



Thanks for everything

Ovation for our retiring bishop

A packed St Christopher's Cathedral gave Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power a standing ovation at the end of a farewell Mass marking his retirement after 26 years as a bishop.

Among the congregation were former Prime Minister Mr Kevin Rudd, federal parliamentarians Warren Snowdon, Barnaby Joyce and Bob Katter, ACT politicians, and many family members and friends.

The reading was proclaimed by former Ambassador of Ireland to Australia Mr Richard O'Brien.

Bishop Pat Power hopes retirement will give him more time to "have a special outreach to those on the outer, both in terms of the Church and the wider community". Speaking at a farewell Mass celebrated in a packed St Christopher's Cathedral, he said:

"I promise to continue to listen to your stories and to be uplifted by your example."

He also hopes that, "leaving aside the burdens of meetings and bureaucracy, I will be freer to support my brother priests and deacons who are hanging in there for the long haul."

"If my joy is in all of you present tonight my sorrow is in those who no longer feel at home in the life of the Catholic Church."

"In my ministry as bishop, I have tried to reach out to those who are at the edges, both in the Church and in the wider community."

"I don't think any of us can be comfortable in the family of the Church without asking what is causing so many of our sisters and brothers to walk away."

● Cont Page 3.



ABOVE: Bishop Pat Power leaves the Cathedral at the end of Mass.
TOP: Surrounded by some of the people he served, at the reception in St Edmund's College hall.

what's inside

- 4 Year of Grace
- 6 Signadou to mark half century
- 10-11 Remembering the Goulburn strike
- 14 Ron Rolheiser
- 14 Why I grow what I grow
- 15 Fashion for winter
- 16 The latest movies
- 18 Classifieds
- 19 What's on around Archdiocese
- 20 Young Voices kids page

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what do you know?

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

1. Pentecost marked the start of a special year. What is its name?
2. Western parish Temora is celebrating the golden anniversary of priesthood of one of its most loved residents. Who is he?
3. Bishop Pat Power was a foundation student of which local college?
4. Signadou campus of ACU was opened as a teachers' college back in 1963 by
5. Who was Archbishop at the time of the Goulburn school "strike"?
6. CEOs were sleeping rough last month to raise money for what cause?

Answers bottom Page 4.

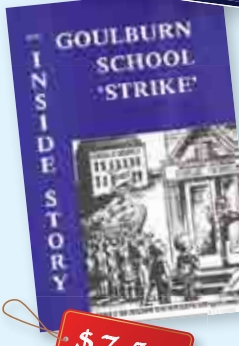
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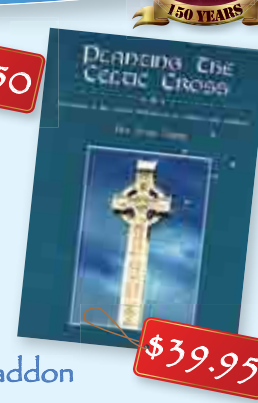
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From near and far

Athlete and former St Mary Mac-Killop College student Melissa Breen has been selected to represent Australia in the 100m sprint at the London Olympics. Ms Breen is the only athlete on the team who has not recorded an A-qualifying time but her consistently close performances meant she was given special consideration by selectors.

Fr Phil Harding, recently retired parish priest of Temora, will celebrate the golden anniversary of his ordination to priesthood on Friday, 20 July. Mass will be celebrated at 6 pm in Sacred Heart Church, Temora, followed by dinner at Temora Ex-Services Club. Tickets for the dinner cost \$25. Bookings and inquiries: Dennis Sleigh, telephone 6978 1260, or email dwsleigh@tpg.com.au.

Fund launched to support seminarians



A foundation has been launched to fund the ongoing education of the Archdiocese's seminarians.

The Borromeo Foundation, named for St Charles Borromeo, patron saint of seminarians, will hold money raised in initiatives to support the seminarians.

The first fund-raising arm of the foundation, the Archdiocesan Ambassadors Program, was launched in April, at a function held at Archbishop's House and hosted by Archdiocesan Administrator Mgr John Woods.

The cost of keeping one seminarian at the seminary for a year was more than \$30,000, Mgr Woods said.

"Funds are needed to meet into the future the continuing costs of educating seminarians

and so supplying the priests which are urgently required for the Archdiocese," he said.

"The need is pressing as our Ecclesiastical Education Fund is running at a deficit."

Ambassadors undertake to commit to the fund-raising program themselves and to go among colleagues and the Catholic community telling them of the need for long-term, sustainable funding.

Almost \$100,000 has been committed by the first ambassadors over the next three years.

An annual appeal for the Borromeo Foundation will be run to coincide with Vocations Awareness Week on 4 to 12 August.

ABOVE: Mgr John Woods addresses the program launch at Archbishop's House.

Church celebrates rich history

St Volodymyr's Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Lyneham, will host a feast day this month to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the consecration of the church and the 30th anniversary of the blessing of its cornerstone.

The memorial church was built in 1988 to mark the millennium of Christianity in the Ukraine.

Parish administrator Fr Andriy Mykytyuk said the feast will be an opportunity for parishioners to come together and celebrate the church's "rich history".

"The history of Ukrainian life is very close to our church life here now," he said. "This feast is a good opportunity to see our rich traditions and history, and to perhaps learn something new about our Catholic church."

The celebration will be held on the weekend of 28 and 29 July with Divine Liturgy and parastas, great vespers with lytia and a blessing of the church's icon, Hierarchal Divine Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Peter Stasiuk, and a festive lunch. Inquiries: Telephone 6247 2141, email st.volodymyr.parish@gmail.com.



Fr Andriy Mykytyuk inside the church.

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Returning to India

Fr James Antony CMI has left the Cathedral parish and returned to India to begin doctoral studies in marketing on behalf of his congregation.

Recently ordained Fr Joshy Kurien will take up his first priestly appointment as assistant priest of St Gregory's Parish, Queanbeyan. He will minister across the Queanbeyan mission.

Married deacon Don Nguyen, who was ordained in May, will minister in Tuggeranong Valley parishes while also assisting in Belconnen.

Former Archdiocesan Vicar of Education Fr Val Patterson MSC, has died in Sydney. He was 81.

Seeking singers

After two singing tours in Europe, the Austrian Choir Canberra is preparing for its third overseas tour, this time to Rome in September next year. The choir is seeking new singers to take part. Rehearsals begin this month. Information: Elizabeth, telephone 6251 1616 (evenings) or email esjames58@yahoo.com.au.

Tracing long history



Historian Fr Brian Maher (above) tells of the personalities who have made up the clergy of the Diocese of Goulburn and now the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn over its 150-year history in a new publication.

He has launched a commemorative booklet of collected documents and a comprehensive directory of clergy going back to the roots of the diocese in 1862.

In a foreword, former Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn Mark Coleridge said the Church was passing through deep and permanent change. "We need to plan carefully for the future rather than simply await the turn of events in some fatalistic way," he said. Apart from articles dealing with the history and its characters, including John Bede Polding, a feature is pen pictures of hundreds of priests and deacons who have served over the past century and a half. The booklet is available from the Catholic Bookshop Braddon for \$25 a copy.

Fr Pat moves into retirement

● From Front Page.

"So often, I hear the heartfelt plea, 'I haven't abandoned the Church, the Church has abandoned me.'"

Bishop Power said he sometimes felt embarrassed "when my name goes up in lights for what I have done in the pursuit of justice.

"So often I have been invited by a group of dedicated people to join in solidarity with them in supporting people at risk in all kinds of situations: our own indigenous people, refugees and asylum seekers, the Palestinian people, the Tamils, the East Timorese; here in Canberra, homeless people, the union supporting the cleaners, most of whom are migrant and women, residents of the Long Stay Caravan Park being threatened with eviction in 2006, my friends with whom I pray on World Aids Day each year, and in their annual service at Weston Park those mourning the death of family members and friends from illicit drug use.

"In those and in many similar instances, I have been humbled to witness the hours of tireless dedication put in by people with extremely generous hearts.

"I see these people who often make no claim to any religious affiliation and I think of Jesus' words, 'As often as you did this for one of the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me'."

After Mass a supper was held at St Edmund's College hall, where he was



Among the congregation were former Prime Minister Mr Kevin Rudd, former Ambassador of Ireland Mr Richard O'Brien and Senator Barnaby Joyce.

given a chainsaw as a gift for his retirement. Mr John Malouf paid tribute to Bishop Power's dedication to the Church and his deep love for the marginalised.

"It's a very difficult task to say farewell to Fr Pat," Mr Malouf said.

"His gentleness, humility and advocacy of those marginalised have been an inspiration to us all. Many have said that when in his presence, they felt as if they were in the presence of Christ. We have felt proud of his love and voice for justice and of the way he has reminded

us in his humble way of what the world could be."

Archdiocesan Administrator Mgr John Woods commended Bishop Power for his ability to "make people feel better about themselves.

"Fr Pat has that rare gift that whenever you're talking to him, you feel like you're the only person who counts," he said. "He is a man of God, and we are better for knowing him."

The text of Bishop Power's homily, is at www.cg.catholic.org.au.



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Canberra Campus

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Early Childhood	Tuesday 10 July
Nursing/Paramedicine	Tuesday 10 July
Social Work	Tuesday 10 July
Theology	Tuesday 10 July

Rich tapestry of our Church

By Archdiocesan Administrator Mgr John Woods

Meeting a variety of individuals of late has given me cause to reflect on the rich tapestry that we call "Church".

I begin in Queanbeyan where I was privileged to bless the award winning St Gregory's school hall. While the hall is multi-purpose, pleasing to the eye and sympathetic to the surrounds, it is the people who will use it that are most appealing. The engaging opening liturgy, the awe-struck faces of kinder students, the warmth of principal Claire Frazer and her staff, the ministry of parish priest Fr Troy Bobbin and the presence of mums and dads reminded me of my initial experience as a priest in the Queanbeyan parish.

To meet some parishioners who were supportive of me as a young priest confirmed that the witness of their lives is ongoing; as it is in countless instances the length and breadth of Australia. Ordinary folk are the lifeblood of our communities. We are formed in community and it is often only on reflection that we appreciate how the living stones, which we each are, build up the Body of Christ.

Later that day I caught up with Josh, Namora, Will and Alex, four of our seminarians at Good Shepherd Seminary, Homebush. Again, I was given cause to reflect on my own seminary formation. God calls a diverse bunch to serve as his priests.

The next day I attended the meeting of the NSW and ACT bishops. They, too, are a diverse group trying to further the mission of the Church. The following morning I was in downtown Melbourne for a settlement conference arising from a case of child abuse. The process was an affirmation of the victim, not the least because of the professional and caring individuals who conducted it.

While in Melbourne I stayed at the East Brighton presbytery with good friend and esteemed pastor, Fr Mal Crawford. I had got to know Mal when he was parish priest of Sacred Heart, Kew, where my family lived for many years.

At the Sunday Mass for the celebration of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi over the Queen's Birthday weekend, I thought it rather serendipitous that Catherine Rey was present in the congregation. I had celebrated my First Holy Communion at St Christopher's with Catherine.

Catherine is the principal of Merici College, Braddon, and will soon be foundation principal of John Paul II College, Gungahlin. Catherine and her husband Pierre were visiting family and attending a reunion of friends who had undertaken the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

While in Melbourne I also caught up with my sister Sharon. Sharon, who has cerebral palsy, lives in a group house caring for people with disabilities. Her faith and resilience helps me to keep matters in perspective. I visited Sharon with my cousin Patrice who is always up for a yarn about challenges facing the Church.



I suspect that Patrice and others would have supported Bishop Pat's recent call for reform of Church teaching and practice, while others would have a contrary position.

One must, of course, distinguish between personal comment and Church teaching. The teaching of the Church in matters of faith and morals arises from Scripture and Tradition – "the one deposit of faith" – in which a hierarchy of truths, in many instances open to legitimate development by the magisterium or teaching office of the Church, call for varied assent. And yet the hierarchy of the truths proclaimed by the Church and the distinction between the ordinary and the extraordinary teaching of the Church reflects a nuanced understanding in both the form and content of that teaching.

Accordingly, personal comments on matters of faith, morals and discipline might at one and the same time engage some, be judged to be prophetic even, while occasioning disquiet for others.

This contrast is a reflection of the fact that the Church claims to be "in possession" of revealed truth which insists, and herein can be the rub and cause of not a little controversy, the dignity of the individual conscience.

Coming full circle then, we affirm the need for authoritative Church teaching, albeit open to legitimate development, not the least through the discerned voice of conscience. This can be quite problematic when a bishop called to teach and defend the Catholic faith publicly comments from a position of conscience. There can be no conflict between truth and love though our individual appropriation of both can be limited and hence the need for a teaching authority and a willingness on the part of that authority to engage in qualified dialogue.

I affirm my highest regard for Bishop Pat. He is one of the people I most respect. As the longest serving of the current Australian bishops, Pat's retirement has significance for the Australian Church and even more so locally.

One could note that in a relatively short time we have seen a rather profound change in local pastors, beginning with the retirement of Archbishop Francis Carroll, continuing with the untimely deaths of senior clergy, especially Mgr John Hoare, Fr Joe Rheinberger and Fr Phil Buckley, the recent departure of Archbishop Mark for Brisbane and now Pat's stepping aside.

They represent a rich legacy of committed leadership who spoke the truth in love and reached out with pastoral sensitivity. For now the concluding words of Vatican II's, *Gaudium et Spes*, n. 92 are most apt, "let there be unity in what is necessary, freedom in what is doubtful and charity in any case."

Back in Canberra I met with Frank Brassil, president and Paul Trezise, CEO of the Archdiocesan Central Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society. I have long admired the work of Vinnies who reach out to immediate local needs through 52 parish conferences and the 26 centres across our Archdiocese which assist in the funding of ongoing services, especially in the areas of homelessness and mental health.

Again, the apostolate of Australian Catholic University (ACU) has grown rapidly in recent years. Did you know that ACU has campuses in Brisbane, Ballarat, Canberra (Signadou at Watson), Melbourne and Sydney and that it will soon be the largest English-speaking Catholic university in the world?

From a university to a hospital; the 25th anniversary Mass of the opening of Calvary Private, Bruce was an occasion to recall the care offered to those in the spirit of Blessed Mary Potter who tended the sick inspired by the redemptive suffering of Christ. The spirit of the staff at the gathering afterwards was an affirmation of the vocation of healthcare. It is noteworthy that after not a little angst in recent years about the future of Calvary Bruce, a new Calvary Private Hospital will be built.

At this time I am on the Confirmation circuit. What will those confirmed do under the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Whatever, I am confident that there will be many ordinary folk who will both challenge and nurture them, as they have me and I am sure you too.

May this Year of Grace help all of us - clergy religious and lay folk - to see anew that we are all blessed "in Christ" and that we are called to ponder the face of Christ in each other.



Start with something simple...

By archdiocesan co-ordinator faith formation and spirituality Shane Dwyer

The life of grace is not a race. Recently I was talking to one of our many parish Year of Grace coordinators. These generous people have put themselves forward as the contact person within a given parish, there to receive resources and ideas to assist with the parish participation in the Year of Grace, and to ensure that these are brought to the attention of the parish priest and the parish pastoral council.

Some are worried that their parish has yet to embrace this grace-filled opportunity with enthusiasm. I tell them not to worry. Grace is not something we can force and, while we can prepare for it and cooperate with it, we are not in control of it. It is a gift.

The fact is this: each one of us is responsible for finding ways of opening ourselves to the grace of God.

Parents and grandparents, who are the primary faith leaders of the family group, have a particular responsibility.

Perhaps too easily we can abdicate from our role as spiritual leaders in the domestic scene. We can leave it to the priests or to the school. And yet there is so much we can do.

Encouraging the spiritual life of our children and grandchildren can be among the most important things we can do for them. And it needn't be complicated.

Too readily we can focus on what we can't easily get children to do – to come to Mass for example. While that remains a good thing to ask of them, it may take a while to bring them to that point – if they ever get there at all.

Instead, we could think of starting with something simple. Sitting with a child after they've settled into bed, telling them you love them and, in some brief way, praying with them would be a great place to start.

Taking the time to stop, listen and pray like this would be a profound way of observing this grace-filled year.

If every Catholic family in the diocese were to do this to the degree that's possible for them, what an amazing year this would be!

Novena of Masses for the 2012 Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

7th-15th July, 2012

CARMELITE MONASTERY, 28 Mugga Way, Red Hill, ACT

Saturday, 7th July	10.30 am Father Julian Wellspring
Sunday, 8th July	9.00 am Monsignor Luis-Miguel Munoz-Cardaba
Monday 9th July	10.30am Bishop Pat Power
Tuesday 10th July	10.30am Father Hilton Roberts
Wednesday 11th July	10.30 am Father John Armstrong
Thursday 12th July	10.30 am Father Michael Mullen
Friday 13th July	10.30 am Father Brian Lucas
Saturday 14th July	10.30 am Father Brian Ebert
Sunday 15th July	9.00am Monsignor Luis-Miguel Munoz-Cardaba

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3. All the sick and suffering.
4. Peace and harmony in family life.

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

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Good and bad in budget funding

Catholic Education has welcomed a one-off \$1.22 million payment in the ACT Budget for students with disability in ACT Catholic schools.

However, Archdiocesan Catholic education director Mrs Moira Najdecki described it as a missed opportunity for not showing the lead and implementing the Gonski Review recommendation that all students with disability should attract the same level of ongoing funding no matter which school they attend.

Mrs Najdecki was also disappointed that an increase in recurrent funding for ACT Catholic schools was once again ignored.

"For many years the ACT Government has provided one of the lowest levels of recurrent funding for Catholic schools of any state or territory in Australia," she said.

"This budget continues to ignore the needs of the more than 17,000 students in

ACT Catholic schools, their parents/guardians and teachers."

Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority financial data on the My School website in 2012 showed that for each dollar of territory funding going to a student in an ACT government school a student in a Catholic school received just 17 cents.

Chair of the ACT Catholic Education Commission Mr Daryl Smeaton said the commission recognised the need for prudent financial management.

"However, an investment in education should be seen as an investment in the future of the ACT," he said.

"With over 40 per cent of all students in the ACT attending non-government schools, this government continues to show that education funding for ACT Catholic schools is a low priority."

College farewells a favourite son

A foundation student of St Edmund's College, Bishop Pat Power, who retired at the end of last month, was given a rousing farewell by today's students.

At the school's Founders Day faith and service awards, principal Mr Peter Fullagar spoke of Bishop Power's "wonderful service to the Archdiocese and St Edmund's College."

"Bishop Power is a link to our past and it is important to remember those who have made long contributions," he said.

"He embodied our founder Edmund Rice – a man who made a difference."

"Without the efforts of people like Bishop Power we wouldn't have the school that we have here today, and I don't think we can be any prouder of his contribution. He is one of the icons of our community."

Bishop Power was presented with a painting of the Goulburn presbytery by Br Don Gallagher, who was also one of the first students at the college.

Bishop Power said he has always been proud to be an ex-student.

"When I was at school I really appreciated what Edmund Rice stood for, that he was always there for those doing it tough in life, and he became an inspiration to me," he said.

The community of St Francis Xavier College, Florey, combined the blessing of its new St Francis Xavier icon with a farewell to Bishop Power. A youthful Fr Pat



Power was at the opening of St Francis Xavier High School in September 1977.

Bishop Power was presented with a wheelbarrow load of native plants in the hope he will have more time to enjoy his garden in the years ahead.

The icon, commissioned by the school's parents and friends committee, was painted by noted religious artist Michael Galovic.

Bishop Power blessed the icon and the refurbished college chapel.

Bishop Power at St Edmund's College (top) with Zachary Edwards, John Pene, Tyrel Lomax and Naude Mynhardt. With his farewell gift at SFX College (above).



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Signadou marks half century in education

Signadou campus of Australian Catholic University – opened as a teachers' college by then Prime Minister Robert Menzies - will next year celebrate half a century in higher education.

The campus was born during the early 1960s, when the Dominican Sisters and Dominican Friars responded to a call from then Archbishop Eris O'Brien by founding religious houses at Watson in Canberra that would train workers for Catholic schools.

It was a time when part of the vision for a new, bolder, Australia included expansion in education, especially Catholic education.

On 24 March, 1963, Sir Robert officially opened Signadou Teachers College.

As he indicated, the problems of money, infrastructure and buildings were relatively easy to overcome – the challenge was educating professionals competent to teach and to encourage learning.

The Dominicans named the college Signadou in remembrance of the sign given to St Dominic in 1206 that showed him the way forward in his ministry.

Signadou College has long pioneered innovations in teaching and learning, preparing professionals for the ACT region and more rural areas.

Now part of Australian Catholic University, the campus has extended on its education offerings and has programs in theology, social work, nursing and paramedicine.

The campus will celebrate its jubilee anniversary on the weekend of 22 – 24 March with a graduation ceremony, and events for graduates and staff from the past 50 years.

A cocktail party on Friday and a dinner on Saturday will be the main social events, alongside an academic symposium.

Mass will be celebrated at St Christopher's Cathedral as part of graduation, and again on 24 March at the campus.

Anyone who would like to be kept informed of the jubilee celebrations should email signadou50years@acu.edu.au.

Paul aims to give all a sporting chance

Carroll College Broulee teacher Mr Paul Cullen (pictured right) has a personal interest in raising money for the national depression initiative beyondblue.

Recently his eldest son lost his battle with depression and prescription medication.

"It is said that 'he who saves one person, saves the whole world eventually'," he said. "I believe that to be true."

Not long after the funeral, he received news that he had been selected in an 18-man over-60s Australian squad to tour England in July.

"I wish my son was alive to share this honour," he said. "I want to give something back to the game of cricket that has been so good to me and also to honour Damien's memory."

With the help of Xavier House at Carroll College, he is raising money for beyondblue, and hopes to push the final figure above \$3000.

"When I was 15, I used to gaze out of the classroom window during maths lessons, daydreaming of one



day playing cricket for Australia," he said. "The tractor would be rolling the turf and the smell of the field invaded that room. I have always loved the game of cricket with a passion and have been fortunate to have played for 51 years."

Donations to beyondblue may be made on Mr Cullen's Carroll College page at www.everydayhero.com.au. It also contains a moving blog from a student with depression and donors' comments.

"Please help me raise monies for those who cannot see beyond the storm clouds," Mr Cullen said.

Boys get behind fund to honour mates' mum

Students of St Edmund's College have raised \$3000 for a fund in memory of the mother of two of their schoolmates.

Mrs Linda Cox, a cardiac technician at Canberra Hospital, was killed when she was hit by a car outside the hospital in May.

The school hosted a jersey day where students wore their favourite sporting jersey and made gold coin donations to the fund.

Year 8 student Tim Bassett, who began his studies at St Edmund's this year after moving from Townsville, was behind the idea.



St Edmund's College students Adrian Morosin, Jonty Godfrey, Tim Bassett, Felix Birnie and Corey Davis dress up for jersey day.

"All the students know the Cox family, and I wanted to help them after their loss," Tim said. "I thought

a jersey day would be a good idea as everyone would get involved and if every student put in one or

two dollars, we'd raise a bit of money.

"Since I'm a new student, the teachers were surprised when I

suggested we do this, but when I saw what happened in the paper I felt like I had to do something."

Reconciliation walk is annual traffic stopper

Queanbeyan's main street, Monaro Street, with its enormous traffic flow doesn't close very often.

There are only two planned occasions each year that are deemed important enough to close it, Anzac Day and the annual reconciliation walk.

To the students of St Gregory's Primary School, the walk is a big event. It is their way of joining with other schools in the area, to march proudly and join in solidarity with the original custodians, people of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri language groups. Two high schools and five primary schools in Queanbeyan, are joined by Bungendore Primary and St Gregory's.

About 1500 people took part as the walk crossed the Queen's Bridge, and headed



School captain Claire Mason-Cox and Sian Salway at the walk.

towards Queanbeyan's Reconciliation Park. This year the gathering was entertained by local indigenous performer and St Gregory's parent Michael Weir.

He hip hopped his raps, getting everyone involved in songs encouraging unity, understanding and recognition.

Racial, Ethnic, Cultural, and Religious Acceptance

Are you aged 16-20 years?

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What am I trying to find out?

- What do young people believe about diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious groups?
- Do different groups of young people have different levels of racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious acceptance?

What do you need to do if you want to participate?

- Complete a brief self-report questionnaire about your attitudes towards and beliefs about diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious groups.

How long will it take?

- The questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

What do you get for participating?

- Each participant will go into the draw for a \$150 Coles Gift Card.

Who is running the research?

- Kaine Grigg (student researcher) and Lenore Manderson (research supervisor) from Monash University and Windermere Child and Family Services.

To participate please contact Kaine Grigg

kaine.grigg@monash.edu

or access the survey directly online: <http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?FBD33AAAFABAAE8FC>

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New deacon survived Vietnam tragedy to serve

Vietnamese father of two Xuan Duc Nguyen, known as Don Nguyen, is the Archdiocese's newest permanent deacon after he was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Pat Power in St Christopher's Cathedral.

Deacon Nguyen arrived in Australia as a refugee from Saigon in 1981, escaping a life tainted with tragedy.

When he was nine, his father, brother and sister were killed when Vietnamese communists invaded their home during the attack on South Vietnam in 1968.

Deacon Nguyen and his mother were inside the house at the time; hiding in a separate room that wasn't searched.

Raised as a Catholic by his mother, Deacon Nguyen was "drawn to spiritual life" as a teenager and in 1973 he joined the De La Salle Brothers as a seminarian in Thu Duc, near Saigon city.

However, the conflict in Vietnam made it hard to practise religion.

"People from the South were treated very harshly," Deacon Nguyen said.

"I was not allowed to go to university. We had very limited access to things like welfare and education. We had to apply for permission to go anywhere.

"I remained in the seminary until 1975, when the communists took over the south. At that time all the seminaries closed down, and no one was allowed to practice any religion. It was very hard."

Deacon Nguyen met wife, Jennifer, at school in Vietnam and they escaped on the same boat to Australia. They married two years after arriving in Sydney and have two children; Angela, 25, and Vincent, 23.

Deacon Nguyen worked in retail jobs in Sydney until a position at the Department of Human Services in Canberra became available in 2003.

"I never intended to stay in Canberra, but my kids loved it here so much we decided to stay," he said. "The Vietnamese Catholic community is also very close here which we liked."

Although he was always an active member of the Church, Deacon Nguyen felt he wanted to do more.

"I had heard of a few permanent deacons in our Archdiocese and I was excited about the prospect, as I thought if I became a deacon I could contribute more to our community and the Church," Deacon Nguyen said.

"The difference between a deacon and a lay person is the deacon must be 100 per cent committed to the Church. For lay people, if they



Deacon Don Nguyen (third from right) at the ordination with his step-father Nhu Nguyen, mother Minh Thi Nguyen, wife Jennifer Nguyen, Bishop Pat Power, daughter Angela Nguyen and son Vincent Nguyen.

don't want to do something they can stop, but for a deacon that's not as easy. So for me this will give me the opportunity to really make a contribution on a regular basis."

Deacon Nguyen's mother and step-father travelled from Sydney to attend his ordination.

Deacon Nguyen sees himself as a deacon for the Archdiocese "rather than just a Vietnamese community deacon.

"I think a deacon can belong to everyone not just a particular group of people," he said. "I

want to be accessible to everyone and help people and listen."

Deacon Nguyen said a permanent deacon was "a whole new concept for the Vietnamese community." "Many will find it hard to accept, the idea that we can assist at Mass and perform christenings and marriage ceremonies," he said.

"Hopefully, people will start to slowly accept it though. I want to be a very good permanent deacon to make it easier for others who want to follow in my steps, and to give a good reputation to the name."

Many sign up to pray

Thousands of people have signed up for a prayer campaign for vocations.

The Knights of the Southern Cross sixth national prayer crusade for vocations will run from 2 September to 24 November.

It aims to encourage people to pray for an increase in vocations generally, but particularly for more priests and deacons as military chaplains for the 40,000 Australian Defence Force Catholic members and their families.

To take part, contact knights' national executive officer Mr Bob Perkins, email neo@ksca.org.au.

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a centenary of canberra's catholics

A woman of inspiration and deep faith

In the 16th in a series of portraits of significant Catholics of the national capital, Bishop Pat Power tells of the contribution of Kath Scott, a woman who saw much of the early growth of the capital.

Scotts Crossing is the name given to the street which runs through the Canberra Centre from Cooyong Street to Bunda Street in Canberra city. The street is clearly named after the original Scotts Crossing which, before Lake Burley Griffin, served as a secondary bridge across the Molonglo River a little downstream from today's Kings Avenue Bridge. It led up to St John's Church.

It was named after the pioneering Scott family into which Kathleen Maher married in 1930. Kath's husband, Frank Scott, was the youngest in a family of 13 children who farmed in the area around Scotts Crossing from the 1860s.

Kath, who herself belonged to a legendary Braidwood district family, was born on 22 August, 1900, to William and Elizabeth Maher (nee Lyons).

Visitors to Reidsdale today can visit the site of the cheese factory where members of the Maher family and others delivered their dairy produce.

Son Kevin describes Kath's growing years: "Kath was the third of 10 children. She spent an idyllic childhood, although a hard-working one, helping both on the farm and in the home with her younger siblings. "Kath's early life, nurtured in her loving family, set up her life-long philosophy of 'love of God, love of family and love of neighbour'. Kath's 8km commute to Reidsdale Public School was often on foot or on horseback, the long-suffering horse often carrying two or three siblings at a time on an adventurous trek over creeks and paddocks."

Frank and Kath's courtship between Canberra and Reidsdale was made possible through Frank owning a motor vehicle. (Contrary to Mgr McGilvray's suggestion in *The Hallowed High Adventure* that Frank Scott drove an unreliable T-model Ford, I have it on good authority that Frank drove some very admirable automobiles and that a Buick was among them!).

After their marriage in the Reidsdale church, like so many Canberra's identities, Kath and Frank began their married life in Causeway. They remained

there a year before moving to nearby Wentworth Avenue in Kingston, but they never lost their affection for this close-knit community, regularly attending Mass in St Therese's after its opening in 1948.

Kath and Frank Scott were blessed with four children, Maureen, Kevin, Shirley and Frank, all of whom attended St Christopher's School in Manuka.

I had the good fortune to be a classmate at St Christopher's of son, Frank, through whom I was introduced to the whole family, often coming from Queanbeyan to spend weekends with them.

I recall us tending to Frank's horses near Scotts Crossing and being involved in many adventures with my intrepid mate. I often tell the story of one occasion when Kath was unwell and I gathered with the family as we knelt around the bed to recite the rosary. When it came to young Frank's turn to lead a decade, kneeling at the foot of the bed, he nonchalantly counted the 10 Hail Marys on Kath's toes!

Kevin recalls that Kath remained in her Wentworth Avenue home until two weeks before her death aged 96. Her devoted husband, Frank, had died in 1970.

I can verify the description Kevin gives of his mother's life: "Kath led a full and active life, involved with her family, extended family, friends and the church. In Fr Haydon's time as parish priest, he was a regular visitor to the Scott family home. Kath rode a bike well into her 60s and was a keen tennis player, playing regularly at the Kingston Tennis Club. Kath was an active and long-time member of the Catholic Women's League.

"Kath became a catechist after Frank's death and was devoted to the children she taught for a period in excess of 25 years. Her philosophy of love and service to others was evidenced by her opening her home to children in need.

"During holiday periods she would sometimes have young children from church homes or from families who were suffering hardship. On one occasion, Kath had a little fellow who was a bit of



ABOVE: In the backyard, 1993.



LEFT: Kath and husband Frank, 1970.

BELOW: Kath (back row far left) with brothers Maurice and Harold Maher and Bishop Patrick Dougherty. Front: Brother Owen Maher, sister Ellen Taylor and Sr Mark LCM, in the family home.



a terror. When heading off home at the end of the holidays, Kath pleaded with him to try to work hard at school and be well-behaved to which he replied in all seriousness, 'All right, I'll be very trying'.

"In her late 80s, Kath was delighted by the birth of her two youngest grandchildren. Still being fit and healthy she enjoyed looking after them and delighted in the occasional 'sleepover'. Being a daily communicant, Kath would often take these youngest grandchildren by bus to St Christopher's for Mass. This was often followed by a walk through Telopea Park to play on the swings. Her youngest grand-daughter was known to remark that, with her Nan, she had attended more funerals than all her peers put together."

In her later years, it was a great joy for Kath to have not only her four children

and their families in Canberra, but also to enjoy the company of the three remaining siblings, brother Harold, and sisters, Hannah and Ellen. Hannah, known as Sr Mark of the Little Company of Mary, was at one time provincial and played a key part in the establishment of Calvary Hospital in Bruce. She died in 2007, aged 101. The remaining family member, Ellen Taylor, was beautifully portrayed in March 2011 as a 100 year old representing inspirational women on the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day.

After her marriage and arrival in Canberra in 1930, Kath Scott and her family witnessed much of the early growth of the nation's capital. Kath's deep faith, her courage in times of hardship and her generosity of spirit are an inspiration to all Canberrans who love their city and strive for the betterment of its citizens.

Jesse grabs chances with both hands

By Laura Edwards

In rugby union you never know when your last chance will be, says ACT Brumbies fullback Jesse Mogg.

It's surprising that these are the words of a 23 year old in his debut season rather than a seasoned player. But he has quickly learnt the highs and lows of his beloved game.

Born and raised in Brisbane, Mr Mogg attended St Patrick's College, Shorncliffe. It was there he dabbled in various sports, including soccer and AFL, before finding his niche in rugby.

He started playing professionally in rugby league; with a season for the Brisbane Broncos under 20s in 2009 before realising he "was definitely a rugby union player".

"Union is a very different game to rugby league," Mr Mogg said.

"There's a lot of interpretation you must learn. While I enjoyed my time in rugby league, I definitely think I was better suited to union."

He moved to Canberra in 2009 to trial for a place in the Brumbies academy. After two seasons he received a call-up to Super Rugby.

"It was really exciting to be selected by [Brumbies coach] Jake White," he said.

"Jake knows his rugby and he's great at communicating with the players. He's been instrumental in getting me to the stage I'm at now."

"We're a very young team and I think we have really been able to grow together and learn each other's game."

"We have rugby union greats like Stephen Larkham giving us advice, so it's a great club with a lot of history."

Mr Mogg made his debut in week one of the 2012 Super Rugby season against the Western Force in Canberra, where he scored a try in a 19-17 victory. "It was an amazing game and definitely one of my highlights of the season so far," he said.

"We worked together as a team and knew we needed to win that first game, and it really set the pace for the season."



Jesse Mogg in action against the Highlanders. Picture: Ben Appleton.

Another highlight was being picked for the Wallabies squad this year, which he says was a "huge honour".

"I honestly didn't expect that so soon, since I am still just starting out," he said.

"Being at the Wallaby camp was amazing; there was such a good atmosphere amongst the team and [Wallabies coach] Robbie Deans was so supportive."

While Mr Mogg was cut from the camp before the first test against Scotland, he remains motivated to pursue his dream of making a debut for the Wallabies. "This has been my dream for a while now and I am just being positive. I received a lot of encouragement from Robbie so I definitely am looking to the future and not dwelling on anything," he said.

Mr Mogg says his family are "very supportive" of his career. "My two younger brothers play union, too, so they've been following my games and my family come down to watch when they can," he said. "I try to go up to Brisbane to visit them whenever I'm able to. I miss Brisbane but I am really enjoying Canberra. I'm very comfortable here and I like that it's a low-key kind of place."

Study also has to fit in with Mr Mogg's tight training schedule; he is in his third year of a part-time teaching degree at the University of Canberra.

"I think it's important for players to have a backup plan since the retirement age of rugby union is a lot younger than other jobs, or you could get injured," he said.

"I'd like to be a secondary school teacher when I leave rugby union."

Mr Mogg believes rugby union isn't just a physical game: a player's mental state can make or break their performance. "You can lose your momentum easily in this game," he said. "Earlier in the year when I wasn't playing well I would dwell on things, but I've learnt you can't afford to do that in any games and you've got to and get on with it."

There aren't too many nerves or superstitions before a game for Mr Mogg: "I'm one of the most casual players, I sit there and listen to music and chat to the other players. I get pumped up pretty easily."

The Super Rugby finals begin at the end of this month but for now the team are "taking it game by game."

His contract ends at the end of next year, but he would like to continue playing for the Brumbies for "as long as possible".

His advice to aspiring footballers is to keep positive. "You've got to keep striving towards what you want. My pathway took a while, but I got there in the end."



Jesse Mogg in action against the South Africa Sharks. Pictures: Ben Appleton.

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CATHOLIC VOICE July 2012 - 9

Furore that proved to be a watershed in school aid debate

By former director of the Catholic Education Office Geoff Joy

An unprecedented Catholic schools “strike” was carried out in Goulburn in July, 1962.

This was 80 years after the NSW Colonial Government’s funding for denominational schools was withdrawn following the passage of the “free, secular and compulsory” Education Act.

Influences impacting on that decision included the growth of secularism and sectarianism as well as economic factors.

The Archbishop of Sydney at the time was Roger Vaughan, an English Benedictine, but the other three NSW diocesan bishops were Irish and the Catholic laity were mainly of Irish stock. The bishops believed that religious education should be part and parcel of general education and so decided to establish a Catholic schools system without government aid.

It was an extraordinary brave or reckless move. How could some 25% of the population who were both economically and educationally poor fund and staff their own schools?

The bishops had two main strategies:

- “condemn the principle of secularist education and those schools founded on that principle... they are seed plots of future immorality, infidelity and lawlessness” (Bishops Joint Pastoral Letter 1879).

This would inevitably cause community polarisation (Catholic versus secularists and Protestants) but would unite the Catholics.

- Recruit members of religious congregations both from overseas and locally founded to staff the schools.

The wonder was that the existing Catholic schools not only survived, but an extraordinary growth occurred. More than 30 religious congregations took up teaching in Australia by the end of the 1880s and another 20 subsequently.

However, by the 1960s huge challenges began to impact on the continued viability of Catholic schools. These challenges included:

- Rapid increase in enrolments resulting from the baby boom and immigration (in the 20 years post World War 2 the Catholic population nearly doubled)
- Increased retention rates in secondary schools
- Wider curriculum
- Demands for smaller class sizes
- Demands for lighter teaching loads
- Longer pre-service teacher training
- Increased number of lay teachers as the number of religious began to decline

It was becoming evident that the school fees paid by parents, the fund raising by fetes and raffles, and working bees on school facilities were not going to be enough to sustain most Catholic schools.

The social climate post World War 2 in Australia was vastly different from the late 19th and early decades of the 20th century. There was no question of the loyalty of Catholics to the nation. Despite this more tolerant society, the general belief among politicians of all parties was that direct state aid to non-government schools would be political suicide.

- Some forms of indirect state aid had been granted:
- Exemption from land tax
 - Sales tax exemption
 - Free student travel
 - Tax deductions on donation to school building funds

Under the Australian Constitution, states had responsibility for education but the first instance of direct government grants to non-government schools came from the Commonwealth Government. By pure necessity because of the rapid influx of public servants into the ACT, Prime Minister Menzies’ government paid interest subsidies on loans for non-government secondary school buildings in Canberra from 1956 and extended it to the primary in 1961.

The campaigns in the states for direct state aid began in earnest in the 1960s.

- There were two contrasting approaches:
- Diplomatic negotiations with the political parties
 - Public demonstrations

By and large the Catholic hierarchy preferred the diplomatic approach. They did not wish to resurrect the vicious sectarianism of earlier times nor did they wish the laity to pursue a militant campaign.

In contrast to the 1880s there was in the 1960s a well education and influential Catholic laity who saw state aid as a parent/taxpayer issue. It was both a matter of choice and justice.

The United Nations had declared that parents had the prior right to choose the kind of education for their children, and the state governments were using taxes from all taxpayers for government schools only. For the parents the state aid debate was not State versus Church but State versus parents.

Increasingly some lay Catholic organisations became frustrated with the slow progress of negotiations carried on by the Catholic hierarchy.

In the Wagga Wagga Diocese, for instance, the newly formed Catholic Parents and Friends Association held a public meeting in November, 1961, to which representatives of the political parties were invited; 1200 Catholic parents and friends attended.

Then came the Goulburn strike in 1962. The spark that caused an explosion in the state aid debate was the threat by the NSW Department of Education to deregister Our Lady of Mercy Primary School because it was short three boys’ toilets.

Bishop John Cullinane, Auxiliary to Archbishop Eris O’Brien who lived in Canberra, was the parish priest. He said the parish did not have the funds to comply. Meetings and correspondence going as far as the Premier of NSW were protracted over several years.

Eventually the bishop called a meeting for 8 July, 1962, of parents and friends of the school intending to inform them that the school would have to close until the required

toilets could be provided for its pupils.

To prepare for the general meeting the Bishop held a meeting of some 40 men two days before the general meeting. He talked to his proposal. To his surprise, the meeting moved that all six Goulburn Catholic schools close to the end of term (six weeks).

Bishop Cullinane had doubts whether Archbishop O’Brien would support this drastic action. The Archbishop decided to go to the general meeting, which 700 people attended. After lengthy and emotional debate, the motion to close the schools (kindergarten and Leaving Certificate students were exempted) was carried about 550 to 120.

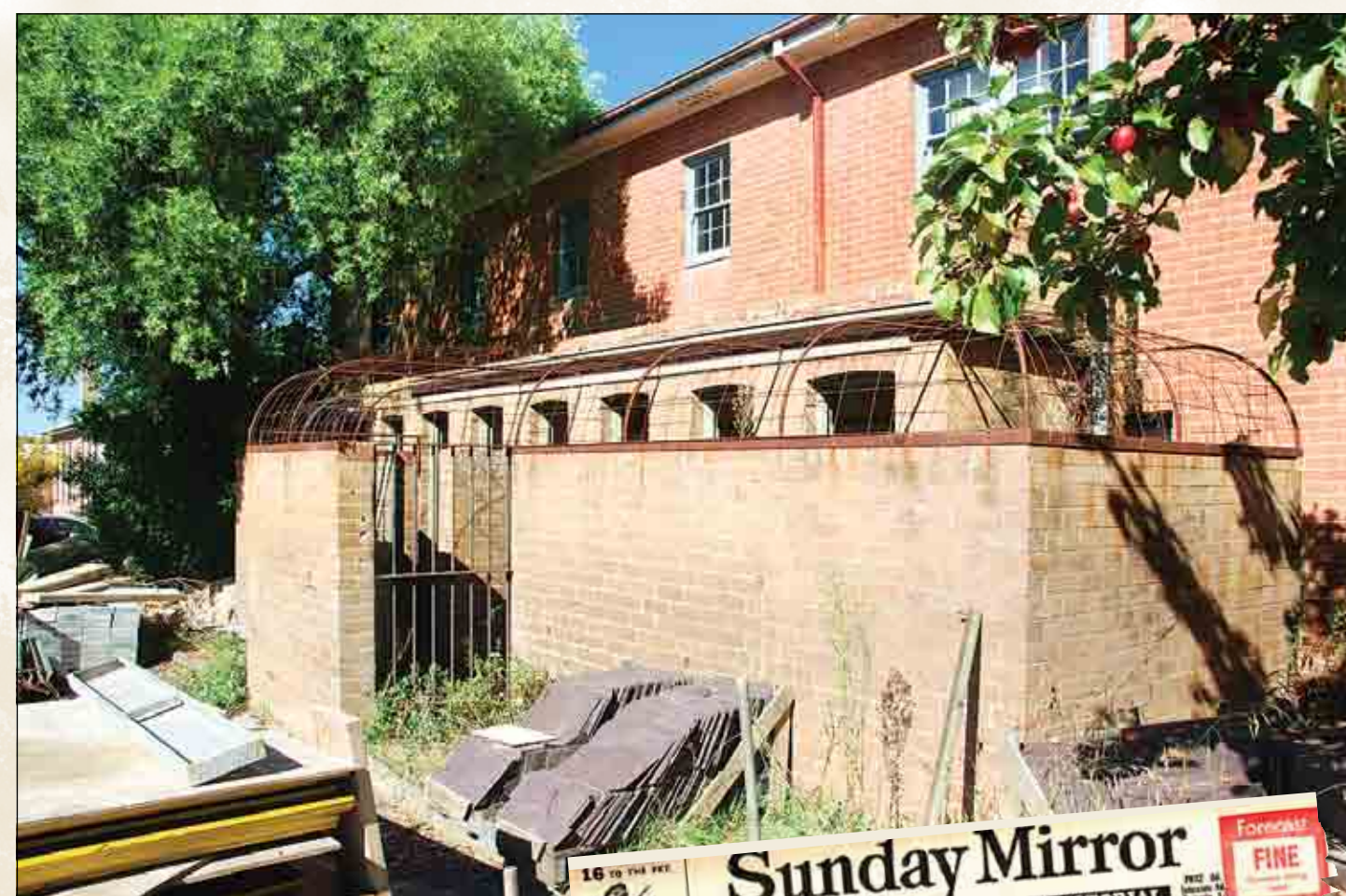
Archbishop O’Brien did not speak until after the vote and concluded by saying, “if you want to use your citizen rights in this way I am not going to restrain you”.

The reactions for and against went nationwide and beyond especially on Monday, 16 July, when only 640 of the nearly 1300 children from the Catholic schools could be accommodated in the state schools. The Sydney press particularly was scathing of the action calling it “demanding money with menaces” and urged the State Government not to buckle.

The publicity for their cause went far beyond the expectations of the leaders of the strike. After a week, a further meeting of parents voted to call off the strike provided every effort was made to set up a state or nationwide organisation to further pursue direct state aid.

The Goulburn Catholic schools strike thanks to the extent of the media coverage, made better known:

- The emerging crisis in the sustainability of Catholic schools
- The depth of the anger of Catholic parents at what they saw as a justice and choice issue



- The immense burden that would fall on state schools and state budgets if the Catholic schools closed
- That more than half of the general population supported direct state aid.

The Goulburn strike was an explosion and a watershed in the state aid debate that advanced the movement to direct government grants both Commonwealth and State to non-government schools. In the year after the strike Prime Minister Menzies, whose party held only a two-seat majority, called an early election promising Commonwealth science laboratory grants and secondary scholarships for both government and non-government schools. The Government won a 22-seat majority.

There will continue to be debate about methods and amounts of funding, but the principle of direct state aid to non-government schools that had divided the nation for nearly a century is closed. Historian Michael Hogan has noted that “in any history of state aid the Goulburn incidence must be given a central place”.



ABOVE: How the press saw it... and that toilet block as it stands today.



Congregational leader of Sisters of St Joseph Goulburn Sr Kerrie Cusack recalls the foggy morning she joined the queue outside Goulburn High School

I was 12 years old in first form (now called Year 7) in my first year of boarding at what was then St Joseph’s College, North Goulburn, conducted by the Sisters of St Joseph.

Sr M Luigi was my teacher for most subjects and we were the first to engage in the Wyndham Scheme, which initiated six years of secondary schooling. I had come from St Brigid’s Convent School, Quandialla, where there were four of us in sixth class.

I remember Monday, 16 July, 1962, when Goulburn had one of its worst foggy, damp and cold mornings. Boys from St Patrick’s College and girls from both Our Lady of Mercy and St Joseph’s colleges, in strict uniform attire, arrived en masse to wait outside Goulburn High School, until we were ushered in to the hall to hear whether we would be enrolled for the week.

By ballot, about six from my class were called. I was to be in 1G (I like to think it was so called because of the surname of the teacher in charge who I would recognize later as the trumpeter on Anzac Day) and our home room was a weatherboard building with the entrance via a few steps leading onto a verandah.

I must acknowledge the patient, calm and orderly inclusion by the staff and students of Goulburn High. It must have been a nightmare having literally hundreds of students arriving on your doorstep after a few days’ warning. I didn’t ever feel that we were a burden or unwelcome.

As visiting students we were curious and so were our Goulburn High peers. I recall being stared at and feeling overdressed in felt hat and kid gloves. We stood out like sore thumbs. I knew I was in a very large, spacious school with several buildings and grassed ovals. I don’t remember feeling lost or overwhelmed about where to go. Obviously, staff and students were looking out for us.

However, newspaper pictures of masses of students, too many to be

‘I recall being stared at and feeling overdressed’

enrolled, made the point of the strike very clear. Without Catholic schools, government students could not accommodate all schools to be educated.

I don’t remember too much about the lead up except I know all the boarders’ parents received a letter, dated 11 July, 1962, from Mother General Mother M Vianney, seeking permission for their daughters to attend the high school on Monday, 16 July, for six weeks.

I did feel anxious and excited all at the same time as this experience was an adventure to be enjoyed in a co-ed setting on a much bigger scale than I had ever known.

It didn’t occur to me that this would be permanent. In fact, it only lasted one week.

‘For the first time I had a hands-on cooking lesson’

I had limited understanding of the sudden call for the strike and its aim to bring the attention of the public and the government to the injustice faced by Catholic parents, parishes and schools. However, it was clear to me that Goulburn’s strike was controversial, attracting both national and international media attention. The politics of state aid would never be the same after this historic and courageous demonstration.

I believed that it was important to behave similarly to the expectations at St Joseph’s – like standing when a teacher entered the room, until I realized that was not the norm in this new context.

It was a thrill to have access to cooking classes and facilities. For the first time, after arriving with two lamb chops and a tomato supplied by Sr M Lucy, I had a hands-on cooking lesson! PE in the hall, art appreciation, science and music

classes were held in specialist rooms which did not exist at my school.

While I was relieved to return to St Joseph’s College, I liked being a shy student of Goulburn High. I wondered whether we could ever enjoy the same facilities that were essential to the new curriculum. Why didn’t we have them? Within two years, we did!

On 31 May, 1964, Archbishop Eris O’Brien blessed and opened new buildings incorporating specialist rooms for typing, cooking, science, dressmaking, music, a library and an assembly hall at St Joseph’s College.

Government funding began to be issued to non-state schools and the newly formed Australian Parents Council would become an effective lobby group advocating reliable funding for all schools.

Yes, the strike did make a difference. It was effective as a strategy, even visually, to portray strongly through the media, the significant numbers of Catholic students who could not be accommodated in state schools. Catholic schools were providing a service to the state.

The future of Catholic schools was at risk. No longer could Catholic parishes sustain their schools without financial aid.

Goulburn’s Catholic parents, with the support of their church hierarchy and clergy, took a stand to protest the failure of governments to provide educational justice to children attending Catholic schools. In doing so, they automatically supported the rights of all parents who exercise choice about which schools their children attend. They also affirmed that alternatives to State education were valued as the right of tax-paying citizens.

The strike, both bold and attention-seeking, was an effective, non-violent protest. Behind it all was Catholic faith seeking justice.

How Jenny mastered theology from home



Jenny Anderson with husband Brett.

By Dan McAloon

As a communications graduate, Jenny Anderson did not realise her interest in Catholic liturgy would lead her back to tertiary studies, or that technology would allow her to learn from home.

The spark that ignited her love of liturgy began in the early days of marriage when husband Brett went to Mass.

"I wasn't a Catholic and Brett would go off to Mass and I became very curious about what it was he was leaving me for," Mrs Anderson said.

Becoming a Catholic herself, and then later a mother, only heightened her curiosity about the liturgical traditions and practice of Catholicism.

"I found myself wanting to know what cradle Catholics already knew, to help my children to know their faith and to discover for myself the meaning of what I was experiencing," she said.

Tertiary study was an option, but time in lecture theatres, separated from her four young children, seemed to make this idea impractical.

Through Catholic theology provider The Broken Bay Institute, which offers distance and online learning, and had partnered with the University of Newcastle, she scheduled study into her busy domestic life and did not have to leave her Tuggeranong home.

"It was a model of learning I could fit into my life," she said. "The teaching was excellent and I interacted with other students in online discussions so I didn't feel isolated in my work. It was collegial sharing of knowledge."

With husband Brett watching, she was conferred her Masters of Theology, with a distinction in liturgy at a University of Newcastle graduation ceremony.

Mrs Anderson hopes to be able to use her liturgical knowledge in the Archdiocese.

Teen enjoys being board with school

After school, most 16 year olds catch up with friends or head to the shops. St Mary MacKillop College student Amreeta Bhuller, however, has board meetings, paperwork and finance charts to attend to.

Ms Bhuller has been acting as a junior director for the Bendigo Community Bank since January in its Molonglo sector, and is surely one of its youngest board members.

The Year 11 student was nominated by her school to work with the bank when it was looking for a student to take part in its new junior director program.

The 12-month program is designed for students to learn the function of a governance board, gain the experience of leadership in the community and watch the progress of the board and how it makes its decisions.

Ms Bhuller believes she was chosen as her teachers were aware of her interest in finance and banking.

"I've always enjoyed economics and maths so I guess the teachers here knew I was interested and would benefit from the experience," Ms Bhuller said.



Bendigo Community Bank Molonglo director Sue Marriage discusses business with St Mary MacKillop student and junior director Amreeta Bhuller at a board meeting.

"I was surprised but very happy that I was chosen as it's a fantastic thing to have on my resume."

Ms Bhuller and one other student from Lake Tuggeranong College are acting junior directors on the board; attending monthly board meetings as well as other training programs or networking events the bank offers.

One of their mentors, bank director Ms Sue Marriage, said the program is a "great experience for students and shows our commitment to being a community bank."

"I'm not sure whether other banks in Australia are doing it, but this program has worked really well for us so far and both students have shown a great interest in the process we have here," Ms Marriage said.

Ms Bhuller said the experience has heightened her interest in finance and given her an idea of what a career in finance might be like.

"Although we are still in the learning stage of the program, where we just listen in meetings and take it all in, this experience has definitely helped me get an idea of what it's like to work for a bank," she said.

"I would definitely like to do something like this in the future, particularly for a bank like Bendigo Bank as it's a very 'for-the-people' bank."

"It's safe to say not a lot of students my age have been to a board meeting so it's great to be a part of it all."

Students seek to bridge the gap

St Francis of Assisi Primary School, Calwell, is one of 80 schools in Australia to embark on an intercultural understanding project aimed at building a permanent bridge between cultures.

Building Relations through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) is an education program which funds visits by Indonesian teachers to Australian schools and supports an online curriculum approach between Australian and Indonesian schools.

For two weeks, St Francis of Assisi Primary School hosted two Indonesian teachers from its partner school Sekolah Dasar Negeri Klego 01 - which is located in Pekalongan, Indonesia - as part of the program. The teachers worked with all ages, teaching about world religion and Indonesian culture and music.

St Francis of Assisi Indonesian language teacher Mrs Nicola Barkley said the program used social media to build a relationship with the partner school.



"As part of the program we are developing a wiki-space and using Skype to connect with students from our partner school, so this is an interaction our students have with students of the same age" she said. "It really develops their intercultural understanding and means that they become better global citizens."

"As Indonesia is Australia's neighbour it's very important that we educate our students to become much more aware of what contemporary Indonesia is like."

The project is funded by The Myer Foundation and the Australian Government through AusAID.

ABOVE: Indonesian teachers Ibu Ummul Izzah and Ibu Dian Januarsi teach an Indonesian song to students with St Francis of Assisi School coordinator Mrs Margaret Bodel and Indonesian language teacher Mrs Nicola Barkley at the back.

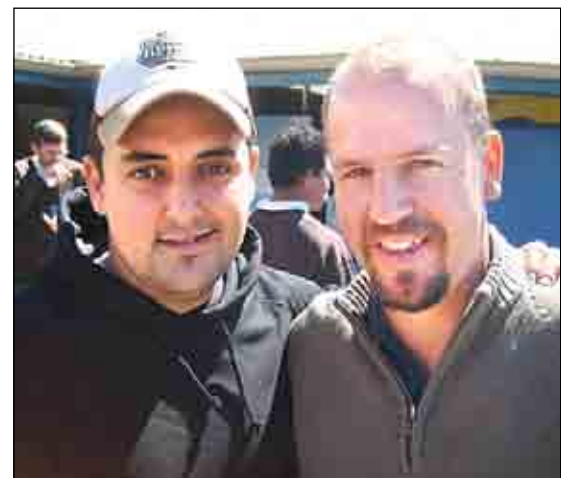
Adoration and Origin ritual is a winner

A group of young men in Canberra have adopted a ritual for this year's rugby league State of Origin series, by undertaking an hour of eucharistic adoration before viewing the games together.

This mix of spiritual nourishment and brotherhood is the hallmark of the Young Men of God movement, founded in 2005 by Fr Ken Barker, of the Missionaries of God's Love, and some young men in Canberra. It aims to help young men reach their God-given potential and be an example and influence in their family, workplace, community, country and the world.


Members in Canberra, Brisbane, Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne and Manila in the Philippines get together fortnightly for scripture and prayer as well as reflection on life experiences and the challenges of being a man in today's society.

They host camping and formation weekends throughout the year, culminating in a national conference in Sydney, this year on 12-14 October.





Nathan Galea and Phil Seselja at the national conference.

Speakers at the conference will include former Superior General of the Blessed Sacrament Congregation Fr Tony McSweeney, national director of Youth Mission Team Australia Mr Steve Toohey, vocations director for the Brisbane Archdiocese Fr Morgan Batt, founders of Choicez Media Jonathon and Karen Doyle, and Fr Barker. YMG small groups meet in the north and south of Canberra.



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Share your faith without scaring people

It's one of the topics we are told to avoid at dinner parties, but Sydney lecturer Peter Holmes believes talking about faith needn't be a room clearer.

Mr Holmes, who is a lecturer in scripture at the University of Notre Dame, was in Canberra to speak at June's Guinness and God event on How to share your faith without losing your friends.

He said people often avoid talking about their faith with

friends as they were "paralysed by fear".

"People are afraid of losing friends, losing face, or losing the argument," Mr Holmes said.

"The reality is there is actually a way to talk about and share faith without scaring people off.

"This includes making sure you are telling the truth and not just inflating your own opinion, and understanding that you can't always make people change their

faith, even though you want the best for your friends."

Being brief is also important, Mr Holmes said.

"If you talk about your faith and why it's right for 20 minutes, people will steer clear of you and won't want to talk about that topic again," he said.

"The best way to talk about faith is to tell the truth in the shortest possible way so you don't bombard people. This leaves it up to them if they want to ask more

questions, which they usually will, and it also means you can never be accused of pushing your faith onto someone."

Mr Holmes believes a better way to express your faith is to show it.

"Talk is cheap - showing your faith is much more effective. If you want to share something with people you need to understand them, love them and listen to them. Friendships are built on

Chicken gives young chefs a winning edge



Two St Edmund's College students don't need a television series to show what fine chefs they are.

Year 10 students Isaac Brown, 16 (left) and Bradley Bool, 15, represented the school in the Australian Culinary Federation's ACT secondary schools culinary competition against 20 teams. They will represent the ACT in October in the international culinary championships, an event involving students from 10 other countries.

Their winning dish was duo of chicken featuring tea-smoked crown roast with basil infused oil and drumstick sausage on a citrus pear marmalade.

Ability the key for these artists

An art studio for people with disabilities has given its students the opportunity to be recognised for their abilities rather than their disabilities and break away from life's barriers, according to coordinator Peta Mackenzie-Davey.

Hands On Studio at the M16 gallery in Griffith offers personalised art education programs for people with a disability, where students can work in collaboration with tutors and volunteers to make artworks across a number of mediums including painting, drawing, printmaking and clay.

The studio, under the management of CatholicCare Canberra and Goulburn, maintains a vision that every individual's rights, dignity and worth should be promoted and recognised.

Ms Mackenzie-Davey said one of the key objectives of the studio is for students to become professional practicing artists in their own right.

"The studio assists students to achieve their artistic potential in the wider art community by seeking recognition for their artwork and their practice as artists," Ms Mackenzie-Davey said.

"To do this we usually have two exhibitions a year where students are given the opportunity to sell their artwork. This usually attracts quite a few people and gives the students something to work towards in their classes.



Hands On Studio students Shane Tunks, Damien Flanagan and Stephen Corsini with their artwork.

"The work that is created is often quite amazing."

The theme for the next exhibition, which opens this month, is No Barriers.

"For people with a disability there are many barriers to achieving success in the lives, and this exhibition is about there being no barriers to them having their art in a mainstream, prestigious art space in Canberra," Ms Mackenzie-Davey said.

Student Stephen Corsini has sold his artwork at previous exhibitions and said there's always a sense of excitement before an exhibition.

"I like working towards the exhibition and when my work sells, it makes me really happy," he said.

"I've been coming to this studio since it first started and have never missed a class. I enjoy being with my friends here and making jokes as we work on our art."

The No Barriers exhibition will be held at the M16 gallery, Griffith on 12-29 July. Information on Hands On Studio visit www.centacare-canberra.org/.

School days now over for Moira

School is finally out for Moira McAlister when term 2 ends.

Mrs McAlister (pictured right) is retiring after 40 years teaching in Catholic schools in Canberra.

She began teaching as Miss Barry-Cotter in 1971 at St Christopher's, Manuka, and when it closed she moved to St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla.

Over the next decades she taught in London and then at St Matthew's, Page, St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood, St Joseph's, Eden, and St Joseph's, O'Connor.

In the mid-90s, Mrs McAlister completed a post graduate in teacher librarianship and spent eight years in the library at St Francis of Assisi, Calwell.

For the past eight years she has continued that work as teacher-librarian at St Vincent's, Aranda.



During this time she has also held the position of chaplain at St Monica's Evatt, her home parish, where she was on the school of religion team.

Study has been a feature of her career. She has regularly upgraded her teaching qualifications and last year completed her Masters in Writing and Literature at Deakin University.

Now she is ready to explore life after school.



listening. It's the best way to learn someone's language."

Mr Holmes served as a pastor in the Lutheran Church before becoming a Catholic. The change sometimes made it hard to talk with his family about faith, "but we are getting there".

Advertisement

HOME BASE



Gerard Heffernan

First home buyers must buy new

From 1 September, to qualify for the ACT Home Buyers Concession, you must purchase a "new or substantially renovated" property!

First Home Buyers and those who qualify for stamp duty concession will be affected by the new ruling. From 6 June 2012 the eligible property value for full exemption increased the entry level to \$385,000 and now caps out at \$450,000 for partial exemption. However if you are thinking of purchasing an established home, get in quick, as you only have until 31 August! After this date you will have to purchase "new or substantially renovated" property!

This is certainly going to affect the established "first home buyers" market in the ACT and it will be interesting to see what happens to the new property market!

Also on 6 June 2012 stamp duty levels were decreased on normal property purchases.

You can find out more on the ACT revenue website www.revenue.act.gov.au

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Yes, there is always something

A friend of mine jokingly says that when she dies she wants this epitaph on her gravestone: There was always something!

And there always is! All of us appreciate her frustration.

Invariably, there's always something, big or small, that casts a shadow and somehow keeps us from fully entering the present moment and appreciating its richness.

There is always some anxiety, some worry about something that we should have done or should be doing, some unpaid bill, some concern about what we need to face tomorrow, some lingering heartache, some concern about our health or the health of another, some hurt that is still burning, or some longing for someone who is absent that mitigates our joy. There's always something, some loss, some hurt, some anxiety, some bitterness, some jealousy, some obsession, or some headache, that is forever draining the present moment of its joy.

Henri Nouwen once gave a very simple, poignant expression to this: "Our life", he wrote, "is a time in which sadness and joy kiss each other at every moment.

"There is a quality of sadness that pervades all the moments of our life. It seems that there is no such thing as a clear-cut pure joy, but that even in the most happy moments of our existence we sense a tinge of sadness.

"In every satisfaction, there is an awareness of limitations. In every success, there is the fear of jealousy. Behind every smile, there is a tear. In every embrace, there is loneliness. In every friendship, there is distance. And in all forms of light, there is the knowledge of surrounding darkness." There's always something!

Jesus had his own way of expressing this. There is an incident recorded in the Gospels wherein Peter approaches Jesus and asks him what reward a disciple will receive for following him.

Jesus replies that anyone who gives up father, mother, spouse, children, house, or land in order to be his disciple will receive these back (mothers, spouses, children, houses, lands) one hundred times over. But then he adds a rather unwelcome clause, "though not without tribulation".

There will always be something - some stress, some jealousy, some persecution - which

can wipe out both the recognition and the enjoyment of the hundredfold.

In effect, what Jesus is saying is that we can have everything - and enjoy nothing. Why?

Ron Rolheiser

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



Because there will always be something impaling itself into the present moment that can cause us to lose perspective and thus lose the richness and joy inside of our own lives.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus specifies what that something often is, namely, jealousy. We can have everything and enjoy nothing because we are jealous of what other people have. How true.

How often do we denigrate our own lives and talents, failing to see and savor their richness,

because we would like to be someone else, someone rich and famous, someone set apart. Our lives are rich, but we are not content within them because we would want what someone else has.

There is a rich literature today, both within religious and secular circles, that tries to challenge us to not let our anxieties, heartaches, jealousies, and worries block us from entering fully into the present moment. Most of that literature is good since it formulates the right challenge.

Sometimes, however, some of these authors give us the impression that, if you focus your attention and work hard at a few techniques, this is an easy thing to do. It's not.

Entering into the present moment, truly entering it without being waylaid by our own heartaches and headaches, is one of the most difficult psychological and spiritual tasks in all of life.

Our lives are rich, and that is true for all of us, not just for the rich and famous.

At the height of his fame, the poet, Rainer Marie Rilke, received a letter from a young man, complaining that he wanted to be a poet but was handi-

capped because he lived in a small town where nothing exciting or noteworthy ever happened.

Rilke wrote back to him and telling him that if his life seemed poor to him than he probably wasn't a poet after all because he couldn't pick up the riches of his own life.

Every person's experience is the stuff of poetry. There are no lives that aren't rich; but most of us are blocked from entering into the richness of our own lives and can never appreciate the hundredfold ... because there's always something.

The challenge is to be present to the richness inside of our own lives, and that means learning to celebrate the temporary, the imperfect.

That means learning how to go to the great banquet that lies at the heart of life, even while our lives are not yet fully healthy and complete.

And part of that means accepting, too, how difficult this is, enjoying the times when we do get there, forgiving ourselves for mostly falling short, and having an epithet engraved for ourselves that reads: There was always something!

why I grow what I grow

Meet a dog who just digs truffle hunting

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 go truffle hunting.

Winter is usually a slow season for most growers, but not for Sherry McArdle-English - this is the time of year when her truffle farm is in full swing.

Mrs McArdle-English and husband Gavan, with their truffle-hunting dog Snuffle, have been growing French black truffles from their farm on Majura road since 2004.

The St Christopher's parishioners have more than 2000 trees on their farm, where the truffles grow in a symbiotic relationship between the soil and the root system of the trees.

"Truffles grow off the root system of oak or hazelnut trees," Mrs McArdle-English said.

"When we first started growing truffles, they were recognised as a European food, and considered a very rare delicacy here, so it was very much

a time where people were still just learning about them."

There's a lot of preparation involved before growing truffles, she says.

"You need to carefully research first - you can't just plant the trees in the soil and hope they will grow," she said.

"To begin with you have to find a dry location to plant. You also need good drainage and the pH level of the soil needs to be around eight.

"After planting, it can take years to find that first truffle, but once productivity begins, the rate of yield is expected to double each year until year twelve."

It's important the trees aren't watered too often, says Mrs McArdle-English. "This will allow for the root system of the tree to develop a dense surface root system, so you can get to the truffles easier."

Truffle growing season is from around mid-June to late-August; when the truffles' growth and flavour is helped by the Canberra frost.



ABOVE: Sherry McArdle-English digs up a truffle as her American cocker spaniel Snuffle, watches.

RIGHT: A French black truffle.



"Canberra is actually an ideal place to grow truffles because they need dry air and sub-zero temperatures during winter," she said.

"They are at their best and most flavoursome during our winters."

Winter is also the busiest time of year for American cocker spaniel Snuffle. About four times a week the trained truffle hunter and Mrs McArdle-English set out on the truffle farm, where Snuffle sniffs out the scent of the truffles from below the soil. She can often track a scent from 30 metres.

"We then start to dig carefully, using brushes and trowels; it's like an archaeological dig. Although the truffles are hard in texture, they can still be easily damaged so we are always very careful when digging.

"We know they are ready when they are black with white thread-like markings on the inside, but if the truffle has a red outer skin, or is pale gray, this represents an immature truffle, with little taste or scent."

The mature truffles Mrs McArdle-English collects are sold to businesses and restaurants in the Canberra region.

"People love their unique aroma and they go beautifully with almost any food, - from eggs, to crème brulee, to steak and even ice-cream," she said.

People can watch Snuffle and Mrs McArdle-English in action on the farm, with truffle hunts held during truffle season. Visit www.canberratruffles.com.au for more information. The Canberra Truffle Festival will run until 31 July.

We're talking about the future of the world

The Archdiocese's Social Justice Commission says as the carbon pricing regime starts on 1 July, we should step back from politicking and ask why we are doing this and how might we as individuals respond to reduce our carbon footprint. The commission submits this article by Fr Sean McDonagh, reprinted with permission from the June 2009 Columban journal *The Far East*.

The destruction of the planet raises many theological questions. We have been led to believe that God cares only for the salvation of humans and that our calling is to exploit the Earth for our own ends. This false Gospel has its preachers, politicians and policymakers who follow its dictates. In doing this they are destroying the Earth.

The churches are challenged to articulate a more coherent theology of ecology and to proclaim more persistently its teachings on social and environmental justice. Catholic Church teaching is relevant in the face of the grave ecological problems facing the Earth. The teaching on sustainability, bio-responsibility, humility, frugality, solidarity and compassion is appropriate at this time.

Sustainability reminds us that the Earth is finite and that we must live in a way that is fair and just to future generations of humans and other creatures.

Bio-responsibility includes all other life forms as beloved creatures of God and as expressions of God's presence, wisdom, power and glory in the world.

Humility should act as an antidote to the arrogance that underpins much of our technological culture. Many want us to believe that we can manage the world with new technologies. The truth is that we only know a little about our world. For example, we don't know whether there are five million or 100 million species on Earth.

Frugality invites us to restrain our economic production and consumption patterns, especially in rich countries for the sake of the welfare of the Earth. Jesus has warned us that we will not achieve happiness by accumulating material things.

Solidarity is a concept much beloved by the late Pope John Paul II. Solidarity acknowledges that we are increasingly bound together as members of the Earth community. We are responsible for the well-being of the poor and all creation. Our destinies are linked.

Compassion, which means "suffering with", encourages us to promote the "healing" of the Earth as well as a just and sustainable society.

This teaching is badly needed in Asia, as China and India are rapidly following the model of development which was fashioned in the US and Europe and which is responsible for depleting our planet. With a few notable exceptions, church leaders have been slow to acknowledge the mounting ecological crisis.

They have a serious moral obligation to give leadership at this time because we aren't discussing some minor, passing problem. We are talking about the future of the world, which God loved so much that he sent his only beloved son as a Saviour to it.

* Fr Sean McDonagh has written many books: *To Care for the Earth, The Greening of the Church, Passion for the Earth, Greening the Christian Millennium, Why are we Deaf to the Cry of the Earth? Dying for Water and Patenting Life? Stop! The death of life with his latest book Climate Change.*

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



On trend

Brighten up Winter

This season, it's all about brightening up your winter, and not having to let go of old favourites from summer. These stylish designs were made by Year 12 students at Merici College, and modelled by their fellow students.



A structured bodice adds some flair to a casual cardigan and jeans. Pair with flat ankle boots to dress down, or add heels for a dressier look.

Top made by: Lena Jenkins

Model: Alana Dimeski

Cardigan, jeans and boots model's own.



Brightly coloured dresses don't have to hide in the back of the closet this time of year – you can still pull one out for that special occasion when you want to stand out, whether it's for a wedding or a party. Simply add nude or black stockings and a thick, neutral jacket you can throw on when you need it.

Dress made by: Mabel Lam

Model: Rebecca Mann

Jacket and shoes model's own.



A black shift dress never goes out of style, and it works in any season. In winter, team with tights, boots and a colourful scarf for a chic look.

Dress made by: Stephanie Georgiadis

Model: Stephanie Markee

Tights, scarf boots and jacket model's own.

SHORTS

Prometheus. Starring: Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender, Idris Elba, Guy Pearce, and Charlize Theron. Directed by Ridley Scott. 124 minutes. M (Moderate science fiction violence and a medical procedure).

Very much a horror movie in the tradition of *Alien*, which Ridley Scott also directed. It displays its horrors with dazzling technological effect. The violence is made to shock. Parents be warned. The current M rating is far more lenient than what the film actually delivers.

Silent Souls/ Ovsyenki. Starring Yuriy Tsurilo, Igor Sergeev, Yuliya Aug, Larisa Damaskina, Olga Dobrina, Viktor Gerrat, Olga Gireva. Directed by Aleksei Fedorchenko. 75 minutes. M. (Nudity, sexual references and mature themes).

A film for festival audiences, a prize winner, a mood film, running for under 80 minutes. It has elements of Russian melancholy as a loner storyteller travels with his factory boss to perform the funeral rites for the boss's dead wife.

Declaration of War. Starring Valérie Donzelli, Jérémie Elkaim, César Desseix, Gabriel Elkaim and Brigitte Sy. Directed by Valérie Donzelli. 100 minutes. M (Coarse language).

Not a film about military action nor politics. In fact, there is more love than war in this French drama about a couple and the illness of their baby son. The film is an emotional exploration of some very basic and deep human experiences and values.

What to Expect when you're Expecting. Starring: Cameron Diaz, Matthew Morrison, Elizabeth Banks, Jennifer Lopez, and Rodrigo Santoro. Directed by Kirk Jones. 110 minutes. M (Sexual references and coarse language).

American comedy based loosely on a best-selling book, published as a pregnancy guide for expectant mothers. Tells the story of five couples, whose lives are turned upside down by the challenges of anticipated parenthood. Uses situational comedy and crude language to make its points in sentimental fashion. Entertaining though it may be, this is not a movie for would-be parents.

Fine French fare to delight

Le Chef. (The Chef). Starring: Michael Youn, Jean Reno, and Raphaëlle Agogue. Directed by Daniel Cohen. 84 minutes. M (Infrequent coarse language). Reviewer: Peter Sheehan*.

This delightful French comedy is about a chef, Jacky Bonnot (Michael Youn), who is extremely talented at what he wants to do, but unable to break into the restaurant scene. He dreams of opening a famous French restaurant, but is unable to realise his ambition. To make ends meet, he accepts routine and menial cooking jobs that never realise his talents, just to bring home some money.

They lead nowhere, he keeps getting fired, and his pregnant girl friend, Beatrice (Raphaëlle Agogue) gives him no great encouragement. She even tries to arrange a job for him as a handyman at an old peoples' home. True to his talents, Bonnot soon takes over the home's kitchen and begins to serve great meals to its residents.

One day, Alexandre Lagarde (Jean Reno), a renowned Parisian chef, whose management of his famous three-star restaurant is threatened, visits the home, and tries one of Bonnot's dishes. He is very impressed, and thinks that Bonnot is the man who will give him the inspiration he needs to revive his reputation.

They join forces, but their personalities clash on how both of them want to create good food, and they have to work their differences out. Lagarde desperately needs Bonnot to inspire him to salvage both his future and his restaurant, and Bonnot needs Lagarde to provide the credibility he must have to satisfy his culinary ambitions.

There are some delightful scenes that French comedies do so well. It is sheer delight to see Bonnot delicately preparing fine, haut-cuisine food at a cooking class, attended by people who care mostly about steak, sausages and French fries. They want basic fare, while Bonnot is preparing small food sensations to instill in them appreciation of fine food. Not surprisingly, Bonnot takes exception to their tastes, and is fired yet again.

There are many good movies about food, from *Babette's Feast* (1987), through *Chocolat* (2000), to the more recent *Julie and Julia* (2009), and *The Trip* (2010). All of them



Michael Youn and Jean Reno ... a passion for food.

convey a passion for food, and this film does that also. There are lots of scenes of succulent dishes being lovingly prepared, and the movie carries its own special insights into the restaurant trade. In a world fiercely competitive for Michelin stars, Lagarde comes under pressure from the CEO of his restaurant group, who tells him he will lose his restaurant if it drops a Michelin star in the next Food Guide. His boss thinks the image of the restaurant can only be enlivened by the restaurant serving molecular cuisine.

Bonnot has to learn molecular gastronomy quickly, and Lagarde knows nothing about it. To pursue the art of molecular gastronomy, Bonnot works feverishly in a kitchen full of liquid nitrogen and fuming beakers. Cohen uses the movie to take an intentional swipe at elBulli's Ferran Adria, one of the acknowledged top chefs of the world, who specializes in experimental gastronomic cuisine.

The acting is spirited and in tune with the pace of the movie. Some scenes are over the top and the film is repetitive and a little sentimental. There are enough laughs in the film, and intelligent comment on the culinary trade, however, to make the film a very enjoyable French piece. And the passion for food, that it shows so well, never lets the film down.

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

Take This Waltz. Starring Michelle Williams, Seth Rogen, Luke Kirby, Sarah Silverman. 112 mins. MA15+ (Strong sex scenes and nudity). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan*.

The complexity of closeness

This is a comedy-drama film about a relationship break-down between two married people. It analyses the enormous complexity of human closeness.

Michelle Williams plays Margot, a freelance journalist, and Seth Rogen takes the part of husband Lou, a writer-chef. They have been married for five years, but they have grown too comfortable with each other. The marriage begins to break down when Margot finds herself attracted physically to the charming and smooth Daniel (Luke Kirby), who lives in the house opposite.

Margot is looking for attention from a husband, whose mind is on other things, as he writes his cookbook. The dynamism of what existed for Margot in her relationship with Lou is caught up in the sexual feelings aroused in her by Daniel.

Infidelity and personal conflict are captured movingly by the performance of Michelle Williams, who is outstanding as Margot. Seth

Rogen conveys exceptionally well the feelings of being betrayed as a husband. He has lost the commitment and attachment of a wife he loves, and he tells Margot that the past for him can never return.

The morality conveyed by this film is not at issue. Margot knows she is being unfaithful, and is plagued by the tensions of her relationship to Lou. Her character, like that of Lou and Daniel, is flawed. Daniel and Margot make explicit physical love to the sensuous accompaniment of Leonard Cohen's "Take this Waltz". But the film is also a waltz around maturity, the loss of excitement with age, and the fragility of relationships that can't sustain themselves. As loneliness sets in for Margot after the excitement has faded, the major moral lesson of the movie is that life for her has changed at enormous personal cost.

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

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Intriguing picture of a complex man

The Wounded Heart of Thomas Merton. By Robert Waldron. PB, 207 pages, \$27.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

More sinner than saint? Thomas Merton has intrigued readers for decades through his many books, including his autobiography *The Seven Storey Mountain*, collected poems and letters.

While Waldron's book could serve as an introduction to Merton's life

and works, for readers more familiar with Merton's writings, it could provide a deeper analysis.

Waldron is a renowned author of several books about well known writers of spirituality. Here, he frames Merton's life through the lens of Jungian psychology, which he has researched for many years.

Merton suffered from depression. As a child, he lost both his parents to cancer, and a little later his

Aunt Maud, his godfather/guardian and his grandfather died. He may have had suicidal longings, refers to three nervous breakdowns during his time in the monastery, and writes of his "wounds".

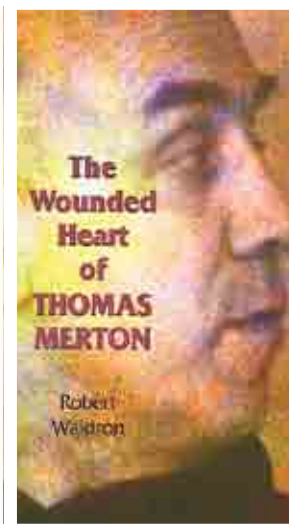
His road to conversion was bumpy, with some periods of drinking, partying and dating (and fathering a child). No relationship with women proved healthy or nurturing until he discov-

ered Mary, mother of God, and Holy Mother Church. He came to experience God as "pure Being".

Merton was inspired to become Christian by art in Rome, some Catholic mystics and spiritual writers. He was baptised, refused by the Franciscans and accepted by the Trappists as a candidate for priesthood. And that is only part of the story.

Waldron surmises that Merton's life journey was

one of seeking wholeness. For many years he was unable to deal with his shadow archetype (not able to forgive himself for past actions), and slow to integrate his anima. The author draws comprehensively on Merton's writings, sometimes joining the dots, to present a plausible picture of this complex man who sought to be a writer, priest and contemplative, in a peaceful context. It is readable and perhaps inspiring.



Saintly ideas for every occasion

Patron Saints. By Thomas Craughwell. Our Sunday Visitor Inc., 2011, 288 pages, \$22.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

I guess we all have our favourite saints whom we invoke in our time of need.

Just recently when I was having computer problems I was intrigued to learn that there is a patron for the internet.

He is Isidore (560-656) bishop of Seville in Spain. During his lifetime he produced a 20-volume encyclopedia of the achievements of Roman society.

Isidore was chosen as patron of the online industry in the 1990s because his work was interpreted as the world's first data base. That's a little gem for your next trivia night.

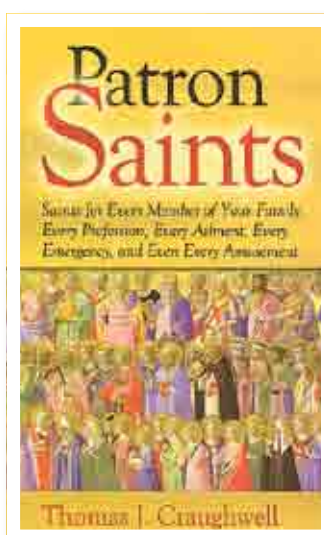
Patron Saints is a small compendium of mainly European saints.

We're told that the practice of regarding each saint as having his or her own "specialty" was gaining popularity there by the year 1100.

However, there is an excellent chapter on patron saints for the nations of the world.

Right up to date, it includes a paragraph on Mary MacKillop with an expanded entry concerning her in another section, Persecuted by the Church, which she shares with Joan of Arc.

The sub-title of the book is Saints for Every Member of Your Family, Every Profession, Every Ailment, Every Emergency and even Every Amusement. In such



a small book, this seems to cover all bases.

The index lists both the saints and the topics for easy reference.

Another useful feature is the occasional italicised segment beside a relevant saint's entry.

For example, following the paragraph on Gregory the Great, is an explanation of why, of all the 263 popes, only two bear the title of "the Great". This is of interest because there is currently an active movement for this to be granted to Blessed John Paul II.

At times the humanity of the saint shines through. We learn that St Thomas Aquinas is the patron of storms. When he was only five, his baby sister was killed by a lightning bolt as she slept beside him. Understandably he was terrified of storms all his life.

Craughwell is an experienced writer with an engaging style. He resists embellishing this panoply of saints with the stuff of legends. He has produced an affordable and useful book.

WODEN CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

Canberra's independent Christian bookshop stocks a remarkable range of books and music, gifts, rosaries, jewellery and cards, pretty well across the spectrum – there's sure to be something of interest to you.

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Enriched by praying Celtic way

The Celtic Way of Prayer. By Esther de Waal. Canterbury Press, 2010, pb, 208 pages, \$24.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Are you enriched by the Celtic approach to prayer? Esther de Waal has been and is.

She taught history at Cambridge University, is a widely respected author of books on spirituality, particularly in the Benedictine and Celtic traditions, lecturer and retreat leader.

She writes simply and conversationally, enthusiastically and personally about many aspects of the Celtic tradition, old yet very contemporary, which offers a counterbalance to the often skewed, overly heady, intellectual, perhaps doctrinal approach to God and prayer, characteristic of individualistic and competitive societies.

De Waal speaks of: the spiritual journey of peregrination, open-ended, prompted by an inner call to find and



be at home within and in the world.

It is an oral tradition with poems and blessings covering all of life with its patterns and rhythms, and which respects memory, myth and story; the natural and easy relationship

with the Trinity; a deep sense of the presence and accessibility of the transcendent God and the saints; the important place of solitude and silence to enable encounter with God and oneself; a Celtic grappling with their own suffering and oppression, balanced with hope and praise of God; the power of the cross; and the importance of the material world.

The author believes that the Celtic sense of interconnectedness and harmony offers healing through a God who reaches out to a diverse world order.

Christ is the Divine Physician, alone capable of forgiving, redeeming and healing sickness of all kinds.

This delightful outline of Celtic spirituality can be prayed through as well as read.

Each of the 11 chapters contains poems, songs and prayers, relevant life snippets and engaging stories.

CATHOLIC BOOKSHOP

Take the Plunge is another brilliant book by Timothy Radcliffe, \$23.95

Roddy's Folly a new arrival in the biography section tells the story of a larger than life R.P. Meagher QC, devout Catholic, art lover and lawyer.

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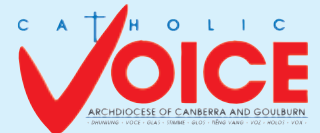
Prayers

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

Public Notice

SINGING tour to Rome. Did you ever imagine you would have the chance to sing in Rome - maybe even for the Pope? And what about Salzburg and Vienna? The Austrian Australian Choir invites new singers to join it on its next overseas singing tour. Rehearsals begin in Canberra in July 2012. More details at www.austrian-choircanberra or by telephoning Elizabeth 6251 1616 (evenings) or email esjames58@yahoo.com.au.



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

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The deadline for material submitted to Catholic Voice is 15th of each month for publication on the first weekend of the next month.

Coming Events



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

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

BATEHAVEN AND THE BUSH - Spirituality program. St Joseph's Convent, Batehaven, 5pm-7.30pm, 27 July, Mandala making, journaling and poetry as a way of growing in self awareness. Sr Julie Connolly. \$10. Bookings: Sr Judith, telephone 4472 4021. Temora Southern Cross Village, Walking Through the Shadows, Sr Marietta. Donation. 10am-3pm, 27 July. Bookings: Sr Mary Murphy, telephone 6978 2585. St Therese's parish centre, Barellan, 10am-3pm, 28 July: Mandala. Sr Ann Steenbergen. \$10. Bookings: Sr Mary Murphy, telephone 6978 2585.

CELTIC RETREAT - Explore mysticism of Celtic spirituality to listen to heart of God in daily life. 5-12 August, St Joseph's House of Spirituality and Hospitality, Batehaven. Live-in, seven people only. Facilitator: Sr Carmel Drew RSJ. \$450 or \$75 per day. Bookings: 20 July, Sr Judith, St Joseph's House of Spirituality and Hospitality, David St, Batehaven, telephone 4472 4021, email srjudith@bigpond.com.

CHOIR FESTIVAL - First Archdiocesan choir festival for primary schools, 1pm, Wednesday, 22 August, Merici College.. Admission free. School choirs from Gundagai, Cooma, Moruya, Batehaven, Canberra. Sponsored by Knights of the Southern Cross, Catholic Education Office and CDF. Inquiries: Bob Perkins, telephone 6247 2977 (Mon, Wed, Fri).

HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY - Meets every third Friday of month, 7.30pm, St John Vianney's, Waramanga.

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. Live-in weekend retreats, 6-8 July, 2-4 November, The Gathering Place, Dickson. Applications: Sr Betty McMahon, telephone 6257 9027, e-mail betty.kp@bigpond.com.

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

MEN ALIVE WEEKEND - 21-22 July, Holy Spirit parish, Gungahlin; to bring men together to renew their faith in God. Inquiries: Peter Hilton, telephone 0417 771 761, email peterhilton1@gmail.com.

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 - Rosary and Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, 6.10pm, Thursday, 12 July, then dinner at The Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

TOUCHING THE SACRED WITHIN - Weekend of quiet solitude, The Hermitage, Marist Brothers Mittagong, 24-26 August. \$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, www.wvme.org.au

Written entries are invited for the August 2012 issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Monday, 16 July. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

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Learning to pray

"What a great day - you could really feel the anointing of the Holy Spirit!" This was one of the comments following a renewal day held at St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla, attended by 40 members of prayer groups and parishes.

The theme of the day was "the power of intercession" - how to pray effectively in accordance with God's will.

Guest speaker Ms Anne Marie Gatenby, a member of the national Catholic Charismatic Renewal service team, gave two talks and ran a workshop.

Participants learned about the different types of intercession, how they might be prompted by the Holy Spirit to pray, and discovering particular preferences for intercessory prayer. They put this teaching into practice in the workshop.

The day was organised by the local archdiocesan service team of the Catholic Charismatic renewal in collaboration with Good Shepherd prayer group. Ms Gatenby will return to run another day of teaching on Saturday, 25 August. Inquiries: Canberra Goulburn CCR chairperson, Neda Kesina, telephone 0415 266 019; email neda.kesina@gmail.com.



ABOVE: Canberra Goulburn CCR chairperson Neda Kesina (left) with Anne Marie Gatenby.

Fellowship for women

Women aged between 25 and 35 are invited to apply for a fellowship to study a graduate certificate in theology over two years through the Broken Bay Institute.

Starting in February next year, they will come together once a semester in a program that will allow them to continue in their profession and work as well as receiving rich academic formation in interfaith relations, Catholic leadership and theology.

The Young Catholic Women's Interfaith Fellowship was set up by Australia's Catholic bishops and was first offered in 2006. To download application forms go to www.opw.catholic.org.au. Forms should be returned to director. opw@catholic.org.au by 7 September.

Men coming alive

A weekend to help men explore what makes them feel fully alive will be held in Gungahlin next month. Following two menALIVE weekends in Yass and Gowrie parishes last year, a third is being held at Holy Spirit Parish, Gungahlin, on 21-22 July.

Around Australia and New Zealand, more than 7500 men from all walks of life and ages have attended menALIVE weekends since the program was started in Brisbane in 2004.

Inquiries: Peter Hilton, telephone 0417 771761 or 6166 4992, email peterhilton1@gmail.com, or Joe Jambor, telephone 6242 7332 or email jj19144@bigpond.net.au.

Research into racism

A Melbourne doctoral researcher is seeking to contact young people to take part in a study on racism. Mr Kaine Grigg, a Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) student at Monash University, is trying to answer questions such as can racism be measured and is racism related to temperament? The next stage of his research involves young people aged 16-20 years from diverse racial/ ethnic backgrounds. For information, or to volunteer for the research, email kaine.grigg@monash.edu.

The survey can be accessed at www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?FBDFB3AAFA BAAEA8FC.



Around the world athletes are putting the final touches to years of expensive training, nutrition, equipment and travel aimed at competing in the London Olympics. Such needs face us all but are difficult to afford and acquire in developing countries and when involving matters of faith and basic opportunities for life.

Catholic Mission seeks to ensure such opportunities are available, especially training future leaders in faith communities. Through our Society of St Peter the Apostle, we assist communities meet formation costs of students for the priesthood, religious life or catechists.

In Africa, there are dioceses with only 50 priests serving over 500 parishes. The pastoral service and leadership of catechists is crucial in developing communities' faith and mission to others. This scenario is familiar across Asia, the Pacific and in Central and South America.

We are struggling to raise sufficient funds to meet the needs and costs associated with fostering leadership in local church communities. Contact us today! Your donations and prayers are essential to help train tomorrow's faith leaders. God bless,

Deacon Joe Blackwell

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CATHOLIC VOICE CATHOLIC VOICE... Share yours with a friend
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It was a busy day at St Joseph's when Catholic Voice visited Mr Paul Corcoran's 5/6 class. Students were having fun playing math games on the school's new iPads, and catching up on their collage projects. Later students practised their reading and completed their math exercise sheets. Then after a morning of hard work, everyone was happy to go out to lunch and enjoy the sunshine.



LEFT:
Alice Kelly and
Grace Corkhill
have fun using
their iPads.



RIGHT:
Connor
Corcoran
completes his
exercise sheet.



LEFT:
Ned Evans cuts
up pictures for his
collage project.

RIGHT:
Genevieve
Carmody and
Rachel Corkery
during guided
reading.



Students
completed some
art work to share
with readers. These
artistic
works are by:

TOP LEFT:
Ilka Halgryn.

TOP RIGHT:
Claire Kelly.

BOTTOM LEFT:
Adam Hinds.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
Sophie Canellis.



ABOVE: Sarah Walsh and Abigail Forkin work together.