

# CATHOLIC VOICE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN  
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FREE

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**Paul's final step to  
priesthood – Page 2**

**Archbishop-elect seeks to follow Pope Francis' lead**

# Poor and hurting are the top priority

The Archdiocese's incoming Archbishop has vowed to follow Pope Francis' lead and put the poor and marginalised at the top of his priority list when he moves into the position next month.

Archbishop-elect Christopher Prowse said that, as surprised as he was at being chosen as the new Archbishop, the Pope had shown "great care and pastoral governance of this part of Australia" in making the appointment.

"I thank the Lord for the inspired example he is giving us, by his gestures as much as anything else," he said.

"He is asking us to go out to the margins and engage with the poor. That will be a big thing for me."

He said that while his role was to be "a good shepherd and father of all the people, I would particularly like to listen to those on the margins who feel aggrieved, who feel hurt by life".

His priorities extend beyond the social and material poor only, however.

"A real poverty in Australia, I would have thought, is spiritual poverty," Bishop Prowse said.

"Although many people may feel somewhat marginalised by the Church for all sorts of reasons, I think in Australia there is a search for God like never before."

His response will be to carry out a "ministry of Barnabas". "It is a ministry of encouragement, which is something I hold very dear." He said he liked to see himself as a "doctor of the soul", as priests were defined in ancient times.



Listening... Bishop Christopher Prowse in Canberra after his appointment by the Pope.

"I would like to use the medicine of the gospel, the medicine of the Church over 2000 years, to strengthen, to motivate, to energise the people of this Archdiocese.

"For us to walk with those who are searching for God, like Jesus with the two men on the road to Emmaus, is a great pastoral paradigm that I would like to match in an appropriate way as I get to know the great Archdiocese of Canberra and

Goulburn in the years ahead," he said. Bishop Prowse's plan is to spend a good part of his first year in office travelling the Archdiocese, getting to know the people and the history of its diverse regions, and seeing where "the Holy Spirit is activating himself".

"God has given me two ears and one mouth, so I hope to listen twice as much as I speak," he said. He is especially interested in pastoral priorities around the

Archdiocese, and is keen to support initiatives in the areas of family life and evangelisation.

He is also committed to strengthening relationships with indigenous communities and is determined to support those most affected by sexual abuse in Church institutions, whose stories are emerging through the royal commission. "Our first responsibility must be to the victims themselves ... They are a lot more forgiving in their hearts

than one would think but, with the crimes that have been committed against them, we need to stand alongside them as we seek a way forward from this great tragedy," he said.

With all this on his agenda, he expects to be spending a lot of time on the road in his new, geographically large archdiocese. But he is not fazed. "I don't mind travelling, as long as I've got some good CDs and some local radio to listen to," he said.

A born and bred Victorian, he admits to leaving his home state with "a somewhat heavy heart". "But, at the same time, we are messengers, we are evangelists, and we go where we are sent," he said.

He has already identified a few things in Canberra that will help him feel instantly at home – his namesake cathedral, for one. He remembers visiting St Christopher's Cathedral and thinking how wonderful it would be to minister from a cathedral with which he shared his name. Across the road is another source of comfort in Manuka Oval, where AFL games are played each year.

"It seems to me that the diocese has got two religions to deal with on either side of the street," Bishop Prowse joked.

A die-hard Hawthorn supporter whose father Frank played for the Hawks in what was the Victorian Football League, Bishop Prowse was relieved to hear the AFL has a conspicuous presence in his new home.

● For more on Bishop Prowse, turn to the back page.



## Paul's path to priesthood

We travel with South Tuggeranong parishioner and former Marist College student Paul Nulley (pictured right with his mother Gabi) on the last leg of his journey to priesthood. He writes:

I write this month's column two weeks prior to my ordination. By the time it is published I will be ordained, the celebrations will still be fresh, but I hope to have a quiet week to settle into life as a priest. Although I'll be returning to the diocese for ordination, I'm also looking forward to going back to mum and dad's. I haven't been there since Easter.

It'll be really nice to be at home and catch my breath before moving to Cootamundra, where I have been assigned as the assistant priest. I was really happy when I heard about my first appointment because I'm confident that Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter and the faithful people of Coota will help me make the transitions I need and that they will be quick to forgive, but also willing to correct and guide.

Along with the move back to Cootamundra, there is also a great sense of joyful continuity as I move back to the diocese. Firstly, Archbishop-designate Christopher Prowse, a current trustee of Corpus Christi Coll-



ege, has been named as our new archbishop – we both leave Corpus Christi around the same time.

Also, my former rector from the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Archbishop Julian Porteous – who has just become a trustee of Corpus Christi College – will ordain me. My time in seminary began with him and it will end with him. I most remember his spirituality classes in first year. They provided a wonderful foundation for my time in seminary, which is essentially a school of discipleship. He has always been a great support and watched how I've progressed.

Both Sydney and Melbourne played significant roles in my formation and I have been humbled by

the response of people from both Corpus Christi College and the Seminary of the Good Shepherd who will attend my ordination celebrations.

Throughout seminary I have been truly inspired by these men and it is a testimony to the Lord's faithfulness as he continues to bless his Church with such extraordinary pastors. I will most certainly miss the fraternity at the seminary more than anything else, but am eager to enter fully into the presbyterate of Canberra and Goulburn where I know I will find nourishing friendships with those who have already been carrying out the Lord's work.

The closer I move to ordination the more comfortable I feel about it. I was surprised at how freeing it felt to make the oaths of fidelity and freedom and the profession of faith.

It has been a joy to see two of my classmates already ordained this month, but in both cases it has seemed so natural. Personally, my overwhelming feeling as I approach ordination is a sense of humility in the face of the great gift Our Lord is giving me.

I also feel a great confidence that he will always be faithful and give me the grace to persevere. I trust in him. And while it has taken a great deal to organise the celebrations – and I owe much to those who have made them possible – at the moment I am most looking forward to quietly moving into the Lord's vineyard to serve his holy people, especially those most in need.

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## From near and far

### Making history

ANNA Vincent (nee Kilmartin) remembers being part of a class that was made to feel special when she started at Catholic Girls High School in Braddon in 1959.

Hers was the foundation class that went on to be the first year group to finish the full five years (as it was then) at what is now known as Merici College.

"They gave us a sense of making history and being part of something that would continue on long after we had gone," Mrs Vincent said of the sisters, who were led by Sr Clare Slattery, "a brilliant educator and a woman before her time". "Sr Clare ruled with an iron rod but was tremendously helpful to any girl in trouble of any sort," she said.

It has been 50 years since that class of '59 finished at the school and the "old girls", many of whom went across to the school after St Christopher's in Manuka closed its secondary school in 1958, will be celebrating the milestone on Friday, 25 October.

Anyone who was part of the year group is invited to a \$35-a-head lunch at the Merici College restaurant. Reply to Margaret Sleigh (nee Hodgson) on mmsleigh@tpg.com.au or Elaine Laycock (nee Shine) on layhawk@bigpond.com by 11 October.



KAMBAH parish priest Fr Peter My is proud to report his niece Sr Emma (above), a member of the Holy Rosary congregation in Vietnam, is just about to wrap up the first year of study for her Bachelor of Theology at Australian Catholic University in Strathfield.

After a year of studying English in Canberra thanks to the support of Kambah parish, Sr Emma moved to Sydney to start her degree.

The Sisters of St Joseph in Lakemba have helped her with food and lodgings, and she has relied on "some generous donors" to cover tuition, health insurance and other living expenses. Fr My said they were now looking for help to see his 33-year-old niece through two more years of study.

"When she is finished, she will go back to help the other sisters in her congregation to teach Bible studies and to help them work with all the poor, orphanages and disabled around Saigon and other areas," he said.

Anyone who would like to help Sr Emma may contact Fr My through the Kambah parish office on 6231 9219.

HISTORIAN extraordinaire Fr Brian Maher says an important piece of Canberra's Catholic heritage will be remembered when the Sullivan family gathers for a reunion on Springbank Island, in Lake Burley Griffin at the foot of Black Mountain, on 7 October.

Irishman William Sullivan, who raised 12 children with his wife Anastasia on Springbank (before it was resumed by the Commonwealth in 1913 and later consumed by the lake), was an early leaseholder.

His humble farm house, which is still discernible on the island, became an assembly point for pioneer Catholic families to gather for Mass.

According to Fr Maher, "In winter they would congregate around the burning logs in the kitchen fireplace, or on the verandah in summer. There would be a community breakfast, lunch with music and dancing. "The priest would come from Queanbeyan on horseback or in a sulky. By 1911, Fr Haydon came on his Harley motorbike."

Another early leaseholder was fellow Irishman John Morrison, whose family became generous donors to Catholic causes.

## EUCCHARISTIC & MARIAN PROCESSION

Join the procession of the Blessed Sacrament from St. Benedict's Catholic Church, Narrabundah to St. Christopher's Cathedral

### PROGRAMME

Meet at St. Benedict's Church, Tallara Parkway, Narrabundah

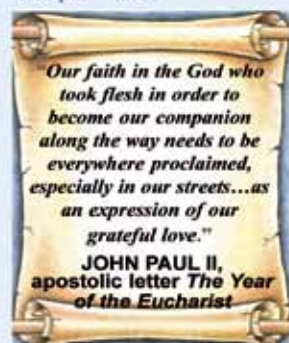
3:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
4:00 pm Procession to St. Christopher's Cathedral, Franklin Street, Manuka  
5:00 pm Procession arrives  
5:15 pm Benediction  
5:30 pm Mass



**SUNDAY,  
27 OCTOBER**

Enquiries:  
Brian Curtis 0419 259 177  
E-mail: brian.curtis@hotmail.com.au

A bus will be available to transport participants back to St. Benedict's





# Church heritage listing reversed

The decision to overturn a heritage listing on St Patrick's Church in Braddon has come as a relief to the Archdiocese.

Archdiocesan financial manager Helen Delahunty said the Archdiocese had spent "a lot of time, resources and energy, including emotional energy" over three years in battling for the right to control the future of the area.

"From a future planning point of view, we are now masters of our own destiny," she said.

After what the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal described as an "unusually prolonged" process, starting in 2010, the church and its surrounding land was listed on the ACT Heritage Register in July last year.

The Archdiocese challenged the listing and, in a 50-page decision handed down in late September, the tribunal found the building did not meet the criteria to be registered under the Heritage Act.

The ACT Heritage Council, joined by three individuals with

a recognised special interest in the church, had applied to maintain the listing because it believed it met two of a possible 12 "heritage significance criteria", covering religious interests and special associations.

The tribunal's decision criticised the factual errors and lack of clarity in the council's application.

"We ... feel obliged to say that the proposed register entry prepared by the council does not measure up to what we would expect of such an expert body," it said.

It expected that if the council nominated St Patrick's for future heritage registration, it would be "much clearer in identifying any features of the place that satisfy one or other of the criteria".

The tribunal acknowledged that the decision would "disappoint many people for whom St Patrick's Church is a very important part of their lives".

"It is in many ways a charming little church and clearly serves a valuable purpose in



"Unusually prolonged process"... heritage listing of St Patrick's Church, Braddon, overturned.

providing opportunity for Catholic worship close to the city area ... That, however, does not mean that the listed building satisfies any of the specific requirements of the various heritage criteria."

St Patrick's was opened in 1935 as a combined church and school.

In 1982, the block was subdivided and the convent area sold to the Sisters of Mercy. It was refurbished solely as a church in 1983 and part of the

block has been sectioned off for parking since the 1990s.

The ACT Government approached the Archdiocese about acquiring the land for redevelopment in 2011 but, as the tribunal decision said, "Mgr (John) Woods, the Administrator of the Archdiocese, in his oral evidence advised the tribunal that the price for the site offered by the Government was inadequate".

Ms Delahunty said that even though the decision gave the Archdiocese more certainty in its planning, it would be

"business as usual" on the site for the time being, albeit with more freedom to carry out maintenance and other work.

Specifically, no decisions would be made while the Government was still working on a draft variation plan for the area, but the Archdiocese's planning would be sensitive to the people who have an attachment to St Patrick's Church.

"We realise that a parish church is a very important part of a community," she said.

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## in brief

## Wagga bishop dies

The fourth Bishop of Wagga Wagga, William Brennan, has died after a long illness at the age of 75.

Sydney-born Bishop Brennan, who was ordained in late 1960, was appointed Bishop of Wagga Wagga in 1984, having served as a parish priest at Nyngan and Wentworth.

Bishop Brennan is perhaps best known for the bold move of founding a diocesan seminary.

Serious ill health forced him to retire in 2002.



## Lazarus at our gate

Catholic bishops have urged the Federal Government to renew Australia's commitment to addressing global poverty.

The bishops' annual social justice statement, Lazarus at Our Gate: A Critical Moment in the Fight against World Poverty, says it is time for "a recommitment to eradicating poverty".

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council chairman Bishop Christopher Saunders said Australia had "a historic opportunity to be a force for peace and generosity in the global response to poverty".

The proposal to cut \$4.5 billion from the foreign aid program was a breach of Australia's commitment to increase aid funding to 0.5% of gross national income.

See the statement and other resources at <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

## Victims remembered

Those who have lost their lives to illicit drugs will be remembered again this month. The 18th annual remembrance ceremony will be held at 12.30pm on Monday, 21 October, at the memorial site, Weston Park Road, Weston Park, Yarralumla (opposite the junction with Prescott Lane). Speakers will include Senator Richard Di Natale and Suzanne MGhie, who has lost a son. Anyone who would like a loved one remembered at the ceremony telephone Marion on 6254 2961 or email [mcconnell@ffdlr.org.au](mailto:mcconnell@ffdlr.org.au).

## Pope on weary priests

Pope Francis, speaking to the clergy of the Diocese of Rome, spoke about the weariness priests experience owing to the hard work they do. "There is the tiredness resulting from work, which we all know; we arrive home in the evening, tired after our work and we spend a moment before the Tabernacle to greet the Lord, which we must always do," he said. "When a priest is in contact with his people, he works, but he sleeps well. When a priest is not in contact with his people, he works, but he works badly and sleeps badly. ... When a priest is in contact with his people, who have many real needs, need for God, then this requires serious effort".

## Graced in change

By Archdiocesan Administrator Mgr John Woods

The federal election has seen a change of government and a new prime minister. Pope Francis has given us a new archbishop. Indeed, in the time I have been privileged to be Archdiocesan Administrator, there have been three PMs. The Vatican works at a different pace.

Archbishop-elect Christopher Prowse of Sale Diocese will be installed as our seventh Archbishop on 19 November. He will have pastoral care of a diocese about one third larger than Tasmania. From Batemans Bay to the far south coast parish of Pambula, to the high country of the Snowy Mountains, to the north at Crookwell, to the north-west at Lake Cargelligo, with Canberra and Queanbeyan somewhat in the centre, the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is an incongruous mix.

Of course, the shape of the Archdiocese reflects changes in church organisation. Back in 1917 we lost territory with the establishment of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. On the other hand, territory was gained when other parishes, previously under the Archdiocese of Sydney or the Diocese of Wollongong, were added, the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn was not created until 1948.

Our Archdiocese traces its history to the establishment of the Goulburn, Yass and Queanbeyan missions. This year the city of Goulburn and our archdiocese celebrated their 150 jubilees, Canberra celebrated its centenary and Queanbeyan celebrated 175 years. The proud history of our archdiocese is surely symbolised in the refurbished original floor of the former convent chapel at Yass; termites and two subsequent floors were removed. Might we build on the past by going back to our origins "in Christ".

What will Archbishop Christopher seek to build on? At his media conference he spoke of having "two ears and one mouth", thereby illustrating his commitment to listen for the movement of God's Spirit.

First and foremost, he will seek engagement with his committed and aging clergy, his "brothers and co-workers". Some of them will form the Archbishop's chief consultative body, the Council of Priests, as well as the Archdiocesan Consultors and Trustees. He will affirm the varied apostolates of religious.

He will work closely with his curia or those who assist him in fulfilling his tasks of teaching/ witnessing, sanctifying/ celebrating and governing/ enabling.

By way of example, I refer to archdiocesan financial administrator Helen Delahunty, director of the Catholic Education Office Moira Najdecki, director of Pastoral Support Services (including CatholicLIFE) Shawn van der Linden, director of CatholicCare Neil Harrigan and director of Marymead Hilary Martin.

Of course, a discerned local response to the movement of the Holy Spirit, consistent with the Church's living tradition, will be the Archbishop's overall intent. However, by holding his inaugural media conference at the CatholicCare offices, he showed a resonance with the call of Pope Francis for a "poor Church for the poor" - a phrase that continues to challenge all of us - and surely something of the formative thinking reflected in his doctoral work on social sin and its impact on Aborigines.

An immediate challenge for Archbishop Christopher will be the provision of sufficient clergy. How many more clergy are needed and from where are moot points.

It is noteworthy that parish priests Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter (Cootamundra and Harden-Murrumburrah), Fr Laurie Blake (South Woden) and Fr Frank Fuchs (Aranda) are retiring at the end of the year and that Fr Martin Maunsell (Boorowa) is returning to Sydney.

The number of clergy in the Archdiocese, including religious in parishes, is declining in proportion to the number of faithful. In recent years a number of our younger clergy have withdrawn from priestly ministry.

While Fr Paul Nulley was ordained last month, Reverend Luke Verrell will be ordained to the priesthood on 13 December and Reverend Dominic Byrne is due to be ordained to the priesthood next year, the fact is that our numbers are very stretched. We have close to 50 diocesan and religious clergy in parishes, a quarter of whom are aged over 65. Their capacities vary markedly, as do the size of the parishes they serve. A few clergy are in chaplaincy work. We have 19 retired clergy, some of whom assist on an ad hoc basis, and five seminarians. In making these comments about clergy, I am conscious that last month there was a national gathering of (permanent and mostly married) deacons in Canberra. Their ministry is very much valued but



in conjunction with and not as a substitute for priestly ministry.

Meanwhile, how might parishes make better use of their resources and personnel? Perhaps an archdiocesan pastoral plan, built on best practice, the pertinent insights of our two Archdiocesan synods and the outcomes of our 2010 Archdiocesan Assembly, "The Changing Face of Sunday", will afford us a template for future mission?

With respect to the best use of material resources, Archbishop Christopher will need to consider and sign off on the scope of the redevelopment of the Cathedral precinct, Forrest. The finding in favour of the Archdiocese against the ACT Heritage Council's listing of the St Patrick's, Braddon will be noted in those discussions.

In the midst of change and challenge, some things stay the same. Underpinning change and suffusing it is the timeless call of grace or the movement of God's Spirit.

To be truly human is to respond to that call - to walk in truth and love, to be a person of faith and hope. I was reminded of this in a reflection by Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI in which he claimed that love calls us to communion at the deepest level of our being.

He spoke of love having "a certain DNA ... We crack it slowly, painfully, with many setbacks, over the course of a lifetime."

He went on to say that "Jesus gave us the keys to crack it. They can be named: vulnerability, the refusal out of love to protect ourselves, refusing to give back in kind when someone hurts us, a willingness to die for others, the refusal to give ourselves over to cynicism and bitterness when things beset us, continued trust in God and goodness even when things look the opposite, and especially forgiveness, having our hearts remain warm and hospitable, even when we have just cause for hatred."

In conclusion, he noted: "These are the keys to the wisdom that Jesus revealed and the gospels tell us that we are 'inside' or 'outside' the true circle of love, depending on whether or not we grasp this wisdom."

So with the finish of the football season for most codes, with the Bathurst 1000 looming, minus the Falcon (and perhaps the Holden?) after 2016, and noting that prime ministers and archbishops will continue to come and go, the love of the Lord abides. Together let us embrace the graced challenge of change and thereby discover Christ anew.

## letters to the editor

## Love, gratitude to priests

Open letter to priests and religious

The coming months, and possibly the next two to three years, will be difficult for the Church as the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse progresses.

Undoubtedly, all Catholics are saddened by the sinful actions of some priests and acknowledge the hurt and harm caused.

The Serra Clubs of Australia and New Zealand know that the majority of our priests and religious are faithful servants of Christ and our communities.

We wish to express our love and gratitude to those priests and religious who serve us so well and care for us throughout our lives.

We appreciate the pastoral care at critical times in our lives in sickness and death, and the support and encouragement offered to us to help us follow Christ's teaching in our daily lives.

Serrans across Australia and New Zealand pray daily for our priests and religious that they may have courage and perseverance in their vocation and we offer our support and encouragement in this difficult time.

**Max Spencer, president, Serra Council of Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.**

## Note to contributors

Contributions to the letters to the editor section of Catholic Voice are welcome. Letters should be no more than 300 words; a name, address and daytime telephone number must be provided. Names will be published.

Letters may be edited for reasons of length, clarity and legality, and to meet style requirements.

They should be sent to Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra 2601, or by email to [ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au).

The closing date for letters is the 15th of the month.





# History's changing fortunes through the camera lens

By Fiona can der Plaats

If anyone can bear witness to the changing frame and fortunes of the Mercy Care Hospital buildings in Young it is Fr Allen Crowe.

Not only were he and his brother and five sisters born in the hospital between 1936 and 1953 but, as a keen photographer, he has taken regular snapshots of the buildings since he was a teenager in the 1960s.

"As my family's story unfolded, that is one place we always knew," Fr Crowe, who has lived most of his life in Young, said.

However, he is not taking a stand in the heated debate over plans to redevelop the site, which is now owned privately after the Mercy Care Centre moved next to the district hospital in 2004.

"All I would say is the place has changed its look over the years, and it is totally different now," he said.

He will admit to mixed feelings about it all, given his personal connection to the hospital over the years, but he remains philosophical.

"It (the hospital) fitted a purpose and an era and that has changed. When you think about it, the heart of the buildings, which was the Sisters of Mercy, has

moved out so that means everything is different anyway."

The hospital, the first built by a Catholic parish in country NSW, was opened in 1911 as Sacred Heart Hospital and the Sisters of Mercy moved in to manage it in 1923.

A detached maternity wing and convent were added in the 1930s, and the name changed to Mercy Hospital in the 1960s.

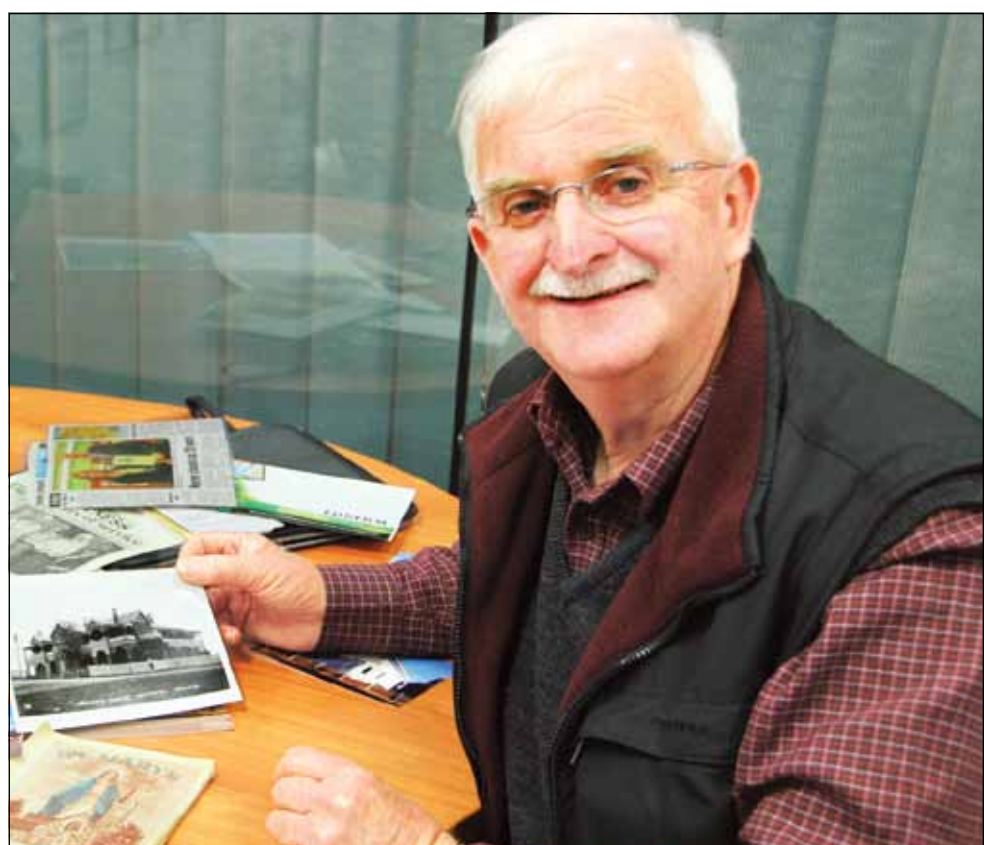
In the latter part of the century, it became Mercy Care and the focus changed from acute to chronic and aged care.

"I didn't spend a lot of the time in hospital myself, but I was there a lot over the years visiting friends and family," Fr Crowe said.

"It was always to me a place of prayer and compassion. The sisters were held in high regard, not only in the Catholic community but in the whole town."

His memories of the hospital will always be linked to his affiliation with the Mercy sisters, who are celebrating their 90th year in the town this year.

With two aunties and four second cousins in the order, "I was never daunted by seeing sisters walking around in habits everywhere like a lot of people might have been".



TOP LEFT: In the beginning ... the original look of the Mercy hospital in the early part of last century.

TOP RIGHT: Change ... the building as Fr Crowe's camera captured it in the 1980s.

ABOVE: Unfolding story ... Fr Allen Crowe has followed the changing fortunes of the Mercy hospital in Young.

He and his sister Barbara Hislop are still Mercy associates in Young, supporting the work of the sisters through prayer groups and other activities.

Fr Crowe will also fondly remember the building for its social effect on the town. As a training hospital, it attracted many young nurses, who were well disci-

plined "in a firm but fair manner" and who often attracted the interest of the local young men.

"It injected new blood into the community and many marriages from outside the district 'square', if you like, developed."

## Awards for Catholic Voice

Catholic Voice received recognition last month in the annual awards of both the Australasian Catholic Press Association and its ecumenical cousin the Australasian Religious Press Association.

A human interest story about Redemptorist brother Clem Holz (right) and his connection with finding a new water source for Canberra's National Arboretum was highly commended in the best feature story section at ACPA.

Catholic Voice received a bronze award in the section for best regional publication at



turn the page where they read well-written reports, opinion pieces and a digest of diocesan news and events. Stories and images are well matched. Photo montage is employed with spontaneity and a deft touch.

ARPA. The judge said: This is an excellent diocesan newspaper - and has been for many years. It effectively meets its stated objective of being "a community newspaper with a strong Catholic flavor". Attractive covers make effective use of strong images and bold headlines to entice the readers to

"Many Years have now passed o'er us, so 'tis time to rise in chorus ..."



Celebrating our Community

We are searching for memorabilia from Old Boys, Staff and College families:

uniforms; flags; badges; historical documents; published books by past students; newspaper clippings; programs from speech nights, graduations, and sporting events; Ed Mundy editions; photographs from 1954-1980; recent class reunion contact lists.

If anyone can help, please contact Peter Milligan on pmilligan@stedmunds.act.edu.au or (02) 6239 0621.

The St Edmund's College community will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2014 and is looking forward to a busy calendar of events and activities including:

- the compilation of a book to capture the events that have occurred at the College during the past six decades
- the installation of a school heritage centre to showcase the achievements of the College and its students.

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**Pencil in this Date:**  
60th Anniversary  
Opening Mass,  
7:15 pm Wed 26 Feb  
2014, Manuka Oval.





# Sleep is no barrier to Chelsea's world of dreams

It is not unusual for Leah Boulding to wake in the middle of the night to the sound of the equal youngest of her six children calling for her.

The reason is usually that 12-year-old Chelsea, who has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair, has had a story idea storm into her head and has to tell Mum about it before it is forgotten.

Mrs Boulding does not always welcome the interruption to her sleep, but she knows that her twin daughter's gift to others is being able to share her world of dreams and imagination.

And share she has, through her first published children's book, *A Hippopotamus in the Sink*.

Mrs Boulding said manuscripts for three stories were sent to the south coast's Harbour Publishing House, which chose the story about Sara and her hippo "on

its merits – they didn't know anything about Chelsea at that stage".

Rosemary Whitecross, who has been working with Chelsea since tutoring her through the Ronald McDonald Learning Program in kinder at Calwell's St Francis of Assisi Primary, says Chelsea's physical restrictions allow her to observe and understand the way people think and feel.

Chelsea explains her story ideas to Mrs Whitecross, who writes them down "in big, bold print and then I bring them back to her and we discuss them and edit them".

Chelsea, whose passion apart from wanting to be a "world-famous author" is horse riding with the Pegasus riding school, says coming up with story ideas is not hard. "They just come into my head and I tell Rosemary."

She realised that other children might be interested in her stories when her school's resource teacher arranged



World of imagination ... Chelsea Boulding reads her book to mother Leah Boulding (left) and tutor Rosemary Whitecross.

for her to read them to the younger students and then the older ones wanted to join in the fun.

"I like to do actions, too," Chelsea said.

The young author's current project is a story about a teacher.

"I thought we needed a punishment in the story and Chelsea has come up

with a very funny one. But we are not going to give anything away, are we Chelsea?" Mrs Whitecross said, sharing a conspiratorial smile with Chelsea.

*A Hippopotamus in the Sink*, by Chelsea Boulding, is available for \$19.99 through the Harbour Publishing House website, [www.harbourpublishing.com.au](http://www.harbourpublishing.com.au).

# A sleepout you may warm to

The bosses might have shivered through sub-zero temperatures in the name of homelessness, but for the general public the experience does not have to be quite so harsh.

The 1000 people it is hoped will partici-

pate in the Canberra Centenary Sleepout at the Australian Institute of Sport track and field complex on 25 October are unlikely to encounter the minus-5C temperature the CEOs coped with in June.

Paul Trezise, the CEO of St Vincent de Paul Society of Canberra and Goulburn, which has partnered Communities@Work to stage the community sleepout, said this version would be "a little bit more for-

giving and family friendly".

He said the event would build on the success of the Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

A number of bosses had suggested their staff and others "who didn't fit into the CEO category" would like a chance to participate.

"I think this is very typical Canberra ... in terms of the bush setting, the view of the tower, and really a great location for the whole community to help (the cause of homeless-

ness)," he said, of the AIS venue.

Communities@Work CEO Lynne Harwood said the sleepout would be a chance to have "a bit of enjoyment and a bit of a laugh" while supporting a serious cause.

She said the event was a chance for both organisations to combine their strengths to achieve a better outcome for the homeless.

To register for the sleepout, go to [www.sleepout.org.au](http://www.sleepout.org.au).



Family friendly ... Vinnies CEO Paul Trezise and Communities@Work CEO Lynne Harwood at the launch of the Centenary Sleepout.

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**Bryan Kemper pictured with Fr Pavone of Priests for Life**

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# Life's final question - burden or choice?

The notion of "human burden" has gained traction in the euthanasia debate just as it did in the abortion debate of past years, according to a leading bioethicist.

Dr Greg Pike, director of the Adelaide Centre for Bioethics and Culture, said the idea of removing burden had a long history in "control ideologies" such as widespread contraception, abortion and the science of eugenics, and it was now fuelling the argument for legalised euthanasia.

Speaking on Sunrise to Sunset: The Value of Life, as part of the Archdiocese's Guinness and God series of talks in Canberra, Dr Pike said even though the term burden might not be used as openly as in the past, it was now couched in the idea of "choice".

The major problem was the subjective nature of the word. "How do you define what is burdensome? How do you define what is a valuable life?" he asked.

Dr Pike's studies have shown that just as many Australians are in favour of abortion in the case of disability, "suggesting they are acutely sensitive to



**Burden ...** Dr Greg Pike says the language of "control ideologies" such as abortion and eugenics is now fuelling the pro-euthanasia debate.

things like burden", they applied the same thinking to euthanasia.

He believes that the arguments against euthanasia, which he defines as "the intentional ending of human life from a motive of compassion", are to be

found in the jurisdictions where it has been legalised, including the Netherlands and Belgium, and briefly in the Northern Territory.

In each case, he said, there had been a departure from the original conditions of

ensuring the act was voluntary, reserved for adults with terminal disease and unbearable pain, and not related to mental health. The Northern Territory experience, for instance, suggested euthanasia had become "the solution to sadness and brokenness in life ... It is an indictment on the community at large, that we have said their lives are not worth living."

In the Netherlands and Belgium, he said, the facts pointed to "a gradual progression towards the end game", which is a fundamental change in cultural ideology.

In the same vein, Dr Pike questioned where the end point of the abortion debate might be.

Although many believed that debate was a "done deal", he said changing laws was not the end of it. Only a cultural shift would mean it was fully accepted by society.

Dr Pike warns that arguing against either issue in religious

language could be counterproductive, however. Instead, he suggests using accepted human rights concepts such as "dignity" when taking a stand in the "public square".

## Impressive qualities



**Impressed ...** Bishop Pat Power (centre) with the newly ordained Deacon Rey Tano (left) and Fr Chris Eaton.

The latest Missionaries of God's Love's priest and deacon received endorsement from an Archdiocesan luminary when they were ordained last month.

In ordaining Chris Eaton to the priesthood and Rey Tano to the diaconate at a ceremony at St Christopher's Cathedral, Bishop Pat Power said he was impressed with both candidates, who displayed three of the most important qualities for a priest.

Those qualities were being grounded in a human way so as to be one with the joys and sorrows of ordinary people, having com-

passion for the poor and broken of the world, and having a deep love for Jesus.

Fr Eaton's family travelled from New Zealand for the occasion, and friends and supporters came from Melbourne, where both men did their seminary training.

Members of the Disciples of Jesus community, of which both ordinands are members, also came from around Australia.

Deacon Tano trained in Australia but will now return to the Philippines, where he hopes to be ordained an MGL priest next year.



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**There's more to people than what they have done, according to a woman who has spent the past nine years as chaplain at Goulburn Correctional Centre. Fiona van der Plaats finds out more about a special ministry.**

A maximum security correctional centre wasn't necessarily what Sr Loretta Corrigan RSM had in mind nine years ago when, having finished her latest studies in Melbourne, she applied to return to the Archdiocese in a pastoral care job.

She was offered the position of chaplain at the Goulburn Correctional Centre.

"I said I didn't know anything about jail life but would give it 12 months and see how it went," Sr Loretta said.

As it turned out, she "quite liked it". "From the day I first went in there, I felt it was the right place for me. I felt quite at peace there."

So she stayed on and only now, after nine years, is she preparing to step back from the 35 hours a week of what she concedes can often be a "full-on" job.

Not that her work has been anything other than satisfying. "I find it a privilege to work out there (at the prison)," she said.

"I am constantly amazed at the depth of the men's spirituality ... It's also taught me a lot about the fragility of humanity and that there is more to the person than perhaps what they have done. The depth of humanity that I see is extraordinary."

It also helps that the intensity of her ministry is eased with friendship and humour. "We have a lot of laughs. There are some real characters there and the staff is fantastic. The ministry is very rewarding."

Sr Loretta is one of two full-time chaplains at the centre, along with an Anglican chaplain. There is also a part-time Salvation Army representative and several sessional chaplains.

All are available to inmates of any denomination, who may want to talk



Privilege ... Sr Loretta Corrigan "felt quite at peace" from the day she started work at the Goulburn Correctional Centre.

## Mercy and listening ear is key to jail life

about anything from spiritual issues to family matters.

The chaplains enter the centre each day prepared for anything. "You have to be very flexible. You never know what you are going to be met with on any day."

The art, Sr Loretta says, lies in being prepared to listen to the inmates' stories without judgment and "accepting them as they are and where they are at that moment".

Having spent many years as a primary school teacher, "where you

usually feel you have to fix things", Sr Loretta has had to adjust to working with adults in a crisis situation and accept that she cannot change the inmates' circumstances.

What she can do is be there for them. "People who may be interested in my type of work need to be good listeners in a non-judgmental way. They need to love people and be compassionate towards them."

"You need to be prepared to listen to another person's story, their spiritual needs, hopes and dreams,

regardless of culture and creed. And you need to have an unconditional love of these people."

Sr Loretta, who was professed as a Sister of Mercy in Goulburn 48 years ago, says she has always "had a bit of yearning to do something that was beyond my comfort zone; to be involved with the poor of our society".

Brought up with three brothers on a livestock farm at Bowna on the upper Murray, and educated in Albury, Sr Loretta entered the convent in Goulburn, studied teaching at Signadou in Canberra and went on to teach in Cootamundra, Yass, Canberra, Goulburn, Tumut and Crookwell.

She also has a degree in theology, a unit in clinical pastoral education and training in spiritual direction, and is grateful for the opportunities her calling has brought her. "It's been a wonderful life – creative and life-giving," she said.

She has also found time along the way to enjoy her pastimes, including following the footy (the recent woes of her beloved Essendon notwithstanding) and watching movies and live theatre when the opportunity arises.

She lives in one of a clutch of units housing the five Mercy Sisters in Goulburn and has no plans to move on if things work out the way she hopes.

Sr Loretta's preference would be to continue working at the centre on a part-time or voluntary basis while ensuring she has a "lot more space in my life for a few other things", the plans for which she is not prepared to divulge at this stage.

In the meantime, Sr Loretta will prepare for life after her full-time chaplaincy with a sense of having achieved something uplifting and worthwhile.

As she said in an address to a chaplains' conference in Cameroon two years ago,

"Again and again, I am struck by the power of this ministry and humbled by the power of God doing His thing through me as a chaplain."

## Questions we should ask ourselves

For St Mary MacKillop College principal Michael Lee, the Holocaust poses questions he thinks we should all be asking ourselves.

"What would I have done? Would I have found within me the courage demanded to live by a moral compass in the face of genocide?"

Mr Lee believes these questions, not to mention the stories of human cruelty and bravery that came out of the dark days of fascist Europe, are reasons we all have an obligation to learn about it.

"When you think that the Holocaust began and ended in the heart of Western Europe ... It's hard to believe something as dark as that could occur in the very bosom of the culture many of us came from and belong to," he said.

His own chance to learn more about it will come at the end of this year, when he travels to



Questions from the Holocaust ... St Mary MacKillop College principal Michael Lee.

Jerusalem to spend 15 days studying the Holocaust at Yad Vashem.

Mr Lee has received one of the 10 scholarships Gandel Philanthropy awards every year to Australian educators, who will explore the Holocaust through lectures, tours of Jerusalem and studies of artifacts and archives.

He plans to use the study tour not only to look at ways of incorporating the teaching of the Holocaust into the St Mary MacKillop curriculum, but as a chance to develop "an inter-

faith dialogue". It will also feed his own appetite for history and the interest he has developed in the Holocaust over the years, not least from working with the Jewish community at the Moriah War Memorial College in Sydney, where "the Holocaust was very present".

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If not for a rain-soaked oval, the children of St Bernard's would have been out enjoying their school athletics carnival on this sunny day. Still, the smiles in the classrooms suggested nobody was letting the change of plan ruin their day.



All for one ... ABOVE: Savannah McCann, Ciara Coffey, Maddison Golden and Bella McKenzie; BELOW: Cooper King; RIGHT: Cooper Simpson. All are from the kinder classes.



These colourful artworks were created by ... CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Ivy Prior, Sebastian Gapps; Rhys Barbara and Liam Hopman, all from kinder.



Parlez-vous Francais? ... LEFT: Mrs Claire Burrows with her year 1 French class; BELOW: Year 1 students Kelvin Li and Emily Hooper practise their French.



Table mates ... ABOVE, FROM LEFT: Sebastian Gapps, Brooklyn Briggs, Isabella Hair, Ayla Turner, Milly Mayo and Regan Terry in a kinder class.

Kinder pairs ... ABOVE: Dean Galambos and Samantha Betteridge. RIGHT: Oliver Dyason and Levi Castagna.





# Aussie legend's good-news story packs a punch

By Fiona van der Plaats

Canberra scriptwriter Roger Ley believes if ever there was a time the Catholic Church might be happy to see Les Darcy's story told on the big screen, it would be now.

The legendary boxer's connections with the Church ran deep and wide. Not only was he an Irish Catholic with a strong faith of his own, but it was his local priest who set him on the path to pugilistic fame and, when his short life ended in the United States, it was the Catholic community that sent him home for a fitting farewell.

"It seems to me that the Catholic Church could do with some publicity about the good priests and the good things that have happened," Mr Ley said.

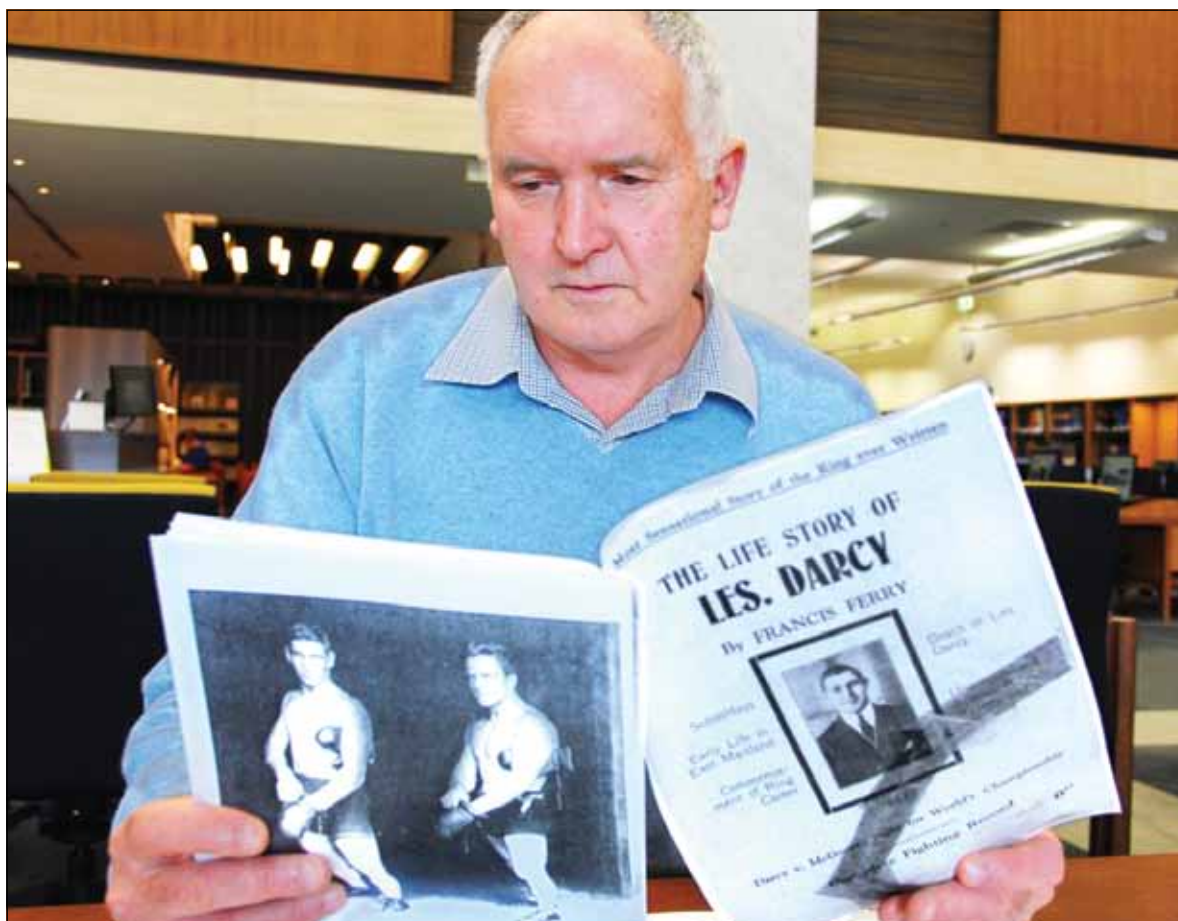
"Les Darcy was a very moral man. Every decision he made was a moral one, guided by his faith."

Mr Ley, from Garran, is working on developing a script for a feature film on Darcy's life. He was prompted into it by a woman in his wife Allison's book club, who had just finished reading Peter Fitzsimons' *The Ballad of Les Darcy* as the club's "blokey book" for the year and knew he had done a scriptwriting course.

The more Mr Ley has delved into Darcy's life, the more convinced he has become that it would make a great movie.

The second son of an alcoholic father and "a feisty Irishwoman", Darcy's boxer's physique caught the attention of local priest Fr Joseph Coady, who found him a trainer.

Darcy would travel to Sydney at night for his bouts, sleep on the ferry during his trip home to Maitland, attend 6am Mass and then head to the forge, where he was apprenticed to a blacksmith.



A moral tale ... Roger Ley believes the Les Darcy story is a good one for the Church.

The story of Darcy's dominance in the ring and the public pressure on him to defy his mother and enlist to fight in World War I as an example for his countrymen are the stuff of folk lore. His life ended at 21, when he died in the US after

developing an infection, reportedly as a result of having his front teeth knocked out. There was an outpouring of grief in that country, and the Catholic men of San Francisco arranged for a sealed casket to send him back home, where he was given

a hero's farewell in a memorial Mass. Mr Ley, who hopes to collaborate with two filmmakers from the Hunter who have bought the screen rights to the book, thinks large Catholic organisations in the US may invest in the \$15m project.

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## Building friendship

Yass parish priest Fr Mick Burke is heading to Timor Leste again this month to continue building work in the isolated enclave of Oecussi.

Fr Burke said he tries to get to the region, where he has now stationed a full-time field officer, at least once a year to oversee development projects such as the construction of a church, a medical clinic, a convent and a factory that makes pots out of local rock.

The work, funded through donations to the Yass Gunning Belun charity and originally the Bega Valley Advocates for Timor Leste, will also include a workshop for motorbike repairs and a manufacturing plant for house bricks.

The journey into and particularly out of the enclave, about a day's travel from Dili, is not always straightforward, but Fr Burke says the effort is always worth it. "I have always believed that parishes should be twinned with the poor," he said. He plans to take a medical team with him when he goes again next year.

## Grants for the gospel

Cash grants are on offer for schoolleavers who plan to work on a mission project in their gap year.

It is one of the categories in the Giving Back Grants program aimed at Christian people or organisations who carry out outreach projects that spread the gospel.

The program was set up by director of Mission Travel Lisa Tarzia to address what she saw as a lack of grants for Christian work. It was last offered in 2010 and includes funding for activities such as visiting the Holy Land (for priests and ministers), visiting sponsored children, and theological or Bible studies. To apply, go to [www.missiontravel.com.au](http://www.missiontravel.com.au).

# Sam's teaching art has a ring to it

Sam Loy-Wilson likes to challenge stereotypes. It's something he does to great effect when he walks through the corridors of Florey's St Francis Xavier College sporting a black eye and looking "a bit the worse for wear".

Many of the students love it, but there will always be people – not usually from his school community – who have their doubts about an art teacher spending his spare time boxing.

"They'll say things like, 'Why would you do this? As a teacher, shouldn't you know better?'" Mr Loy-Wilson said.

But the fact is he does know better. "It's quite interesting, this idea that by training to fight in the ring people will become more violent," he said.

"My experience is that as soon as you learn to fight skillfully you learn very quickly what it is all about and you become more disciplined."

Mr Loy-Wilson, 26, who has just defended his NSW Amateur League super heavyweight title and won a national modified kickbox-

ing heavyweight title, trains two hours a day to ensure he has the speed and endurance to make up for being small for his weight category.

Never one for traditional sports, he tried martial arts while living in China as a child and went on to have a go at everything from kung fu to kickboxing and wrestling.

It was boxing that caught his sustained attention in the end. Having been fascinated with mythology and its heroic characters, he was attracted to the sport's "romantic side".

He sees that same fascination in some of his students. "There's something about boxing that boys will always like. They romanticise it – possibly a bit too much, in some cases."

But Mr Loy-Wilson believes his sport complements his teaching. "It has been a lifelong goal for me to do well in my boxing. Goal setting, as any teacher would understand, is important.

"I feel that if I don't pursue it at least to a moderate or shallow professional level,



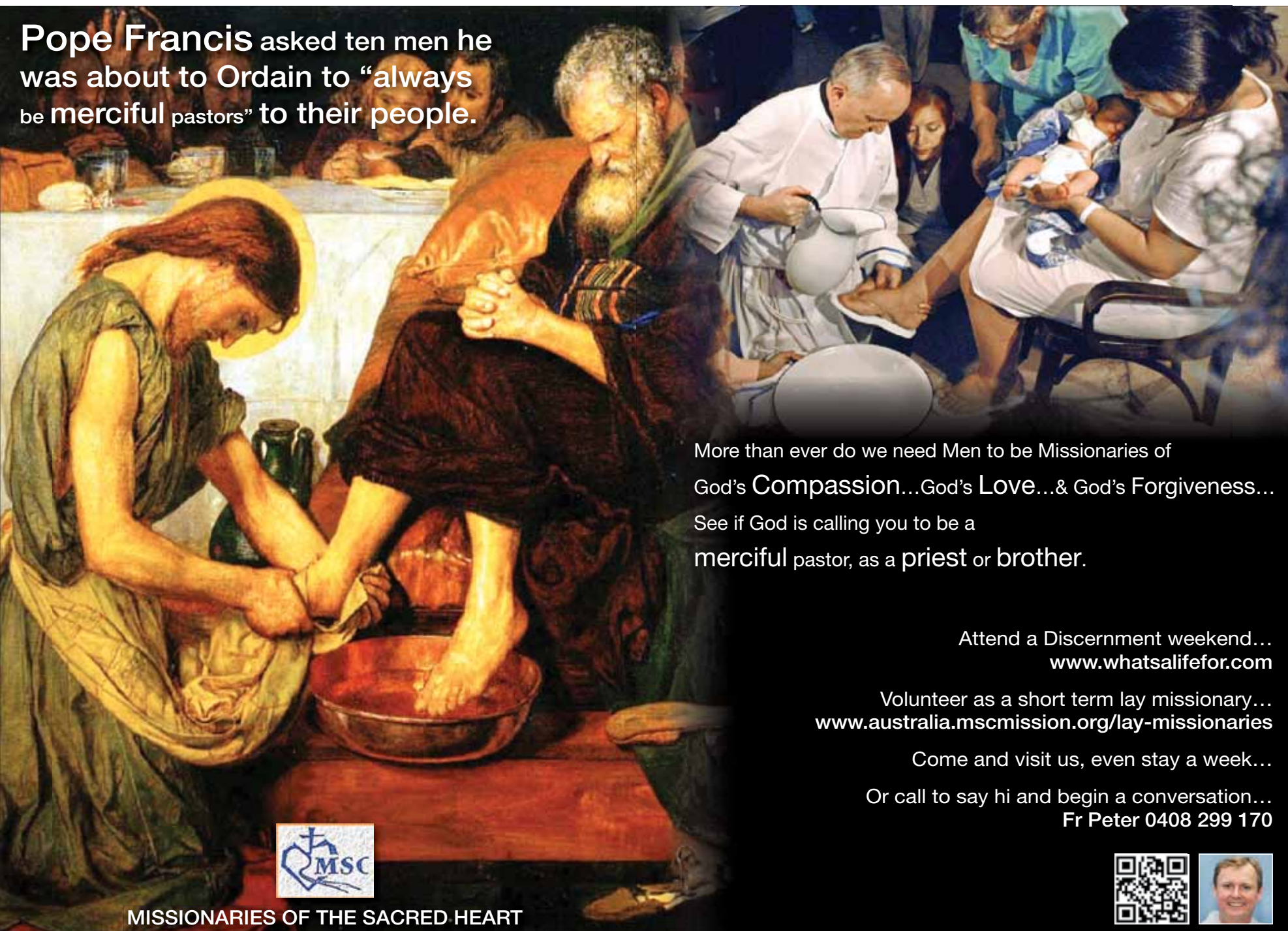
Lifelong goal ... Sam Loy-Wilson in the ring (above) and as his pupils usually recognise him (left).

I am not giving it enough energy or dedication."

Meanwhile, his passion for art keeps him grounded. "It's a case of balancing out my aggressive side and my creative side," he said. "It's well documented that many

boxers, even in recent times, have had that creative side to them. I'm in the happy position that early in my life I have found two things that I love doing, and I can do them together."

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MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART





# School celebrates its rich African culture

If the way to a school community's heart is through its stomach, the demolition job being done on the Sudanese fried chicken at St John the Apostle Primary in Florey suggested its African members were well and truly part of the family.

Not that there was ever any doubt about that. As principal Matthew Egan-Richards pointed out, any perceived differences between the school's African and non-African students "don't seem to mean anything here".

Like many schools in the Archdiocese, however, St John's has been keen to make sure the ethnic members of its community feel welcome and included.

So council member Leila Ayton, also a parent at St John's and a humanities teacher at neighbouring St Francis Xavier College, organised, with kinder teacher Rebecca Jefferys, a dinner in honour of the nearly 20 African students at the school and their families. "We realised there was probably more we

could be doing to celebrate the rich African culture at our school," Ms Ayton said.

The school had also heard that a similar dinner for the Sudanese families at St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood, had been a success, "so we thought it would be a good thing for us to try".

Three Sudanese women from the White Nile catering company laid out an aromatic array of steaming dishes, including spiced chicken, okra and lamb stew, rice-flour pancakes and a semolina and yoghurt dessert.

Lucia Costa, who came to Australia from South Sudan 10 years ago, enjoyed the meal with her family, including daughters Mercy and Favour Lokudu.

"The school is a big family ... I can't feel that I am from a different country when I'm here," she said.

Mr Egan-Richards said the 14 African families in the school came from Zimbabwe, Sudan, Malawi and Kenya.



Family ... Lucia Costa serves herself and daughters Favour and Mercy Lokudu, at the St John the Apostle dinner for African families.

## Women recognised for parish initiatives

The Commission for Women's work in the Archdiocese received a ringing endorsement at the Council for Australian Catholic Women's Wisdom at the Gate colloquium.

Commission chair Judy Netting said the commission's approach, including its focus on education and grassroots celebrations of women in their parishes, was confirmed as best practice around Australia. Members of the commission were joined at the colloquium by women from Kaleen, Garran and Queanbeyan parishes.

Ms Netting said the "enchanted oasis" of Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney was an ideal location for a prayerful reflection on the role of women in the Church.

She said archdiocesan representatives had been keen to expand networking on issues in the Church involving women. In particular, they wanted an update on the progress of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference 2000 Woman and Man: One in Jesus Christ review, and the decisions of the Social Justice Statement 2000, which arose from that report. "Sadly specific progress on the decisions of that report were not highlighted," Ms Netting said.



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Even just 100 years ago it was an absolute exception for an African to be ordained to the priesthood. Today almost 30,000 of the 118,990 young men currently training for the priesthood are Africans. In other words, more than a quarter of all the seminarians in the world now come from Africa. Nowhere else is the Church growing so rapidly as on the African continent and nowhere is the number of vocations rising faster either.

There is a particular dynamism in the Church in Nigeria. Although Christians in some parts of this vast West African country have again and again been the victims of murderous attacks, Nigeria is nonetheless a country of superlatives as far as the Catholic Church is concerned. With 48 dioceses, it can point to almost half a million baptisms annually, nearly 4,500 religious sisters and close on 4,200 diocesan and religious priests. It is especially rich in priestly vocations, with almost 6,000 young men currently studying for the priesthood. While many seminaries in the Western world are being forced to close their doors due to a lack of vocations and numerous dioceses have only a handful of new priestly ordinations, by contrast in parts of Africa the seminaries are simply bursting at the seams. The rectors are having sleepless nights wondering how they will financially support and accommodate the many new candidates. For every potential new vocation that has to be turned away, due to lack of funding and space, is one too many. They are the future of Christ's Holy Catholic Church.

The average grant that ACN gives to a seminarian is \$500 – but whatever you can give will be enormously appreciated. ACN forwards the donations directly to a local bishop or to the rectors of the seminaries. You can be assured of their prayers both now and when they come to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

**A beautiful Year of Faith rosary designed by the Vatican rosary makers will be sent out to all those who give a donation of \$15.00 or more to support this cause and tick the box below.**



Seminarians praying in the chapel of St. Augustine's Major Seminary in Nigeria



The centre piece of the Year of Faith rosary, designed by the Vatican rosary makers, is inspired by the Gospel passage about Thomas "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" John 20:29, as interpreted by the famous artist "Caravaggio" (1571-1610). The crucifix represents the Evangelists through whom the Faith has been transmitted. The Rosary Beads reflect the Vatican colours, symbolizing Faith preserved through the Holy Father.



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The Year of Faith rosary designed by the Vatican rosary makers will be sent out to all those who assist this cause and tick this box.





Nobility of character ...  
Jennifer Dunlop in her Order of Malta robes.

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## HOME BASE



Gerard Heffernan

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Finding the right property location is crucial to ensure strong long-term capital growth. Here are some ways to make this easy:

- 1. Know your budget:** Meet with your mortgage broker to discuss options
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- 3. Map the suburb:** all suburbs have preferred "pockets".
- 4. Infrastructure:** drives property prices so do some background research.
- 5. Lifestyle attractions:** areas that offer lifestyle attractions such as parks are favoured when compared to suburbs that offer fewer amenities.
- 6. Locals:** ask the real estate agent why people like living in that suburb.
- 7. Transport options:** the more transport options available in a suburb, the more valuable the suburb will become over time.
- 8. Don't listen to the naysayers:** look at the suburb based on the fundamental merits that make a suburb valuable

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# Today's knights, dames with noble cause

By Fiona van der Plaats

When Canberra doctor Jennifer Dunlop steps out late on a Friday night as a Dame of the Order of Malta, she is more likely to be wearing a crimson high-visibility vest than her flowing formal robes.

Over winter in particular, you might have found a vest-wearing Dr Dunlop and any of the dozen local knights and dames of what is properly known as the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta teamed up with the Vinnies night patrol, handing out warm coats to those in need.

At other times, they can be found working with migrants, helping out in hospices and providing care to retired priests.

On a wider scale, the 900-year-old order provides humanitarian aid all over the world.

"We are encouraged to be vitally involved," Dr Dunlop said, pointing out that the knights of old used to return from a day in the battlefield and then offer alms to the poor and sick.

Her own 20-year involvement in the order, thanks to its acceptance of "nobility of character in lieu of nobility of blood", has been a case of putting her Christian vocation to work "in a way that would help".

The order is one of the two non-pontifical religious orders recognised by the Catholic Church.

The other, also with a presence in the Archdiocese, is the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, which supports the diminishing Christian community of the Holy Land and is the main source of income for the Latin Patriarchate.

Hawker couple John and Geraldine Pratt, who have recently been promoted to Knight Commander and Dame Commander respectively, have both been members of this order for five years.

"We're the ones who wear the funny hats," joked Mr Pratt, referring to the berets the knights of his order wear, along with white capes bearing the Cross of Jerusalem.

Mr Pratt's regalia also sports the Pilgrim Shell, which was pinned on by the Latin Patriarch to mark his pilgrimage to the Holy Land a few years ago. He says the knights' and dames' presence at Mass, in full regalia, reinforces the liturgy and adds to the sense of occasion.



Ceremony ... members of the Order of Malta at their first Friday Mass at The Carmel chapel in Red Hill (from left), Craig Berelle, Maria Louisa Murphy, Terry Murphy, Tom Walker, Jennifer Dunlop, Richard Caesar-Thwaytes, Geoff Pearson.

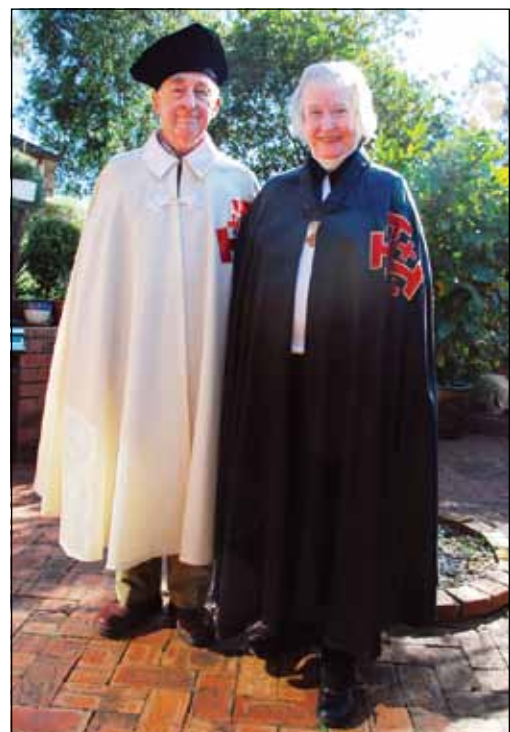
"We pop up a few times a year," said Mr Pratt, a former Air Force flight navigator. "When we are all gathered there on the steps of the cathedral, people come up to find out who we are."

While some of the Order of Malta knights and dames can be seen in their regalia at their first Friday Mass each month, the half-dozen Holy Sepulchre members around Canberra have had fewer chances to dress up while the Archdiocese has been without an archbishop.

They have a big occasion looming in Sydney, however, when the Grand Master of the order, America's Cardinal Edwin O'Brien, will attend the investiture of new members at St Mary's Cathedral.

Meanwhile, the two orders occasionally join forces for services in Canberra, creating a colourful spectacle that, for both, is the ceremonial tip of a serious spiritual and practical commitment.

Information on the orders is available at [www.eohsjaustralia.org](http://www.eohsjaustralia.org) and [www.smom.org.au](http://www.smom.org.au).



Sense of occasion ... John and Geraldine Pratt in the Order of the Holy Sepulchre regalia.

## Helping world's youngest church

The world's youngest Catholic Church, established in Mongolia just over 20 years ago following the fall of communism, is the focus of this month's World Mission Month.

Catholic Mission, through generous and faithful donors, has supported the Mongolian Catholic Church since day one, and helped build the first church in Mongolia just three years after Bishop Wenceslao (Wens) Padilla arrived.

In 1992, Bishop Padilla, a Filipino from the Italian Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and two fellow missionary priests, travelled to Mongolia to build the Church from scratch in a country known to other missionaries as the "hardship country".

He recalls that when he arrived the country, which was mostly comprised of nomadic herders, had no knowledge of Christianity, and was struggling with alcoholism, domestic abuse, minimal government social services and extreme poverty. Today, throughout the vast and remote country of less than three mil-

lion people, proudly stand six Catholic churches.

"Jesus said to Saint Peter, 'Upon this rock, I will build my church.' And I'm thinking that was also addressed to me when I came to Mongolia," he said.

Bishop Padilla's inspiring journey of faith will be shared in parishes across Australia, as well as via mail and online campaigns, in October and November.

The moving DVD entitled *I will build my Church* (Matthew 16:18) can be viewed at [www.catholicmission.org.au/buildmychurchDVD](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/buildmychurchDVD).

National director of Catholic Mission Martin Teulan said it was "truly exciting about the young Catholic Church in Mongolia. The vast majority of its Catholics have come to faith later in their lives; very few have been born into Catholic families."

"One of the biggest challenges still facing them is that there are no locally born priests or sisters. The country's first two seminarians are studying in Korea, so the church relies on local catechists."



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*These days of silence and reflection provide an opportunity to ponder the mystery of God's presence and abundant generosity in our daily lives*

**Director: Sr Carmel Drew**

**Date:** Sunday 20th – Sunday 27th October

**Town:** BATEHAVEN

**Venue:** St Joseph's House of Spirituality, 12 David Ave

**Time:** The retreat begins with a 6pm evening meal on Sun 20th, and concludes with breakfast on Sun 27th.

**Cost:** \$450 or \$75 per day. (Minimum: three days)

**Deposit:** \$50

**RSVP:** 12th October

**Inquiries:** Sr Judith

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# Have I been saved or can I be spent?

## Ron Rolheiser

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



don't, at the end of the day, develop a relationship to Jesus so that we have the energy and proper compass out of which to minister to others, though that is very much part of it.

Rather we develop an intimate relationship with Jesus because that is an end in itself, the ultimate reason we become Christian.

In affirming that, the traditions of Evangelical Christians

other half of the great commandment: Love God and love neighbour.

Simply put, we show our love for God, our intimacy with Jesus, by laying down our lives for our neighbour. Christian discipleship is never only about Jesus and me, even as it is always still about Jesus and me.

A priest friend of mine who teaches at a secular university was once asked by one of his students: "Father, have you met Jesus Christ?" His answer, no doubt, reflected some fatigue: "Yes," he replied, "I have met Jesus Christ, and it messed-up my whole life! There are days when I wish I hadn't met him!"

What his answer, in its irreverence, correctly highlights is that meeting Jesus implies a lot more than a private, romantic, affective, and safe encounter with him and

then sent out with others, "in pairs", to, as Nikos Kazantzakis poetically puts it, "walk in Christ's bloody footsteps". That is, to walk inside of mess and failure, misunderstanding and crucifixion, confusion and tiredness, darkness and God's seeming silence, wondering sometimes if you will indeed find a stone upon which to lay your head.

Intimacy with Jesus mostly doesn't look like intimacy in a Hollywood film or like intimacy as defined in the manuals of privatised spirituality. It looks more like the intimacy that Jesus experienced with his Father as he walked resolutely towards Jerusalem, against the advice of his intimate circle, swallowing hard, knowing what awaited him there. The Jesuit volunteer corps summarises its discipleship in these words: "Ruined for life!" That wonderfully grasps both the intimacy and what it means.

Teresa of Avila suggests that we're mature in following Christ if our questions and concerns no longer have a self-focus. Am I saved? Have I met Jesus Christ? Do I love Jesus enough? These questions remain valid; but they're not meant to be our main focus. Our real question needs to be: How can I be helpful?

Fritz Pearls simply puts it more graphically: How can I be spent? During our adult lives that trumps the question: Have I been saved?

**Teresa of Avila states that once we reach the highest mansion of maturity we are left with only one question: How can I be helpful?**

and of Roman Catholic devotional practice are correct. Nothing trumps a personal, affective relationship to Jesus and outside of that connection we aren't in fact real disciples of Christ. However, Jesus himself mitigates any fundamentalism or one-sided devotional understanding of this by linking intimacy to him with the

that meeting Jesus is more than having a private feeling in the soul that we are loved by and secure with God.

A non-negotiable part of meeting Jesus means being sent out, and not just alone on some private spiritual quest or individualised ministry. It means being called into community, into a church, and

## Disability care, but is it for all?

By former member of the Archdiocese's Catholic Social Justice Commission Josephine Stevens.

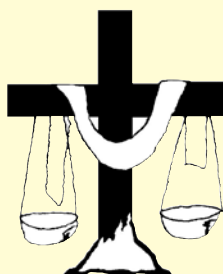
Last month's column asked if \$1 a day was too much to pay for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. This month we look at whether the proposed scheme is fair to all the disabled.

In the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report No 54, 31 July, 2011, one of the key features of the proposed NDIS was "All Australians would be insured. It would cover existing and new cases." But does it?

Those people who have turned 65 before the scheme is fully implemented in 2018 will be excluded. Former Minister for Disability Reform Jenny Macklin says the scheme's 65-year age limit is intended to prevent duplication between that system and the aged care system. But one must ask if the aged care system is set-up to cope with specialist care for people with disabilities?

President of Polio Australia Dr John Tierney, in a recent interview with national broadcaster SBS, is one practi-

### Justice



### Matters

tioner who does not believe that it is. He said the aged care system "clearly isn't adequate" to support polio sufferers, many of whom will be 65 before the scheme is fully introduced.

"We've got people over 65, and they can't find those services now," he said. "We get second-rate treatment simply because we're over 65, and that's age discrimination." Our

polio sufferers are but one disadvantaged group.

Then there are those who live in remote or rural areas. What care will be viable for them? I have experienced first-hand the tyranny of distance when accessing schooling and disability services for a multiple disabled family member. The closest facilities were a seven-hour car journey away. The situation still arises.

Where will the necessary facilities come from for our remote indigenous communities and how long must they wait? The NDIS is long overdue but should not be taken as being the whole solution to looking after those who need our love and support, for they truly are the face of Christ.

## Celebrating gifts of everyone

Fresh from the international assembly of the Faith and Light community in Leeds, England, Pam Barker is on a mission to spread the word throughout the Archdiocese.

Mrs Barker, coordinator of the Canberra community and vice-provincial for Australia, said the assembly "reinforced for me the values of Faith and Light and made me very determined to make sure it is known in this Archdiocese".

Faith and Light, started in France by Jean Vanier, is an international Christian association of people with an intellectual disability, their families and friends.

Local communities meet regularly "to celebrate the gift of one another" through friendship, fun and prayer.

Mrs Barker was the only Australian representative at the assembly, which is held every five years, and was witness to a moment in history when New Zealander Anne-Marie Pike was elected the first non-French speaking president of the organisation.

Fifty of the 80 countries in which the community operates were repre-

sented. "Before this experience, I don't think I appreciated the full international breadth of Faith and Light," Mrs Barker said.

She was especially pleased to see that Australia and New Zealand were at the forefront of ensuring Faith and Light, despite its Catholic roots, operated as an ecumenical community.

Mrs Barker said the organisation, with its focus on "the giftedness of people with a disability and their spirituality", had more of a role to play in the context of the national disability scheme. "When you look at the individual programs to support people with a disability, spirituality used to be one of the domains but it is not any more. It all gets put under recreation and leisure."

"So organisations like Faith and Light are going to be more and more important in the years to come."

Mrs Barker plans to take the Faith and Light show on the road, including speaking and performing with the community's "signing choir" at a meeting of the northern deanery.





## SHORTS

**The Rocket.** Starring **Siththipon Dimasoe** and **Loungnam Kaosainam.** Directed by **Kim Mordaunt.** Red Lamp. 90 minutes. M (Mature themes and nudity).

Well worth seeing collaboration between Screen Australia and film producers in Laos. A good introduction for outsiders to enter into Laos, experience the problems of village people, and see what is happening in this remote nation.

**Riddick.** Starring **Vin Diesel, Jordi Molla, Matt Nable, Bokeem Woodbine, Karl Urban.** Directed by **David Twohey.** Roadshow. 119 minutes. MA 15+ (Strong violence and coarse language).

You have to be a strong Vin Diesel fan to sit through this. An alien planet, a thumping score, confrontations, computer-generated creatures, and there is always Riddick, Vin Diesel older, bigger, more muscles, more capacity for endurance, laconic, but with a redeeming characteristic.

**Mood Indigo. (L'Ecume des jours).** Starring **Audrey Tautou, Romain Duris, Gad Elmaleh, Aissa Maiga, and Omar Sy.** Directed by **Michel Gondry.** Vendetta Films. 85 minutes. MA15+. Restricted. (Mature themes).

Sub-titled French film adapted loosely from Boris Vian's 1947 cult novel, Froth on the Daydream, and is a romantic drama set in Paris. Playful, melancholic and highly imaginative. Audrey Tautou is a delight to watch, and the imagery of the movie never fails to be involving even in its dark as well as its joyful moments.

**Blue Jasmine.** Starring **Cate Blanchett, Sally Hawkins, Alec Baldwin, Bobby Cannavale, Andrew Dice Clay, and Peter Sarsgaard.** Directed by **Woody Allen.** Hopscotch Films. 98 minutes. M (Mature themes and coarse language).

American drama about the disintegration of a marriage of a wealthy socialite who retreats to San Francisco to try to put her life back in order. Cate Blanchett takes the leading role in luminous style. Woody Allen's direction is wonderful and this movie is one of the most telling he has made in years.

# Thriller with a twist of romance



Harrison Ford and Laim Hemsworth in a scene from Paranoia.

**Paranoia.** Starring **Liam Hemsworth, Gary Oldman, Harrison Ford, Richard Dreyfuss, Amber Heard, Embeth Davidtz, Julian McMahon, Lukas Till.** Directed by **Robert Luketic.** Icon. 106 minutes. M (Violence and adult themes). Reviewer: **Fr Peter Malone MSC.\***

The title sounds far more dramatic than what is seen in the film itself. Suggestions are that it is a psychological drama - or even a horror drama. However, this is a film about industrial espionage in New York City.

The film is an adaptation of an interesting novel by Joseph Finder, an author of thrillers which explore the developments of technology, how it is used and abused, marketed and exploited.

Perhaps one of the difficulties with Paranoia is that it intends to be a thriller but takes a lot of time out for romance. In fact, at times it seems more like a romance with elements of espionage added. But, as it progresses, there are some moments of tension and a couple of twists, not entirely unpredictable, which make the plot more interesting.

The film has a good cast which gives it some strength. The central character, Adam Cassidy, played by Liam Hemsworth, can capitalise on romantic comedy good looks, but with the serious plot he is more serviceable than dramatic. It is a role which demands him to show the audience his moral dilemmas more tellingly.

There are two quite ruthless company owners. Gary Oldman, with a flattish British accent, is a powerful CEO. He worked with a mentor but moved out and established his own company. It has fallen on hard times, and he is interested in stealing information about an invention, a computerised wallet full of personal information and apps, from his former boss.

He is cruelly ambitious but also quite weaseling in his dealings. Harrison Ford is the former mentor-boss, charming on the surface, but icily manipulative. There are some moments of satisfaction for audiences as each squares off and then receives his comeuppance.

Cassidy has humble origins but wants to succeed in the world of technol-

ogy, gathering a young team around himself, making a play to the CEO but seemingly rejected, then employed to insinuate himself into the rival company.

He had already encountered one of their marketing stars, Emma (Amber Heard), and he uses her while falling in love with her.

There is also a sinister presence with Embeth Davidtz as Gary Oldman's main adviser and fixer. Julian McMahon turns up frequently, also a fixer, but in a brutal and murderous sense.

There is some relief in the affable presence of Richard Dreyfuss as Adam's father, a retired security guard with emphysema, but still smoking.

The screenplay is something of a Reader's Digest paring down of Finder's novel.

This means it is an OK time-passing thriller entertainment with romance but not a story or a film that remains in the memory.

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

# Director turns camera on her own family intrigues

**Stories We Tell.** Starring **Rebecca Jenkins, Peter Evans, Sarah Polley, and others.** Directed by **Sarah Polley.** Palace Films. 109 minutes. M (Infrequent coarse language). Reviewer: **Peter W Sheehan.\***

Sarah Polley is the Canadian woman director who gave us the outstanding *Away From Her* (2006) about a husband's despair caused by his wife's memory illness, and *Take This Waltz* (2011) about a couple's separation. Again, she impresses with a moving documentary about life in her own family in Canada.

The two previous movies were about marriages in crisis and demonstrated how the impact of a story depends on how it is told. This time, the crisis is real and Sarah Polley is a central part of it.

The film won best feature-length documentary at the 2013 Canadian screen awards. It examines the relationships between the director's parents, 16 - CATHOLIC VOICE October 2013

Michael and Diane, and herself, and reveals that she was the child of an extramarital affair.

It shows interviews with Polley's siblings, her parents and friends, and includes her father's narration of a memoir that he wrote after he learned that Sarah was not his child. Many people in the film play themselves, but key people like Polley's mother Diane (Rebecca Jenkins) and father Michael (Peter Evans), who reared her, are played for the most part by actors. It is an intensely personal movie, as Sarah Polley sits down with family and friends and asks them to talk about her vibrant mother, who died of cancer when she was 11.

This is a wonderfully layered film that unravels a world of family secrets hidden for a long time, but now being shared. Sarah's father and mother met after Diane's failed first marriage, fell in love, and began a family. Towards its end, the film

focuses on the director herself, and cogently develops the view that story-telling is as much about fulfilling human needs as it is about providing a record of what happened. The camera dwells not just on Michael, but also on Sarah's biological father, Harry Gulkin, who plays himself.

The film offers a powerful analysis of how memory is constructed, and how story-telling satisfies a variety of perspectives. As far as the director's birth is concerned, we think we know what happened with (only) 99.97% certainty, but we don't know whose memory supplies the version to be best believed. The fallibility of human memory, and the factors that shape story-telling, are displayed intriguingly.

Sarah Polley's involvement in the movie is central. She asks us to question what we are seeing and remembering and to think about whether it is

real. How much is memory factual, how much of it belongs to "confused recollections of the past", and what parts of memory can be claimed to be subjective or objective? Archival footage is mixed with acting. The movie makes use of home movie footage, and uses family photographs for dramatic effect.

The movie is likely to be very different from what the viewer might have experienced. It shows an excellent director at work, and presents an emotionally compelling case for what happens when memories are caught up in narratives shaped by the people who do the telling. As a whole, despite its fateful revelations, the film argues strongly for compassionate forgiveness within families, and the need to understand humanely why people behave as they do and choose to tell their stories in a particular way.

Despite the staged footage that Polley obviously employs, it argues the case that, more often than not, truth is lost in time, as memories become absorbed by the people and events that surround them.

The last 20 minutes of this documentary are particularly powerful, as the film moves provocatively to its conclusion.

It becomes the director's personal narrative. Sarah Polley is good enough as a director, however, to turn the movie into an experience not just about herself, but also about ourselves.

This quality documentary makes us think critically and carefully about how much our memories belong to ourselves, or to ourselves and others who are an essential part of the stories that are being told.

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



# Valuable insights into the way ahead

**Priest, Poet and Theologian: Essays in Honour of Anthony Kelly CSsR, edited by Neil Omerod and Robert Gascoigne, Mosaic Press 2013, 253 pages, \$36.95. Reviewer: Bishop Pat Power.**

Seventy-five years old and over 50 years ordained, Redemptorist priest Fr Tony Kelly is one of Australia's leading contemporary theologians renowned for his skill in enunciating theology in a particularly Australian context and expression.

The book is a series of 14 essays reflecting on various themes dear to the heart of Tony Kelly. It has been compiled by two of his former students, Neil Omerod and Robert Gascoigne, both professors of theology at the Australian Catholic University.

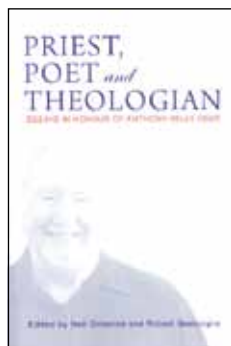
The preface was written by Archbishop Mark Coleridge who, as a senior seminarian, was taught by Fr Kelly and has maintained a long-time admiration for and friendship with his erstwhile teacher. The Archbishop writes: "Tony has shown himself very much a man of the Church, seeing no contradiction between this and his work as a theologian. He has shown how it is possible to be both genuinely orthodox and intellectually lively, true to both his faith and the life of the mind. He has shaped institutions like the Yarra Theological Union and the Australian Catholic University; and it was no surprise when he was called by the Pope to serve on the International Theological Commission. All this he has done at the heart of the Church, showing himself above all a man of deep and unmistakably Catholic faith."

The essays fall into three groups treating of theology, spirituality and contemporary issues. While these are scholarly writings much of them will be accessible to readers of Catholic Voice. I will briefly comment on one essay from each grouping.

Anne Hunt writes on the Mystery of Love, Life and Light. She speaks of Tony Kelly exploring the theme of God as love – sheer, unrestricted, unconditional and inexhaustible.

Gerard Hall SM writes of gratitude to Prof Kelly in helping him to understand the spirit of Mary's Magnificat, which celebrates the tender loving mercy of our God in this world without justifying the, at times, overwhelming expressions of injustice and evil.

Richard Rymarz, reflecting on the challenges facing the Church today, discusses the divergence of understanding in relation to the teaching of Vatican II. Is the Council to be seen in terms of continuity and reform or discontinuity and rupture? As a new pope challenges his fellow believers to search for new horizons and to re-examine some old assumptions, Fr Kelly and his disciples give us some valuable insights into the way ahead.



# The untying of a man who would be Pope

**Pope Francis: Untying the Knots by Paul Valley. Bloomsbury, 2013, 227 pages, \$24.99. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.**

The Church has had a new man at the helm since March. Pope Francis, well-known in South America but not so much in the rest of the world, is revealing himself as the Pope of Surprises.

The writer of this book, Paul Valley, is a journalist of international reputation now associate editor of the Independent. He is clearly an admirer of the new Pope. He travelled to Argentina and to Rome to meet with those who have known Jorge Mario Bergoglio for over four decades. He has charted a remarkable life.

Bergoglio was born in 1936 in Argentina of Italian parentage and raised in a pious household. As a young person he was fascinated by politics, embracing Peronism. Valley describes this as "that peculiarly Argentinian political amalgam which sought to bring together the army, the unions and the Church in a vision of notional unity with a distinctly authoritarian streak".

At 21 Bergoglio joined the Jesuits, soon after suffering the partial removal of his right lung, which put paid to his missionary aspirations. He was or-

dained in 1969, was made master of novices, provincial then rector of the seminary all in 15 years. Under his leadership, tensions grew in the province. Valley says that the crucial factors were the rise of liberation theology and the reforms of Vatican II, both of which Bergoglio resisted.

During the Dirty War, tens of thousands disappeared in a crackdown by the military junta. This was never criticised or opposed in Buenos Aires. Bergoglio's position was trapped between the Catholic military and the anti-Church Left.

In 1986, Bergoglio was replaced by an outside Jesuit and sent to Germany to do his PhD. He discovered the 18th century painting Mary Untier of Knots. A copy of this painting has now become a focus of pilgrimage in Buenos Aires to Mary, the solver of all problems.

Cleverly, Valley has used this image to illustrate Bergoglio's transformation for, during his "exile" in Germany and in Cordoba, Bergoglio changed. Clearly Mary was untying the knots in him.

In 1992, he was back in Buenos Aires as auxiliary bishop. His initiative was to listen and to consult. The slums were his first focus, hence his sobriquet "Bishop of the Slums". When he became archbishop in 1998 his reputa-

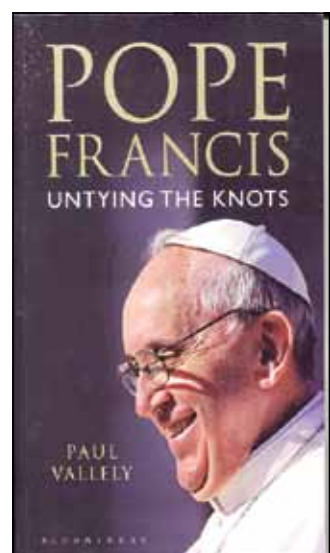
tion for asceticism and simplicity grew a long with his collegial leadership.

He was unflinching in his condemnation of political corruption and injustice. The man who was so opposed to liberation theology now recognised the evil in societal structures which exploited the poor.

It is widely known that Cardinal Bergoglio was runner-up to Pope Benedict in the 2005 election. With his recent succession to the papacy many feel that spring may be arriving in the Church.

Leonardo Boff, the liberation theologian has said, "What matters isn't Bergoglio and his past but Francis and his future."

This is a thoughtful, well-researched book. Published so soon after Francis' election, it has minor proof-reading errors and a confusing time-line, but this can be overlooked. It can be viewed as an exciting analysis of the possibilities the Holy Spirit has for us all.



## Give Catholicism 'a chance'

**Why Catholicism Matters. How Catholic Virtues can Reshape Society in the 21st Century, by Bill Donohue. Image: New York, 293 pages, \$32.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.**

What "Catholic virtues" do you think may be so powerful?

Fr/Dr William Donohue is a scholar, author and award-winning teacher. He is president and CEO of the largest Catholic civil rights organisation in the US, and publisher of its journal. He regularly appears on radio and TV programs in connection with civil liberties and social issues.

Donohue believes that Europe has sold out to multiculturalism, moral anarchy is peaking in Northern America and that the planet needs a moral reboot. He thinks that the Catholic Church can point the way.

The Catholic Church has given the world wonderful gifts (the university, in art, architecture, music, the economy and science and social teachings), and promotes virtuous living (though less can be expected of the faithful than of the clergy!).

After a long introduction, the author spends a chapter on each of "the Catholic virtues": prudence ("the king"), justice, fortitude and temperance.

Each chapter features a wide-ranging explanation and interpretation of the particular virtue. In his discussion of prudence, for example, Donohue focuses on freedom, natural rights and law, slavery (especially in the US), moral relativism, freedom and morality, conscience, human dignity, embryonic stem cell research, abortion, euthanasia...

For illustration of his ideas, Donohue draws on aspects of history, on politicians, philosophers, writers, people in public life, Catholic social teaching and papal writings. He is convinced of the rightness of the Catholic perspective (he wants readers to "give Catholicism a chance"), and speaks many times of the Church's or the Pope's "vindication" on issues.

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

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# 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, Enid 6296 5592.

**BOMBALA REUNION** - St Joseph's 125th school reunion, 5-7 October. Past pupils, sisters, teachers, priests and friends invited. Inquiries: Daryl White, telephone 6458 3334, Cath Farrell 6458 7213, John Bedingfield 6458 3779.

**BRIDGE FOR PEACE** - Ministry team, after 5.30pm healing Mass, Friday, 4 October, St Benedict's Mission Centre, Narrabundah. Talk by Annette Eckart followed by ministry; 10am-4.30pm, Saturday, 5 October, seminar and healing service, talk by Annette Eckart. Inquiries: Fr Bony Abraham at office or stbenedict-missioncentre@gmail.com or Bronnie, telephone 0432 257 622.

**CENTENARY SCHOOLS REUNION** - Cootamundra Catholic schools centenary reunion, long weekend 5-7 October. Those wishing to attend contact organising committee for details of events, cost and accommodation. Inquiries: Telephone 0438 532 274 or write to PO Box 23, Cootamundra NSW 2590.

**CENTERING PRAYER RETREAT** - 30 October to 1 November, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong, 30 October to 1 November, facilitated by Sr Lorraine Cupitt RSM. Centering prayer is modern revival of ancient contemplative prayer practice. Inquiries/bookings: info@stclement.com.au telephone 6380 5222.

**FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY** - St Joseph's Church, Merimbula, 23-24 November. Inquiries: Fr James, telephone 6495 1880, Helen, 6495 2119, Teresa, 6495 0379.

**HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY** - Meets third Friday of month, 7.30pm, St John Vianney's, Waramanga. Secular Franciscans try to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis. Inquiries: Tony, telephone 0407 072 139, Frank 0400 793 260, email sfo@fastmail.fm. Venue may change during winter.

**LEGION OF MARY RETREAT** - Weekend 25-27 October, Starting Afresh with Christ, directed by Fr Leo Coffey, CSSR, St Clement's Monastery, Galong. All welcome. Inquiries: Jacqueline Donohue, telephone 6251 3950, Livia Brown 6161 3037.

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

**MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED** - a mentoring program for newly married couples; just married or soon to be married? Contact Catharina and Graham and Debbie and Brian, telephone 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167, email: mnm@grapevine.com.au.

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

**PREGNANCY SUPPORT** - 15 October, US speaker Bryan Kemper on Social Justice Begins in the Womb, Orion Room, Southern Cross Club, Woden; \$40 for dinner and talk (starting 6pm) or \$5 for talk only (7.45pm). Sponsored by Youth for Life

and Pregnancy Support Service (ACT) Inc. Inquiries: Telephone 0451 679 103.

**SCHOOL REUNION** - Our Lady of Mercy College, Epping (1948 - 1993), Remembrance Reunion of The Mercy Way. Saturday, 2 November, noon to 4pm. \$30, including light lunch. Inquiries: Margaret Wylks, telephone 6288 3512, email wylks@home.netspeed.com.au.

**SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA** - Rosary and Mass, 6.10pm, Thursday, 10 October, Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, followed by dinner at Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

**SIX-DAY GUIDED RETREAT** - St Joseph's House of Spirituality, David Avenue, Batehaven, 20-27 October. Director Sr Carmel Drew. Cost: \$450 or \$75 per day (minimum three days). Inquiries: Sr Carmel, telephone 4472 7063, email carmel.drew@yahoo.com.au.

**SOUTH COAST ANNUAL MASS** - Filipino and Australian families celebrate, 11am, Sunday, 13 October, St Patrick's Church, Gipps Street, Bega, followed by dinner at St Patrick's hall. Inquiries: Lily Cowan, telephone 6493 8456.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS** - 8-10 November, a special marriage enrichment experience, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Inquiries and bookings: Ardell and Bill Sharpe, telephone 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au. Website www.wwme.org.au.

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

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"I will build my Church" is an undertaking that involves us all through our baptism and is the theme for this year's World Mission Appeal. In Mongolia, the Catholic Church's youngest Church, it has been a mission of just 20 years.

Having emerged from decades of communist rule with no religious freedoms and few social services, Mongolia requires help from the wider mission family.

In partnership with Catholic Mission and the generosity of our supporters, there are six churches where the faithful gather and programs are offered; where foreign missionaries are supported by a growing group of local catechists.

Bishop Wens Padilla, the Prefect of Ulaanbaatar and the early mission's Superior, commented that Catholic Mission's tag "Reach out. Give Life." sums up their endeavours in helping to build the Church and offer hope rather than despair: endeavours that need the generosity of Catholics outside Mongolia as do similar faith communities in remote regions of the world. Help us help others as together we answer Pope Francis' call to go out and do something for the people, especially the poor. Support the World Mission Appeal this month.

God bless,  
**Deacon Joe Blackwell**

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

## 'Mayor of Canberra' a man of generosity

Wilfred Ignatius (Bill) Byrne, who has died at 92, once held the position many referred to as the "Lord Mayor of Canberra".

As chairman of the ACT Advisory Council from 1960-64, he headed the capital's major representative body, which preceded the Legislative Assembly before self-government and advised the federal government on issues such as housing, education, health and law reform.

In this role, Mr Byrne conducted naturalisation ceremonies, hosted civic receptions, and opened conferences, carnivals and feasts.

On his retirement from the position, the Canberra Times reported that he was "capable, patient, tactful and observant; a person who has given generously of his talents and time".

But that was just the tip of the iceberg in terms of Mr Byrne's sustained commitment to the ACT, which earned him the Chief Minister's Gold Award in 2012.

Among other things, he was an active member of Canberra's Catholic community. He worked

as a volunteer with the St Vincent de Paul Society and the Catholic Education Office, and was a founding member of the Canberra Southern Cross Club.

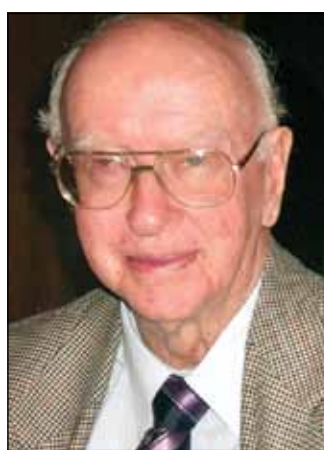
He was also a member of the Australian Labor Party, presiding over the Canberra branch from 1962-64, and more recently was energetic in the Probus club.

Even in his 90s, Mr Byrne was still contributing to ABC talk-back radio, arguing for the benefit of the city that was his home for his last 67 years.

Born in Sydney in July 1921, he attended a convent primary school before moving on to Marist Kogarah and then Marist Darlinghurst.

School photos showed him in athletics, rugby and cricket teams. He was also a rower and a cyclist.

His family could not afford to send him to university, but he



gained qualifications as an accountant after joining the army as a warrant officer in the pay corps during World War 2.

Mr Byrne took up studies with the Marist Brothers in Mittagong in 1942 and taught with them for 18 months.

After a brief spell with the Navy

accounts branch in 1946, he moved to Canberra to work with the commerce department of the public service.

He became private secretary to the Labor leader and immediate past prime minister Ben Chifley in the early 1950s.

He then went on to hold senior positions in both the trade and the administrative services departments before retiring from the public service in 1982.

Mr Byrne placed great importance on friendships with his old school friends, colleagues and fellow parishioners.

But his greatest devotion was to his family - wife Peg, whom he married in 1950, six children and their spouses, 16 grandchildren and their spouses, and two great-grandchildren.

He actively supported his children and grandchildren in their school, sporting and other endeavours, and was known to slip his grandchildren envelopes containing money as reward for good school reports, band performances or graduations.

Mr Byrne enjoyed the occasional beer, often a wine with dinner and sometimes an evening whisky with Peg.

On the day he died, one of the intensive care nurses at Calvary Hospital told him a scotch on the rocks would be waiting for him upstairs.

Mr Byrne was farewelled at a Mass at St Brigid's, Dickson, celebrated by his friends Fr Kieran Adams, Fr Bernie Patterson and Bishop Pat Power.

\* Compiled from information supplied by Bill Byrne's family.





## Through the years ...

Born 14 November 1953 in East Melbourne  
 Attended Corpus Christi Seminary in Melbourne from 1972-1980  
 Ordained deacon for Melbourne Archdiocese in 1979  
 Ordained priest for Melbourne Archdiocese by Archbishop Sir Frank Little in August 1980  
 Served in the parishes of Mitcham, Geelong, Moonee Ponds, Thornbury, East Thornbury  
 Appointed Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia in August 2001  
 Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne in April 2003  
 Appointed eighth Bishop of Sale in June 2009  
 Installed as Bishop of Sale in July 2009  
 Elected to permanent committee of Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference in May 2013  
**Education:**  
 St Francis Xavier Primary, Box Hill  
 St Leo's Christian Brothers' School, Box Hill  
 Bachelor of Arts, Monash University 1978  
 Bachelor of Theology, Melbourne College of Divinity (Catholic Theological College) 1979  
 Licentiate in Moral Theology, Gregorian University, Rome, 1985-87  
 Doctorate in Moral Theology, Lateran University, Rome 1993-95  
 \*Source: Diocese of Sale



"I come to you as a simple pilgrim in Christ"... Archbishop-elect Christopher Prowse (clockwise from top left) outside St Christopher's Cathedral; being greeted at the offices of CatholicCare; chatting with Fr Henry Byrne (right) and Cathedral Administrator Fr Francis Kolencherry; talking to the media for the first time in Canberra.

# We have much time ahead to encourage one another

**Dear People of God in the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn,**

You have been waiting patiently for the Holy Father to send you a new Archbishop. Your beloved Archbishop Mark Coleridge was transferred to the Archdiocese of Brisbane about 18 months ago. Thank you for your prayerful watchfulness and intercession.

To my great surprise, His Holiness, Pope Francis, has appointed me as your 11th Archbishop of Canberra & Goulburn. I thank the Holy Father for his trust and confidence in me to be your new Archbishop.

Totally relying on the Lord Jesus' grace and mercy, I accept humbly and wholeheartedly this appointment.

It happens in the Year of Faith. May this appointment be seen as a way of strengthening our faith in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

I come to you as a simple pilgrim in Christ. We are largely unknown to each other. Yet, already we know each other in a certain way by the bonds that unite us together in our Catholic faith. We have much time ahead to "encourage one other and build up each other" (1Thess.5/11).

The work of evangelization will continue afresh in the Archdiocese. Already you have done much. Let us gather even closer to God's favorites: the poor and marginalized. There is a sense of urgency in the mission that still awaits us. Let us place again Jesus at the very center of this mission right now.

Until I am installed as your new Archbishop and thereafter, may I ask you most sincerely to pray for me. I have need of your prayer support.

May Jesus bless you, your families, and loved ones.

**Bishop Christopher Prowse**

## Leading Archdiocese into new era of evangelisation

As he prepares to hand over the reins to the incoming Archbishop, Archdiocesan Administrator Mgr John Woods says Bishop Christopher Prowse's primary challenge is to lead the Archdiocese into the new era of evangelisation.

"For the whole Church and all within the Archdiocese, the big thing is coming to terms with the new evangelisation and just what that means for all of us," Mgr Woods said.

That challenge would extend to "taking a lead from the words and actions of Pope Francis" in building "a poor church for the poor and focusing on a relationship with the person of Christ".

At a more local level, however, Mgr Woods said an immediate concern for Bishop Prowse would be the allocation



of clergy across the Archdiocese as more priests retire and a number of parishes are left without a priest in residence.

A final decision would also need to be made on the redevelopment of the Cathedral precinct in Manuka, planning for which has continued under the caretaker administration.

Mgr Woods said, with a new archbishop in place, the management of the

Archdiocese could expect to move from an administrative phase into "a phase of continuity but innovation".

"I say continuity because each bishop, like each parish priest, builds on what his predecessors have done. He builds with the people of the day in response to the needs of the day," he said.

"There will be innovation in so far as a new archbishop will bring a personal perspective to what needs to be addressed in terms of opportunities and challenges."

He said the Council of Priests and the Consultors would have a vital role to play as Bishop Prowse settles in, as would the Archdiocesan Finance Council. Archdiocesan agencies would also be involved in discussions and consultations.

As for his own future after 18 months of leading the Archdiocese, Mgr Woods said he would "wait to touch base" with Bishop Prowse before making any plans.

"Since I was ordained, I have served as a priest in the Archdiocese in various capacities and I imagine I will continue to do so. I am not exactly sure what I will be doing, though." He was grateful for the opportunity to serve as Archdiocesan Administrator and for the insights his time in the office had given him.

"At the same time, I am relieved for myself and for the Archdiocese because Archbishop Christopher not only brings the charism of communion within and beyond our Archdiocese, but it allows a new impetus for all of us," he said.