



Mary's day at Galong
– see back page

FREE

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Olympics bound...

Lauren Boden (pictured below) can remember attending the Sydney Olympics in 2000, watching as Australian athletes Cathy Freeman and Jai Taurima won medals before the world. "I never thought or even dreamt for one moment back then that it could be me standing up there competing," Ms Boden said. Now the former Daramalan College student will do just that

when she represents Australia in the 400 metre hurdles at next month's London Olympic Games. Fellow athlete and former St Mary MacKillop College student Melissa Breen hopes to be there, too, if the selectors use their discretionary power to add her to the team. She missed the qualifying time by an "agonisingly close" two-thousandths of a second.
• For full story, turn to Page 6.

Jubilee Mass on historic Goulburn site



Catholics will gather in November on the site of the first Mass in the region to celebrate the 150th jubilee of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Traditionally, the first Mass was celebrated in Matt Healy's stables on the Goulburn property Riversdale, now owned by the National Trust of Australia. It is not known whether the date of the Mass was before the visit of the legendary Fr John Joseph Therry on 3 August, 1833.

Goulburn parish priest and chairman of the Archdiocese's jubilee committee Fr Dermid McDermott said the sesquicentenary was of great historical importance for such a young country.

In addition to the Mass in Goulburn on Saturday, 17 November, celebrations will also be held across the Archdiocese during the 150th year. Each parish will be encouraged to hold its own celebration on the weekend of St Patrick's Day, 17 March, 2013.

The Archdiocese's celebrations coincide with 150th jubilees of Goulburn City and the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. Goulburn will mark its 150th birthday on 14 March, 2013, with an ecumenical service at St Saviour's Anglican Cathedral.

Fr McDermott said he hoped the month-long Goulburn City celebrations would close on 14 April, 2013, with an ecumenical service in Sts Peter and Paul Old Cathedral. "This would be an excellent opportunity to ring the bells for the first time in the completed tower with spire," he said.

Fr McDermott has a long-time family connection with historic Riversdale as his father Ernie, then Mayor of Goulburn, was instrumental in the City Council providing 10,000 pounds to help the National Trust buy the property in 1967 from the Twynam family.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of what came to be known as the Goulburn school "strike", when a dispute with the government led to the temporary closing of Catholic schools. Many see it as the catalyst for the introduction of state aid for Catholic schools.

Students from all archdiocesan schools will gather on 27 July and parade to Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral for a combined Mass of celebration and NAIDOC (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Mass.

Mgr Woods elected caretaker leader

Mgr John Woods has been elected Administrator of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. The Archdiocese's College of Consultors elected the administrator, who will remain in place until the installation of the new Archbishop. The previous Archbishop, Mark Coleridge, is now Archbishop of Brisbane.
Mgr Woods was Vicar General under Archbishop Coleridge. The Pope's representative, Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto, guides a process of consultation which prepares for the selection of the new Archbishop.
Mgr Woods was ordained to the priesthood and has served as assistant priest in Waramanga, Goulburn and Queanbeyan, parish priest of the then Calwell parish and

administrator of St Christopher's Cathedral. Retiring Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power, said he was delighted with Mgr Woods' election. "John is a man of God with a truly pastoral heart, a keen intellect, a broad knowledge of the Archdiocese and in possession of good people skills," he said. "The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn will be in good hands."
Farewells for Bishop Power will be held at: Batemans Bay, 11am, Friday, 8 June Mass/lunch; Queanbeyan, 9am, Sunday, 10 June Mass; Cooma, 3.30pm, Friday 15 June; St Christopher's Cathedral, 6pm, Tuesday, 19 June Mass and supper; Young, 2pm, Sunday, 24 June liturgy/ afternoon tea; Goulburn, 10am, Friday, 29 June Mass and morning tea.

what's inside

- 4** Introducing the Year of Grace
- 5** New college, new principal
- 6** The Archdiocese's finances
- 8-9** News from the coastal deanery
- 10-11** Your tributes to Bishop Pat Power
- 13** Young Voices kids page
- 15** Ron Rolheiser
- 15** Why I grow what I grow
- 16** Movie reviews
- 17** Book reviews
- 18** Classifieds
- 19** What's on around Archdiocese

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what do you know?

A quiz testing your knowledge of what is in this month's Catholic Voice.

1. Who are our two track hopes for the London Olympics?
2. What uncomfortable activity will a lot of CEOs be taking part in this month?
3. What is the name of the new principal of our newest school, John Paul College?
4. How many years has Pat Power been a bishop?
5. What annual event was held at St Clement's Monastery, Galong, last month?
6. Who has Archbishop Mark Coleridge succeeded as Archbishop of Brisbane?

Answers bottom Page 4.

Suits pack a punch for charity

Two businessmen will swap suits for boxing gloves when they step into the ring next month for a charity boxing match that will help raise money for indigenous youths.

Catholic Development Fund chairman Mr Dominic Kelly and Sydney-based businessman Mr Jack Singleton – son of advertising and radio identity, John Singleton – will face off for the event, which will take place on Thursday, 28 July, at Albert Hall.

The majority of proceeds from ticket sales will go towards local amateur boxing group the Winnunga Boxing Club, with organisers hoping to raise about \$30,000.

The club was formed under the support of the Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service in 2004. Manager Mr Ray Lovett said the club has done well in terms of membership growth, but as it was entirely self-funded it struggled financially.

Mr Kelly, who came up with the idea for the event, said he is a "proud Australian" and wanted to do something for the indigenous community in Canberra.

"Although I've never boxed professionally I've always been interested in it and I thought if I do it, I want to do it for charity," Mr Kelly said.

"I wanted to raise funds for an indigenous cause, so when I was looking at all the different boxing clubs and saw that the Winnunga club was an Aboriginal boxing club, I thought that would be perfect.

"I'm deeply committed to helping Aboriginal youth, and that's what the club's designed to do."

Mr Kelly has been training with the Winnunga club for the past few months, while Mr Singleton has been training with former boxing champion Joe Bugner, who has fought the likes of Muhammad Ali.



Dominic Kelly ... "it'll be a pretty fair contest".

"We both don't have much experience in boxing so I think it'll be a pretty fair contest," Mr Kelly said. "My family are a little worried about the fight but I have assured them we will be well protected with headgear."

To book tickets to the 10-bout program match visit www.trybooking.com/bgqt

Decline of CWL 'sad but inevitable'

The Catholic Women's League in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is set to be dissolved after more than 60 years.

At its annual meeting in Canberra, no nominations were put forward for executive positions. A motion to dissolve the organisation was put forward and passed.

Acting president Mrs Angela Devlin said all 155 members are financial until the end of the year.

"In the meantime they will need to decide whether to continue as members of the league or return to parish based organisations," she said.

"I will continue as president in an acting capacity until all formalities are complete."

Mrs Devlin said it was "a sad but inevitable outcome". "We are all getting older and no new members are coming in."

A sign of the decline of CWL was the closure of the Kippax branch in February and the St Christopher's branch

going in to recess last year. Five central region and five country region branches will continue to meet, as part of the league until the end of 2012.

The outgoing executive favoured the regions amalgamating with the CWL in NSW.

CWLA national president Mrs Jean Tanzer travelled from Townsville to attend.

An honorary Archdiocesan life membership was bestowed on Gladys (Glad) Reardon, from Gundagai, who joined the league in 1960. She continues to be an active member and many traditions initiated by her and other members of the league in Gundagai years ago, continue to the present day. Other life members who attended included Thora Regan from Boorowa, Olga Scott, from West Wyalong, Lady Mary Scholtens, Eileen Hogg, and last year's recipient Leone Carse from Dickson.

Catholic Voice copy deadline is 15th of the month - every month

Gentle way to everyday spirituality

The challenges in Winey Suen's workplace are significant.

"I am a construction engineer working on an extremely large public infrastructure project with over 400 men on site from all walks of life," Ms Suen (right) said.

"I am 25 years old, it's my first year out of university, it's my first year out of home and I am the only female engineer on the project."

It is not surprising to hear that these challenges encourage Ms Suen to constantly strive for holiness.

She recently attended one of the Saturday spirituality seminars run by CatholicLIFE and found it immensely rewarding.

"I attended out of curiosity," Ms Suen said. "It was absolutely fantastic; deeply insightful but presented in a gentle and simple way that you could easily relate to. The speaker used everyday experiences and related this to quite intellectually challenging themes.

"While it is not always easy to promote generosity, patience and kindness all the time, another truth beautifully revealed in the seminar was that, whether we are failing or succeeding in our Christian life is irrelevant, as the question is not 'what can I do for God?' but 'what is God doing in me?' and 'how am I responding?'" Archdiocesan coordinator of faith formation and spirituality Mr Shane Dwyer presents the monthly seminars.



"Every Catholic is called to evangelise but traditionally we have a reticence about that," Mr Dwyer said. "We don't feel competent and fear getting it wrong. But there is a contribution we all can make. Often all we need is a confidence and a vocabulary to be able to speak to our kids and neighbours."

● The coming seminars are 23 June (Catholics and Scripture), 21 July (Being part of the Church) and 18 August (What does God want?). Seminars run from 10am to noon at the Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla. To register, telephone 6163 4336 or go to www.faithresources.org.au and go to Events.

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Brisbane welcomes its new archbishop

Archbishop Mark Coleridge in becoming the seventh Bishop and sixth Archbishop of Brisbane indicated he is determined to lead in facing "the Church's greatest challenge in these times".

He left no doubt about that as he preached the homily at the Solemn Mass and Liturgical Reception as Archbishop of Brisbane in St Stephen's Cathedral.

The cathedral was packed with a congregation including 37 bishops from every state and territory, including Archbishop Francis Carroll, two bishops from New Zealand and one from Sri Lanka.

Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto attended, along with priests from all over Australia, including archdiocesan moderator Mgr John Woods and clergy from the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. Among the civic dignitaries were Queensland Governor Ms Penelope Wensley and Premier Mr Campbell Newman.

Archbishop Emeritus John Bathersby, who retired last year as Archbishop of Brisbane, welcomed his successor. Archbishop Coleridge's family and friends joined the celebration.

In his homily, he said he had been asked in recent weeks, "What is the

Church's greatest challenge in these times?"

"Without hesitation, I have said and I say here now: our greatest challenge is to become a more missionary Church – and this at a time when a certain institutional diminishment can tempt us to circle the wagons in some supposedly self-protective manoeuvre," he said.

"But the great mistake we could make now would be to circle the wagons rather than roll them out into new territory in new ways.

"Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have sounded the call to a new evangelisation, seeing this as the true purpose of the Second Vatican Council.

"Their call is no vapid mantra. It points to the need for a new surge of Gospel energy at this time – the kind of new threshold that we have seen before in the history of the Church, often in dark and difficult times."

Archbishop Coleridge said all the Church's structures, strategies and services "must be geared to this new surge of Gospel energy, this new evangelisation, which can come only from a new and deeper encounter with the Lord crucified and risen".



"The Church is wounded; the Church is always wounded in one way or another, though never unto death," he said.

"The wounds of this time will be healed only if we come to Jesus, through whom flows the power that can turn all our wounds to fountains, all our weakness to strength.

"We need to be born anew from the wounded side of Christ."

● Story, Catholic Leader, Brisbane; pictures, Rene Marcel.

TOP: The installation ceremony in St Stephen's Cathedral. RIGHT: Greeted by Archbishop John Bathersby.



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Much to do in a time of preparation

By Mgr John Woods

On 17 May, the Archdiocesan Consultors elected me as the Archdiocesan Administrator following Archbishop Mark's 11 May installation in Brisbane.

It is both an honour and a responsibility to exercise leadership until the installation of the seventh Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

I ask you to join me in praying abundant blessings on Archbishop Mark's ministry in Brisbane and for sensitivity to the Spirit's prompting in choosing his successor for us.

Meanwhile, I seek your prayerful support. This interim period is one of administration, not innovation. Nonetheless, there is much to do and to reflect on in preparation for a smooth handover to Archbishop Mark's successor.

In that vein, I am most grateful to Bishop Max Davis, Bishop of the Military Ordinariate, for offering to assist Bishop Pat and myself to preside at the celebration of Confirmation across the Archdiocese on the dates agreed to prior to Archbishop Mark's departure.

Like all of you I am mindful of the 30 June retirement of Bishop Pat.

He will be sorely missed. Pat is loved and respected as priest, friend and supporter to so many, especially those on the margins.

I was privileged to be an altar server for the young Fr Pat and over the years have grown in respect for his unfeigned humility and integrity. While he will be less engaged in meetings and such, he will continue with the pastoral work for which he is renowned.

His support for and occasional bet on South Sydney will continue. Like Archbishop Mark, Bishop Pat has requested that he might bid farewell at deanery gatherings. Details are provided on the front page of this issue of Catholic Voice.

This year and next year will afford all of us time to pause and to give thanks. On Pentecost Sunday the Australian Catholic bishops called for the faithful to embrace a Year of Grace. The hope is that we will engage anew with Jesus, "the Way, the Truth and the Life" (Jn 14:6).



Parish priests will encourage and facilitate your response to this initiative. They will do so again later this year when Pope Benedict inaugurates a Year of Faith to mark the 50th anniversary of the commencement of the Second Vatican Council.

These two initiatives, one national, the other international, are two sides of the one coin; grace is the love of God fully revealed in Jesus, faith is our graced response.

Come November we will commence celebration of the

150-year jubilee of the magnificent story of the Diocese of Goulburn (1862) and the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn (1948).

Goulburn will also be to the fore over the 26-27 July when there will be a 50 years commemoration of the 1962 "Goulburn Schools Strike", a symbolic event in the continuing quest for justice in government funding of Catholic schools.

In March next year we will join with our Anglican brothers and sisters in Goulburn as they celebrate the 150th anniversary of St Saviour's Cathedral and the concomitant conferral of city status on Goulburn.

All of these events should encourage individual parishes to gather and archive documents, photographs and anecdotes so as to preserve and to give thanks for their local story of faith response.

While we must look back, remember and give thanks, we must also look to the present and the future. Where are we being called under God's grace to respond in faith at this time? To focus your reflections, I encourage you to check out the

decisions and proposals put forward by Archbishop Mark in response to the deliberations at last November's Archdiocesan Assembly, "The Changing Face of Sunday". Let your parish priest or a member of your parish pastoral council know what you think and why.

On the eve of Good Shepherd Sunday, 28-29 April, I attended a Serra gathering at Archbishop's House to prayerfully commission their Ambassadors program.

Serra is a lay organisation which supports clergy and religious vocations. The Ambassadors commit to three years financial support for our seminarians and they encourage others to do the same. The need is pressing as our Ecclesiastical Education Fund is running at a deficit.

If you would like to support this or any other apostolate of the Archdiocese please contact Helen Delahunty, our Archdiocesan Financial Administrator, at Favier House, telephone 6201 9800.

As Jesus often took time aside to pray, may the cold of winter afford you time to withdraw, reflect and quietly renew.

Jubilee book

Archdiocesan historian Fr Brian Maher has launched a commemorative booklet comprising documents tracing the history of the Goulburn Diocese and the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. A feature is a list with biographical details of all priests who have served. The booklet is available from the Catholic Bookshop, Favier House, Braddon.

JUNE DIARY

Bishop Pat Power

- 1 Sacred Heart Mass, Daramalan College
- 2 Confirmation, Tumut
- 6 Visit St Francis Xavier's College, Florey; Confirmation, Kippax
- 7 ACT Churches Council meeting
- 12, 13, 14 ; Confirmation, Gungahlin
- 15 Confirmation, Cooma
- 16 Confirmation, Cootamundra
- 17 Confirmation, North Woden
- 20 Mass, Sts Peter and Paul's School, Garran
- 24 Confirmation, Boorowa
- 26 Climate Change Rally, Parliament House

Introducing the Year of Grace

By Shane Dwyer, archdiocesan co-ordinator faith formation and spirituality

Very few of us have any doubt that we, the Church, have much to do to respond to our vocation to bring Jesus Christ to the world.

Our Pope and our bishops regularly remind us that we are to be as the first apostles, completely given over to communicating the Christian message to the world in which we live.

And yet we all acknowledge that it is impossible to carry out this mission well without the spiritual energy that God provides.

To carry out our mission, given to us at baptism, we must learn to be "as Christ". This will involve an ongoing process of deep spiritual conversion.

This is the context for the Year of Grace commenced at Pentecost (27 May) this year. What will the Year of Grace mean for you?

Our bishops have described this as a year-long retreat.

They are inviting us to take the opportunity to focus even more explicitly on the person of Jesus Christ than we normally do.

Why are the bishops asking us to do this?

They speak of a growing awareness that there is much happening in and around the Church that requires their (and our) ongoing attention. However, instead of rushing headlong into dealing with these things, we need to ensure that our plans and responses to these events and circumstances are inspired by and directed towards our deepening relationship with God.

For this reason, every Catholic individual, family, parish, school, and agency has been asked to regularly stop and contemplate "the face of Christ" throughout the next 12 months. The focus on "the face of Christ" is deliberate.

In the person of Jesus, the inner life of God and the world that we know and experience, meet.

To contemplate his "face" is to reflect on the love that God has for us, shown in his desire to become one us, and in his desire to become the centre of our lives.

There is no going forward in our faith without an ever-deepening relationship with the person of Jesus Christ.

Without that, all our intentions and plans as a Christian people are a waste of time.

The Year of Grace is a wonderful opportunity for spiritual renewal across this great country.

Our Christian lives depend on grace, but what exactly is it? The quick answer begins by noting what grace is not: grace is not a thing. Grace is God's gift of himself as God touches our lives.

We might experience grace as receiving something from God, but what is actually happening is that we are being brought ever more closely into the very life of God.

As God's people, we can only live in response to the vocation God has given us to the degree that we are united with God.



I have no idea how the Year of Grace will impact on you and your parish over the coming 12 months.

What each community does in response to this initiative will be particular to that community.

What I do know is that it is a wonderful opportunity and that many faithful and creative people will do their best to respond to it.

To assist in this there are a variety of national and local resources and initiatives on offer.

A look at our Year of Grace web page (www.cg.catholic.org.au) will lead you to information on national resources, faith formation seminars, youth ministry initiatives, and the next Archdiocesan Assembly (first weekend of November) – which will have an aspect of the Year of Grace as its theme.

During the assembly, a Year of Grace resource will be launched that will be of use to prayer or discussion groups at any time throughout 2013.

Between now and then most parishes have appointed a Year of Grace coordinator who is being assisted to find ways of bringing this opportunity to your parish.

May this year be a grace-filled experience for us all.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. Lauren Boden and Melissa Breen.
2. The annual Vinnies CEO sleepout.
3. Catherine Rey.
4. 26 years.
5. Annual Marian pilgrimage.
6. Archbishop John Bathersby.

New college to get winning model

Learning she had been appointed principal of the new John Paul College in Gungahlin was a "bitter-sweet moment" for Merici College principal Mrs Catherine Rey.

She will be the first principal to take on the Archdiocese's new college, but it means saying goodbye to the school she has served for a decade.

"Although it will be difficult to say goodbye to everyone here, I am determined to take the Merici model of ensuring every individual student can flourish to John Paul College," Mrs Rey said.

"My hope and prayer is that we can create the same sort of community as we have here, with optimism and positivity."

Mrs Rey said the opportunity to start with a school from its very beginning was "exciting".

"It's a wonderful opportunity to create a very innovative and unique learning environment where you are actually starting from scratch and can shape how things will be," she said.

"It's great that the school will start small, with only Year 7 at first, so the new teachers and I can really work together as a close-knit team and develop the culture and charism of the school."

"We have a very warm, positive and enthusiastic parent community in Gungahlin. There's so much interest and excitement in the broader community, so it is a fabulous and exciting position to be in."

Ms Rey will begin her new position in semester two this year. The college will open from the beginning of the next school year, offering Year 7 at first and will cater for up to 1200 students across all secondary school levels by 2018.

Mrs Rey has already met with students from all three Catholic primary schools in Gungahlin, many of whom she hopes will eventually attend John Paul College.



Mrs Catherine Rey chats with Merici College students Gyljije Haxhimolla, Karli Stefopoulos and Sarah Lowe.

It is planned the college will have state-of-the-art learning tools – all students will have iPads – but Mrs Rey is familiar with adapting to new technology.

"Merici have had a laptop program since 1994, so I've always been familiar with being technologically advanced, and I think it's important John Paul College also be at the forefront of modern technology as it is an excellent way to enhance learning," she said.

"Being able to meet those individual needs through technology is a great enabler because it means there are more opportunities than the traditional way of learning."

Before Merici, Mrs Rey was principal at St Clare's College.

Through her experience she has learnt one of the most important things to focus on is that students "feel cared for".

Trade centre boost



Merici College celebrated the opening of its trade training centre, part of a \$2.5 billion Federal Government program, during Catholic Schools Week.

The centre is designed to provide students with access to quality vocational training facilities in hospitality and construction industries.

The project is a partnership between the Catholic Education Office and the Canberra Institute of Technology, and has funded centres at St Clare's, St Francis Xavier and St Mary MacKillop colleges.

Merici College received \$5.7 million as part of the program and now has a new commercial kitchen, permanent restaurant and has contributed its own funds to relocate its canteen.

ABOVE: Masterchef star Callum Hann and Merici students Antonela Mioc and Chloe Muthukumaraswamy test out the new kitchen.

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Archdiocese posts surplus in 2011

By Archdiocesan financial administrator Helen Delahunty

The financial results for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn for the calendar year 2011 have been finalised and audited.

The result for the year is a surplus of \$97,000 following on from a surplus last year of just over \$300,000.

As I mentioned last year when presenting the results, we really only cover our costs, and for the most part, have need for the expenditure of just about all our income.

The need never diminishes in the Archdiocese, and often increases as the year goes on.

We need a strong budget which shows what we have to spend to ensure all the services we provide continue, and also shows us our ability to respond to new demands as the year progresses.

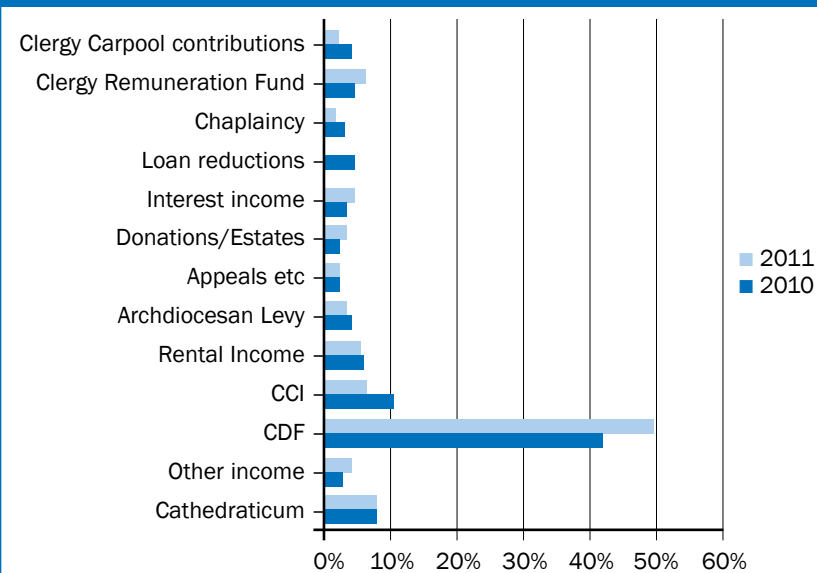
As you can see from the graphs, the Catholic Development Fund gives the Archdiocese almost 50% of our total income. This year there has been an increase in the amount paid from the CDF as we concentrate more on investing some of the income.

The CDF is now investing \$600,000 per annum in a higher interest bearing account to enable a structured investment program for the Archdiocese in the years to come.

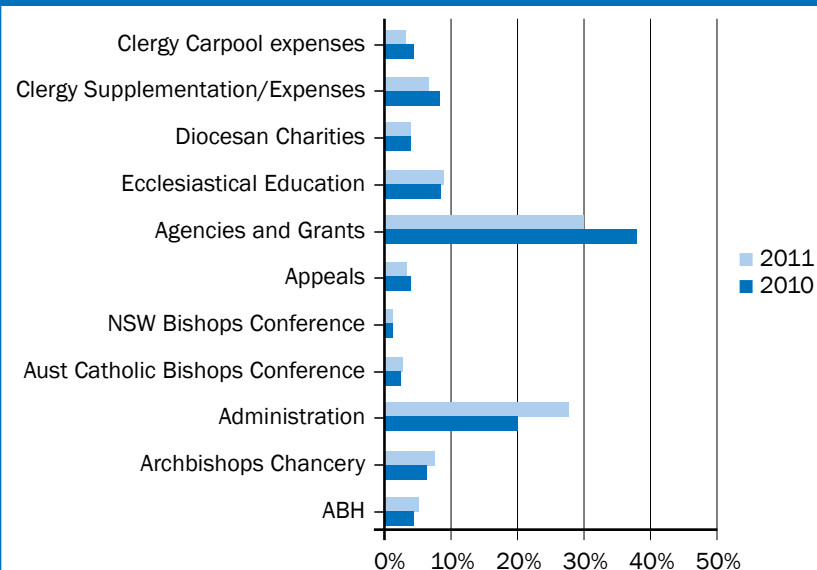
This is vital, as we have such need for the income we have each year, that we don't have enough to put away for new programs etc in the years to come.

We have kept increases in the costs of the Archdiocese to a minimum, but there have been some structural changes in the way we report costs. This accounts for the increase in Administration costs, but the corresponding lowering of Agencies and Grant expenses.

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Income



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Expenses



Canberra pair on

Lauren Boden can still remember attending the Sydney Olympics in 2000, watching on in wonder as Australian athletes Cathy Freeman and Jai Taurima won medals before the world.

"I never thought or even dreamt for one moment back then that it could be me standing up there competing," Ms Boden said.

Now the former Daramalan College student will do just that when she represents Australia in the 400 metre hurdles at next month's London Olympic Games.

Ms Boden clocked 55.45 seconds, an A-standard Olympic qualifying time, at the Sydney Track Classic in February, which guaranteed her a spot in London.

"When I got the call that I had made it through about a month later it was like a weight off the shoulders, since every time the phone would ring that week I would be on edge," Ms Boden said.

"My family have all bought tickets so there should be a good cheer squad there by the time London rolls around, and for now I'm just trying to focus on the task ahead and preparing my program."

Ms Boden, 23, began her athletics career 18 years ago when she started competing in Little Athletics in Canberra.

"I chose hurdles because I enjoyed them and we got to do them every week so I got used to them," she said.

"From about 14 I got more serious and joined up with my coach in 2002 and it just developed from there."

She says her former school was supportive of balancing her hectic training schedule with her studies.

"They really were amazing and so helpful in terms of managing my workload and training, since year 12 was the year of the Melbourne Commonwealth Games and I had a lot on back then while trying to get my score for university," she said.

"They actually threw me a whole school assembly just to wish me luck for the Commonwealth Games."

Fellow athlete and former St Mary MacKillop College student Melissa Breen has been eagerly awaiting a green light for a spot in the Olympic Games since she returned from the Olympic A-qualifiers in Japan last month.

CEOs get set to brave



ACT business leaders Stephen Sedgwick, Daniel Oyston, Andrew Fagan, Mark Bramston and Ayesha Razzaq are among those braving the cold in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout this year.

More than 100 business leaders from across the territory this month will get a taste of what it's like to be homeless.

They will sleep outside the National Gallery of Australia on 21 June for the third annual Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

Each year, hundreds of CEOs in Australia's capital cities sleep rough for a night in support of The St Vincent de Paul Society's homeless services.

This year, Vinnies hopes to raise \$5 million for the nation's 105,000 homeless.

At the event launch, Vinnies archdiocesan president Mr Frank Brassil said this year's sleepout would focus on two key messages: changing perceptions of homelessness and investing in someone's future to make a difference.

"Many of the CEOs at last year's sleepout said it really changed their attitude to homelessness, and the discomfort of sleeping on the streets is just a fragment of what the homeless experience," Mr Brassil said.

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track for London Games glory

The 100-metre sprinter missed the qualifying time by an "agonisingly close" two-thousandths of a second.

Now her Olympic fate is in the hands of selectors, who have the discretionary power to add her to the national team at the final selection meeting this month.

"I know I shouldn't, but it's so hard not to think about it at the moment; it's like the elephant in the room," Ms Breen said.

"To be short by two-thousandths of a second is heartbreaking, but I can't be disappointed as I ran really well this season. I just hope it's enough.

"I've been trying not to make myself stress about it. I'm also a bit excited as well, it's one of those can't sleep moments."

The 21 year old, like Lauren Boden, began running at a young age.

Ms Breen admits she wasn't a "stand-out runner" when she started, but her determination and love for the sport took her the extra distance.

"Some of the other girls I was up against would just give up when they lost, but I loved running even if I was losing," she said.

"In 2007 at the Junior National Championships I won the 100 and 200

metres; those were my first medals and since then I haven't looked back."

Ms Breen says her college supported her career while she was studying and the school was still a big part of her life since she graduated in 2008.

"The staff at MacKillop did everything they could for me; I obviously had a hectic training schedule after school so I couldn't have got through year 12 without their support," she said.

"I've been back to MacKillop a few times and had a few chats with students at the assemblies, so they're still a big part of my journey."

For Ms Breen, whose heroes include Australian sprinter Melinda Gainsford-Taylor, running is appealing because of its "isolation". "I love that it's just me and the track, and ultimately I determine my own result," she said.

"My goal is to break 11 seconds in the 100 metres, no Australian has done that – the record is 11.12 seconds, Melinda (Gainsford-Taylor) still holds that. That being said I don't want to put a limit on it, I'm 21 and I hopefully have 10-plus years left in this sport, so for now I'm just excited for what this journey will hold."



In pursuit of an Olympic berth: Melissa Breen.

'I loved running even if I was losing' - Melissa Breen

the cold

"Recent research undertaken by Vinnies showed that 68% of people believed the majority of homeless people are men and only 9% of participants ranked women as the biggest component of the homeless population.

"This is a common misconception – the reality is that 44% of homeless people are women."

Mr Brassil said last year 3500 people in Canberra required homelessness support and, of those 1500 were children.

ActewAGL Retail general manager Ms Ayesha Razzaq is wary about braving the cold, but believes the event will help her understand what the homeless go through.

"I believe you can't truly empathise with someone unless you have been in their shoes, so I think this will be a chance to understand the plight of the homeless," Ms Razzaq said.

"Whether it's one night or one dollar, we need to encourage people to donate to this important cause.

"I've got two young boys and I think it's important they know about Vinnies and the great work they do."

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'You've only got a certain number of hours and years in your life...' 'Hyperactive senior citizen' has big heart for people

By Laura Edwards

It's ironic that John Liston originally moved to Pambula expecting a quiet life where nobody would know who he was.

More than 30 years on, the list of his invaluable contributions to the community is endless, he has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia, and he is one of the most recognisable faces in the shire.

It seems it is difficult for a man like Mr Liston to go unnoticed – but he doesn't mind.

"The beauty of these places is, you walk down the road and people look at you and they recognise you," Mr Liston said.

"There's a genuine concern for each other here. You become a big fish in a little pond.

"People are aware of your experiences and you get called on to start things or build up the confidence of a town."

Mr Liston, who taught at Eden's St Joseph's Primary School from 1983 to 2011, is now in his first year teaching at Lumen Christi College in Pambula. He has been heavily involved in a range of charity work with the Church, the St Vincent de Paul Society, Pambula Rotary, the Pambula Surf Life Saving Club and other community groups.

"I was a hyperactive child and now I'm a hyperactive senior citizen," the 65 year old said.

"I reckon I'll keep going and going until I drop."

The eldest of five children, Mr Liston was born in Melbourne's Mercy Maternity Hospital in 1947.

He was taught by the Josephite nuns at St Cecilia's in South Camberwell and then attended De La Salle College, Malvern.

He worked as a teaching brother with the De La Salle order for 18 years and was their senior counsellor for schools throughout Australia for five years.

It was while he was working as a counsellor in Cronulla that he met wife Margaret.

"A lady who had lost her husband to diabetes came in with her two young children," he said.

"She lived in Pambula and said if you're ever my way, I've got these two distraught children who could use a visit.

"Within two days I was down here, and the girls took to me as I was the same age as their father.

"Five years later I left the brothers, moved here and within a year I married their mother. Now the girls are 43 and 41, and my step-daughters."

The Listons now have three daughters and two grandchildren.

When he moved to Pambula, Mr Liston expected a life far different from Melbourne where he was quite well known.

"I didn't know it at the time, but it turns out half of Melbourne holidayed here," he said.

"Needless to say word quickly got around I was here, and I was soon being offered all sorts of posts."

The overwhelming list of Mr Liston's achievements shows tireless commit-



Mr John Liston at Lumen Christi College, Pambula ... "it's no good talking about love and kindness and charity – you've got to do it."

ment to his community and the Church. He was involved in the restoration of St Peter's heritage church in Pambula, the Star of the Sea Church in Eden (which is now Mary Mackillop Hall) and All Saints Church in Wolumla, something that he took a great interest in as he has a degree in theology and has "always loved history".

He was the Bega Valley Shire Council citizen of the year and Australia Day Ambassador in Eden in 2006.

In 1994, he was the Australia Day Ambassador in Merimbula and was

awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001 and the Bega Valley Medallion for community service. He was also one of the organisers of the recent Cancer Council Relay for Life event at Pambula.

An honorary member of the Rotary Club of Pambula, a Paul Harris Fellow and a life member of the Pambula Surf Life Saving Club, Mr Liston has been a member of the Merimbula Area Committee for the past eight years and a member of the Stella Maris conference, Eden, and the St Vincent de Paul Society for 20 years.

Parish dips in on famine crisis

A social justice advocates group formed by Pambula parish administrator Fr Constantine Osuchukwu has raised more than \$25,000 towards relieving the famine crisis in Somalia.

The group, organised by Fr Osuchukwu shortly after his arrival in the coastal deanery last year, campaigns around the parish for donations to support education in Timor Leste and to help in Somalia.

In January, the group ran an op shop staffed by volunteers, selling donated goods to raise money for Somalia.

They appealed for donated goods through the parish newsletter and were able to use a large shop free of charge for the month.

Parish secretary Mrs Sandra Bray said she was "surprised" by the response from the community to the fundraiser.

"The local radio stations and paper advertised the venture for free and we did a roaring trade, selling everything from dining sets, lounges, wardrobes to books, toys and clothes," Mrs Bray said.

"Many people who came in to look

or buy returned to donate goods and even volunteer to work.

"By the end of the month over \$25,000 had been cleared to forward to Somalia."

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Mr Liston was instrumental in raising \$25,000 with other Timor Leste advocates at a one-off furniture auction at the Eden wharf shop to fund an agricultural college in the fledgling nation.

The aid provided to Timor Leste from the Bega Valley Shire was, he believed, greater than anywhere else in Australia.

For his service to the Pambula community through educational, church, service and social welfare organisations, Mr Liston was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday honours list in 2007.

"The way I look at it, you've only got a certain number of hours and years in your life," he said.

"We were put here to make good choices and to love. God didn't give us all this time and talent for nothing; it's there to give loving service. It's been a philosophy in my life.

"I had the joy of working with Mother Teresa years ago. Her message was that Christ comes to us every day in the disguise of your neighbour, or the poor. It's true. You are Christ to them, and you meet Christ in them.

"With Mass, it's no good just coming, the Mass continues. You take that message of love to the world; you take Christ to the workplace."

It's a message Mr Liston has passed on at Lumen Christi College. In the planning stages for the college 10 years ago, while he was working part time as an executive officer for the school, Mr Liston was adamant that every student must do a minimum of 10 hours community service.

"Some of them have done hundreds of hours now," he said.

"Faith without works is dead. It's no good talking about love and kindness and charity – you've got to do it."

This philosophy has rubbed off on Mr Liston's daughters: one is a social worker and the other two are teachers.

"They either followed me into social work or teaching. I couldn't be more proud," he said.

He admits he "doesn't have much spare time"; between his work and charity duties, but he still finds time to instruct the lifesaving nippers every Sunday for a few hours after Mass.

"I was always a strong swimmer, but I got into lifesaving when a cousin of mine who had polio drowned while swimming," he said.

Mr Liston also wrote a book on the history of the Pambula Life Saving Club called *Bronze among the Breakers*. He said many students at Lumen Christi College have followed him into lifesaving after reading the book.

"Jesus said there's no greater love than to lay down your life, and every time these kids go out to the surf and rescue somebody, that's what they're doing, risking their lives for others," he said.

Mr Liston isn't quite ready for retirement yet, and hopes to continue his work and involvement with the community and Church.

"If I wasn't working as a teacher at the school, I'd be volunteering there," he said. "I love having an involvement with my community, and I don't think I'll be going away anytime soon."

Benefits for all in expansion

Pambula's Lumen Christi College has recently become the first school in the Archdiocese to cater for children in the full range from kindergarten to year 12.

Principal Mr Paul Carroll said the decision to expand was based on falling enrolments at nearby St Joseph's Primary, Eden, which closed at the end of last year.

"There were only about 35 kids in St Joseph's last year, so about 25 came over to Lumen Christi with the change," Mr Carroll said.

"The Catholic Education Commission elected the Lumen Christi site for the primary school as it was closer to where the population base was, and this enabled them to continue to provide Catholic education on the coast.

"There are now about 90 students in years K-6."

Mr Carroll said there has been a positive response from students and parents to the schools' new venture.

"The older students have enjoyed having the younger ones around; it brings a different dimension to the school and promotes an additional family culture," he said.

"The older students go in and help the primary students with their work when they have time, so I think it really benefits them.



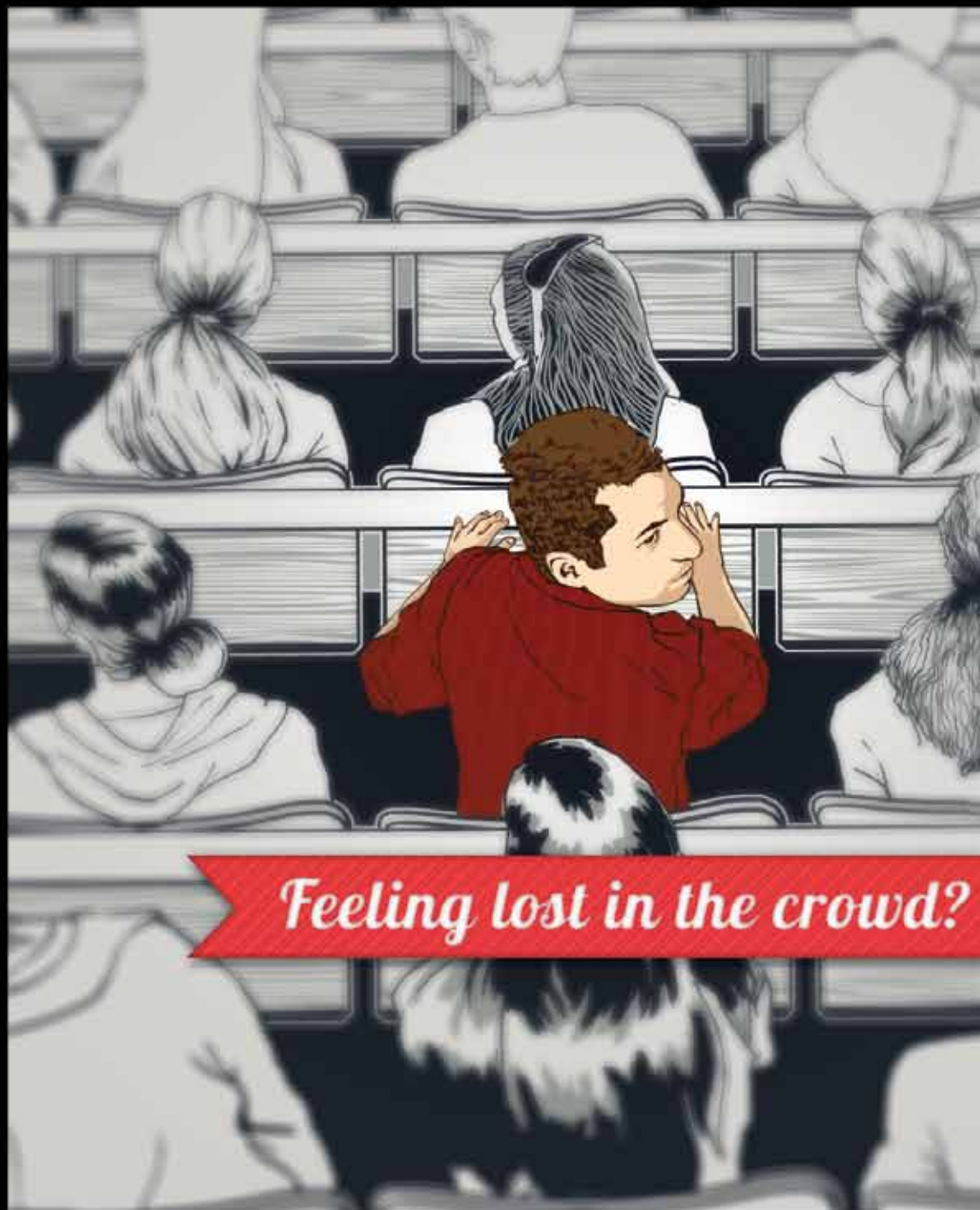
Old and young enjoy each others company (from left) front:

Domenica Papalia, Caitlyn Oliver, Brooke Hampson and Georgia Scarlett. Back: Kirra Parsons and Jake Gordon.

"The parents have been very happy with what's going on and pleased with the progress the college has made. We have adjusted our policies and procedures to make this change work.

"We celebrated with a welcoming Mass to mark the occasion."

Originally catering for years 7-12, Lumen Christi College has been a K-12 school from semester one this year.



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Farewell and thanks

Catholic Voice invited readers to pay tribute to Bishop Pat Power who retires at the end of the month. Here is an edited selection of your response. A fuller version may be found on the Archdiocese's website www.cg.catholic.org.au

Bishop Pat has served as secretary to three Archbishops and Auxiliary Bishop to two. Is it any wonder that he has decided to retire before another one arrives? Seriously, I wish to express just a little of my gratitude for and appreciation of his wonderful contribution to the Archdiocese and the wider community over his many years as priest and bishop.

We all know of his pastoral energy, compassionate heart and down-to-earth good sense. Personally I am grateful for his personal friendship and supportive collaboration over my 23 years in the Archdiocese. So many, clergy, religious and lay faithful have experienced his understanding, encouragement and close companionship in good times and in bad, especially in difficult times of anxiety, sickness, death and bereavement. A man of conviction and courage he has publicly espoused many a cause particularly when injustice, disadvantage and discrimination were at stake.

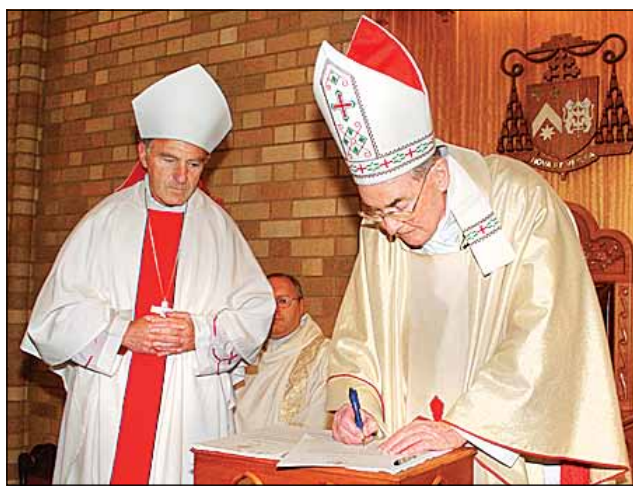
From this not only Catholic people but many in the wider community have found someone to speak for them and have drawn hope and strength from his support. Civic leaders have rightly recognized the contribution he has made to public life and the wider community. Christians of other traditions and people of different faith convictions know him as a friend and together have found mutual understanding and common ground. I wish Bishop Pat every blessing and happiness in his retirement. He will not only be long admired and remembered but I am sure he will also continue to enrich the lives of many for years to come. - **Archbishop Francis Carroll**

Pat Power has been an inspiration to me as I am sure he has to thousands of Canberrans. I congratulate him on his achievements and his long and selfless service to the people of Canberra. I personally drew strength and courage from his example his leadership and his friendship. I reflected often on his humanity and commitment to principles of fairness, justice and human rights and envied his compassion. Pat Power has been awarded an Order of Australia. He is a past Canberra Citizen of the Year. He is adored by the members of his Church and the people of Canberra. The awards and recognition that he has received do not and perhaps never can or will reflect his contribution to the life of our city or the esteem in which he is held. I regard Pat Power as Canberra's greatest living treasure and long may he remain so. - **Jon Stanhope**.

It is a great privilege when life's journey intersects with another human being in whom one instantly trusts, who shares the same passions and values and whom one admires for their selflessness, integrity and courage. Bishop Pat has been such a person for me. Undoubtedly the hallmark that makes him stand out from the rest of us has been his fearless championing of the poor and needy, the powerless, and those without a voice. I am sure there have been very many occasions when secular leadership as well as those in senior positions in his own Church have found him a 'troublesome priest'. On the other hand I am sure there are many outside the Church who have had to rethink their agnosticism or even atheism when they have encountered the transforming love of this man who attributes it all to the grace of God in Jesus. - **Anglican Bishop George Browning**.

Bishop Pat Power has been a wonderful example of Christian leadership for many years. His gentleness, humility and advocacy of all those marginalised have been an inspiration to all. He has been a leader of the ecumenical life of all the churches, both through the ACT Churches' Council and through his constant brotherly care for the leaders and members of other Christian communions. - **Prof James Haire, Executive Director, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture**.

I first met Bishop Pat at the Christian-Jewish Dialogue group many years ago. Pat has a record of communicating with other faiths and is well-known and respected by their leaders in Canberra. I also know of his outstanding pastoral work and, as a GP, I am aware of his assistance in this area to some of my patients. His contribution to the Catholic Church in particular will be sorely missed. - **Alan Shroot**.



‘Whenever I think of you I pray with joy’

By Bishop Pat Power

When I became a bishop in 1986, I came into it reluctantly, mainly because of my fear that it would remove me from the realities of pastoral life which I had found so satisfying in my 21 years as a priest. But as time went on, I realised that being a bishop gave me the opportunity to be a voice for some people who might otherwise not be heard.

It has been a privilege to campaign with people in solidarity with the first Australians, our Aboriginal people. The launch of the “Sea of Hands” in front of Parliament House in 1997 and walking with 250,000 people across the Sydney Harbour Bridge in support of Aboriginal reconciliation in May 2000 are highlights in my life.

I was pleased in 2006 to play a small part in supporting the residents of the Narrabundah Longstay Caravan Park, threatened with eviction. In more recent years, I have joined with the union which supports cleaners, most of whom are women and migrants.

Over the years, I have felt ashamed at Australia's harsh attitude towards refugees and asylum seekers.

The hardline policies of the major political parties, to my mind, do not reflect the views of decent Australians and fail to take into account the great contribution to Australia made by the post-World War II migrants and the more recent arrivals from Vietnam.

In the 1990s, I felt great anxiety for the people of East Timor in their quest for independence, as I do now for the Tamil people in Sri Lanka and the Palestinians in the face of cruel and unjust treatment.

What does our Catholic social teaching have to say to us about all these issues which are not simply issues, but often involve life and death for people created in God's image?

At the Oceania Synod of Bishops in Rome in 1998, I spoke on “Marginalised People in Society and in the Church”. I singled out four groups of people who were experiencing exclusion in the Church: divorced and re-married people, priests who have left the active ministry, homosexual people and women.

I have tried to be in dialogue with some of these people since the Great Jubilee of 2000 with its theme of reconciliation.

My brother priests and deacons, the religious sisters and brothers are a daily reminder to me of generous dedication and fidelity to their calling. Often in

our brokenness, as “wounded healers” we are able to witness most effectively to the power of God's love in our midst. The “oldies” in our life, the people in the L'Arche and the Faith and Light communities are shining examples of this. At the other end of the spectrum, the young ones I meet at Confirmation constantly uplift my spirits.

The Archdiocesan Synods in 1989 and 2004 were great celebrations of the multi-faceted contribution of all the faithful to the mission of the Church lived out in our wonderful Archdiocese. The themes of “Coming Home in Christ” and “One in Christ Jesus” are still guiding lights for us on our pilgrim journey.

The synods sought to localise the rich fruits of the Second Vatican Council. As we celebrate this year 50 years since the opening of Vatican II, it is my hope that the Church universally and locally is able to be re-committed to the Council's teaching. Unless we “read the signs of the times” and respond to real needs and challenges we will become increasingly irrelevant.

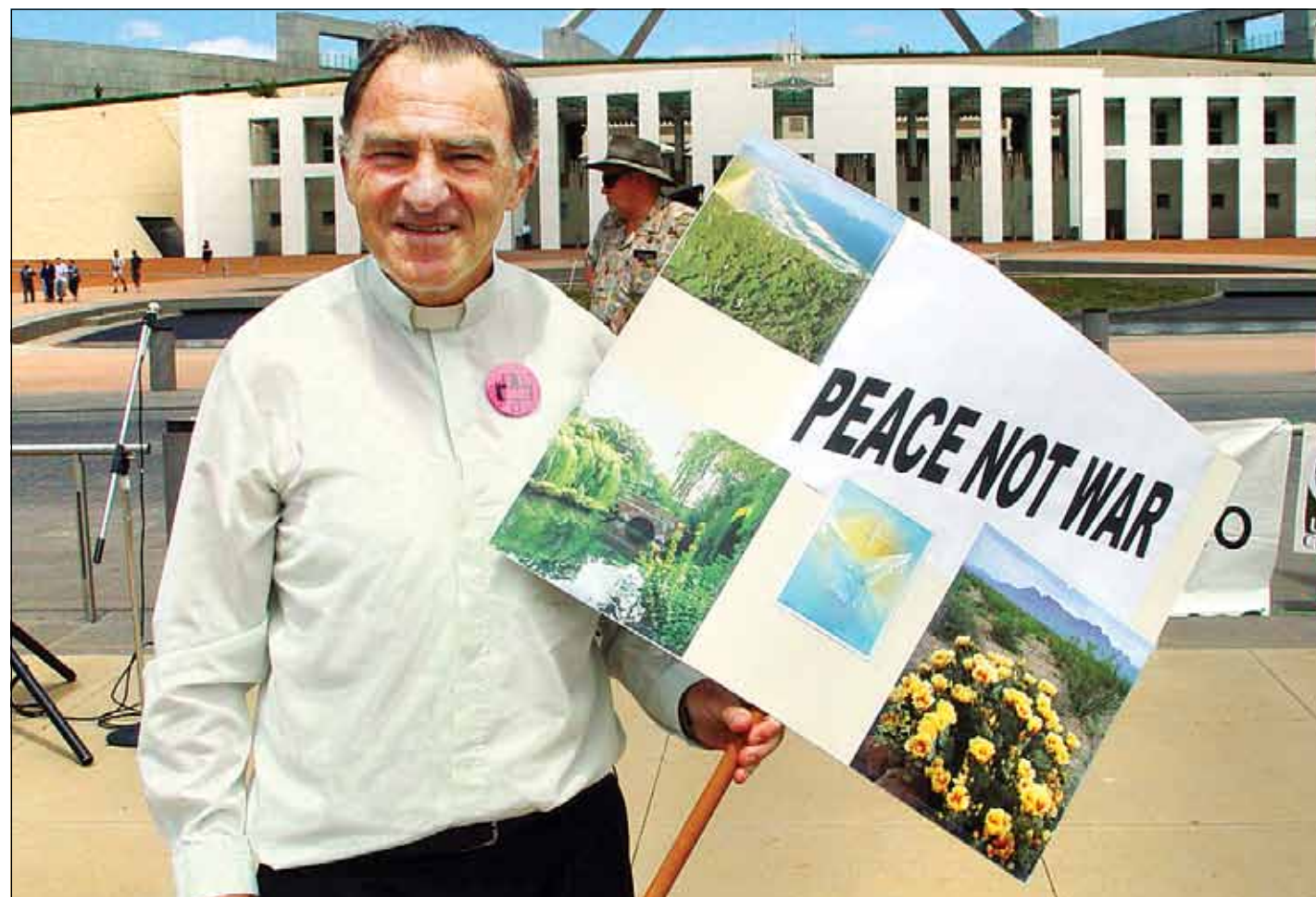
One of my hopes in retirement is to reach out to many Catholic people who no longer feel at home within the life of the Church. These good people need to be listened to and engaged in a spirit of dialogue.

The opportunities given to me ecumenically have been a source of true grace where I have seen the face of Christ in my sisters and brothers in the other Christian Churches. I am a better Catholic Christian thanks to their impact on my life. To a lesser extent, but quite significantly, I have valued the friendships and exchanges I have had with the Jewish, Muslim and other faith communities. Such dialogue is essential for peace, harmony and the future of our world.

I thank every person who has touched my life in 47 years as a priest and 26 years as a bishop. Every day I thank God for the gift of the priesthood which has allowed me to be part of your lives.

Thanks for all the good things which are happening in every parish and Catholic school from Lake Cargelligo to Eden. Thanks to all the people at Favier House who have kept me afloat for the past 20 years. Thanks to my dear friend Geraldine who has cared for me at home for over 12 years. Finally, thanks to my late parents, Ken and Olga, my four sisters, Maria, Margaret, Loretta and Pauline, and all their extended families.

With St Paul, I can say to everyone mentioned, “Whenever, I think of you, I pray for you and when I pray for you I pray with joy.”



PICTURES: Clockwise from top left: Signing off on the Synod with Archbishop Francis Carroll; with some young Palestinian friends; a rabid Rabbitohs fan; meeting Pope John Paul II; dreams of Olympic glory; cold and wet on the way to Compostela; with then Chief Minister Jon Stanhope as Canberra of the Year.



Farewell and thanks

Bishop Pat, who stands with the people of God, is a courageous prophet of our time, a strong proclaimer of the Gospel and fearless advocate for the vulnerable. He continues to show us the faithful love of God and the practical compassion of Jesus. We thank him for his years of inspiring leadership as Bishop and for all the times we have felt proud of his lone voice for justice. We have loved his company, affirmation and friendship. He is a true MacKillop treasure. - **the Sisters of St Joseph, Goulburn**.

In the 13 years that I was involved in the Catholic Education Office there were many occasions on which I had contact with this holy, sincere and self-effacing man. I dealt with many bishops over that time and apart from Archbishop Thomas Cahill, Pat Power was the member of the Catholic hierarchy who impressed me above all others. - **Peter J Moore, Latham**.

Attending a CDF conference in Cairns in the 1990s Fr Pat went on an ecological bus and river tour with Fr Peter Gannon. The tour guide was constantly over the top on green issues which prompted Fr Pat to tantalise him asking, “Are Catholics allowed to eat crocodiles on Fridays”? Not knowing Fr Pat was a priest or indeed a bishop, the guide was left baffled and quieter. May retirement be neither fish nor fowl for you, Fr Pat! - **Herbie O'Flynn, Spence**.

I have only met Bishop Pat on several occasions. Each time I felt that I was in the presence of Christ himself. Here is a truly humble servant of God who is as loved and respected in the other denominations as he is throughout this Catholic Archdiocese. - **Peter Ahern**.

I know Bishop Pat mainly through his visits to Adaminaby at Easter every year where he makes the Easter Sunday Mass the truly joyful, holy occasion it is meant to be. Just by being there he has affirmed this tiny, 11-year drought-stricken congregation, and given us the gift of his empathy, sincerity and insight. - **Margaret and Leigh Clark, Old Adaminaby**.

Bishop Pat embodies everything that a good bishop should be. As a pastor he has been a healer and a listener. The poor and marginalised have benefited from his advocacy for justice. - **Conor Bradley, Belconnen**.

As a bishop, he has shown himself to be a leader who is willing to take necessary risks: when he sees abuses, he opposes them, even though he puts himself at risk in doing so. - **Dennis Sleigh, Temora**.

Bishop Pat Power's humble and obvious faith has been an inspiration and an anchor in faith to me and probably thousands of others. - **Tom Bellgard, Cooma**.

As a contemporary of Bishop Pat's and a retired catechist, I still value his statement at an annual Catechists' Mass. He told us we were the salt of the earth and his words were a constant inspiration for twenty-five years, every time I entered the classroom. - **Margaret Berry, St. Patrick's Parish, Boorowa**.

A visionary, decades ahead of the present time. He has a connection to the oppressed, compassion to those who have suffered and were subject to cruel powers of authority. - **Bede Ryan, Young**.

I have known Pat Power for more than 30 years. From time to time I have found him by my side, Christ-like, his very presence giving me courage to continue. - **John Hagan**.

Thank you Pat for your example of putting prayer first, for your example of gentleness and for the strong yet quiet ways that you went about the tasks of your ministry. - **Helen Druett**.

At a time when the Catholic Church is constantly being criticized or ridiculed in the press and on TV, it gives us great pride in him when our non-Catholic friends warmly praise the public work of “your bishop”. - **Leoni and Brian Kelly, Fadden**.

We, the Filipino community and the South Coast Australian devotees of the most holy rosary, express our joyful thanks for your generous support to the special celebrations of annual Masses celebrated at the South Coast parishes. - **Lily D Cowan, Quamaa**.

Bishop Pat has meant a lot to a lot of people in our faith and the faith of others. - **Margaret Priest, Malua Bay**.

One of my most treasured memories of Bishop Pat is when he blessed me and my soon-to-be-born son, Ross, in 1977. - **Christina Rowe**.

Fr Pat as always been consistent, a steady hand in a crisis, a great giver of his time but most of all a good man who has done God's work to the best of his ability and more. - **Annie de Smet**.



a centenary of canberra's catholics

A favourite son remembered for his kindness

In the 15th in a series of portraits of significant Catholics of the national capital, Bishop Pat Power tells of the contribution of Gerry Kilmartin, a pioneer mover and shaker with sterling qualities.

Gerald Joseph Kilmartin hailed from Sydney where he was born at the beginning of the 20th century, but he will be long remembered as a favourite son of Canberra. He had qualified as a fitter and turner when he arrived in Canberra in 1925. He returned to Sydney to marry Maud Elizabeth Kelly on 13 February, 1926 after which Canberra was to become their family home town.

Like so many newcomers to Canberra, Gerry Kilmartin was in for a shock. Son John describes those beginnings: "My father told me that on his initial arrival, he was met at Queanbeyan by Matt Campbell (later of Bungendore) and then walked out to Molonglo Camp and single men's quarters where he first experienced a Canberra winter, sleeping in a tin shed on a rough bed with one thin blanket. He reckoned it was the coldest night he had ever spent. The Molonglo Camp was sited where Bunnings hardware presently stands at Fyshwick."

By the time Gerry brought his new bride back to the area, he had a flat for them to occupy in Queanbeyan. Shortly after, they moved to Causeway which was the starting point for many of the national capital's pioneering families. Mgr Alexander McGilvray's history of early Canberra, *The Hallowed High Adventure*, names some such Catholic families: the Kilmartins, Bourkes, Gowings, Noonans, Kellys, Malones, Peads, Scotts, Dogans and McAppions.

Part of my 2010 Canberra Day Oration reads: "Gerry Kilmartin, a great family man, who went on to become an astute entrepreneur in Canberra, cut his

teeth in Causeway. Significantly, from the outset he was a leading figure in the St Vincent de Paul Society whose members, along with the Salvation Army, cared for the poor in Causeway as well as in the rest of Canberra."

Mgr McGilvray elaborates on Gerry's sterling qualities: "For over 45 years, he was destined to play a leading part in Catholic affairs. Like so many of his time, he became one of Fr Haydon's band of dedicated parishioners resolved to work for the spiritual and material advancement of the Church."

"In the small Catholic community of those days, an infectious spirit of devotion to a cause seemed to inspire every individual. Soon after his arrival, Gerry Kilmartin became an active member of the St Vincent de Paul Society. There were many needy families at the Causeway in those days, and Fr Haydon managed somehow to collect food and clothing at Queanbeyan for distribution in the Federal capital (remembering that Canberra was still part of Queanbeyan parish until 1928).

"In a quiet and unostentatious way, Gerry and his friend, Terry Simonds, did the rounds of Causeway, locating those in need and distributing what Fr Haydon had gathered."

John Kilmartin reports that his mother, Maud, attended as a guest the opening of the first Parliament House in 1927 and in 1988 at the invitation of Prime Minister Bob Hawke the current seat of Government.

Gerry could not attend the 1927 ceremony because he was busy working that day helping to put in the place the domed roof, which he had helped to build, for the Mt Stromlo Observatory.

There was a long-standing interest in horse racing on both Gerry and Maud's side of the family, so it is not surprising that Gerry was part of the formation of St Patrick's Racing Club at Tuggeranong on the McCormack family property. Daughter, Anna Vincent, tells how her father was



Gerald and Maud Kilmartin with daughter Joan Kilmartin and future husband Lieutenant Robert Joshua at his December 1954 RMC graduation, with chaplain the then Fr John Hoare in foreground.



Gerry Kilmartin's sheep grazing in front of Old Parliament House in 1951.

approached by Mr Sim Bennett to instigate what was to become the ACT Jockey Club.

"Dad did the background work and paperwork, after visiting the AJC in Sydney to estab-

lish the club and allow it to race under the auspices of the AJC.

"Our mother was the de facto secretary prior to the appointment of Mr George O'Neill who was the front man."

In typical fashion, Gerry then stepped back and assumed a simple membership role.

People who knew Gerry Kilmartin remember him as a man of great kindness.

When he found out that the Good Samaritan Sisters were being subjected to the extremes of Canberra's winter he took steps to provide heating for the convent with the help of his plumber brother-in-law Jack Kelly.

Once the Kilmartins moved to their property at Mugga Mugga, they provided produce for the Sisters. One of their daughters, Loretta, would become a Sister of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart after attending St Christopher's School along with her five sisters and brother, John.

When the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary arrived in Canberra in the 1960s to establish Marymead, Gerry and Maud Kilmartin were on hand again to help the Sisters and the vulnerable children they were caring for.

Anna Vincent speaks of her father sending a weekly sheep or lamb from the abattoirs to the butcher for delivery to Marymead as well as providing boxes of fruit and vegetables.

After Gerry's death in 1970, Maud continued to be involved with the Marymead auxiliary and for many years helped count the money raised from the walk-athon.

During my seminary holidays in the 1960s, I did some work for Jim O'Malley, manager of Thomas W Green's Wool and Skin buyers. Part of my work with Jim's son, James, took us to the Canberra Abattoirs then owned by Gerry and John Kilmartin.

There could not be a better summary of a great life than that provided by John Kilmartin. "Gerry Kilmartin was a pioneer of the new city of Canberra, being involved in its early construction and in community and church activities. He was a lecturer and instructor at Canberra Technical College especially to servicemen in the war years. He prospered as a farmer, grazier and meat wholesaler.

"He was a great character, absorbing raconteur, generous to all, and in his commercial career, a mover and shaker despite being always short of resources. He is remembered with much affection."



The children in kindergarten were learning all about creation with head of primary Mrs Anne Maddock when Catholic Voice visited Lumen Christi College, Pambula.

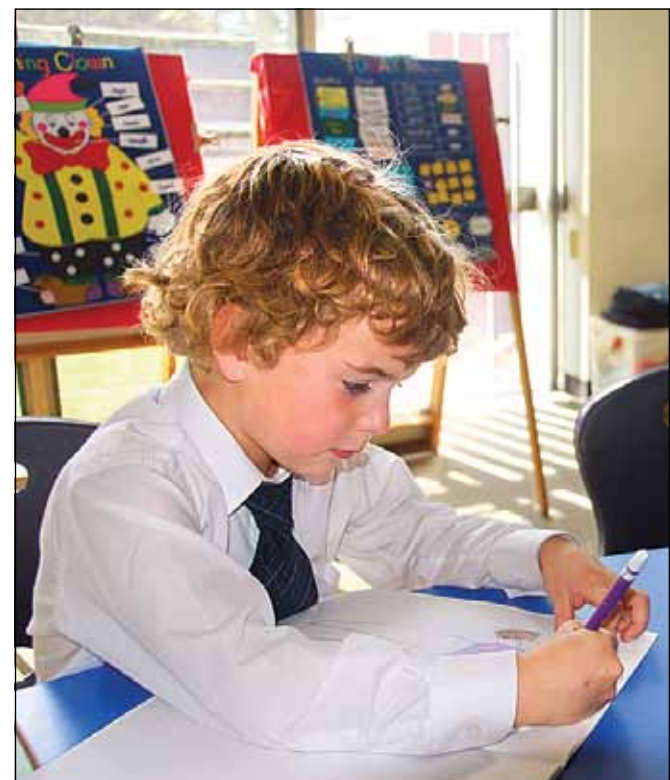
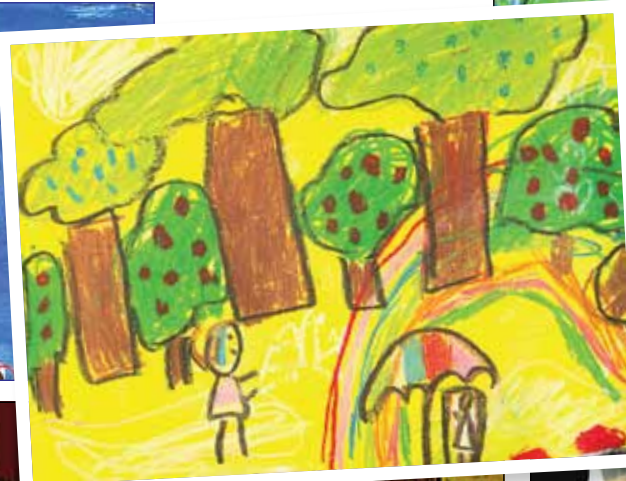
Students were asked to think about what God has created and what they are thankful for. They shared this with the class through many mediums including drawing, collages and creations found in their very own playground.

The class also had a "bucket of happiness" where students shared something that had made them happy recently and added it to the bucket.

They have finished some artworks to show Catholic Voice readers.



ARTISTIC:
These artworks were made by Domenica Papalia (left), Jayde Freckleton (right), Liam Friedli (below left) and Caitlyn Oliver (below).



ABOVE: Archer Whitby draws himself as part of the religious education unit, where students are taught each of us is unique, loved by God and a marvel of creation.

LEFT: Georgia Scarlett is helped by Mrs Maddock as she prepares a prayer of thanks for all that we have been given by God.

BELOW: Caitlyn Oliver, Phoebe Garnock and Mahalia Pettigrove-Barr share their collection of images which form the basis of prayer, thanking God for the wonderful and beautiful elements of creation.



ABOVE: Brodie Cook showing some of the found items from the playground, to add to the class display of Wonders of God's Creation.

BELOW: Phoebe Garnock and Caitlyn Oliver adding elements to the class "bucket of happiness".



Students stress as finances dwindle

First-year nursing student Ms Carmel Murphy is all too familiar with financial stress since moving from Goulburn to Canberra to study full time at Australian Catholic University.

Last month's Federal Budget brought students like her little relief. She rents a room in Lyneham at \$230 a week, which includes meals, and receives \$260 from Centrelink in Youth

Allowance and Rent Assistance a week – leaving her with just \$30 for petrol, university books, medical fees, phone bills, clothes and social activities.

Ms Murphy has to work fewer than six hours a week in her casual job in Goulburn to receive the full amount of youth and rental allowance. "It's really hard, because at the end of the day it's a job and having to say

'no' to extra hours when they need you because of the allowance is extremely difficult," Ms Murphy said. "If I scrapped the Youth Allowance and worked more hours to get more money, I'd have to more than double what I do now and there's no way I could do that with my study.

"It's very stressful trying to balance everything when you earn so little – things like my study, my work, my social activities, and my faith."

The 22-year-old had built up savings before she began studying, but was surprised to learn she could only receive the allow-

ance if she had less than \$3000 savings. She had to give away some of her savings to receive the allowance and rental assistance, but regularly has to dip into what she has left to cover costs.

"The allowance alone is just not enough to cover those expenses," she said. "If I didn't already have those savings behind



me, I don't know what I would do as there's no way I could afford those expenses on \$30 a week. All my nursing books for this semester were \$700."

Catholic Social Services Australia has called for a further increase to Newstart and Youth Allowances to keep up with rising rental costs and living expenses. Despite a budget increase of \$4 a week in both allowances, this barely covered the cost of basic living, executive director Mr Paul O'Callaghan said. The unemployed struggled to live off about \$25 a day and many students lived off much less.

Living with 'those who shine'

People with an intellectual disability are a precious gift to God and the Church, disability worker Mrs Pam Barker said.

Mrs Barker was one of five women who spoke about the spirituality of people with disabilities at two forums hosted by the Archdiocesan Commission for Women.

Speakers included Sr Rita Reilly, who volunteers at the Dorothy Sales Cottages in Hughes for people with brain injuries, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference disabilities project officer Mrs Trish Mowbray, L'Arche Canberra community convener Ms Claire Lawler and Corpus Christi parish activist Mrs Barb Cologon.

Mrs Barker is Canberra community coordinator for international Christian association, Faith and Light, which holds a monthly prayerful celebration for people with an intellectual disability and their families and friends.

She believes it is important to value and celebrate the different gifts people with disabilities can offer the Church.

"People with an intellectual disability reveal themselves and shine amongst the faithful; they can have a rich inner life," Mrs Barker said. "They share our hope, and open the way to a world of tenderness. I believe the Church respects those who do not walk the usual path of life."

Fellow speaker Mrs Cologon has two adopted boys with disabilities, Charlie and



Speakers Pam Barker and Barb Cologon.

Tim. She says both boys have taught everyone they meet "so much. Both boys spread God's love to everyone around them," Mrs Cologon said. "They have a great spiritual understanding and love deeply and unconditionally.

"They show they are capable of a higher spirituality – Tim is an altar server at the Corpus Christi Parish and Charlie attends Mass where he always spreads lots of love. He is happiest when he is giving. "My husband and I adopted Charlie and Tim because we wanted them; not because they were different. A person is a person and we are all from God, no matter what our abilities or disabilities."

School's out for face of St Vincent's

For 22 years, Irene Scholtens' face was the first students, teachers, parents and visitors to St Vincent's Primary School, Aranda, saw. In fact, that seat behind the counter was so much hers that a little boy from the school was heard to exclaim, when he saw the school's office manager at the shops one day, "Mrs Scholtens has got legs!"

Sadly for the school community, those legs have come out from behind the desk for good, as Mrs Scholtens has retired. She admits it was a big decision to leave what a kindergarten child once called her "house", but the lure of travelling with husband Paul and spending more time with her five children and 13 grandchildren was too strong.

Her St Vincent's "family" will miss the soothing voice on the end of the phone, the welcoming face at the front desk, and the quiet sense of humour that ena-



Mrs Irene Scholtens with pupils Finn Taylor and Sienna Putt.

bled her to master the art of multitasking with a smile.

Not only did Mrs Scholtens deal with the administration side of the school but she nurtured and cared for hundreds of students. She looked on the children almost as if they were her own. She has either known of, known or worked with every principal since St Vincent's opened its doors in 1970.

At her farewell liturgy, students of St Vincent's shared their memories. They spoke of how Mrs Scholtens had cared for them and how much they appreciated her hard work in the front office, including compiling the weekly newsletter, organising Book Club forms and delivering messages to students.

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Sleepless for a great cause

Radio presenters Leighton Archer and Larry Appley gave a whole new meaning to their station's "forever classic" theme when the hosts stayed on air for 24 hours to raise money for Marymead.

The marathon fundraiser included special guests and celebrities from around Australia who called 2CA to keep Mr Archer and Mr Appley alert. "There were many chocolates and coffees on hand to keep us awake," said Mr Appley. "We had moments at 1am when our bodies were tired and we weren't sure we were going to make it."

People were encouraged to call in with donations to help Marymead reach a target of \$15,000.

The hosts were ecstatic when "at the last second" they beat the target and raised more than \$20,000 for the organisation.

"It was close, but in the last 30 seconds of the marathon we got a call from a company wanting to donate \$5000," Mr Archer said. "We wanted to do this marathon because we love what Marymead stands for, and it doesn't get the exposure other larger national charities get."

ABOVE RIGHT: Marymead senior manager for marketing, community relations and administration Jeff Griffiths, 2CA presenters Leighton Archer and Larry Appley and Marymead chief executive officer Hilary Martin celebrate.



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ZIERA

What it means to live in the light

Several years ago, I was approached by a man who asked me to be his spiritual director. He was in his mid-40s and almost everything about him radiated a certain health.

As we sat down to talk, I mentioned that he seemed to be in a very good space. He smiled and replied that, yes, this was so, but it hadn't always been so. His happiness had its own history ... and its own pre-history. Here's how he told his story:

"I haven't always been in a good space in my life; in fact, it's been a long struggle to get where I am today.

"For more than 20 years, from the time I left high school until three years ago, I struggled with two addictions: alcohol and sex. I had them enough under control that I could essentially hide them from my family, my friends, and my colleagues.

"As well I never acted out in very dangerous ways. I was addicted, but still had good control in my life. The problem was that I was living a double life - showing one life to my family and friends and living another

life secretly (alcohol, pornography, and pick-up bars) on the side.

"I never once missed a day of work and was always able to function at a high level professionally, but my life slowly began to fixate around my addictions - hiding them, lying about my activities, fiercely protecting my privacy, resentment towards anything or anybody who stood between me and my addictions, and daily anxiety, scheming about where I would go at night.

"I functioned decently within my work and my relationships, but my mind, heart, and real attention were focused on something else, my addictions, my next hit.

"I'm not sure what the exact trigger was since there were a number of things that hit me at a point (my father's death, a couple of near escapes in terms of being discovered, some real shame, some graced moments of clarity when I sensed both my hypocrisy and the dead-end road I was on), but three years ago I went on a retreat to a monastery and had

the courage to have a long talk with the abbot.

"He suggested that I go into two recovery programs, one to deal with alcohol and the other to deal with sex. I took his advice and all I can say is that it has completely turned my life around.

Ron Rolheiser

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



"I've been 'sober' now for three years and the best way that I can describe it is that now 'I see colour again'. Nothing feels as great as honesty. I have never been this happy. I'm now living in the light."

We're called to live in the light, but we tend to have an overly romantic idea of what that

should mean. We tend to think that to live in the light means that there should be a kind of special sunshine inside of us, a divine glow in our conscience, a sunny joy inside us that makes is constantly want to praise God, an ambience of sacredness surrounding our attitude.

But that's unreal. What does it mean to live in the light?

To live in the light means to live in honesty, pure and simple, to be transparent, to not have part of us hidden as a dark secret.

All conversion and recovery programs worthy of the name are based on bringing us to this type of honesty. We move towards spiritual health precisely by flushing out our sickest secrets and bringing them into the light.

Sobriety is more about living in honesty and transparency than it is about living without a certain chemical, gambling, or sexual habit. It's the hiding of something, the lying, the dishonesty, the deception, the resentment we harbour towards those who stand between us and our addiction, that does the real

damage to us and to those we love.

Spiritual health lies in honesty and transparency and so we live in the light when we are willing to lay every part of our lives open to examination by those who need to trust us.

- To live in the light is to be able always to tell our loved ones where we are and what we are doing.

- To live in the light is not to have to worry if someone traces what websites we have visited.

- To live in the light is to not be anxious if someone in the family finds our files unlocked.

- To live in the light is to be able to let those we live with listen to what's inside our cell-phones, see what's inside our emails, and know who's on our speed-dial.

- To live in the light is to have a confessor and to be able to tell that person what we struggle with, without having to hide anything.

- To live in the light is to live in such a way that, for those who know us, our lives are an open book.

why I grow what I grow

These prickly customers have a colourful side

A column in which well known and not so well known people with green thumbs tell us just how they do it. This month we speak to Anne-Marie Slattery.

Growing cacti is ideal for the low-maintenance gardener who doesn't have much time on their hands, says Anne-Marie Slattery.

"You can go nearly all winter without watering cacti," Ms Slattery said.

"It's great for me because I'm not blessed with a green thumb, and often I forget to water them but when I check, they are still okay. They can survive."

In the warmer months, Ms Slattery waters the cacti "around once a fortnight and usually fertilise them once every four to six weeks - that's still not a lot of maintenance for a plant."

Ms Slattery, who is a librarian at CSIRO on Black Mountain, has been growing cacti for about five years and is a member of the Cactus and Succulent Society in Canberra.

She grew up in Canberra, attending the then St Michael's School, Lyneham, and St Vincent's, Aranda.

Ms Slattery has a collection of several different types of cacti at her home in Scullin, bought from markets and nurseries in the region.

"I usually buy the cacti as a plant in a pot, but I sometimes also purchase seeds; they are just a little bit harder to find in nurseries as they don't sell them as often," she said.

Ms Slattery loves cacti for their "variety and shapes," and their ability to adapt to the weather.

"It's funny because you can have two plants that are the same type of cacti, and you can put one out in the sun and the other in cold weather, and the one in cold weather will grow this fuzzy hair all over it, almost like a fur, to protect itself from the cold, while the other will remain bald," she said.

"So even if you've got the same type of cacti, it can look completely different depend-



ABOVE: Anne-Marie Slattery with some of her collection of cacti.

LEFT: A hardy cactus growing in Ms Slattery's backyard.



ing on the weather, which is really interesting.

"Only a scientist would be able to look at the flowers and seeds and realise it's the same type of cacti. They're a smart plant."

Many people don't know that cacti can flower.

"Cacti actually look beautiful when they are flowering, they can get these lovely pink flowers or creams," she said.

"They flower at different times. Some can flower over the winter, some flower in the spring.

"Then there are others that flower all year. They really keep you guessing."

Although she has planted some cacti in the backyard, Ms Slattery prefers to grow most in pots as very few survive Canberra frosts if left in the yard.

"Unless they are a hardy type of cacti, they can't really grow in the ground without dying from the frost," she said.

She prefers growing the smaller types of cacti - "the larger ones have bigger prickles which really are painful," she said.

As cacti hail from South America they need a lot of sunshine to grow.

"People need to be aware that cacti don't respond well to too much rain, they can go black," she said.

"My advice for prospective growers is to get a plant from the markets or friends and start from there, rather than seed. "They're pretty cheap, starting from around \$5. You've got nothing to lose, as they are such an easy plant to have, and they look great."

SHORTS

W/E. Starring Andrea Riseborough, Abbie Cornish, James McAvoy. Directed by Madonna. 119 minutes. MA 15+ (Strong coarse language and violence).

The fact that W/E. was given very little cinema release raises the question about hostility – to Madonna who co-wrote and directed the film and/or to Wallis Simpson, the Duchess of Windsor. This is an attempt to look at her more favourably, which succeeds in part in giving a more human face to the Duchess and giving the audience something of a look behind the scenes at the Duke of Windsor.

Careless Love. Starring Nammi Le, Peter O'Brien, Andrew Hazzard, Ivy Mak, David Field. Directed by John Duigan. 104 minutes. MA15+ (Strong sex scenes and sexual references).

A film about prostitution (as well as other themes). Which raises questions about the meaning of the title and what love really is. The central character is a student, who came to Australia with her boatpeople parents, working as an escort to get money for her parents so that they will not lose their home.

Thriller with action overdose

Safe. Starring Jason Statham, Catherine Chan, Chris Sarandon. Directed by Boaz Yakin. 90 minutes. MA 15+ (Strong violence). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC*.

It's a Jason Statham film. That is enough for film fans to know whether they want to see Safe or not. Statham, formerly a champion British Olympic diver, has made a name for himself for more than a decade as an action hero.

Acting is not his forte but he is certainly a screen presence. He is strong (very strong in Safe with multi-martial arts), not exactly silent but pretty laconic, somewhat stolid in his approach to life, but invigorated by what he sees as injustice and is not inhibited by scruples about a vigilante approach to life and death – generally, death – for the crooked and the corrupt.

And that is what happens here. Actually, there are two initial premises which are interesting though quite disturbing for an action thriller.

On the one hand, there is a little Chinese girl who is ultra-gifted in memory and maths. She is taken to the US to be a human computer for a powerful Triad group. They are in conflict for power and money with a brutal Russian gang. And a crack squad of New York's not so finest are in on the deals.

When the Russians abduct the little girl (Catherine Chan is quite effective in the role), she is rescued by Statham.

The Statham sub-plot has tensions in it. In a fixed multi-martial arts fight that he wins instead of losing, the Russians lose money, kill his wife and leave him alive, threatening to kill anyone he gets close to. On the edge, he contemplates killing himself until he notices the little girl hiding on a sub-way platform. And... off they go.

The Chinese want Mei back with the important numbers she has memorized for them. The Russians want her. The police want her. This leads to some massive shootouts in



Action man Jason Statham with co-star Catherine Chan, as an ultra-gifted Chinese maths whiz-kid.

Manhattan. The body count is more than excessive, making the action more cartoonish than realistic and so runs the danger of seeming ridiculous.

But, that's the Jason Statham action genre. This one is fast-paced, introduces a couple of feeling elements (and a tear or two in Statham's eyes) and is designed to please the fans – which it will.

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

Around the world with monastic nuns

Take a London fashion photographer away from his world of luxurious design and sparkling variation and set him to make a documentary within the enclosed contemplative monasteries of the Tyburn Benedictines.

In a silent, inward world edged onto the transcendent, all wear the same simple black habit and veil, cosmetics are unknown and even mirrors are scarce.

What will this documentary be? "Is it just nuns singing?" asked one lady. Another, a busy mother, delayed watching her copy, fearing the worst: the nuns' home-video of processions and sung church services.

Afterwards, however, she suggested a change to the DVD's cover: "Prepare to be blown away! This is the most visually compelling documentary on

the monastic life as lived by the Tyburn Nuns.

"You will find yourself transformed to another world of beauty and peace, and will be so disappointed when it ends that you will want to re-watch it straight away! Recommended for those with anxiety, high blood pressure, unresolved rage, disenchantment, etc."

"Tyburn Convent Gloria Deo" was the idea of Michael Luke Davies, the former West End fashion and beauty photographer. He had developed an interest in virtual reality photography and was a pioneer of 360-degree panoramic images, which he used for the first time on monastic websites including St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough, UK, and his work received international acclaim. The nuns accepted his urging to produce a film about their congregation, giving him a free hand to

film, edit and direct it, knowing that he was a creative artist, gifted with a high degree of religious sensitivity.

The film begins in London with the Tyburn Reformation Martyrs and the prophecy, made amid the frenzy of the persecution, of how a religious house would one day stand at Tyburn. It then takes the viewer on a round-the-world tour of the other eight monasteries, portraying with great warmth how the monasteries both benefit and are supported by the communities in which they flourish. It shows a life of vibrant, joyous and holy dedication to God, a life well worth living.

Copies of the DVD may be bought for \$25 (cheque or money order payable to Tyburn Priory, sent to 325 Garfield Road East, Riverstone, NSW 2765) or online at www.tyburnconvent.org.uk.

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Pie in the sky

Iron Sky. Starring Julia Dietze, Goetz Otto, Christopher Kirby, Stephanie Paul, Peta Sergeant, Udo Keir. Directed by Timo Vuorensola. 93 minutes. M (Violence, coarse language and sexual references). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone*.

If you are a fan of B-Budget (and B-mentality) science fiction movies and cherish some of those corny images from the past, the absurd stories, the (very) limited sets and special effects, then this is the film for you. If not, you might get stuck in the intentionally (and often successful) ridiculous situations and dialogue, perhaps inclined to take it more seriously than should be and dismiss it. Of course, it is absurd, but this reviewer found some of it quite funny.

Nazis on the dark side of the moon! They went there in 1945, escaping from Hitler's downfall to begin the Fourth Reich. Unfortunately, their technology (especially over-large computers and a deadly space ship called Gotterdammerung) belongs to the 1940s – though the screenplay then gives them some flying saucer space ships which let them get to earth in next to no time, no accommodation to gravity or space suits needed: it is that kind of film.

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

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The diaries of a lonely voice

A Voice Crying in the Wilderness. Hubert Richards: What Really Happened? By Clare Richards. The Columbia Press, 2011, 257 pages, \$31.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Clare Richards has put together *A Voice Crying in the Wilderness* from her late husband's extensive diaries, letters and press cuttings which he kept from 1939.

For 29 years Hubert Richards was an influential Catholic priest widely known in England and abroad as a scripture scholar, lecturer and author. He is listed, among other luminaries, as an original collaborator of the First Edition of the Jerusalem Bible.

He studied at the Roman College in Rome interrupted by "exile" to Stonyhurst during the war.

Then, in response to Pope Pius XII's call for suitable candidates to develop "real skill in literary criticism" and to discover "the literary mode adopted by the Sacred Writers" Bert returned to Rome to the Pontifical Biblical Institute.

In 1949, at a private audience, he received the Pope's blessing to return to England as Professor of Scripture at Westminster Seminary, where he became an inspiration to many for his teaching and writing.

Yet his scholarship and forward thinking were not welcomed by the English hierarchy before and after the Vatican Council. Eventually Cardinal Heenan forbade him to preach or to teach, so Bert sadly resigned from the priesthood.

Clare records this as a regrettable clash between a

"prophet" and a "guardian" of the Faith.

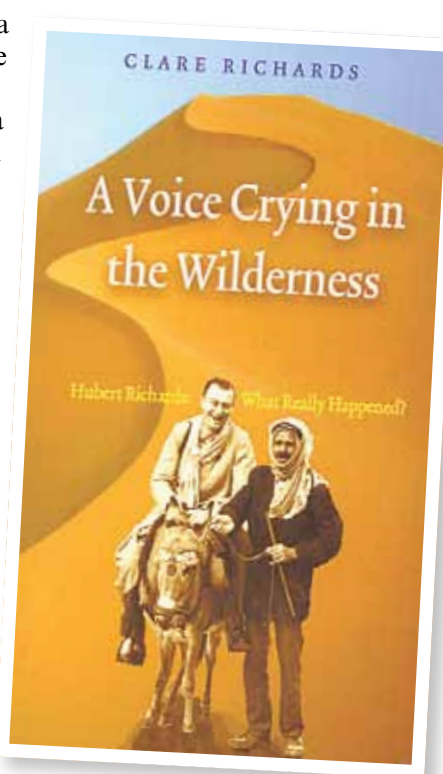
Bert remained a patient and loyal Catholic.

He continued writing and university teaching at Norwich until retirement. He died in 2010 aged 89.

Clare has written this book partly in response to her husband's query, "What will happen to my diaries when I die?"

She is mindful also of Pope Benedict's recent request for a renewed study of the Bible which Bert had wanted all his life.

She has provided a unique and personal insight into the



history of the English Catholic Church from 1939 until the present day.

Rollicking but unreal tale

The Homeless Bishop by Joseph F. Girzone. Orbis Books, NY 2011, 295 pages, \$33.95 h/b. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Among the many reality shows on television is one called "Undercover Boss". Each episode has the boss donning a disguise and swapping the boardroom for the frontline of his company.

While undetected he identifies problems for the staff and selects loyal and talented employees. These are later summoned to headquarters where surprise surprise the boss reveals his plans for them. This scenario is broadly parallel to the narrative underpinning *The Homeless Bishop*. Girzone is a retired American priest and author of the Joshua books.

In this book he stars Bishop Carlo Brunini, an Italian, who requests of the Pope approval of a plan to leave his palace and live on the streets with the homeless as Jesus did. Carlo believes this is the way to understand the fear, loneliness and pain of "his sheep". Permission granted, Carlo dresses in ragged clothes and sets off into the great unknown in Italy, the US and Mexico dispensing words of hope to the grateful poor and putting some interventions in place to change their lives. Returning to his diocese in Italy he adopts a homeless family of eight children.

He prevails upon cousin Madalena, a high-flying lawyer, to abandon her career, come live with him and bring up the kids while he goes about important Church business. The good bishop, who speaks at least nine languages, is posted to Iran where he does wonders for interfaith relations and Vatican-Iranian diplomacy. Back in Italy he single-handedly destroys the power of the local Mafia who oppose his project to house the homeless.

Amazingly, even though Carlo's actions have got right up the noses of many cardinals, he emerges from a conclave as Il Papa. Girzone uses the fictional bishop to voice his own opinions about aspects of Church teaching. Two of these, expressed through Carlo, are his belief that the Eucharist should be made available to all, regardless of status, and that married men (not women) should be ordained. Girzone writes a rollicking tale which has little to do with reality. It belongs to the same genre as that of the better-known Dan Brown. Red alert!

A challenging perspective of Mary

I am Mary, I am Woman. By Caroline Renehan. The Columbia Press, 2010. PB, 145 pages, \$24.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

How do you picture Mary, Mother of God? The front cover here shows the Star of the Sea memorial in Dublin.

It depicts a crowned Mary standing atop a globe at the summit of a pillar about 10 storeys high.

The author aims, firstly, to examine the meaning of images, doctrines, titles and practices linked with two thousand years of reflection, discussion, debate and writings about Mary of Nazareth.

Secondly, she hopes to explore Marian theology as a possible bridge between Catholic Church teaching and Christian feminist hermeneutics/anthropology. She succeeds on both counts.

Initially, Renehan offers a framework to draw together ideas and beliefs about Mary: Mary as a Theatype (placed on a high pedestal: she is virtually worshipped); Mary as Christotype (placed close to Christ, with power to co-redeem and act as an intercessor between God and humanity); Mary as Ecclesiotype (a

human being, uniquely present to the Church, the People of God).

Recent Church documents and theological writings suggest that there is some hope for a more progressive attitude towards women in the Church.

Additionally, certain attitudes, those that don't conform to Christ's values and behaviour, need to be challenged.

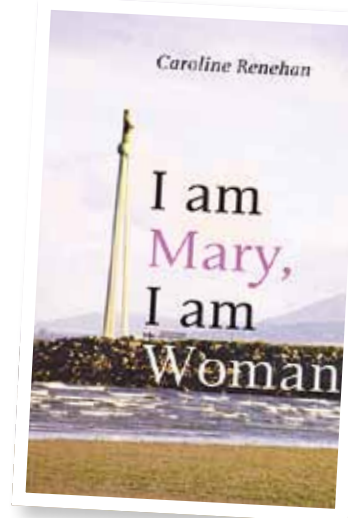
It is Mary's essential humanity (her human struggles, suffering, her strength, her prophetic nature) that can speak to people today.

Renehan has been a teacher at secondary schools and university.

She has a double doctorate and is head of religious studies at St Patrick's College at Dublin City University.

This is her third book and one of the best I've seen on Mary, combining theology with Church history and an empathetic understanding of sociological trends.

It may be challenging for some who have a narrow perspective on the wonderful woman who is Mary.



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comment

Correct understanding

In the review of "Deeper than Words: Living the Apostles' Creed" (April 2012), the reviewer seems to indicate that the author interprets Christ's descent into hell as simply that He died.

Catholic teaching, as I understand it, has it referring also to His descent "to free the just who had gone before Him" and were awaiting their Saviour as the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes. (631 onwards).

There is a beautiful expression of that reality in an ancient homily of Holy Saturday as given in the Breviary for that day.

With the frequent use of the Apostles' Creed at Mass it is all the more important that we have a correct and full understanding of the truths it expresses.

Fr Paul Bateman, Morans Crossing.

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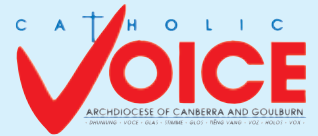
NOVENA to the Sacred Heart. Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you for this special favour (mention it). Take it,

Dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within your own broken heart, where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes, it will be your favour not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for three days. Thank you Sacred Heart. R N.

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 and TP. Petitions gained after saying this prayer.

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 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 succour me in my necessity (make your request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you (three times). Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three days. E M B.

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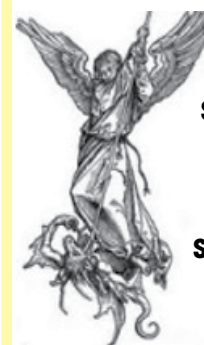
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ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT - St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Monday 8am-10pm, Tuesday noon-10pm, Wednesday and Thursday 1pm-10pm and Friday 7am- Saturday 8am.

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.

CURSILLO - A women's Cursillo, a course in Christian living, 5-8 July, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong. Spiritual director Fr Michael Fallon. Register and information: Donna Evans, telephone 6235 0319 or 0432 385 197, email donna@supportlink.com.au.

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.

LEADERSHIP FOR WOMEN - Madeleine Sophie Barat Program sponsored by religious of the Sacred Heart, organised by women for women, focusing on social awareness, spirituality and leadership. Live-in weekend retreats, 6-8 July, 2-4 November, The Gathering Place, 4 Bancroft Street, Dickson. Applications: Sr Betty McMahon, telephone 6257 9027, e-mail betty.kp@bigpond.com.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR - The Good Shepherd Prayer Group seminar, 7pm-9.15pm Wednesdays to 4 July, St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla. Guest speakers Fr David Callaghan MGL, Sr Kate Cleary MGL, Deacon Mateus Wuwu MGL, Fr Bony Abraham MGL. Inquiries: Neda, telephone 0415 266 019, Susanna, telephone 0419 902 293.

MASS FOR FATHERS - 5.30pm, 8 June, St Benedict's Eucharistic Centre, Narrabundah. Pray for fathers living and dead, to give thanks, to pray for them in their role as fathers, for their joys and their sorrows, and to receive God's healing love into the hearts of those whose relationship with their fathers needs his gentle touch.

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

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.

SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA - Parents of priests, religious, deacons and seminarians Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral, 11am, Sunday, 3 June, followed by lunch at Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

TOUCHING THE SACRED WITHIN - A weekend of quiet solitude, The Hermitage, Marist Brother's Mittagong, 24 August pm to 26 August pm. \$ 220. Facilitator Sr Lorraine Cupitt. Bookings by 27 July. Inquiries: Telephone 6262 8974, email lorraine.pottershouse@virginbroadband.com.au.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Weekend for married couples, 20-22 July, St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, NSW. Bookings: Telephone 4283 3435 or www.wwme.org.au

Written entries are invited for the July 2012 issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Friday, 15 June. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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Croatian initiative



Canberra's Croatian Catholic community for the first time has commissioned lay people to distribute Holy Communion. Fr Miroslav Mandic (above) commissioned four members of the community, including two women, as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, Ana Leopolda Melek, Toni Krajcar, Marija Crep and Ljudevit Seselja. In a letter to the community, Vicar General Mgr John Woods, who prepared the group, stressed the importance of the ministry in building up the Body of Christ.

Trinity friendship



Students from Holy Trinity, Curtin, and Trinity, Murrumburrah, met to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

At the end of last year Holy Trinity, Curtin, donated supermarket vouchers to Trinity, Murrumburrah. Holy Trinity decided that as it had been fortunate to collect thousands of vouchers they could be shared with a country school with limited access to the scheme.

The day at Curtin began with a liturgy, followed by a sausage sizzle and sporting and art activities.

Trinity Murrumburrah principal Ms Trina McGrath said the value of the supermarket vouchers equalled four years of the school's sports budget. "We felt so welcome and our sports ministers have had so much fun unpacking all the equipment," she said.

ABOVE: New friends... (from left) Maddison Chard, Kenley Frey, Rebecca Lowe and Hunter Ings.

Bishop for Toowoomba

Toowoomba has a new bishop, the former Vicar General of Parramatta Diocese Mgr Robert McGuckin. He succeeds Bishop William Morris.

Since his ordination in 1973 he has served in several parishes of Sydney Archdiocese and, from its inception in 1986, Parramatta Diocese.

An expert in canon law, he has served as a lecturer, judge and president of the Canon Law Society.

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Nourished, and inspired by the great celebrations surrounding Easter, we as Church return to ordinary time - the day-to-day living out of our faith as Christians in our communities and world.

Over the coming months Catholic Mission will promote the work of Propagation of the Faith. This work assists faith communities in dioceses of developing countries and remote areas of Australia to be present as well as have an effective presence with their community and the wider community.

In Ethiopia, the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary have undertaken mobile health, education and nutrition to local communities and refugees. Sr Maureen Elliott, an Australian sister, said the people faced great need and the generosity of Australians through Catholic Mission made a great difference.

The support given to our annual appeals and by donors who give regularly, enables Catholic Mission to establish partnerships and communicate with the local Church, their people's efforts and establish avenues for assistance and advocacy. Should you wish to know more about Catholic Mission, call us on 6163 4321.

God bless,
Deacon Joe Blackwell

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Mary's day at Galong



Freezing temperatures did not deter hundreds of pilgrims from coming to St Clement's Monastery, Galong, for the annual Archdiocesan Marian procession. Ethnic communities organised this year's procession with the rosary said in a number of languages including Spanish, Korean, Malayalam, Vietnamese and Indonesian as well as English. Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto took part in the crowning of the statue of Our Lady and made the walk to the grotto where Fr Joseph Carroll CSSR gave the address.



ABOVE: Gianna Hyland carries the crown with Chiara Strmota behind her. In the background are Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto and Redemptorist Fr Pat Corbett. RIGHT: Chiara completes the crowning.

TOP and ABOVE: A day for young and old at St Clement's Monastery, Galong.