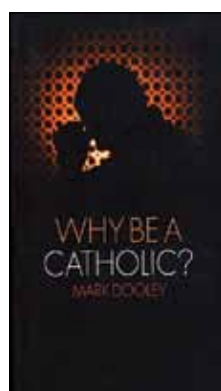
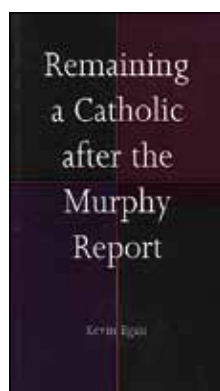
His book is addressed to ordinary decent Catholics, to those hanging on by a thread and to those who believe the Church still has a positive role in society.

It is a sobering, quite confronting read. Egan addresses three key questions. What happened? Why did it happen? Where do we go from here?

He outlines the findings in the Murphy Report, the responses made by local church leaders and by the Vatican. The report itself is not included. He explores factors that led to the Catholic Church's attempt to conceal the scandal.

Systematically he shows how a clerical culture which put the protection of the institution before the protection of victims contributed to the cover-up. He states that reform of that culture is essential.

Now the Church is faced with a crisis of credibility and a sense of spiritual loss. He describes credibility as a



gift from the people to church leadership, and that gift has been withdrawn. This is but one example of his claims that challenge the status quo.

Egan believes the resolution of the sexual abuse crisis will largely depend on the laity. They are central to changing the clergy culture. They need first to become adults. Now the question arises: How can we create an environment that allows the laity to become adult?

Egan has quite clearly thought deeply about these and other issues so he offers a way through the morass. His is a pastoral as well as clinical approach. He writes tellingly of the necessity to facilitate healing and forgiveness. He clarifies the essential steps to achieving both.

He taps in to writing and research from many sources including that of our own Archbishop Coleridge. His focus is primarily on Ireland but he refers to similar instances and statistics from other countries. Much of his research can be applied here as well.

The church community is grieving and this must be addressed.

Dr Egan has written a reasoned compassionate book. He is an author experienced and well-informed in his analysis of the abuse crisis and of its consequences for those remaining Catholic today. It demands careful reflective reading and a considered response. There is still much work to be done.

On the same topic, but with a vastly different viewpoint, is Mark Dooley's book *Why Be A Catholic?*

Dooley is a philosopher, academic, journalist and broadcaster. He is also from Ireland.

He makes a plea for a reform in seminary training with an emphasis on personal holiness and the priest seeing himself as another Christ. He believes that, since Vatican 2, the Catholic world has lost sight of what is distinctive in the liturgy.

He calls it squandering their precious heritage. He states quite strongly that the antidote to the crisis in Catholicism can be found in liturgical renewal, particularly of the Mass. By this he means a return to beauty - rich vestments, ageless hymns, incense, emphasis on the awe and reverence experienced by the apostles on Mt Tabor.

Dooley has a distinctive, almost lyrical manner of writing. He piles many issues about sacramental celebrations into his own particular barrow and pushes it with evangelical vigour. Two books, two voices. Undoubtedly, there will be more to come on this subject.

The Secret Garden of Spirituality: Reflections on Faith, Life and Education. By Ann Rennie. Michelle Anderson Publishing, 2011, 264 pages, \$24.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

I've encountered Ann Rennie's writing previously in such publications as Australian Catholics, Kairos and her blogs on CathNews.

The Secret Garden of Spirituality is a compilation of some of these previous articles in addition to new contributions.

It is not chronological but a series of reflections drawn from Rennie's experiences of family, her faith and her work as a teacher.

Rennie has grouped them under the headings of the four seasons. This resonates as each section has its own seasonal flavour and references.

Those familiar with Melbourne will smile as they recognise certain haunts and rituals of that city, like going to the footy or repeated summer holidays in Sorrento.

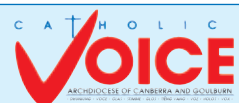
Rennie's writing is luscious but never saccharine. At times we LOL (laugh out loud) at her capacity to poke gentle fun at herself and others.

For example, her description of the compiling of end-of-year school reports is hilarious - and so true!

This book is a delight for the reader to ponder and to feel renewed. It is a pick up and put down book to mine as the mood takes you.

It is infused throughout with the joy of living in this complex and wonderful world.

That marvellous author, Michael McGirr, describes it as a feast for the soul.



CATHOLIC VOICE Yours FREE every month.

Reap the rewards of time out

A Retreat with Thomas Merton. By Esther de Waal. 3rd Edition. John Garratt Publishing, 2010, PB, 114 pages, \$24.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Is silence, real silence, frightening or exhilarating, familiar or foreign, centring or eccentric? Or many of these and more?

Thomas Merton believed that prayer takes time. We need to slow down, stay alert, keep still and let God do some work in us. "Everything

has been given to us in Christ. All we need to do is to experience what we already possess... If we give it time, it will make itself known to us."

Not all of us can spend time at retreat houses, but we may choose to spend a week, or a morning for seven weeks, to reap the soul delight and enriching of human and divine relationships that time out can bring.

Merton also used photography to explore silence, and a number of his images are reproduced in the book.

Esther de Waal, herself a spiritual author of some note, has prepared a seven-day DIY retreat, using thematic snippets from many of Merton's writings, integrating them into a prayerful and coherent presentation. The dual focus she chose was the road of discipleship and the quest for continual transformation.

The seven chapter titles provide an overview of the retreat's scope: the Call; Response; the Solitary Within; Encounter with Christ; the Demands of Love; Common, Natural and Ordinary; Integration.

De Waal provides suggestions as to how a retreat might be approached, and describes something of Fr Merton's journey from artistic background with early life in Europe and America with no traditional religion, through parties, girlfriends and politics, to his being drawn to Christ and his life as a Cistercian monk, when he became a prolific spiritual writer, and was open to the insights of other spiritual traditions.

This valuable book is very readable and provides insights into Merton's considerable spiritual heritage and would be invaluable as a retreat source.

WODEN CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

A great variety of Advent calendars, Christmas cards, nativities and a wide range of gifts are in stock now, as well as music, books, pictures, rosaries and jewellery.

Come in and browse, or enquire by phone or email.

Open 9am-5.30pm
Monday to Friday,
10am-3pm Saturdays
(closed on public holidays)

Bus Interchange, Woden ACT 2606
Ph: 6285 1425 Fax: 6281 0849
Email: wcb@cyberone.com.au
Web: www.wcb.org.au/wcb.org.au

CATHOLIC BOOKSHOP

Before you go anywhere else come in and see our wide range of nativity sets this Christmas

Also, speciality Christmas cards, El Salvadorian decorations, Murano glass bracelets and Vatican Collection jewellery

Free 30 minute car parking out front off Cooyong Street.

Favier House 51 Cooyong St Braddon. GPO BOX 3089 Canberra ACT 2601
Telephone 02 6201 9888 Fax: 02 6262 7560 Email: bookshop@cg.catholic.org.au
Open weekdays 9.30am-5pm, Saturdays 9am-1pm

Irish priests owed an 'unpayable debt'

Fr William Joseph Crahan

A generation of Irish priests who came to serve in Australia were owed an unpayable debt of gratitude, Archbishop Mark Coleridge said at the funeral of one such priest, Fr Bill Crahan.

A concelebrated funeral Mass for Fr Crahan was held at St Augustine's Church, Yass, where he was parish priest for 14 years before he retired in 2002. He was buried in the grounds of St Augustine's.

Fr Crahan, who was 84, was the second last

survivor of a contingent of Irish priests who came to the Archdiocese after World War 2.

"There was much about him that was typical of a certain generation of Irish priests," Archbishop Coleridge said.

"They could be clan-nish; they could hard to read; they could be severe; but they were faithful pastors, men with hearts of gold and deep faith beneath an at times crusty exterior.

"As we bury the second last of these men today, I am conscious that we owe them an



unpayable debt of gratitude."

Archbishop Coleridge said it was "strangely right that we bury Fr Bill in

Yass – not only because this was his last parish before retirement, but also because this was one of the truly seminal places in the story of the Church in this part of the world.

"Here was the epicentre of the Yass mission, which stretched way down to Port Philip; from here, priests – most of them Irish-born and most of them young – rode out untold miles through the bush to serve their people.

"They were not always easy characters, but they were devoted pastors. Bill didn't ride out through the bush on a horse, but

he did ply the highway in a modest car, doing what his Irish forebears had done on the Yass mission, ministering to his people in ways made possible by the faith of the Irish people and the traditions of the Irish priesthood.

"The kind of priesthood that Fr Bill Crahan embodied is passing or has already passed.

"But we can only hope that the seed we plant in burying him in Yass will yield in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn a harvest of pastors of a different kind

but no less faithful than Bill Crahan."

Born in Wilkinstown, Navan, Co Meath, he was ordained on 28 February, 1953, in the Basilica of St John Lateran, Rome.

His first position in Australia was as assistant priest at Temora in 1954.

He went on to serve at Boorowa, Crookwell, Young, Bega, Pambula, Gunning, Goolagong and Braidwood. He was appointed parish priest at Delegate in 1970 and moved to Jugiong, Gundagai, North Goulburn and finally Yass.

Sister shared gift of music

Sr M Oliver RSJ

Sr M Oliver RSJ (Casey), who excelled as a pianist, singer and violinist, died peacefully at Goulburn Base Hospital aged 90.

Sr M Oliver was born at Narrandera to Oliver and Theresa (nee Storrier). Her sister Kit predeceased her. She entered the convent on 19 March, 1939.

She grew up in Narrandera where the poet John O'Brien (Fr Patrick Hartigan) was her parish priest, and where music, singing and poetry were a part of life. Narrandera, she once said, "was a wonderful place for music".

She became an accomplished music teacher across Wagga Wagga Diocese and the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

A report in the Narrandera Argus in 1995 says that "as a Sister of St Joseph she joined the legion of music-teaching nuns who imparted their talents to generations of children in Catholic schools across the Riverina".

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Our Lady of Dolours Chapel, St Joseph's Convent, North Goulburn. Chief celebrant was Bishop Pat Power, assisted by Fr Michael Lim, Fr Laurie Bent, Fr Henry Byrne, Fr Phil Harding and Fr Doug George.

Sr M Oliver was buried in the sisters' section of St Patrick's Cemetery, Kenmore.

She will be remembered as a gracious lady, and a woman of deep faith and trust in God.



A good man who cared greatly

Fr John Jude Eddy SJ

Jesuit academic Fr John Eddy, who died last month, was described as a man who never attempted everything but who did achieve much, while encouraging thousands of others in their quest for a happier, more ethical and beautiful future.

In his homily at the funeral Mass in St Christopher's Cathedral, Fr Frank Brennan SJ said Fr Eddy was one who relished the pastoral and intellectual dimensions of life, "one for whom memory, reflection and truth were so cultivated as to be commonplace, one whose private party included all of us as guests invited to the banquet of the Lord."

Each gave thanks for the privilege of sharing his delight "in the journey through coffee shops, bookshops, music stores, opera theatres, lecture halls and clubs culminating always at the table of the Lord, at the banquet where Jesus assures us Yes my yoke is easy and my burden light".

On the Feast of All Saints and Blesseds of the Society of Jesus, his local Jesuit community had joined close friends and family gathered at his bedside at Clare Holland House.

"Though he spent almost 40 years here in Canberra, he said he had been a missionary all his life – a missionary of God's love, privileged to share that love intimately with so many people especially in the national capital at the most difficult and celebrated moments of their lives."

Twenty four hours before his death he was visited by an array of people including those who had occupied the



offices of Prime Minister and Chief Justice, Fr Brennan said.

Former Governor-General Sir William Deane sent a message from overseas saying, "He was a truly good man who cared greatly about the things that matter."

Fr Brennan said Fr Eddy knew there were times to speak and times to be silent; but behind the scenes he was always an encourager.

"To one of you, he wrote recently: 'Once again congratulations on your perspicacity, enterprising mind, probing spirit and sheer guts!'

"You may sometimes feel that our frail world is spinning uneasily to disasters of our own making. But in my humble opinion you have pulled much more than your weight in the effort to serve your fellow creatures and enable us to work together towards a happier, more ethical and beautiful future by the grace of a Designer who has given us so much potential and free choice in our brief mortal life."

Fr Brennan said Fr Eddy was very proud of the course he designed at the

ANU entitled "The Peopling of Australia since 1788".

"He grew increasingly agitated about our treatment of those fleeing to our shores seeking asylum," he said.

"In his last published utterance he wrote: 'The schemes of various governments which brought thousands of unaccompanied minors to Australia may have been well-meant, even strictly speaking legal.

"But we, (and especially religious orders and ngos) surely must exercise great moral caution before falling into the trap of supporting modern equivalents, no matter how insistent political vote-catchers may urge them for perceived electoral advantage.

"People 'smuggling' may be reprehensible or necessary, depending on circumstances, but it at least responds to the asylum seekers' wishes. People 'trafficking' consists in forcibly taking innocents where they do not wish to go."

"Usually these remarks from John passed under the public radar."

Though spending most of his Jesuit life in Canberra, Fr Eddy experienced his missionary call to the frontiers.

"His life of the mind, his infectious sociability, and his delight in all human achievement from a faultless tennis backhand to a spine-tingling opera aria by Joan Sutherland made him open to possibilities well beyond his own comfort zone and competencies," Fr Brennan said.

The traditional "Month's Mind" Mass for Fr Eddy will be held at Xavier House, 122 Empire Circuit, Yarralumla, at 6pm on Tuesday, 6 December. All welcome.

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

CATHOLIC VOICE
ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN
Yours FREE every month.

Ray Toohey CPA
and Financial Adviser Services Pty Ltd
are Authorised Representatives of
GWM Adviser Services trading as
GARVAN Financial Planning
ABN 96 002 071 749
Australian Financial Services Licensee
RETIREMENT PLANNING • SUPERANNUATION
LIFESTYLE PROTECTION • INVESTMENT ADVICE
COUNTRY & RURAL CONSULTING
Phone (02) 6254 8000 Toll Free 1800 814 447 Fax (02) 6254 8111

DICKSON LEGAL
INCORPORATING TREVOR BARKER & ASSOCIATES
General law practice –
Canberra & NSW
Three generations of service to Canberra
and the surrounding regions.
PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR – TREVOR BARKER
PH: 02 6248 8085
Second Floor, Dickson Chambers, Dickson Place
Dickson ACT 2602

@ Look@yourBooks
Bookkeeping Services
Registered BAS Agent
• Bookkeeping • Payroll
• GST/BAS/PAYG
• Financial Reporting
• MYOB professional partner
P: TINA 0417 221 706
ABN 80 684 016 769

Coming Events



ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT - St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Monday 8am-10pm, Tuesday noon-10pm, Wednesday and Thursday 1pm-10pm and Friday 7am- Saturday 8am.

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

CAROLS OF THE NATIONS - Everyone in Archdiocese invited by Archbishop Mark Coleridge to celebrate the spirit of Christmas, 2pm-4pm, 18 December, Archbishop's House. Parking and entry is via Albert Street, Commonwealth Park.

HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY - Meets every third Friday of month, 7.30pm, St John Vianney's, Waramanga. Secular Franciscans try to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis. Inquiries: Frank Farrell, telephone 6258 7645 or 0400 793 260.

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

MINISTRY to the NEWLY MARRIED - Mentoring program for newly married couples, just married or soon to be married. Next program starts February 2012. Inquiries: Vivien and Leigh and Debbie and Brian 6231 3389 (h) or 0414 878 167, e-mail: mnm@grapevine.com.au.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP - Meets second Friday of the month after 5.30 pm Healing Mass, parish centre St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah Inquiries: Maria, telephone 6286 5679.

REFLECTION ON BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - After 5.30 pm Mass, 8 December, at St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah.

SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA - Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, 6.10pm, Thursday, 8 December, followed by Christmas dinner at Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS - 5th annual New Year's Eve prayer vigil, from 8.30pm, Saturday, 31 December, St John the Apostle Church, cnr Blackham and Chave streets, Holt. Inquiries: Judy and Joe Mewburn, telephone 6254 6202.

Written entries are invited for the February 2012 issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Monday, 17 January. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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

Youth gather youth on the 'net

A year 9 student and parishioner of St Mary's, West Wyalong, is working on a project for young people to gather on the internet.

Three months ago, Brandon Wiencke, who attends West Wyalong High School and is a past student of St Mary's Primary School, shared an idea with parish priest Fr Mick MacAndrew that since many young Catholics were not coming to church, shouldn't the internet be used to keep them in touch.

Another parishioner and year 12 student Hannah Davidson contributed her ideas as well, that the outreach could offer friendship, inspiration and guidance to young Catholics of the district.

Fr MacAndrew received the go ahead from the parish pastoral council to research the ideas. Hannah and Brandon decided they would like to trial a Facebook page for a few months before constructing a parish youth web page.

A computer consultant from Wagga Wagga volunteered his services and came up with the plan to train Hannah, Brandon and another youth from the outlying Weethalle parish as managers, using iPad 2 Wi-Fi 3G devices. These iPads can connect directly to the internet as an expense for the parish project, rather than for their parents.

Each manager will be rostered on for two hours a week to manage the site and reply to members who join and take part.

Each participant will have to attain a cyber licence and sign a cyber responsibility contract, after taking part in workshops.



The first guest contributor to the project will be seminarian Trenton Van Reesch, who is studying in Rome and is eager to share his journey with young people.

Sponsorship was received from the Catholic development Fund and Fr Lachlan Coll and parishioners of St Anthony of Padua parish, Wanniasa.

Brandon and Hannah are conducting a competition to find a suitable logo and a name for their project. They may be contacted westernmission@internode.on.net

ABOVE: Brandon Wiencke receives a sponsorship letter from CDF manager Mr Victor Dunn.

Song amid the historic stones

Twenty-two members of the choir of St Francis Xavier's Church, Hall, travelled to Tumut and Adelong to sing at the historic St James' Church, Adelong.

They were responding to an invitation by parish co-ordinator Sr Carmel Piffero, RSJ, as a follow up to a previous outreach visit in 2009.

Last year, the choir had planned to visit as part of the celebrations by the Sisters of St Joseph for the canonisation of St Mary of the Cross, but severe flooding in Tumut and Adelong caused the visit to be cancelled.

St James' Church is steeped in history with the foundation stone laid on 4 July



1862, and blessed by Australia's first Catholic Archbishop John Bede Polding.

ABOVE: The choir outside the historic St James' Church, Adelong.

Inspiring stories behind a centenary

The centenary of Sacred Heart Church, Arian Park, was marked by recounting a remarkable history.

It was full of inspiring stories of generations of Catholics stretching back to 1867 when a small settlement began at the junction of the Cootamundra-Wagga Wagga-Narrandera roads.

Broken Dam moved in 1907 to the present Arian Park when the railway was built. The local non-Catholic publican bought the land in 1911 for his Catholic wife to



provide for the church, after the land owner had refused to sell "to those Catholics."

Ardlethan parish priest Fr Thomas Mullins was the first priest for Arian Park, which has never had a resident priest, convent or Catholic school. These facts were remarked on by Archbishop Mark Coleridge in his homily as indicative of many rural communities today.



At Christmas we celebrate God taking human form and ultimately sharing life, death and resurrection with us: sharing actively in Jesus' gifts and mission, encountering Jesus within us and in others, especially those in need.

Celebrating Jesus' birth makes poignant the fragility and dependant needs of children in particular. To such needs we are each called to respond, in Jesus' name, to effect positive change.

This year's Children's Mission Appeal is under way. Catholic Mission uses these funds to meet life's basic needs, such as access to clean water, medicine, food security, shelter, as well as education and ultimately a safe and better future for communities of young people throughout the world, whose very survival is a daily challenge.

Consider assisting children by becoming a Children's Mission Partner. Partners donate monthly and receive updates on projects. Please pray for these young people and their carers. Send your donation to us or contact us today to find out more. Thank you for your prayers, time and generosity. To all, a safe, happy and holy Christmas and a blessed 2012.

God bless,

Deacon Joe Blackwell

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



Yours FREE every month.

Share yours with a friend.

Classifieds & Real Estate

To Let - Coast

BEAUTIFUL BROULEE - Year round. Great family holiday home - sleeps up to 10 - 100m to beach and shops. Contact Melinda or Joyce, telephone 4471 6444, quote this ad and "Carey House" for a 10% discount off normal rates (excludes Christmas and Easter Holidays).

BROULEE - 2-bedroom beach cottage, fully equipped. Expansive coastal and sea views and short stroll to beaches. See "Beach Cottage" in www.brouleebeachhouse.com or telephone 0417 193 736.

BROULEE - Spectacular views near beach, 6-bedroom 3-bathroom house newly renovated. Telephone 6257 1222 www.brouleebeachhouse.com.

CURRARONG, JERVIS BAY - Fantastic house with 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and rumpus. Sleeping 14 it's ideal for 2 families to share. Stylishly redecorated mid 2010. 800m to beach. www.currarongbeachhouse.com.au.

MERIMBULA - Comfortable fsc 2 bedroom apartments on beautiful Merimbula Lake. Solar heated pool, tennis court, bbqs. Walk to town and beach. Reasonable rates. Telephone Matt at Lakeside 6495 1956.

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

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

To Let - Queensland

BROADBEACH - In the heart of the Gold Coast, close to Pacific Fair, Convention Centre and much more. Luxury, spacious, 2 bedroom apartment with modern facilities including pool, spa, sauna, gym, private cinema

and short walk to beach with restaurants at your door step. For more information and availability, please telephone 0411 504 013

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

Holidays

CONSIDER Elm Grove Mountain Retreat as a destination for a self directed retreat or relaxing affordable holiday. Log on to www.elmgrove-mountainretreat.com.au or telephone 6947 5888 for further details.

For Sale

KENWOOD Chef food mixer \$100, 6 months warranty. Sales, repairs and parts for TV microwave etc. Low prices with warranty. Buying Kenwood parts. Trade-in or free removal. Telephone John 6156 4009 anytime.

Tuition

SINGING - If you can talk you can sing. Lessons make singing easier. Experienced teacher. Varied styles: classical, sacred, musicals and popular. Telephone Rosemary 6297 2974 or 0414 228 618.

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, PS and TP. Petitions gained after saying this prayer.

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 thy 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. R S.

O HOLY St Jude Apostle and Martyr great in virtue, rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ. Faithful intercessor for all who invoke you. Special patron in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depths of my heart and humbly beg you, to whom God has given such great powers, to come to my assistance. Help me now in my present and urgent need, and grant my urgent petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys, three Glorias. St Jude, pray for us and all who honour and invoke your aid. Amen. R S.

For Hire

LEECE Limousine. Stretch Limousine hire. Specialising in Weddings and Formals. All leather interior, air conditioning, bar facilities, CD and DVD. Fully licensed and insured. Telephone John 0409 442 218 after 6pm.

Public Notice

ADVENT carol service with St Caecilia's Choir. Carols, Chant, Renaissance Polyphony, Organ, Strings, Brass, Timpani. Admission Free. All welcome. Sunday, 4 December, 7.30pm. St Raphael's Church, Queanbeyan. Details: Maria Henry 02 6249 6278 or mariamhenry@bigpond.com.

FREE to loving home, 10-month female Shih Tzu/Maltese cross dog. Apricot colour not desexed. Lovely little girl. Current owner heartbroken but has to travel and can't care for her. Telephone 0409 079 742.

Catholic Voice Classifieds
cost \$7.70 for the first 30 words, and \$2.20 for each 6 words after that. Payment by cheque or credit card. Deadline is always 15th of the month. Contact us at GPO Box 3089 Canberra 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au

Want to use a picture with your ad? It costs only an extra \$16.50.

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

Family Operated since 1963

FOR SALE

WANNIASSIA
\$566,000

Split level 5 bedroom ensuite home. Family room. Covered deck that overlooks the inground pool. Carport with roller door that leads through to the garage. Close to shops, schools, transport. EER 2.5

DOWNER
\$187,000

Top (1st) floor bedsitter unit. Modernised kitchen, recently repainted. Shared laundry. Carport. Great location close to Dickson shops. Currently rented at \$210 pw until April 2012. EER 2

WANTED URGENTLY FOR RENTAL

Quality homes in Belconnen suburbs to satisfy consistent enquiry.

Darryl Taylor: Mobile 0409 625 194

Ralph Taylor Real Estate
Pty Ltd (lic. Agent)

6258 8922

Florey Shops



Advertisers please note that it is a policy of Catholic Voice that advertisements for prayers do not carry phrases such as "your request will be granted" or "prayer must be published", or "publication must be promised". Deadline for material is 15th of the month.



TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

Sts Peter and Paul, Garran
Monday - Thursday - 7 am
Friday - 6 pm
Saturday - 9 am
Sunday - 11.30 am (sung)
St Thomas More, Campbell
Sunday - 8.30 am

FSSP Canberra: (02) 6161 5320
canberraltm.blogspot.com

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

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

ENQUIRIES: Ph (02) 6201 9802

Fax (02) 6201 9820

Mail: PO Box 89, Canberra 2601

Email: tribunal@cg.catholic.org.au

J.P. VERDON

PTY. LTD.

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

Licensed Plumber, Drainer & Gasfitter

Call Peter on 6281 5695

or Mobile **0412 663 029**

26 Anderson Street, Chifley

TIMBER FLOORING SPECIALISTS



Warehouse Clearance Sale

Hardwood timber also available
T&G Raw timber from \$22/m²

- Pre-finished solid wood
- Euro Plank engineer floor
- Bamboo, laminate, plywood
- Supply & Installation
- Sand and polish, buy direct and save

FREE QUOTE

Unit 4/64 Heffernan St, Mitchell 2911

Ph: (02) 6255 5295 Mob: 0412 926 338

E-mail: dnttimberflooring@hotmail.com

*Subject to variation

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 is important. With Christmas approaching, we speak to four women preparing for the festive season (pictured from left) Michele Murdock, Anne Ryan, Meg Lillicrap and Cathy Moffitt.

Taste-bud tempters for the festive season

Celebratory morning teas and lunches at the Archdiocese's administrative centre in Favier House, Braddon, are occasions to look forward to an array of cooks, male and female, tempt their fellow workers' taste-buds.

In time for Christmas we asked four to offer some easy-to-follow ideas for party food. The cooks are office administrator Meg Lillicrap, personal assistant to the Archbishop Cathy Moffitt, operations manager of the Catholic Development Fund Michele Murdock and secretary to the Canberra and Goulburn Tribunal Anne Ryan.

Passionfruit melting moments



Cathy Moffitt makes these biscuits and packs them into gift boxes and gives them to "my hairdresser, and friends whom I know appreciate baked goodies. It's an economical gift – everyone loves homemade!"

Preparation 30 minutes, cooking 15 minutes. Makes about 30.

Ingredients

250g butter chopped, ½ cup pure icing sugar, 1 ½ cups plain flour, ½ cup custard powder.

Filling

60g butter, ½ cup pure icing sugar, 1tbsp passionfruit pulp.

Method

1. Preheat oven to 160C or 140C fan. Line 2 baking trays with non-stick baking paper. Use electric beaters to beat butter until soft, then add icing sugar and beat until combined.
2. Mix in flour and custard powder using a butter knife, then gather the dough into a ball (don't over handle the dough or the biscuits will be tough). Roll teaspoons of mixture into balls and place onto the prepared trays. Use a fork to flatten, first one way then at right angles to make a crisscross pattern.



3. Bake for 15 minutes until lightly browned underneath. Cool completely on wire racks.
4. To make the filling, use electric beaters to beat together butter, icing sugar and passionfruit pulp. Spread filling onto one biscuit and sandwich with another. Repeat to make about 30 filled biscuits.

Rhubarb and hazelnut cake



Michele Murdock says: "I like rhubarb a lot, I am well known around work and family for my rhubarb cooking."

"Christmas morning teas and celebrations are just another good reason for trying another rhubarb recipe, plus it is red and has hazelnuts too!"

Preparation 20 minutes, cooking approx 1 hour. Serves 8 people

Ingredients

125g butter, 1 cup caster sugar, 2 eggs, 2 cups self-raising flour, ½ cup milk, 100g roasted hazelnuts, roughly chopped, 350g rhubarb trimmed, washed & cut into 2cm lengths, 1 ½ tbl icing sugar. Thick cream or natural yoghurt, to serve

Method

1. Preheat oven to 160C. Grease and line a 22cm round cake pan with baking paper.
2. Using electric beaters, beat butter and caster sugar in a large bowl until light and fluffy.

Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gently fold in flour, milk and half the hazelnuts. Spoon mixture into prepared pan.

3. Evenly top cake batter with rhubarb and sprinkle with remaining hazelnuts. Gently press topping into batter. Dust with icing sugar. Bake for 1 hour or until cake is cooked when tested with a skewer. Cool for 5 minutes in the pan and turn out onto a wire rack. Serve warm or at room temperature with thick cream or yoghurt.

(Recipe from The Sydney Markets Limited recipe card series)

Bacon, asparagus and haloumi tartlets



"Beautiful savoury finger food that goes well at a Christmas party with friends," says Anne Ryan. A Donna Hay inspired dish. Makes 24.

Ingredients

3 sheets puff pastry, tomato relish, 1 bunch asparagus, 2 – 4 bacon rashers, haloumi cheese.

Method

1. Grease muffin trays (24). Cut thawed puff pastry into rings slightly larger than the circumference of the muffin cups; Slightly press the pastry into the moulds – enough to make a shallow cup but not to the bottom.
2. Drop a teaspoon of tomato relish into each cup and spread. Chop bacon finely and cook in pan, then sprinkle into pastry cups. Chop the asparagus into lengths that will fit into the cups. Add a couple of pieces of asparagus to each cup. You can blanch the asparagus if you think it won't cook sufficiently. Slice the haloumi and place across the top of the pastry cups.

3. Cook for 10 minutes in a 200C oven or until pastry is crisp and golden.

Smoked salmon blini



Meg Lillicrap says these are easy to prepare beforehand. "I like the simplicity and taste. I use the recipe at family gatherings, office morning teas and any chance I get."

Ingredients

1 cup self-raising flour, 2 eggs, lightly beaten, ½ cup milk, 1 tablespoon sour cream, 1 teaspoon finely chopped dill, 1 teaspoon finely chopped chives.

Topping

½ cup sour cream, 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, 2 teaspoons lemon juice, 1 tablespoon finely chopped chives, 1 tablespoon finely chopped dill, 125g smoked salmon.

1. Sift flour in mixing bowl, make a well in the centre. Add combined eggs, milk and cream; stir until batter is smooth and free of lumps. Let stand 10 minutes.
2. Heat a large non-stick frying pan, brush with oil or melted butter. Drop teaspoonsful of mixture into pan. When bubbles appear on surface, turn blinis, cook other side. Repeat with rest of mixture.
3. Combine sour cream, mayonnaise, lemon juice, chives and dill. Spoon a small amount of sour cream mixture on top of each blini. Top with a slice of smoked salmon and decorate with strips of lemon peel.

Variation: Substitute smoked trout for salmon and/or dill with mint.

(Adapted from Family Circle Cookbook).

MPΘV 2012

January

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Dates to remember in January

- 1** Feast of Mary, Mother of God; World Day of Peace
- 2** New Year's Day holiday
- 26** Australia Day
- 27-29** Turn the Tide young adults retreat
- 30** School term 1 begins NSW

February

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | |

Dates to remember in February

- 6** School term 1 begins ACT
- 11** World Day of Prayer for the Sick
- 14** CWL Central Region annual summer lunch
- 22** Ash Wednesday; St Thomas More forum
- 26** RCIA Rite of Enrolment

March

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Dates to remember in March

- 6** Guinness and God
- 9-10** Youth leaders forum
- 10** CWL Central Region annual meeting
- 12** Canberra Day
- 17** Feast of St Patrick, annual ecumenical service
- 18** CWL Country Region annual meeting
- 21** St Thomas More forum
- 26** Marriage, family and relationships twilight seminar

April

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

Dates to remember in April

- 1** Palm Sunday
- 3** Guinness and God
- 5** School term 1 ends NSW
- 6** Good Friday
- 8** Easter Sunday
- 11** St Thomas More forum
- 13** School term 1 ends ACT
- 15** Divine Mercy Sunday
- 18** Child protection seminar for priests
- 24** School term 2 begins NSW
- 25** Anzac Day
- 29** World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- 30** School term 2 begins ACT

May

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

Dates to remember in May

- 1** Guinness and God
- 2** World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations day Mass
- 12** Archdiocesan CWL annual meeting and conference
- 13** World Communications Day
- 18-20** Vocations weekend, Galong
- 20** Feast of the Ascension
- 20-27** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 21-24** Clergy assembly
- 24** Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia
- 27** Pentecost Sunday; start of Year of Grace

June

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

Dates to remember in June

- 5** Guinness and God
- 10-16** Archbishop attends 50th International Eucharistic Congress, Dublin
- 11** Queen's Birthday
- 21** Marriage, family and relationships twilight seminar
- 22** St Thomas More forum
- 29** School term 2 ends NSW

July

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Dates to remember in July

- 3** Guinness and God
- 6** School term 2 ends ACT
- 7-15** Carmelite novena
- 16** Feast of Our Lady of Mt Carmel
- 17** School term 3 begins NSW
- 23** School term 3 begins ACT

August

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Dates to remember in August

- 5-12** National Vocations Awareness Week
- 7** Guinness and God
- 8** Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
- 15** Assumption of Our Lady
- 26** World Day of Migrants and Refugees

September

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 30 | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

Dates to remember in September

- 1,2** Father's Day appeal
- 4** Guinness and God
- 5** St Thomas More forum
- 20** Marriage, family and relationships twilight seminar
- 21** School term 3 ends NSW
- 28** School term 3 ends ACT
- 30** Social Justice Sunday

October

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

Dates to remember in October

- 1** Feast of St Therese of Lisieux; Labour Day
- 8** Family and Community Day public holiday
- 9** School term 4 begins NSW; Guinness and God
- 15** School term 4 begins ACT; Feast of St Teresa of Avila
- 21** World Mission Day
- 22** Feast of Blessed John Paul II
- 24** St Thomas More forum

November

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Dates to remember in November

- 1** All Saints Day
- 2** All Souls Day
- 10** Carmelite fete, Red Hill
- 15** Marriage, family and relationships twilight seminar
- 19-23** Clergy retreat
- 25** Feast of Christ the King

December

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 30 | 31 | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

Dates to remember in December

- 1** World AIDS Day
- 3** International Day of People with Disability
- 14** School term 4 ends ACT secondary
- 16** Carols of Nations, Archbishops House
- 19** School term 4 ends all students NSW
- 21** School term 4 ends primary ACT
- 25** Christmas Day
- 26** Boxing Day
- 30** Feast of the Holy Family