

# CATHOLIC VOICE

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN  
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**Class is in again  
– middle pages**

# A moment of history



A people of God event... MGL priests and brothers (top) with Archbishop Christopher Prowse and (from left) Bishop Peter Comensoli, Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Bishop Eugene Hurley and Bishop Michael McKenna.

ABOVE: MGL founder Fr Ken Barker takes vows.

**By Fiona van der Plaatz**

“Let’s now praise God like never before,” Archbishop Christopher Prowse declared as he greeted the congregation in St Christopher’s Cathedral for the inauguration of the Missionaries of God’s Love (MGL) as a religious institute of diocesan right.

And so the packed house did, its songs and prayers of celebration filling every cubic metre of the cathedral.

Archbishop Prowse and MGL founder and moderator Fr Ken Barker both described the occasion as joyful, as the MGL community, which began in Canberra, was formally recognised by the Church.

“Up until this point, our vows have been private vows,” the MGL explained in their Mass booklet.

“They have been binding commitments but they have been regarded by the Church as private commitments to God. Today we make public vows within the Missionaries of God’s Love.”

During the ceremony, MGL priests and some consecrated brothers made perpetual, or lifelong, vows

within the order, while brothers in formation in Melbourne made initial vows.

Archbishop Prowse said the inauguration was “indeed historic not just for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn but for the entire Catholic Church in Australia”.

“It is not often that a new religious institute – totally Australian in inspiration and development – is formed in our new but ancient land.”

The MGL is one of only a few religious congregations in Australia that do not have international foundations, and it is believed to be the only remaining home-grown congregation for men that has been formally recognised by the Vatican.

Founded by Fr Barker in 1986, the community now has more than 60 members and has missions in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Darwin, Manila and, from this year, Indonesia.

The MGL describe themselves as “dedicated to a common mission of evangelisation, especially among the young and the poor”. ● **Cont Page 2.**





**Dear Friends in Christ, Christians find their true “home” in the Easter Season.** Dwelling in the Suffering, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Pentecost of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour – Christians truly are at “home”.

**Lent is our annual penitential pilgrimage to these saving Myster-**

# Let us enter this season of

**ies of Easter.** This involves us all – individually and communally. With those who await to be baptised, we take up attitudes and actions that are based on fervent prayer, self-denial and helping others, especially the poor and the lonely.

In my first Lent with you as your new Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn, let us enter this season of penance together.

Perhaps you have heard that last November our amazing Pope Francis published a most important document (called an Apostolic Exhortation) titled **The Joy of the Gospel** (in Latin: *Evangelii Gaudium*). It is about the proclamation of the Gospel in today's world. I hope to introduce

you further into this monumental letter in the times ahead.

One section of *Evangelii Gaudium* is startling in its frankness. It is helping me personally as I enter into the Lenten Season. May I share this with you? **Let us learn from the fresh teachings of Pope Francis together.**

In our offering to the entire world the life of Jesus Christ, Pope Francis writes:

*I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security. (n.49)*

What ought really concern us, the Pope shares bluntly:

*...is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life. (n. 49)*

During Lent, let us reflect more deeply on our Pope's teaching here. So often we approach Lent as if to say “How can I be a better Catholic Christian?” This question is a good start but is totally incomplete. Pope Francis looks at the issue from the perspective of the poor – both spiritually and physically.



## A moment of history for the Church

### ● From Front Page.

“Their numerical growth has been impressive, especially by Australia's standards,” Archbishop Prowse said.

“Despite what pessimists say regarding the religious profile of youth today, they are clearly feeding the deep and raw spiritual hungers in the youth of Australia and now beyond.”

Spontaneous bursts of applause punctuated proceedings during the inauguration, as Archdiocesan Chancellor Fr Julian Wellspring read the decree, Fr Barker signed the “paperwork” and the brothers made their vows.

Archbishop Emeritus of Canberra and Goulburn Francis Carroll, who was an early

champion of the MGL community, concelebrated Mass, along with Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher, Darwin's Bishop Eugene Hurley, Bathurst's Bishop Michael McKenna and Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney Peter Comensoli.

Fr Barker said the inauguration was “not about the Missionaries of God's Love only ... It's a people of God event.” He said the MGL members were proud of their origins as an “Aussie-made product, like Vegemite”.

But while it was “definitely a time to be grateful to God”, it was not a time for self-congratulation or a complacent belief that “we have finally made it”. “We have only just begun,” he said.

## Archbishop's diary

### MARCH

- 1 Mass Holy Spirit, Gungahlin
- 2 Archdiocesan youth leaders commissioning Mass, Cathedral; Serra Club diocesan vocations pilgrimage launch.
- 4 Project Compassion launch; Guinness and God presentation.
- 5 Ash Wednesday Mass, Cathedral.
- 8 Opening community house Sisters of Mary Queen of Peace, Bonner; Mass St Anthony's, Wanniasa.
- 9 Rite of the Elect Mass, Cathedral; Mass, St Matthew's, Page.
- 12 Blessing new St Vincent de Paul offices, Deakin.
- 13 Opening Mass academic year Aust Catholic University.
- 15 Mass St Patrick's, Bega.
- 16 Mass St Joseph's, Pambula.
- 20 Meeting ACT/NSW bishops, Sydney.
- 22 ACU graduation Mass, Cathedral, graduation ceremony Parliament House; Mass St Vincent de Paul, Aranda.
- 23 Youth ministry equipping school commissioning Mass, Narrabundah; Mass St Michael's, Kaleen.
- 24 Preach at service to open ACT Legislative Assembly.
- 26 St Matthew's Primary visit, Page.
- 27 Marymead visit.
- 29 Holy Trinity Curtin 40th anniversary Mass.
- 30 Centenary of St Joseph's, Berridale.

Praise ... the congregation joins in the thanksgiving after the MGL brothers' public vows.

## around the catholic world

### Easy being green

CANBERRA: The centrepiece of Canberra's St Patrick's Day ecumenical service will be an address by Liverpool-born Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher. The service will be held at noon on Saturday, 15 March, in the chapel of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Inquiries: Conor, telephone 6251 4838.

### Pope to greet Queen

VATICAN CITY (VIS): Pope Francis will receive Queen Elizabeth II in audience on 3 April. This will be their first meeting. The Queen will be accompanied by Prince Philip. The royal couple will be in Rome on the invitation of the Italian president Giorgio Napolitano.

### Fine Australian G-G

SYDNEY: Chancellor of Australian Catholic University General Peter Cosgrove will be Australia's next Governor-General. He will succeed Quentin Bryce whose term ends this month. Prime Minister Tony Abbott said he could not think of “a finer Australian” to serve as governor-general; and to make a contribution to the leadership of Australia.

### Model of happiness

VATICAN CITY (VIS): Pope Francis, in his message on 29th World Youth Day, said the Beatitudes of Jesus presented a model of happiness contrary to what is usually communicated by the media and by the prevailing wisdom. “According to the logic of this world, those whom Jesus proclaimed blessed are regarded as useless, ‘losers’,” he said. “Jesus was not afraid to ask his disciples if they truly wanted to follow him or if they preferred to take another path.”

### A gift for all

VATICAN CITY (CNA/EWTN News): Pope Francis has spoken emphatically about the importance of religious life during a Sunday Angelus message. “Every consecrated person is a gift for the People of God on a journey,” he said. “There is much need of their presence, that strengthens and renews the commitment to spread the gospel, to Christian education, to charity for the most needy, to contemplative prayer; the commitment to a human and spiritual formation of young people, of families; the commitment to justice and peace in the human family.”

### Doors open to victims

MEDAN, Indonesia (CNA/EWTN News): Local Catholic churches have offered shelter and aid to many following a volcanic eruption on the Indonesian island of Sumatra. Mount Sinabung's sudden eruption spewed smoke, ash and rocks kilometres into the air and engulfed several nearby villages in ash. At least 16 people have been killed. The Medan archdiocese has opened the doors of its parishes to give temporary shelter to displaced persons, regardless of their religion.

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# penance together

Three points at least arise from the Pope's teaching.

1. We must pray to be drawn more into the joy, love, mercy and peace (n.217) of friendship with Jesus. This is the essential work of evangelisation: to draw all people into "the fragrance of the Gospel". (n. 39) This is done not by forcing people (proselytising) but by attracting people to Jesus (n.15). It is a faith response to the sheer merciful grace of Jesus coming towards us. This a real challenge here in Australia whilst we are in the midst of a Royal Commission into Child Abuse!

2. As the Church herself is "a missionary disciple" (n. 40), we do this together. All the Church is to bring all the Gospel into all the world. This is the

Church's initial and fundamental proclamation (called kerygma). This is the basic communal and social dimension of the way we evangelise. It is never individualistic. It searches out the poor. The Church – all of us – do this even if in the process our "shoes get soiled by the mud of the streets." (n.45)

3. Our evangelisation gives meaning and purpose to the life of everyone. There is joy and hope in our message of Jesus that we bring to the world. There is no room for missionary disciples who are "disillusioned pessimists, sour pusses." (n.85). Also there is a moral dimension to our saving proclamation that shapes our everyday life. This is not doctrinaire but a strong experience that is based on this fundamental pro-

clamation (the kerygma) that shouts out in Easter joy:

**Jesus Christ loves you:  
he gave his life to save you;  
And now he is living at your side  
every day to enlighten, strengthen  
and free you.** (n. 164)

Let us all learn from these inspiring teachings of Pope Francis in our shared Lenten pilgrimage to Easter in 2014.

Yours sincerely in Christ,  
**Archbishop Christopher Prowse**

\* You can access Evangelii Gaudium at [www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20131124\\_evangelii-gaudium\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html)



## Survey draws out concern over challenges to family

People of the Archdiocese were generous in responding to an invitation from Pope Francis to have their say on pastoral challenges for the family in the context of evangelisation, Archbishop Christopher Prowse said.

About 160 responses were received by the Archdiocese to a series of questions prepared

by the Vatican in the lead-up to an extraordinary synod called by the Pope for October this year.

"People expressed concerns and difficulties they see in issues relating to marriage and family, and the challenge of living in the modern world with all its complexities," Archbishop Prowse said.

In the responses there was an acknowledgement that secular culture has had a profound effect on the credibility of the Church and adherence to its teaching.

Respondents said there appeared to be a lack of knowledge of and misunderstanding of Church teaching.

They acknowledged there were sources of information available, such as courses in faith development and various seminars, but these are not as well patronised as they might be.

A general conclusion drawn was that some Catholics have difficulty in fully accepting Church teachings because of

pressures exerted by the secular world, which rejects the Church and what it stands for.

The general feeling of respondents was that permissiveness has replaced self-restraint in today's world, and the pressure to have premarital sex has been aggravated by pornography and a highly sexualised media.



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Thanks for everything ... Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr Laurie Blake at his farewell Mass.

## Parishioners give rousing farewell

The parishioners of Mary Help of Christians in South Woden were not prepared to let their retiring parish priest Fr Laurie Blake slip quietly out the back door before Christmas.

Fr Blake was due to retire on 31 December but, determined not to lose the occasion in the Christmas and New Year fuss, the parish held his farewell on 15 December.

That date also happened to be the 49th anniversary of Fr Blake's ordination.

The occasion began with Mass with concelebrants including Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Vicar-General Mgr John Woods, who was Fr Blake's curate for a time when he was parish priest in Goulburn.

A large turnout of parishioners enjoyed a BYO lunch at the adjoining Sacred Heart School, supplemented by catering from Tim McKenna and his outreach team.

Fr Blake took the opportunity to reflect on 10 years in the parish.



Marking a moment ... Fr Laurie Blake with Mgr John Woods, who was once his curate in Goulburn.



"I've always felt like I needed to do something about it" ... Dr Tim Moore has taken a special interest in the needs of young carers.

## Tim listens to youngsters the system lets down

By Fiona van der Plaats

Tim Moore tells the story of the child who was asked, as part of one of his research projects, "If your life was made into a movie, what would it be about?"

"If my life was a movie, I wouldn't be allowed to watch it," the child responded.

It was a heart-breaking reflection of the impact of drugs, alcohol, violence and other ravages on children's lives and it reminded Dr Moore why he does what he does.

A senior research fellow with Australian Catholic University's Institute of Child Protection Studies, Dr Moore regularly encounters barriers from the "gatekeepers" who believe children should be shielded from talking about the threats to their safety.

But he believes that as long as children are given the chance to raise the "hard-core stuff" themselves, rather than being led into it, they have much to contribute to a greater understanding of how best to work with them "so they can enjoy their childhood".

"A lot of vulnerable kids ... never get to tell their story because it's so hard to get past all the checks and balances", many of which he admits are in place for good reason.

But that does not mean some of those barriers should not be breached.

"I am really quite interested in children and young people because they are treated differently to others ... and I have known so many children over the years who have been let down by the system.

"Call it Catholic guilt, if you like, but I've always felt like I needed to do something about it."

One of Dr Moore's main interests over the years has been in children and young people who have been forced to become carers for parents or other family members.

He was a young volunteer with St Vincent de Paul Society's St Joseph the Carpenter youth program when a friend and colleague drowned at their Christmas party at Black Mountain peninsula. The grief he experienced made him think about the many young people who are faced with long-term grief as carers.

As a result, he and a small group of colleagues set up the St Nicholas Young Carers Program through the society, which gives young people a break from their caring duties.

Now 38, Dr Moore looks back at the magnitude of that job and thinks "that was crazy".

But he continues to volunteer wherever he can, partly to assuage the "guilt" of remaining at arm's length from the coalface as a researcher and partly because the volunteering culture has been ingrained in him as one of seven children from an active Catholic family in Canberra.

Among his other achievements have been the establishment of a youth education program with Anglicare, setting up Cyclops, the first fully funded young carers program in the ACT, and playing a leading hand, as president of the Carers Australia board, in the development of the national disability insurance scheme.

Accordingly, he earned one of ACU's staff awards for outstanding community engagement last year, which he will collect at the university's graduation ceremony in Canberra in May.

Canberra born and bred, Dr Moore has recently moved to Melbourne "for something different", but will continue his research with the institute, including projects related to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

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# A myriad roles mark Kevin's decades of care

By Fiona van der Plaats

For Kevin Croker, there is a "nice link" between his work in looking after the wellbeing of the Archdiocese's retired priests and his dedication to the Carmelite nuns.

As he explains, Archbishop Thomas Cahill brought the Carmelites to Canberra 40 years ago to serve as a "powerhouse of prayer for the priests and lay faithful of the Archdiocese". So who better to help support the spiritual needs of the retired clergy than those most powerful of "pray-ers", the Carmelites?

Now into his third decade as secretary to the Archdiocese's Clergy Retirement Foundation (formerly the Sick and Retired Priests Fund), Mr Croker is also about to notch up 40 years of volunteer service to the Carmelite Monastery, which he helped to establish in Canberra.

"I am proud to say that I think I must have some kind of Guinness world record for organising 39 consecutive fetes for the nuns," he said with a laugh.

This year's fete, in August, will be his 40th "so I guess it will have to be bigger and better than ever".

This devotion, inspired by his father Charlie, who helped to settle the Carmelites in his home town of Wagga Wagga in the 1960s, is part of the reason Mr Croker, 63, was recognised in the Australia Day Honours with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

Indeed Charlie, 93 and living in Canberra, was probably more pleased about the gong than even Mr Croker's wife of 40 years Margaret (who has actively supported his work), children Luke and Kate, and four grandchildren.



Long service ... Kevin Croker, pictured outside the Carmelite chapel in Red Hill, has devoted many years to the Archdiocese's retired priests and Carmelite nuns.

"You'd think he had won the award himself, he was so chuffed," Mr Croker said.

As for Mr Croker himself, the award was "a delightful Christmas surprise", which he had to keep from his family until the honours list appeared on Australia Day. It was also recognition of the extraordi-

nary care and effort that Mr Croker puts into his job with the Clergy Retirement Foundation. Not that he would say so himself.

As far as he is concerned, retired priests deserve all the energy he can give to them. "What I would do for a priest of the diocese is exactly what I

would do for one of my own parents," he said.

"I have a great admiration for the vocation of priesthood ... and I probably now have more of an insight into the hard work and busyness of the vocation than most people would."

● Cont Page 8.

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# Don't call me, I'll...

They say charity begins at home. And don't charitable organisations know it.

I'm convinced they have sensors that tell them when I'm home. I'm on the Do Not Call Register, so I know if the landline rings during the day or, more annoyingly, at dinner time it is more than likely to be a worthwhile charity desperately needing help to fund its wonderful work in the community.

I know that, I honestly do. But even that thought can't stop my heart from sinking when I pick up the phone to be greeted with a breezy "Good morning, Mrs der Plonk, how are you?"

My first reaction is to concoct some lame excuse for not having time to talk.

"Well, since you ask, I'm feeling quite distressed because I'm running late for my grandmother's funeral but on the way I need to drop my dog off for his latest vet treatment."

Holy heck, I'm thinking to myself by now, not only am I a bad person but I'm a really bad liar!

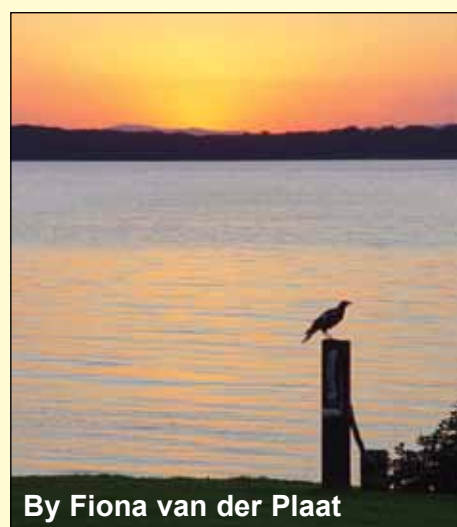
Luckily for my conscience, it usually washes over the caller.

"Glad to hear you are well, Miss van Plark. Now, how about signing over everything you own to people who need it more than you do?"

Of course that's not what they are asking. But they may as well be for the reaction they elicit.

Why do I react this way to "cold calls"? It may be a combination of a perceived invasion of my private space, a concern about giving my per-

## In My Day



By Fiona van der Plaats

sonal details to someone dodgy and a growing sense of panic that there are too many ills in the world for me to fix with my credit card. Who knows?

Knowing I'll beat myself up all day if I fob them off, though, I usually end up buying raffle tickets for overseas trips I can only dream about winning or "adopting" yet another cute bear dressed as a pilot.

Then comes the crunch. "Thank you for your kind donation, Ms Plank, but what we'd really like is for you to commit to a monthly contribution to help us keep our administration costs down."

And so the battle between my social conscience and my gut aversion to cold callers is sparked again. Sigh.

\* IN MY DAY is a column about modern society, community and the things that arise in our day-to-day world that cause us to reflect on how we live together and interact. Contributions of about 350 words are welcome. Send them to [cathcomm@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:cathcomm@cg.catholic.org.au).

# Viet sisters hit the road with new projects

Sr Kim Hoa Ha poses proudly beside the statue of Our Lady in the front yard of her new home in Bonner, a four-bedroom house built for the Sisters of Mary Queen of Peace from Banmethuot diocese in Vietnam.

The statue came from Sr Kim's brother Fr Peter Ngoc Doai Ha, who lives in Canberra, and is the crowning glory of a project that she has worked hard to fund and manage, with the help of the sisters' "religious delegate" in the Archdiocese Fr John Armstrong and many others.

But the house is just one spoke in what Sr Kim calls a "wheel" of projects that she hopes will fit together as she sets up the sisters' first community in Australia.

The second spoke in the wheel has been the establishment of a scholarship for another sister to study English and nursing through the Canberra Institute of Technology. It is hoped similar arrangements will allow more sisters to study here in future.

The third spoke in Sr Kim's wheel is to create a workshop for people living with disabilities in her Vietnamese diocese, where she has been given an agricultural plot to convert for her use.

She hopes her experience as a Catholic sister and with CatholicCare's family support services will guide her in completing this project.

"With the social work I do ... I work with people with disabilities and their families and I have learnt a lot from that," she said.

Financially, she is a little over half way there, thanks to the \$52,000 she has raised with the help of parishes and schools around the Archdiocese.

While she has had many offers from Australians to help with the workshop project, Sr Kim says the language barrier has thrown up some obstacles.



Heart of a community ... Sr Kim Hoa Ha outside the house for the Sisters of Mary Queen of Peace in Bonner.

She hopes a benefit of having a base in Canberra is that Vietnamese sisters will be able to come here and learn English so they can work more effectively with Australian volunteers back home.

Meanwhile, Fr Armstrong said the Vietnamese bishop, priests and congregational leadership team that will attend the house opening will be shown how disability workshops are run in Australia.

The house opening is a significant event for Sr Kim, 53, who, having entered the convent as a 13-year-old, came to Canberra 12 years ago to learn

English then study theology and social work at Australian Catholic University.

While studying, she lived as a night-time carer with an elderly couple whose family came to know her as their "angel", saying she was the answer to their prayers.

She worked in a boarding school for indigenous students in Vietnam for a couple of years, but returned to Canberra and has worked with CatholicCare for the past six years. In that time, she has minded houses, stayed in caravans and lived with her brother while raising

money to rent the land and put a deposit on the house, which she moved into last May. She will live in the house with at least one other sister and visiting members of the community. "With my sisters in the house here, we want to show the gospel by how we live, not just by words," Sr Kim said.

\*Archbishop Prowse will bless the community house at 9 Lucy Beeton Court, Bonner, at 10am on Saturday, 8 March. Mass will be celebrated at Holy Spirit Church, Amaroo, at 11am.



# It's taken an age or three but Fr Kevin is ready to retire

Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter is not sure how things will work out as he enters the phase of his life that he calls the "priesthood of the third age". However, he approaches this new era, loosely described as "retirement", with a few strategies in mind.

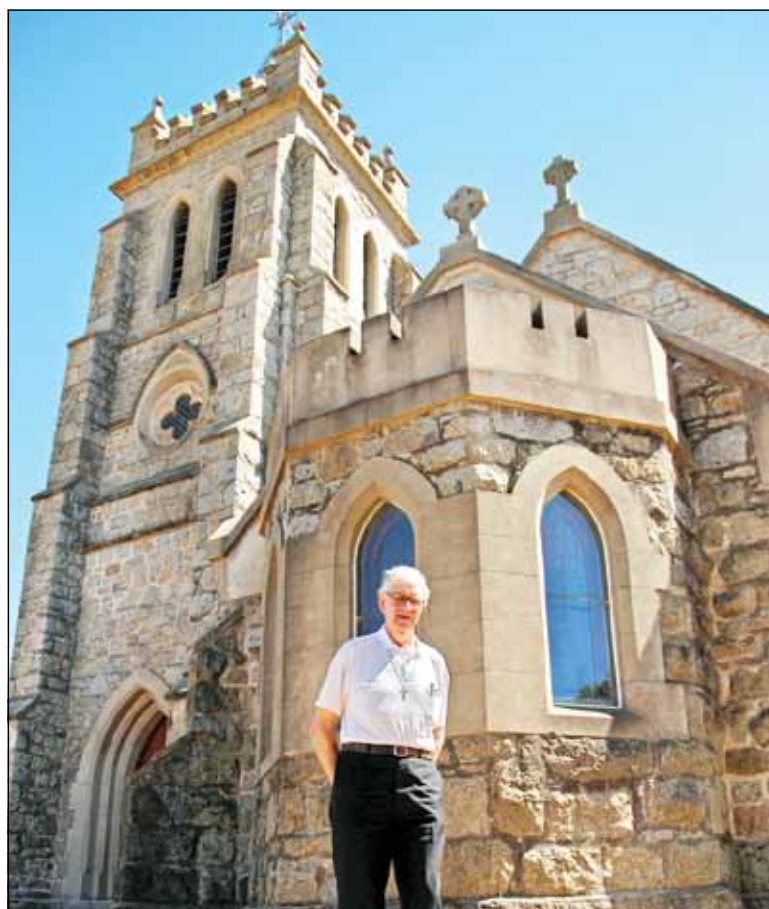
Some of these are further study of history, continuing his reflections on the Second Vatican Council, gardening, entertaining his friends in the priesthood and enjoying the peace and solitude of his place at Adelong for quiet prayer and reflection.

Mgr Barry-Cotter has been preparing for this for some time and 12 years ago bought a small property near Adelong where he had spent much time as a child. Over the years it has served his need for solitude and

reflection away from the hurly-burly of parish life, and will now serve him well as he steps down as parish priest of Cootamundra.

He tells the story of an old priest friend who used to visit him frequently at Adelong and how he would take a garden chair up under the trees and read and pray there, coming back to the house for a "cuppa" now and then. His friend has since died, but the chair is still there and he uses it frequently as a reminder of the confluence of solitude and friendship, one of his strategies for "the priesthood of the third age".

Cooking has been more than a hobby, particularly when he was in parishes which could not afford a housekeeper. He developed a limited though var-



A priest of the "third age"... Mgr Kevin Barry-Cotter outside St Mary's Church, Murrumburrah.

ied repertoire, ranging from pickled pork and cabbage to lasagne. The Cootamundra youth group were treated to lasagne at an early dinner after their meetings and before Mass on the fourth Sunday of the

month and this proved to be a great attraction.

This quiet period of his life, as he nears his 80th birthday, follows what he refers to as the 40 years of the "priesthood of the second age" which began in

1974 when he became parish priest of Michelago, the first of his rural postings.

"This was a period of great pastoral and spiritual growth, and I suppose, generativity, as I entered more responsibly into the mission of the Church," he said.

After Michelago, in 1979 there followed nine years as parish priest of Cooma and dean of the Monaro. He then became full-time co-ordinator for the 1989 Synod and Vicar for Education and chair of the Catholic Education Commission, during which time he was involved with the re-structuring of the Catholic education system in the Archdiocese.

Long-service leave followed in 1994 when he had a chance to enjoy solitude and review his busy priesthood up to that point through the 30-day retreat of the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius. The result was a return to full-time parish life and 20 years in the west of the Archdiocese, stints at Tumut, Adelong, Gundagai, 10 years at West Wyalong and nine at Cootamundra.

"This last 40 years for me was entirely different to the 'priesthood of the first age'," he said.

● Cont Page 8.

## GOLD TRAIL FESTIVAL

2014

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26 - 27 April

SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

7.00 pm: @Barnes Building, Murrumburrah  
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# Into 'priesthood of the third age'

## ● From Page 7.

This was immediately after ordination in Rome in 1960, and when the former Trooper Barry-Cotter of the 7/21st Australian Horse (during national service) was "young, enthusiastic and did a bit of everything".

This involved studies in Rome during the Second Vatican Council, years on the Marriage Tribunal and as chancellor of the Archdiocese and a stint as administrator of St Christopher's during the rebuilding of the Cathedral.

Mgr Barry-Cotter has carried the spirit of the Second Vatican Council with him throughout his ministry.

Although he has seen many changes in the 50 years since the council, notably in the area of collaborative ministry with religious and lay-faithful, he remains frustrated at how slowly the greater part of the Church has moved since the council and the Archdiocese's two synods.

However, he does like to tell the story about his pastoral associate, Sr Kathy Hodge and the changing role of the priest: "Sister Kathy and I were in the school playground talking when two primary students walked past and we said hello. As

they walked away, one said to the other 'What does Father Kevin do?' The other said: 'Oh he's Sister Kathy's helper'."

Sr Kathy is one of a large team of active people "moved by the spirit" that Mgr Barry-Cotter has left behind in Cootamundra for new parish priest Fr Joshy Kurien.

He also steps down from duty believing that the Archdiocese is in good shape and ready to accept the challenges of Pope Francis under the leadership of Archbishop Christopher Prowse.

"They both have ideals that are really close to my heart and I've sometimes wondered whether I have done the right thing in retiring because I really like being in the middle of it all," he said.

But recent ill-health and wise words from good friends and family have persuaded him to go ahead and retire "in a year that is full of anniversaries including my 80th birthday".

So as Mgr Barry-Cotter leaves for a life of quiet, reflection, study and friendship, he hopes he has left behind good memories – "really the only thing I can leave behind".

# Kevin honoured for decades of clergy care

## ● From Page 5.

Mr Croker travels about 40,000 kilometres a year, tending to the physical, emotional and practical needs of retired priests.

"I think it's a bit of the country boy in me that I like to be out on the road, and I've always had a soft spot for priests out in the bush because of the degree of loneliness and stress."

In recent years, he says, his work with the priests has been "significantly enhanced" by help from a clergy care co-ordinator, Carmel Gibbons, a registered nurse who came on board as part of a joint project with the Little Company of Mary.

During his time with the Archdiocese's chancery, Mr Croker also provided administrative support to the Catholic Military Ordinariate, a role he has reluctantly let go of as his duties to the retired priests grew.

His plan, "if the Archdiocese is agreeable", is to stay in his position for a few more years before taking on a scaled-down role with the retired priests.

That would give him more time for his beloved formal garden in Wanniasa. He might even insinuate himself into the grounds of the Archbishop's House, where he planted rows of sweet peas behind the garage while working there before the move to Favier House, which he helped to manage, in the early '90s.

"I've still got my eye on the gardener's job there," he joked.

## Compensation backed

Calls for a national child sexual abuse compensation scheme funded by churches and other institutions have been backed by the Catholic Church's Truth Justice and Healing Council. CEO Francis Sullivan supported the proposal by child sexual abuse support and advocacy organisation CLAN. "We ask governments around Australia to consider a national scheme with consistent investigative powers and compensation payments which would be funded by organisations and institutions responsible for the abuse."

## Help Religious Sisters - the unsung heroines in the Church!

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Each year the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) supports over 9,000 religious sisters in every corner of the globe. Many religious congregations turn to the charity for help, not least for the formation of their precious new vocations. While many congregations in the Western world have few or no new vocations and even seem to be dying out, in other parts of the world the religious communities are filled with young and smiling faces.

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It is vital that the indispensable work of religious sisters in Christ's Holy Catholic Church and throughout the missions worldwide continues. Religious sisters are the unsung heroines in the Church. ACN is therefore proud to help them in their efforts to make the world a better place, even just a little.

The average grant ACN gives to support a religious sister or novice is \$300 – but whatever you can afford will be enormously appreciated. ACN forwards the donations directly to the religious superiors in charge of the religious communities and congregations.

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# Oh brother, mum has heard it all before

Tascha Loadsman could be forgiven for passing up on yet another school information night.

With the fifth of her sons having started at St Edmund's College this year, making that five Loadsman boys at the school at the same time, she's heard all the introductory stuff before.

But Mrs Loadsman dutifully went along to the orientation evening for her nine-year-old son Tadhg this year, just as she has done for Brynn, 11, Keegan, 12, Chase, 16, and Jarrod, 17, in the past.

"I have to remember, even though I'm up to my fifth, that it's all new for him (Tadhg). I might have been through it all before, but he hasn't," she said.

This is the one year of their lives that the five brothers, between years 4 and 12, will be at the same school.

"I think they were a little underwhelmed by the whole thing when it was pointed out how rare it was," Mrs Loadsman said.

"My youngest one is thrilled to be there with his brothers, but the others are a bit like 'whatever'."

She said the brothers tended not to seek each other out at school. "But if there's a problem, you know they'll be there for each other."

The Loadsman brothers are among 1100 students in nine year levels at St Edmunds, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

RIGHT: Oh, brothers ... St Edmund's Loadsman brothers (from left), Jarrod, Chase, Keegan, Brynn and Tadhg.



## Settling in at the coast

Senior students at Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula, took their roles seriously as they assisted Year 7 newbies with time-tables, lockers, directions and advice.

ABOVE: All new... The 2014 Year 7 cohort.

LEFT: New Year 7 students (from left) Isabel Bellicanta, Kimberley De Jong and Dariyn Burhop collect their text books from the college library.



## A new world to explore

They started the school year surrounded by construction fencing, but the first intake of children at St Jude's Early Learning Centre in Holder were not complaining.

Their building might not have been quite ready for them, but their brand new playground was.

With a large shady sandpit to dig in, winding paths to pedal their trikes around and rocks galore to climb over, they were as excited as pre-schoolers get.

Michelle Brassil, the founding director of the newest of the Catholic Education Office's six early learning centres, said all was going well, despite the fact it was oper-

ating out of a shed at the back of St Jude's Primary for a few weeks until its new building received its finishing touches.

"The children have settled in really well and we've had a lot of good feedback from the parents," she said.

The centre has taken on 52 students in its first year, including one full-time group and two part-time groups.

LEFT: This playground rocks ... Holder ELC "Wombats", from left, Henry Atkinson, Grace Moore, Abbie Hart and Megan Ward.

# New teacher's love of children will bring them Joy

As Catherine Joy approached the first day of her teaching career, at Holy Family Primary in Gowrie, this year, her main hope was to "survive".

Another was that her 26 "little cherubs" would be happy to be there.

"On my first day, I cried at the door and thought my mum was never coming back," she said, half expecting that it would happen to her as "payback".

Lucky for Ms Joy, both teacher and students have happily made it through the first weeks of school.

It's a good start to a career the 24-year-old has had her sights on for a number of years and which, given her family connections, may well be in her blood.

Ms Joy is the daughter of Geoff Joy, a former Marist brother, teacher and head of the Catholic Education Office. She also has an aunty and uncle who are teachers in Sydney and another aunty who has retired from the profession.

"I've always been impressed by my dad and what he has done with his life," she said.

"He would have supported me in anything I did, but he does think I've chosen a great profession."

Ms Joy was among a number of first-time teachers to take charge of their own classrooms when the school year started for about 21,000 students (13,000 primary, 8000 secondary and 400 pre-

school) around the Archdiocese's Catholic schools.

Having worked as a teachers' assistant and house mistress at a boarding school in Oxford in England before completing her teaching studies at Signadou and then working (with the CEO) and travelling for a year, she applied for the job at Gowrie, where she did her fourth-year practice blocks.

"When the principal rang and asked how I felt about taking kinder, I thought, 'Why not?'"

It's a big responsibility, but "a good one", she said. "It's such an important year for the children, a year where foundations are set."

She realises it is also hard for some of the parents, "because they are having to let go of their babies".

Ms Joy says she had some great role models among her own teachers, at Sts Peter and Paul Primary in Garran and St Clare's College in Griffith, and will let a love of children be her guiding principle for her career.

She is keen to learn from her colleagues, particularly the other three kinder teachers, and to tap into the support of her students' parents.

"I just hope they don't think, 'Are you old enough? You can maybe babysit them, but can you teach them?'," she said with a laugh.



Big year ... Catherine Joy with one of her kinder students, Amelia Evans.

## You would read about it...

RIGHT: Booked in ... Lucy Maher overcomes first-day nerves by getting down to the business of reading at St John Vianney's Primary School, Waramanga. Lucy was one of about 2000 children to start kindergarten in the Archdiocese this year. More than 1300 kinder students have enrolled in Catholic Education Offices schools in the ACT and nearly 700 in its NSW schools.



## A time to dream...

Dare to dream is this year's theme for students at Merici College. At an opening school assembly, principal Loretta Wholley told students: "The theme is about achieving new dreams and exploring new horizons. At Merici, we seek for each student to grow emotionally, socially, intellectually, spiritually and physically, supported by the principles of the Catholic faith." She encouraged students to always give their best and to set personal and academic goals. "You are given a solid foundation to prepare you for whatever the future brings, the confidence to take risks, learn from your mistakes, and achieve anything you set your mind to".

LEFT: Settling in... year 7 student Miranda Taylor, chats to school captain Harriet Rooks, vice-captain Maddison McGarry, Abigail Palmer and Molly Jeffery.





# 'Originals' hark back to a parish's heyday

Among the handful of "originals" at the St Thomas More parish in Campbell, Pat McCormick could claim to be the most original of them all.

The 86-year-old remembers standing outside her house in Campbell in 1959, watering her newly seeded nature strip, when "this little Volkswagen pulls up with a big white dog in the back".

A man stepped out of the car and approached Mrs McCormick. "He said he was looking for Catholics and I said 'I'm a Catholic'. 'Good,' he said, 'you can help me find them all then.'"

The man in the VW was Fr Bill Keating, who was recruiting parishioners for the new Campbell parish.

Mrs McCormick also found herself getting up at 5am every day so she had time to have a cup of tea before she went to lay out Fr Keating's vestments before Mass.

She did that for 18 months before a visiting priest told her that most priests laid out their own vestments.

"Fr Keating conned me!" Mrs McCormick chuckled. "But I didn't mind."

Mrs McCormick and her 91-year-old husband Tom, who lived in Campbell for 52 years before moving to Ainslie three years ago, were among the 80-plus current and former parishioners who attended the first of the parish's three events to mark its golden jubilee this year.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse concelebrated Mass, with Vicar-General Mgr John Woods and Archdiocesan Chancellor and Campbell parish priest Fr Julian Wellspring, before the congregation gathered for a celebratory lunch.



Mr and Mrs McCormick, whose five children along with some of their 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren have been part of the parish, joined several other original parishioners in cutting the cake.

Mrs McCormick reminisced about the days when mothers from the school helped in the playground and cooked dinner for the sisters. Meanwhile, the parish men's group kept the grounds and

facilities up to scratch for the price of a couple of bottles of beer from Mgr John Hoare. "We were a real community," she said. "We had such a lot of fun in those days."

Those heydays are gone and uncertainty about the parish's future was evident at the gathering. But Archbishop Prowse encouraged parishioners to maintain their hope, faith and joy, and, regardless of what the future holds, "to keep a smile on your faces".

ABOVE: Originals ... Tom and Pat McCormick toast St Thomas More parish's golden jubilee.

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# Andrew makes big move to independence

Only months away from moving out of home for the first time in his 37 years, Andrew Webster is a bundle of excitement and nerves.

"I keep thinking 'I hope nothing goes wrong' even though I know it won't go wrong," he said.

As he speaks, work goes on behind him on a housing development in the outer-north Canberra suburb of Casey that will include nine residences for people with a disability.

One of those specially designed two-bedroom units, part of the CatholicCare-managed Living in Networked Communities (LINC) program, will be Mr Webster's new home. In a wheelchair because of spina bifida, Mr Webster has lived with his parents, Maybelle and Jim, in their Stirling home.

Mrs Webster said her son had been keen to live independently for years, and she and her husband were increasingly conscious of the fact they were ageing and would not be able to accommodate him forever. "We can't believe how lucky we are," she said of the fact her son was "at long last" able to move out on his own.

Mr Webster, who works at Questacon, was one of 25 people who expressed an interest in the nine new LINC homes; 17 lodged an application to live in one of units.

"It definitely shows there's a need for this," CatholicCare director of disability and aged care programs Robyn McKay said.

She said the project, which has received a Commonwealth grant through the Support Accommodation Innovation Fund, was a three-sided partner-

ship between CatholicCare, ACT Housing and Disability ACT.

CatholicCare will manage all of the homes, four of which it will own.

CatholicCare senior operations manager of community housing and accommodation Alan Hardie said the homes, expected to be finished by July, were being built to a "platinum level", which is the highest level of accessibility.

Community development workers will help Mr Webster and his fellow LINC residents to make connections in the community and build relationships with each other and their neighbours. They will also help the residents make the transition to independent living. For Mr Webster, the biggest change to his lifestyle will be doing his own washing and cooking.



Home, sweet home ... Andrew Webster at the construction site in Casey where his new home is being built.

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# New learning spaces to enjoy at Daramalan



Daramalan College students and staff are enjoying some wonderful new learning spaces with the completion of two major building projects in time for the opening of the 2014 school year.

The completion of the new Lysaught Wing in late January marked the end of the total refurbishment of the teaching areas for Design and Technology.

The College was successful in gaining Round 4 Trade Training Centre funding from the Australian Government for part of this building program.

The Lysaught Wing is one component of the Dickson Area Trade Training Centre in which the partners are Daramalan College and Emmaus Christian School.

On the Daramalan College site are new specialist areas for Metal Technology and Automotive Technology which are both accredited Vocational Certificate courses while on the Emmaus Christian School site new facilities for vocational studies in Hospitality were constructed.

At the beginning of 2013 new teaching facilities were opened for Graphics, Wood Technology and Textiles and Fashion. These spaces are very popular with students and staff as they are very contemporary in style and they are fitted out with all the latest equipment.

Daramalan College, which was established in 1962 by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, has ensured that all its facilities have been kept up to date so that our students have the best learning environment possible.

For information about enrolments at Daramalan College, please contact the Registrar on 62456348 or via email: [enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au)

## OPEN EVENING INFORMATION 3 APRIL

We invite prospective families to come and see all that we have to offer at our annual Open Evening which will be held on Thursday 3 April with tours from 5.00pm - 6.30pm.

Following the tours there will be an Information Session at 7.00pm in McCowage Hall where further information about the college will be provided.

## TRY "DARA FOR A DAY" FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS

We offer all Year 6 students opportunities in May to visit the college and experience student life at Daramalan.

More information about these days will be provided on our website [www.daramalan.act.edu.au](http://www.daramalan.act.edu.au) under "Enrolments" as well as in the media. Please note that enrolments for Year 7, 2015 close on Friday 23 May 2014.



## IMPORTANT 2015 ENROLMENT DATES

<b>3 APRIL - THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Open Evening 5.00pm - 6.30pm</b>
<b>3 APRIL - THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Year 7 2015 Information Session 7.00pm - 8.00pm</b>
<b>2 MAY - FRIDAY:</b>	<b>2015 Primary School Pre-Enrolment Orientation Day - First Day 10.00am - 1.45pm</b>
<b>5 MAY - MONDAY:</b>	<b>2015 Enrolments commence</b>
<b>6 MAY - FRIDAY:</b>	<b>2015 Primary School Pre-Enrolment Orientation Day - Second Day</b>
<b>19 MAY - MONDAY:</b>	<b>Year 11 2015 Information Evening 7.30pm</b>
<b>23 MAY - FRIDAY:</b>	<b>Year 7 2015 Enrolments close</b>



For enrolment enquiries please contact our Registrar on (02) 6245 6348  
Email: [enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au) - Web: [www.daramalan.act.edu.au](http://www.daramalan.act.edu.au)

# DARAMALAN COLLEGE

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# A woman who loved everything about Australia

**Sr Eileen Maloney RSJ**

Sr Eileen Maloney, who advocated for unity among the congregations of Josephites long before the idea was on a community agenda, died peacefully in Goulburn. She was 86 and in the 64th year of her religious profession.



Eileen, born in Coolamon as the 11th child of Martin and Margaret (Murphy), was the sister of John, Francis, William, Thomas, Joseph, Ellen, Veronica, Anne Monica, Margaret and Mary, all of whom predeceased her. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Educated at St Michael's School, Coolamon, and St Joseph's College, Goulburn, she was professed as a Sister of St Joseph in 1950 and known formerly as Sr M Pierre. She spent most of her active years as a secondary teacher before moving on to a ministry of pastoral care in parishes and hospitals.

A lover of outdoor life and of her youthful students, she was grateful for having been schooled and brought up by her brothers. She taught in Yenda, Leeton, Temora, Tumbarumba, Ardlethan, Holbrook, Adelong, Barmedman Motor Mission and Goulburn. She also lived and ministered in Sydney, Culcairn and O'Connor ACT, before moving into Tenison Southern Cross Care apartments, Goulburn in 2008.

Sr Eileen did not mess with words, spoke directly, lobbied for increased aged care for the sisters after caring for two of her elderly siblings, and used her alert mind to maintain an interest in current political events, cricket scores, the progress of sporting teams, as well as the successes of Black Caviar, and many aspects of family and farming life.

She enjoyed photography, loved nature and everything about Australia and its people, the humour, earthiness and resilience of generous and willing people of the land. In recent years, she showed the spirit of a true Aussie battler as she coped with blindness and diminishment. For her, the simple things in life were the best.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Our Lady of Dolours Chapel, North Goulburn, on 17 January, and burial took place in St Patrick's cemetery, Goulburn.

# Moira helped make other's lives sing

**Moira Sheridan**

She was the glue for her family, a lifeblood of the Catholic Church and made music to make people's heart sing.

That was Moira Sheridan, who always wore a smile on her face and a calm demeanour.

Mrs Sheridan, formerly of Collector, passed away peacefully at home on 29 September, following illness. She was 78.

The Goulburn and district community fondly remember her as an organist at Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral, choir leader, speech and drama and music teacher. Throughout her life she taught people to sing and play the piano.

Mary Queen of Apostles parish priest Fr Dermid McDermott said Mrs Sheridan organised all the music for his ordination 22 years ago and his first Mass.

"She was meticulous with all the details of her music," he said. "Everything was extremely well prepared. Even the choir had a booklet with everything in sequence and she wrote music for different voices."

Fr McDermott marvelled at the way Mrs Sheridan still made her way upstairs to play the Old Cathedral organ, despite illness.

Moira Blake was born in Goulburn on 10 February, 1935, the only daughter of Wal and Rita Blake. The family also included sons Laurie (Fr Laurie Blake) Des, Ian (deceased), Geoff, and Trevor.

The family lived in Bungonia for the first few years of her life. Daughter Bev Keatley, who delivered the eulogy at her funeral service, said her mother would often share memories of the family farm and sitting around the fireplace. She told of her horse Micky, which was how she received the nickname Mick from her brothers. Her singing talents were first revealed publicly at Windellama Hall aged four, where she sang Two Little Girls in Blue and won a cup and saucer. From then on, singing was a major part of her life.



During her childhood, the family moved into Goulburn. Mrs Sheridan remembered praying for her father to get the job as warder at the jail.

Even during her education at Our Lady of Mercy College she put on small concerts and encouraged fellow students to sing.

She sang on 2GN, in the local eisteddfod, at the jail and in the church. She also learnt piano and continued her connection with the Sisters of Mercy over the years.

After leaving school she continued singing lessons, joined the Lieder Theatre and performed in many musicals. She also learnt ballroom dancing and became an instructor at the Mal Straughn Dance Studio.

"Mum had a wonderful time travelling around to all the local dances with her friends and at times was called up to sing with the band," daughter Bev wrote in her eulogy.

"Even just in the last two weeks, as ill as she was, she insisted on showing my daughter Michelle how to do the cha cha."

While working at a dry cleaners, Moira met a regular customer Arthur, a dairy farmer from Collector. Love blossomed and Moira chose Arthur over continuing a career in dance and even an offer to appear on Bandstand.

They married on 21 June, 1958, and had five children over the next nine years, Bev, Lesley, Reg, Bill and Narelle. Mrs Sheridan put many miles on the car carrying her children to soccer, choirs, ballroom dancing and school camps.

At the same time she was an active member of the Collector CWA where she was eventually honoured with life membership. She organised many local concerts and with her Collector performers, entertained at Goulburn venues. She continued in eisteddfods and singing at weddings and funerals, including her own family's.

Mrs Sheridan was passionate about her music mission and giving back to the community. From about 1989 she conducted the Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral choir. During this time she learnt to play the magnificent pipe organ.

She humorously described herself as the "Claytons organist - the organist you got when you couldn't get a proper one."

She was proud of providing a scholarship to the Goulburn Regional Conservatorium, the Blake-Sheridan Scholarship, which has been awarded to several voice students.

She took to the computer with gusto, connecting with the world through email and Facebook. Even in her final days she took delight in watching four-month-old great granddaughter Macie having her first giggle on a Facebook video.

Mrs Sheridan faced many health challenges in later years, but pushed through with courage and resolve. She had a strong Christian faith, lived a life filled with forgiveness and had friends from all walks of life.

Her funeral service was held at Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral, and she was buried at the Collector Anglican cemetery beside Arthur. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. One granddaughter, Ellayrn, predeceased her.

(This is an edited version of an article published in the Goulburn Post).

# Faith education: there's plenty on offer

**By Shane Dwyer, archdiocesan coordinator, faith formation and spirituality**

It has happened again. Ask a group of Catholics what they think they need most from the Church and invariably "we need access to more faith education" features high on the list.

Recently I took a look at the responses to the latest Church questionnaire (the one we did in preparation for the Synod on the Family) and there it is again. It echoes the message received during all archdiocesan assemblies in living memory.

It is wonderful that Catholics have discovered the need for ongoing faith development. Perhaps we have learned that the life of faith is not to be taken for granted, and, in the way that we seek to grow and develop in other aspects of our lives, we must also take responsibility for our ongoing faith education.

Perhaps we know that in the context of the increasingly secular society in which we live, we need to be aware of who we are as Catholics and why it is we believe what we believe...

Perhaps. However, we are often committed to our faith development more in theory than we are in reality. Most of us think it is a good idea, but

discover it can be hard to find the time and to find something that suits us.

For those with limited time and who are unable to come to a seminar or participate in a formal course, I would recommend our recent publication *I Believe: a Month of Reflections in a Time of Change*. It provides a series of readable reflections on key scriptural passages written from a Catholic perspective. At \$3.30 it won't break the bank and makes a great little book to give family members to do their own reading and reflection. Copies available from the CatholicLIFE office.

If you are looking for a little more than that, why not attend a seminar? St Thomas the Apostle parish, Kambah, is offering a series of Saturday morning spirituality seminars. Upcoming sessions are 10am-11.15am on 29 March, 26 April, 31 May and 28 June. Inquiries and registration: CatholicLIFE office or St Thomas the Apostle parish.

St Matthew's parish, Page, is running a series of Lenten seminars on the first five Tuesdays of Lent, 11, 18 and 25 March, and 1 and 8 April. At this stage they will run 2.30pm-4pm, repeated 7pm-8.30pm, subject to demand. Inquiries and registration: CatholicLIFE or St Matthew's parish.

Parishes of the Monaro have organised a series of Monday morning seminars (10.30am-12.30pm), 17 March at Cooma, 19 May at Nimmitabel, 18 August at Bombala, 13 October at Cooma, and 1 December at Nimmitabel. Inquiries: CatholicLIFE office.

A series of twilight seminars are planned at the Rheinberger Function Centre, Yarralumla, 5.30pm-7pm, 26 March, 24 April, 21 May, 28 August, 24 September, 29 October and 26 November. These will suit people who want to participate after work before going home. Inquiries and registration: CatholicLIFE office.

There are other faith formation events happening around the Archdiocese. Keep an eye open in your area. If any parish would like help to organise something contact this office. There is no excuse for saying "we want access to more faith education, but we don't know what's available"! It is up to you. How will you respond to the invitation to deepen your understanding of the faith at the heart of your life?

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# Take care: Don't be fooled by false sanctity

## 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)



External appearances can easily fool us, and often do. That's true in every area of human life, and religion is no exception.

Some years ago, I lived in a seminary for nearly two years with a young seminarian who, by all outward appearances, appeared to be the ideal candidate for priesthood and ministry.

Intelligent, conscientious, prayerful, strongly committed to his studies, and with a deep concern for the poor, he seemed above the more mundane and secular concerns of his peers.

He wasn't interested in drinking beer, arguing football, gossiping, making small talk, or wasting time with the other seminarians.

While these other things were going on, he was normally found in either the chapel, the library, or at his desk, busy about more serious things.

Moreover, he was always courteous and polite to a fault, no harsh words, bitter slang, or salacious jokes issued from his mouth. He did all the right things.

But none of us living with him confused him with a saint. He was a sincere young man but not a particularly happy one.

Why not? Because, while externally he was doing everything right, what radiated from his person was not life but depression.

His entry into a room had the effect of draining some energy from the room.

He was doing everything right, but his energy wasn't right.

The other seminarians, for all their mundane interests, were perceptive and good-hearted enough to recognize that he needed help, and would play the Good Samaritan, taking turns sitting beside him at table, hoping to cheer him up a little.

The seminary rector, too, recognised a problem and sent him to a psychologist who told the young man that he was on the edge of a clinical depression and that he would be well-advised to leave the seminary, at least for a while.

The young man did leave the seminary, eventually regained his health, and is today a man who brings a robust energy into a room.

This is not an uncommon example. One of the struggles we perennially face with religious discernment is that it's easy to mistake depression for sanctity, sentimentality for piety, rigidity for orthodoxy, narrow sectarianism for loyalty,

identity invariably cloaks itself as an overzealous concern for truth and orthodoxy, just as narrow sectarianism forever presents itself as fierce loyalty, and repressed sexuality and denial of one's complexity, especially one's sexual complexity, take on the guise of wholeness and stability.

Depression, sentimentality, fearfulness, rigidity, sectarianism, repression and denial like to hide behind nobler things.

I say this sympathetically. None of us is free from these struggles. But, with that being confessed, we shouldn't be fooled by false sanctity.

Depression, sentimentality, fearfulness, narrowness, rigidity, and repression drain the energy from a room. Real sanctity, piety, orthodoxy, loyalty, wholeness and stability bring energy into a room and don't make you

swallow hard and feel guilty because your own blood is filled with a more robust energy.

The presence of real sanctity sets you free and gives you permission to

feel good about your humanity, no matter how red your blood. Real sanctity attracts and radiates life; it doesn't unconsciously beg you to play the Good Samaritan to cheer it up.

We see this, for example, in Mother Teresa. As we now know from her diaries, she spent the last 60 years of her life in a deep, painful dark night of the soul. During those years she was

struggling interiorly for consolation, yet everything about her radiated the opposite. She filled a room with energy.

She lit up a room like a powerful light bulb. She wasn't just doing all the right things; she was radiating a life-giving energy.

And that is how, in the end, we need to discern genuine sanctity, genuine piety, genuine orthodoxy, genuine loyalty and genuine wholeness from their false guises.

Genuine sanctity brings energy into a room, depression drains it from a room; genuine piety, like a beautiful icon, attracts you, sentimentality makes you uncomfortable, wanting to shield your eyes; genuine orthodoxy makes you want to embrace the whole world, rigidity makes you fearful and petty; genuine loyalty has you standing up for your loved ones, narrow sectarianism makes you a bigot; genuine wholeness has already faced the dark chaos of your human and sexual complexity, repression and denial make you huddle in fear before those dark corners.

There's a double challenge in this: First, as this pertains to our own lives, we must be more honest and courageous in facing our own chaos and recognise our perpetual propensity to disguise our weaknesses as virtues.

Second, we need, as the poet, William Stafford, puts it, to make sure that we are not following the wrong star home.

## Make sure we are not following the wrong star home...

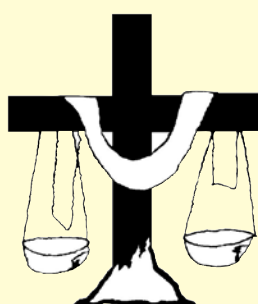
repressed sexuality for wholeness, and denial of one's complexity for stability.

Depression can look like sanctity because the person within its grip will appear to be free from the normal urges that come from our more-earthly passions.

Sentimentality invariably gravitates towards piety and dresses itself as devotion. Rig-

# The need to exercise charity

## Justice



## Matters

**How are charity and social justice related? This article from the Archdiocese's Social Justice Commission explores the issue.**

In plain English a socially just community is one which gives its members, particularly the most vulnerable, a fair go. In more formal language, it focuses on the common good and gives special recognition to the needs of poorer people.

There will always be differences of opinion about exactly what policies and practices lead to fairer outcomes. In a first-world country such as Australia, however, a fair go might be expected to have at least the following characteristics.

First, it will treat people in like situations equally. It will not discriminate without good reason.

Second, people with less will have greater access to community resources. People with more will contribute more. To use the language of the Church's social teaching, a socially just society will be one which demonstrates a "preferential option for the poor".

Third, workers will receive a fair return for their effort. To give a practical example, a person receiving a Centrelink benefit or pension will not face an excessive reduc-

tion in payments if he or she takes part-time employment.

Fourth, everyone will have access to at least a basic level of health care and to primary and secondary education. In other words, people will not be excluded as a result of having limited means.

If social justice is about a fair go, where does charity fit into the picture? "Charity" is another word for love. A practical expression of that love would be to work for social justice, whether at the community level or person to person.

Another would be offering support – whether spiritual, material or personal – to people in need.

Charity is about more than contributing to social justice. It is also about acting with generosity and openness towards others, even those who seem to be "undeserving".

We tend to think of social justice as mandatory and charity as optional. In the gospels, of course, charity is not a choice. It is compulsory, the instrument of salvation.

Where we focus our charity towards others may be partly imposed by circumstances, but the need to exercise charity is intrinsic to our Christian vocation and indeed to our humanity.

# Vigil for life starts now

The 40 Days for a Life vigil, which begins on Ash Wednesday, is a chance to make a point that citizens of the ACT are not complacent about the availability of abortion, president of the ACT Right to Life Association Bev Cains said.

Opening prayers will be said at 11.30 am on 5 March, outside the ACT Health Building, corner Moore and Alinga streets, Civic.

"Response from local people has been encouraging," she said. Interested organisations are invited to attend the peaceful vigil

between 8am and 8pm any day until 13 April. "If you are not physically able to attend the vigil, please keep the cause in your prayers," she said. "Participants are praying for an end to abortion. If we are to achieve this, it has to be done by changing the minds and hearts of our fellow citizens." Organisers suggest people bring folding chairs and umbrellas, and share cars to get there. Follow the vigil at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com). For local information go to [www.40daysforlife.com/canberra](http://www.40daysforlife.com/canberra) or telephone 0449 141 440.

# Berridale church's centenary

Past and current parishioners will gather with Archbishop Christopher Prowse this month to mark the centenary of St Joseph's Church, Berridale. Mass will be celebrated at 11am on Sunday, 30 March.

St Joseph's was built on land donated by Mr E J O'Brien in Mary Street, Berridale. The foundation stone was laid and blessed by Archbishop Kelly, of Sydney, on 2 February, 1914.

In 1938 Berridale was part of Cooma parish.

With the growth in population due to the Snowy Mountains

Hydro Scheme, the church was extended in 1961 to almost double its original size.

A self-contained cottage was built to accommodate the priest when the church was still part of Adaminaby parish. An access ramp has also been added.

St Joseph's is currently part of Jindabyne parish along with Our Lady Star of the Sea Dalgety, St Thomas Moonbah, Mary MacKillop Chapel Thredbo and Our Lady of the Snows Perisher Valley. Inquiries: Pat McPhie, telephone 6456 3378, Joy Lachetta 6456 3222.



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# Gruesome portrayal of tragedy of war

**Lone Survivor. Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch, Ben Foster, Eric Bana, and Alexander Ludwig. Directed by Peter Berg. Walt Disney. 121 minutes. MA15+ Restricted. (Strong bloody violence and coarse language). Reviewer: Peter W Sheehan\*.**

This American war drama is based on a true story depicted in a 2007 book written by Marcus Luttrell and Patrick Robinson titled, *Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10*. It was a New York Times best seller. It tells the story of four Navy SEALs on a secret mission to kill a high-level al-Qaeda Taliban leader. Only Luttrell survived. The film is intensely patriotic and pro-war, and there is never any question that it is all about the "proud tradition (America is) bound to behold".

There is scepticism about the US Iraq-Afghanistan war effort, especially as the effort is wound down. Against this background, and almost the complete absence of debate in the movie about the politics of the war effort itself, the film intentionally cherishes the bravery of American life lost in war.

The unit led by Luttrell (played in the movie by Mark Wahlberg, pictured) was trapped by the Taliban in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan and found itself up against overwhelming odds. Eric Bana plays the senior strategic officer back at base, and Alexander Ludwig plays an inexperienced recruit who was fortunately left behind. Punctuating the movie at various points are flashback pictures of women and children back home, who faced their loved ones never returning alive. The title of the movie clearly signals that will happen, but the scenes serve to humanise the soldiers and increase the tension surrounding the inevitable.

Without politics, character development, or real debate about



the issues, it is easy to assume this film is just a propagandist war movie, but that is unfair comment. The film is actually a non-preaching portrayal of the tragedy of war.

The fate of the members of Luttrell's unit - Danny Dietz (Emile Hirsch), Michael Murphy (Taylor Kitsch), and Matt Axelson (Ben Foster) - is never in doubt.

The mission fails for no other reason than it should never have been mounted. The film arouses strong emotions because the viewer always knows what lies ahead. The battle sequences are predictably violent, brutal, and gruesomely realistic, and the injuries sustained by the four soldiers in the Taliban's assault are almost unbearable to watch.

When the serious fighting starts, the action is relentless, and the obvious confusion of the American soldiers, poor management back at base, and their failure to establish communication back to base, tragically seal their fate.

This is not a thought-provoking war movie, as *Zero Dark Thirty* (2012) and *Hurt Locker* (2008) were. It aims for, and effectively communicates 100% US patriotism, and its morality and talk are almost entirely military in nature. Moments exist, though, where killing is considered unjust, and Luttrell's life is eventually saved by a sympathetic Afghanisthan villager, who puts his own community at great risk.

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

## Simply the best

**The Past/ Le Passe. Starring Berenice Bejo, Tahir Rahim, Ali Mossaf. Directed by Asghar Farhadi. Madman. 130 minutes. M (Mature themes and coarse language). Reviewer: Fr Peter Malone MSC\*.**

Asghar Farhadi has proven himself to be one of the world's best directors, and audiences will not be disappointed with this very fine film. Berenice Bejo as Marie won the best actress award in Cannes, 2013 and is most persuasive in a very complex role. The performances by some of the children in the film are outstanding, making us wonder how the director elicited such extraordinary expressions of emotion. The film offers a mirror to us all; loves, fidelities, infidelities, rancour, vengeance, angers, with an Iranian sensibility which is quite universal. One of the best films of any year. Fr Peter Malone MSC is an associate of the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting.

## SHORTS

**Dallas Buyers Club. Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Jared Leto, Jennifer Garner, and Michael O'Neill. Directed by Jean-Marc Valee. Pinnacle Films. 117 minutes. MA15 + Restricted. (Strong sex scenes, drug use and coarse language).**

American film based on actual events around the life of AIDS sufferer Ron Woodroff, who peddled non-approved drugs in Texas in the 1980s. This is not a comfortable movie to watch, but it is very well acted and directed. It pulls no punches about the physical nature of AIDS, and deals effectively with lonely people trapped by the destructiveness of their own behaviour. It never lets you forget that human beings can also be caught tragically in circumstances of other people's making. The Oscar for best actor is for Matthew McConaughey to lose.

**Robocop. Starring: Joel Kinnaman, Gary Oldman, Michael Keaton, Samuel L. Jackson, Abbie Cornish, Jackie Earle Haley, and John Paul Ruttan. Directed by Jose Padilha. Sony Pictures. 117 minutes. M (Science fiction themes and violence).**

American science fiction remake of the original 1987 movie, starring a new actor in the title role (Joel Kinnaman). Full of violence, explosions, and action-packed. It taps philosophical dilemmas that always make for good science fiction: When and how should human emotions, with their scope for error, be allowed to determine where technology needs to go? An entertaining foray into thinking about the world's scientific future.

**Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom. Starring Idris Elbar, Naomie Harris. Directed by Justin Chadwick. Roadshow. 141 minutes. M (Mature themes, violence and coarse language).**

A worthy film, and an opportunity for audiences to obtain more knowledge about Mandela, about apartheid, about South African politics, and the extraordinary phenomenon that was Nelson Mandela himself.

While the story of the man himself is familiar, and he is seen, not perfect, as strong, even with touches of heroic leadership, from his early years, it is the story of Winnie that is dramatically effective.

She has to move from a devoted young woman and wife, mother of Mandela's children, to a woman who is arrested, tortured, kept in solitary confinement. She becomes a leader, embittered, alienated from her husband's non-violent approach, separating herself from her husband's way of achievement, and ending in their personal separation and divorce.



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# An introduction to some amazing women of the Church

**Leadership as a Call to Service. The lives and works of Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Sienna and Thérèse of Lisieux by Christine Cameron.** ConnorCourt Publishing, 2012, pb, 289 pages, \$34.95. Reviewer: Margaret Ryan.

Christine Cameron is a married woman with adult children, and has held teaching and administrative positions in NSW Catholic primary schools. The book is based on her PhD work about the only three women declared to be doctors of the Catholic

Church (out of a total of 33 individuals) at the time of her research. (The declarations were made in 1970 and 1997.)

Such "doctors" are honoured posthumously, having fulfilled these criteria: original, orthodox and theologically significant doctrinal teaching; sanctity of life; and approval by the Pope and/or his General Council.

The author was influenced by the ancient concept of "servant leadership", a deeply scriptural one and foundational for Jesus Christ. Over the past

five decades it has been a particular focus in educational and other circles.

Larry Spears, building on the work of Robert Greenleaf, described 10 criteria of servant leadership, including listening, empathy, stewardship, commitment to people's growth and building community. After having profiled the three women, Cameron describes them, their ministry and work through the lens of the 10 criteria.

Finally, the author compares the women, their skills and approaches and draws her conclusions. They had rele-

vance not just for the Church of their own times, but have significance for the contemporary Church, even though they were born in different cultures, countries and centuries.

The book is a serious one, well-researched, clearly written and indirectly offers a wealth of insights into spirituality. There's a lengthy bibliography and a brief glossary to support understanding.

It could offer an interesting introduction to, or a refresher concerning, these amazing women.

# A Rolheiser insight into following Jesus

**Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Maturity by Ronald Rolheiser.** Image Books, 2014, 368 pages, \$37.95. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

Ronald Rolheiser is a well-known writer on spirituality. He has a regular column in the Catholic Herald which is syndicated in other publications including Catholic Voice. He lives in Canada where he teaches theology.

He has seven published books. Probably his best known is the contemporary classic from some 15 years ago called *The Holy Longing*. This is often used in RCIA programs.

His latest book, *Sacred Fire*, is a sequel to *The Holy Longing*. In it he identifies three stages of discipleship: Essential, generative and radical. Rolheiser states that *The Holy Longing* concentrates on the essential stage which helps us "to get our lives

together". The generative stage is treated in *Sacred Fire*.

He addresses the questions: How can we live less self-centred, more mature lives? What constitutes a truly mature following of Jesus?

So then, having got our lives together, the question now becomes: How can we give them away? Mature discipleship, he says, is a struggle. It is the longest period of our lives.

Rolheiser draws heavily on the writings of St John of the Cross and on the gospel invitations to conversion. He highlights gospel passages for those who are good people but not yet saints. These are challenges from Jesus to a deeper, more generous discipleship.

Rolheiser explores these with insightful commentary. For example, in the well-known account of the two disciples on the way to Emmaus the two were walking away disconsolate

after the humiliation of the crucifixion.

We, too, can be tempted to walk away from our faith, our church, our God. We know there is a dynamic of crucifixion and resurrection in all of our lives. Somewhere Christ will encounter us in a new way. Deeper maturity will allow our imagination to be restructured so that Christ can send us back to our dream of faith and our church "Jerusalem".

Ronald Rolheiser writes with authority, experience, scriptural knowledge and pastoral understanding. It would be hard to find a better resource to guide us through the work we need to put into the generative stage. He has flagged an as yet unwritten volume to complete the trilogy. This will cover the third and final radical stage of spirituality, "how to give your death away". Now that is worth waiting for.

# How to pray and live the Psalms

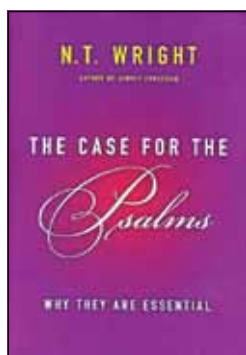
**The Case for the Psalms : Why They Are Essential by N T Wright.** HarperOne, 2013, 198 pages, \$24.99. Reviewer: Janet Moyle.

In last month's book review page, Margaret Ryan finished her review of Daria Sockey's *Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours* by saying she would have appreciated some expressed passion for the psalms. Well now, dear reader, on that very topic, have we got a book for you! The writer of *The*

*Case for the Psalms* is N T Wright. He is the retired Anglican Bishop of Durham, an academic and lecturer on the New Testament, public speaker and author of many books.

In his introduction, he makes a personal plea to contemporary Christians. He calls for a re-discovery of the power and beauty of the Psalms, the incorporation of these into daily prayer and for their regular use in public worship. He employs a memorable metaphor in saying, "The Psalms represent the Bible's own spiritual root system for the great tree we call Christianity". Quite a lot of passion in that statement.

Wright claims that the Psalms are transformative. They enable us to join the chorus of praise and prayer that has been going on for millennia. The Psalms will gently change the way we look at the world, at one another and



at ourselves in a radically different way, God's way.

Wright views the psalms from the perspective of second-Temple Jews. The Psalms are the hymn book of Jesus and his contemporaries and underpin Paul's writing and teaching. Wright speaks of the followers of Jesus learning to pray and live "his Psalm-soaked Gospel".

Wright claims the same thing happens to us. The Psalms, he says, change our world-view. Rather than inviting us to merely study them, he is advocating that we pray and live them.

Wright himself is so immersed in the language and poetic beauty of the Psalms that he is able to unpack the familiar in new ways.

Wright divides his material into three areas, time, space and matter. He asks what am I doing now (time) here (space) in this body (matter)? Then he explores the crossroads between our sort of time and God's time; between our space here on earth and God's space, and lastly the crossroads between the created order as we know it and all of God's renewed creation yet to be.

Wright probes the Psalms in depth. We are enriched and inspired by his scriptural knowledge and his passion for these ancient beautiful prayers.

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 Sunday - 8.30 am  
 FSSP Canberra: (02) 6161 5320  
 canberralm.blogspot.com

**Calvary Health Care Bruce ACT**  
  
**VACANCY: Director of Mission**  
 Calvary Health Care ACT is seeking a Director of Mission to be part of the Executive team. Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer and supporting the Executive Teams for both the Public and Private hospitals, this exciting role will help shape Mission and Catholic Identity in a growing Hospital. Calvary Health Care ACT is part of the Little Company of Mary Health Care Group (Calvary) and located at Bruce ACT.  
 The Director of Mission provides executive leadership in promoting the mission and core values of Calvary. Your leadership will both shape and support the strategic goals of the organisation and the integration of the elements of Catholic identity and Calvary's mission into organisational operations. The Bruce campus is about to go through significant growth with the redevelopment of the Public Hospital and the design and construction of a new Private Hospital co-located on site.  
 As the successful candidate you will continue to develop and promote the mission integration program through a range of innovative strategies, including educational leadership and staff development. This role has both strategic and operational elements designed to engage our patients and staff in the role and function of a Catholic hospital in contemporary society, and to support our community engagement strategy and activities. You will be supported by, the National Director of Mission, and contribute to, the Director of Mission Committee and the strategic development of mission integration throughout Calvary. You will oversee the Pastoral Care, Volunteers and Refugee Mentoring teams.  
 To be successful in this role you will be well formed in the Catholic Tradition and committed to the mission and values of Calvary Health Care and its heritage. You will have an interest in the contemporary health, community or aged care environment. Tertiary qualifications in Theology, Ministry, or related studies of the Catholic tradition are desirable. Integrity, professionalism and the ability to provide leadership at all levels of the Service is essential. You will have outstanding communication, leadership and relationship building skills.  
 To find out more about our organisation, please visit our website: [www.calvarycare.org.au](http://www.calvarycare.org.au) or Contact the CEO, Adj Professor (ACU), Ray Dennis 02 6201 6100 or [ray.dennis@calvary-act.com.au](mailto:ray.dennis@calvary-act.com.au)  
 Applications must address the selection criteria - available from our website (above) and include a CV. Please send your applications to [HR@Calvary-act.com.au](mailto:HR@Calvary-act.com.au) by Monday 24 March 2014.  
*In the tradition of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary*

# Classifieds & Real Estate

## To Let - Coast

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

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

**BROULEE** - Spectacular views near beach, 6-bedroom 3-bathroom house newly renovated. Telephone 6257 1222 [www.brouleebeachhouse.com](http://www.brouleebeachhouse.com).

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

**TUROSS HEAD** - "Ella May Holiday Flats". Renovated 2br, walk to beach. Fully equipped. Avail all year \$400-\$900 per week, weekends available. Telephone 0414 597 619 or 6278 5271.

## To Let - Queensland

**NOOSA** - Holiday Unit. A 2-bedroom fsc townhouse by the Noosa River and cafes. Well appointed with air-con, HD/TV, DVD, VCR and linen. Heated pool/spa, BBQ and tennis. Book with owners and save. For brochure, telephone (07) 3289 7178.

## Holidays

**CONSIDER** Elm Grove Mountain Retreat as a destination for a self directed retreat or relaxing affordable holiday. Log on to [www.elmgrovmountainretreat.com.au](http://www.elmgrovmountainretreat.com.au) or telephone 6947 5888 for further details.

## Building Design

**COMPLETE** Building Services Since 1993. New Homes - Duplex - Townhouses. Extensions and All Documentations. For Authority Approval. Free Quote - Flat Rate. Construction Services is available. Maher William, Mobile 0403 306 352, E-Mail [cre8ived@tpg.com.au](mailto:cre8ived@tpg.com.au).

## For Sale or Repair

**KENWOOD** Chef food mixer \$100, microwave from \$50. Warranty for 6 months. Free quote - repairs & parts. Will trade-in or buy Kenwood machines & parts also microwave and appliances. Telephone John, 6166 5512 anytime.

## Public Notice

HOW do you feel? Would you like to be healthier and happier by using natural products? Tom, your health coach, can be reached for information and sales at 6239 6023, [shoppingatthepav@westnet.com.au](mailto:shoppingatthepav@westnet.com.au)

## Tuition

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

## Investment Opportunity

**SELF-HELP** group requires short-term funds to assist several families. Security and clergy refer-

ences available. Interest paid monthly at 10% pa. Real Good Samaritans will be well rewarded. No pretenders - tyre kickers. Telephone John 0403 050 960 anytime.

## Wanted - Musical Instruments

**PAYING** top dollar for concertinas, button accordians/ guitars/ banjos/ fiddles/ mandolins/ old guitar amplifiers. Any condition considered. Telephone Patrick 9824 8276 or mobile 0432 346 821, email [patrickcullen54@hotmail.com](mailto:patrickcullen54@hotmail.com)

## Services

**HANDY MAN** and painting contractor. Small jobs specialist, services from: Minor carpentry, plastering, tiling, fence repairs, painting, roofing, plumber and much more. All Canberra area, 10 per cent discount on pensioners. Free quotes. No job too big or too small. Luis Flores, telephone 0404 605 687 or 6140 1317.

## Self-help Group

**MASSAGE** room with facilities - hourly or daily rates. Private - Discreet. FREE massage, hair cut, transport, odd jobs etc. as exchange or barter. Looking for Hairdresser, Handyman etc. to assist Pensioners/ low income. Telephone John 0403 050 960 anytime.

**Do you get the Archdiocese's weekly enews bulletin? Subscribe today by going to [www.cg.catholic.org.au](http://www.cg.catholic.org.au) It's free. The enews is published each Tuesday.**

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**FOR SALE**  
**BRUCE** **\$349,500**  
 2 bedroom apartment on the 3rd floor with mountain views. Open plan living area. Plenty of cupboards in kitchen with stainless steel appliances & dishwasher. R/C air conditioning. Balcony. 1 undecroft car space & storage. EER 6  
**CONDER** **\$525,000**  
 Great family home. 4 bedrooms, ensuite, family room, covered pergola. Double garage. Ducted gas heating & Evap cooling. Easy care grounds with water tank & cubby house! At the end of a cul-de-sac close to shops, schools & transport. EER 3  
**SCULLIN** **\$388,000**  
 Well located 2-storey 4 bedroom townhouse. Sunny living area with reverse cycle air conditioner. Family room (or dining room). Walls & ceilings repainted. Single garage plus a carport. Rear courtyard with shade sail. EER3  
 Ralph Taylor Real Estate Pty Ltd (lic. Agent)  
**6258 8922**  
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# Coming Events



**BATEHAVEN AND BEYOND** - Offered by the Sisters of St Joseph. 2 March, Lenten reflection with Sr Carmel Drew RSJ, parish centre, Taralga; 20 March Finding Hope Amid Life's Chaos, Sr Carmel Drew RSJ, Southern Cross Village, Temora; 22 March Mandala Art and Prayer, Sr Ann Steenbergen RSJ, parish centre, Barellan. Inquiries: Sr Mary Murphy, telephone 6978 2585, email maryrsj@gmail.com

**BATEHAVEN RETREATS AND REFLECTION DAYS** - Offered by the Sisters of St Joseph. 8 March, How to be a Male Disciple in Christ, opportunity for men to come together to pray and reflect, with Fr Brian Ebert; 12 March, Lenten reflection; 26 March In the Gospel of John we see how Jesus gently encourages people grow in their relationship with God, with Sr Carmel Drew RSJ. Inquiries: St Joseph's House of Spirituality and Hospitality, 12 David Ave, Batehaven NSW 2536, telephone 4472 4021, email srjudyth@bigpond.com.

**CALL TO CONNECT AFTERNOON** - Lectio divina, "A stepping stone to abundant life", 1.30pm-4pm, Saturday, 22 March, Holy Spirit Church, Gungahlin. Cost \$15. Registration by 20 March to bronnieschlager@gmail.com or telephone 0432257622.

**CHURCH CENTENARY** - St Joseph's, Berridale, 11am, Sunday, 30 March, Mass celebrated by Archbishop Christopher Prowse. Inquiries: Pat McPhie, telephone 6456 3378, Joy Lachetta 6456 3222

**CURSILLO REVISITED WEEKEND** - 7.30PM, Friday, 28 March to Sunday, 30 March, St Clement's retreat centre, Galong. Theme is On the Journey and will look at the challenges of living a Christian life. Inquiries:

Joe and Irma Jambor, telephone 6242 7332 or email irmandjoe@gmail.com

**GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP** - Meets Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm, parish room, St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla, ACT. Rosary, charismatic praise and worship, teachings, testimonies, prayer ministry, intercession and fellowship. Inquiries: Susanna, telephone 0419 902 293, Neda 0415 266 019, Gabriel 0432 082 642

**LENTE REFLECTION DAYS** - St Clement's monastery, Galong, Wednesdays in Lent. Inquiries: Telephone 6380 5222.

**LOSS AND GRIEF** - Archdiocesan Commission for Women presentation by Fran Spora, 9.45am-noon, Wednesday, 12 March, St Anne's School hall, Temora and 9.45am-noon, Thursday, 13 March, Sts Peter and Paul's presbytery, Goulburn. Men and women welcome. \$5 donation. Inquiries: Judy Netting 6278 4163 or 0400 766 784.

**MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE** - Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney, Wednesday, 12 March, Coach departs 6.30am, Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, 7am St Joseph's Church, O'Connor. Bookings: Judy and Joe Mewburn, telephone 6254 6202.

**PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT** - Annual day, 9.30am-1pm lunch, Sunday, 16 March, at Rheinberger Centre, Yarralumla. Fr Brian Traynor CP will lead sessions exploring comments by Pope Francis. Cost \$7. RSVP by 12 March to dennisand-marymorris@gmail.com. Inquiries: Telephone 0438 631 657.

**REUNION ST JOHN'S AND ST JOSEPH'S, GOULBURN** - Boys and girls from the homes, along with family and friends invited to reunion and lunch, 11am, Sunday, 16 March, Young Bowling Club. RSVP for catering: Phil Merrigan

0407 618 100, philmerrigan@exemail.com.au or Maria and Lindsay Chesworth 0423 689 366. Go to [www.stjohnsgoulburn.org](http://www.stjohnsgoulburn.org).

**ST PATRICK'S DAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE** - Noon, Saturday, 15 March, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Address by Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher. Inquiries: Conor Bradley, telephone 6251 4838

**SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA** - Rosary and Mass, 6.10pm, Thursday, 13 March, Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, followed by dinner at Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone 6251 2912.

**SIX-DAY DIRECTED RETREAT** - Monday, 17 March to Monday, 24 March, St Clement's monastery, Galong. Inquiries: Telephone 6380 5222.

**WALKING WITH JESUS IN LENT** - Lenten retreat with Fr Greg Homeming OCD, 10am-4pm, Saturday, 29 March, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Talks and Mass. Cost \$15. Registration: St Benedict's, telephone 6295 7879. Inquiries: Fr Bony, stbenedictmissioncentre@gmail.com

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** - 21-23 March, Mt Carmel retreat centre, Varroville. Marriage enrichment experience for married couples. Bookings: Ardell and Bill Sharpe, telephone 4283 3435, email wsharpe@bigpond.net.au, [www.wvme.org.au](http://www.wvme.org.au) [www.facebook.com/WVMEasternUnit](http://www.facebook.com/WVMEasternUnit)

Written entries are invited for the April 2014 issue to: Catholic Voice, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601, or e-mail ed.voice@cg.catholic.org.au by Friday, 14 March. Entries which are accepted for this section are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

**Sponsored by Catholic Development Fund Ph: 6201 9870 Email: [cdf@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:cdf@cg.catholic.org.au)**

## Teachers behaving strangely



Nothing is guaranteed to grab children's attention more quickly than a challenge to catch their teachers "behaving oddly".

And that's what Victoria Scarano, the religious education coordinator at St John the Apostle Primary in Florey, was banking on when she warned the students in the first week of school to watch out for teachers winking, high-fiving and grinning at each other for no apparent reason. "All will be explained in the next week or so," was the mysterious explanation.

It turns out it was Ms Scarano's way of engaging the students in the Making Jesus Real program, which the school has brought to life in the form of Welcome Monday, Thanking Tuesday, Winking Wednesday, Thumbs-up Thursday,

## From near and far

High-Five Friday, Smiling Saturday and Serving Sunday. "The aim was to get the children to ask questions, because we all know how much they hate to be left out of the loop," Ms Scarano said.

Pictured getting into the spirit of it all are, from left, Victoria Scarano, students Raphael Scarano, Leonardo Braybon and Olivia Monaghan, and teacher Danni Laudenbach.

## Young and old boys and girls

It might seem a little odd to some that the reunion for Goulburn's St John's boys' home and St Joseph's girls' home on March 16 is to be held in Young.

But the organisers decided the out-of-town venue would be more convenient for the sisters at the Mt St Joseph's nursing home in Young, the retirement place for a number of sisters who ran the homes, which closed in the early 1970s. Bev Merrigan, wife of St John's old boy and one of the reunion organisers Phil Merrigan, said they have been "quite surprised" by the number of responses they have received for the reunion. If you are interested, contact

Mr Merrigan on 0407 618 100 or Maria and Lindsay Chesworth on 0423 689 366.

## An Archbishop for all seasons

Archbishop Christopher Prowse slipped smoothly into character as the Duke of Norfolk at St Thomas More parish's golden jubilee lunch in Campbell.

To prove his past connection with the parish's patron saint, the Archbishop reprised the role he played in a student production of Thomas Bolt's A Man for All Seasons, striking an aristocratic pose and condemning Thomas More to be executed for high treason. His moment as one of the saint's antagonists was only fleeting, however, and was received in good spirit as the Archbishop proceeded to inject the occasion with his own brand of warmth and jocularity.

## Fruits of labour

The Calvary Hospital auxiliary showed how hard work can pay off when it handed over \$100,000 to Calvary CEO Ray Dennis for a birthing suite in the maternity section.

The auxiliary, which could do with more help, raises much-needed funds for the hospital through raffles and activities such as the Trash and Treasure at Jamison (16 March and 31 August), the hospital Mother's Day stall (8 May) and, most importantly, its major fashion parade at the Southern Cross Club on 30 August.



The auxiliary's president Daphne Ashley is pictured (third from left) handing over the cheque to Mr Dennis (right) with the help of treasurer Tony Steer and secretary Pat Graham.

## Catholic skin

*As a Catholic in an increasingly secular, and often cynical world, you might need a thick skin. But apparently you might need extra sunscreen too, if this eight-year-old's question to her fair-skinned mum is anything to go by: "I don't burn because I have Daddy's Greek skin, Mum. Do you burn because you are a Catholic?"*



Each year, Lent offers each of us an opportunity to journey to the core of our faith, to encounter anew and strengthen our embrace of Jesus' life giving gift: a gift we are given to enjoy and to share. There is a part in this mission with each of our names on it.

For St Paul (1Cor2) the focus and message is Christ crucified. It was Jesus' gift to all and a model of mission for each of us to ponder and embrace. It is this message that Catholic Mission endeavours to support and foster within faith communities throughout the world and is the ongoing mission of Christ.

Through providing basic necessities, facilities, materials, means and training, Catholic Mission's supporters enable life and faith opportunities to exist, flourish and serve others in the wider communities, as too do their intercessions.

It is here that with forethought, prayer and a heart for mission, each of us may have an opportunity to give to this work or possibly include a bequest in our will. Alive faith communities are Christ active in our world.

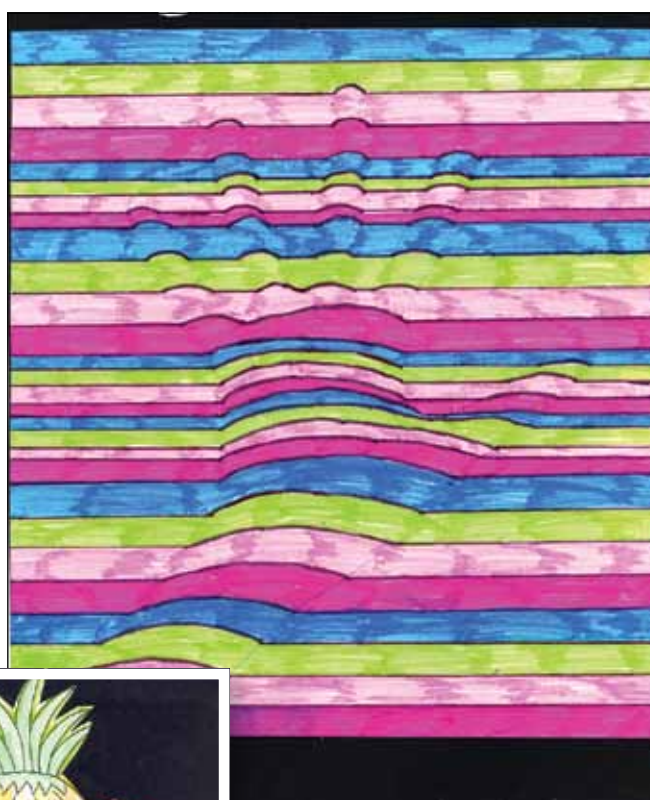
To help Catholic Mission in its work or find out how to include Catholic Mission amongst the charitable beneficiaries please contact us.

God bless,  
**Deacon Joe Blackwell**

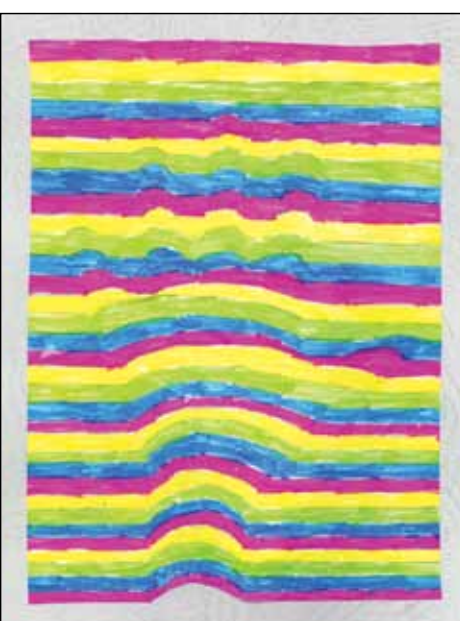
The Rheinberger Centre, P O Box 7174, Yarralumla 2600. [asst.missions@cg.catholic.org.au](mailto:asst.missions@cg.catholic.org.au). Tel: 6163 4321.

**CATHOLIC VOICE ... Share yours with a friend**





Pick me ... ABOVE: Teegan O'Reilly in kinder;  
BELOW: from left, Paris Alexander, Gabby Milgate, Jess Murray, Caitlyn Busfield and Sonja Milenkovic in year 6.



These artworks are by ...  
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP  
LEFT: Cameron Rutten (year 2), Emma Smith (year 6),  
Sophie Charnock (year 2) and  
Charlotte Birch (year 6).



After a long, hot summer holiday, it was time for the students of Holy Family to settle into their new classes for the year. And they all seemed to be doing it with smiles on their faces.



Ready for the new year ... CLOCKWISE  
FROM ABOVE: Jaime Cording (year 2);  
Edward Murphy and Lilly Kennedy (kinder);  
Taani James and Alyssa Fraser (year 6);  
Catherine Knox and Charney Brown (year 6);  
Jenna Ber and Kye Cochrane (year 2).  
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