

Milestone priests full of gratitude

BY MATTHEW BIDDLE

TWENTY-FIVE years after they were ordained together at St Christopher's Cathedral, Fr John Armstrong and Fr Tony Percy celebrated their Silver Jubilee of priesthood at the same venue on December 13.

While the occasion was somewhat overshadowed by the opening of the Holy Door for the Year of Mercy on the same day, the milestone gave both priests a chance to reflect upon their years of ministry.

Fr John, parish priest of Bateman's Bay and Moruya, said it had been a "privilege" to be called to the priesthood.

"It has been a great opportunity to share in God's life and be present to his people," he said.

"I went on a 30-day retreat about two years ago and one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5 Fr Tony Percy, Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr John Armstrong after concelebrating Mass together on December 13.

Longest serving priest goes to God

Fr Frank Keogh laid to rest after 69 years of faithful service to the Archdiocese and the universal Church...

THE longest-serving priest in the history of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, Fr Frank Keogh, was remembered fondly on December 11 by family, friends, parishioners and fellow clergy.

The 95-year-old passed away on December 6 in Harden, the place that had been his home for the majority of the last four decades. Bishop Pat Power, who deliv-

ered the homily for the Funeral Mass for the repose of Fr Frank's soul, described the cleric as a faithful shepherd who cared deeply for his flock.

"There was never a time in his

life as a priest that he was not close to the earth and close to his people, attuned to their lives with all their joys and struggles," he said.

"His ordination to the priesthood in his home parish of Taralga

on July 25, 1946 was arguably the

high point of his life. Yet from all

I observed, for almost 70 years,

Fr Frank Keogh never lost the

enthusiasm or ideals of a newly

ordained priest."

Born on August 7, 1920, Fr Frank attended Catholic schools in Taralga and Goulburn. He began his seminary studies at St Columba's College in Springwood at the age of 19, and completed them at

Fr Frank also served in several other ministries, including spending two years as the administrator of the Cathedral in Goulburn (1960-1962), during which time the famous 'Goulburn School Strike'

rolled in the government schools," Bishop Pat recalled.

"Yet Bishop Cullinane in his own account of events points out that it was a group of prominent Catholic laymen who were the brains behind it all. But coordinating it was the much respected administrator of the Cathedral, Fr Frank Keogh. He is depicted with great competence, convening and chairing delicate meetings and being the 'front man' for much of what was going on behind the scenes."

"There was never a time in his life as a priest that he was not close to the earth and close to his people..."

St Patrick's College in Manly.

After his ordination, he served in Bega, Goulburn, Delegate, Braidwood and Murrumburrah, where he was parish priest from 1972 to 2000.

took place.

"Bishop John Cullinane is generally credited with being the driving force behind the drastic action which saw the closure of the Catholic schools in Goulburn and the pupils lining up to be en-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

WINNER OF THE 2015 ACPA AWARD FOR BEST NEWSPAPER

PHOTO: MATTHEW BIDDLE

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S DIARY



February 2nd

7.30am 2016 Parliamentary Year Opening - Wesley Uniting Church, Forrest

February 3rd

10.30am Roundtable -Ecumenical Engagement in Theological Education - ACCC, Barton

February 5th

10am Recollection Day - Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush, NSW

February 7th I lam Feast Day Mass of Senor Sto Nino - St **Christopher's Cathedral**

February 9th

8.30am Launch of Project Compassion - Caritas Office, Braddon 7pm Ministry to the Newly Married opening year dinner

February 10th 12.15pm Ash Wednesday Mass - St Christopher's Cathedral

February 11th World Day of the Sick

February 13th

6pm Sesquicentenary Mass - St Bede's Church, Braidwood

February 14th llam Mass for the **Rite of the Elect - St Christopher's Cathedral**

February 18th 5.30pm Marist College

commencement Mass - Pearce February 24th

10am John Paul College opening Mass - Nicholls

February 25th 9am Council of Priests meeting

February 28th I I am St Thomas More Lawyers Mass - St **Christopher's Cathedral**



ARCHBISHOP'S MESSAGE ARCHBISHOP **CHRISTOPHER PROWSE**

DEAR people of God in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

One of the highlights in the Archdiocese for me, over the last year or so, was to have conducted three retreats: for the clergy, for the principals in our schools and for the laity.

I observed a common thread running through all three retreats: an almost insatiable thirst for prayer. This is surely a real sign of the Holy Spirit among us!

As Lent starts early (February 10) and the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy continues to gain momentum, we have an opportunity to deepen and give expression to this thirst for prayer.

Pope Francis offers us a way forward. He writes: "It is my burning desire that during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy... they will serve

St Agatha February 5

Although we have evidence that Agatha was venerated at least as far back as the sixth century, the only facts we have about her are that she was born in Sicily and died there a martyr. In the legend of her life, we are told that she belonged to a rich, important family. When



she was young, she dedicated her life to God and resisted any men who wanted to marry her. One of these men, Quintian, was of a high enough rank that he felt he could force her to acquiesce. Knowing she was a Christian in a time of persecution, he had her arrested and brought before the judge - himself. He expected her to succumb when faced with torture and possible death, but she simply affirmed her belief in God by praying: "Jesus Christ, Lord of all, you see my heart, you know my desires. Possess all that I am. I am your sheep: make me worthy to overcome the devil". Legend tells us that Quintian imprisoned her in a brothel in order to get her to change her mind. After she had suffered a month of assault and humiliation in the brothel, Agatha was moved to a prison, and when she continued to profess her faith in Jesus, Quintian had her tortured. She died after saying a final prayer: "Lord, my creator, you have always protected me from the cradle; you have taken me from the love of the world and given me patience to suffer. - CATHOLIC ONLINE Receive my soul."

FEAST DAY OF THE MONTH

The spiritual and corporal works of mercy

as the criterion upon which we will be judged," (Misericordiae Vultus, s. 15).

Mercy is an English word translated from the Latin 'misericordia'. There are several ways of translating this word more comprehensively. One expression, "the heart that shares another's misery", seems a good translation. Pope Francis points out that "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy," (Misericordiae Vultus, s.1).

The spiritual and corporal works of mercy are firstly God's acts of mercy towards us. In our offering these interior and exterior 'works' to others, God uses us to channel

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- 1. Counsel the doubtful 2. Instruct the ignorant
- 3. Admonish the sinner
- 4. Comfort the afflicted
- 5. Forgive offences
- 6. Bear wrongs patiently
- 7. Pray for the living and the dead.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- 1. Feed the hungry
- 2. Give drink to the thirsty 3. Clothe the naked
- 4. House the homeless
- 5. Visit the imprisoned
- 6. Visit the sick
- 7. Bury the dead.

In our offering these interior and exterior 'works' to others, God uses us to channel his mercy to others.

his mercy to others. That is, God expresses his 'loving kindness' to the world through us - especially to the poor and oppressed.

The number seven symbolises completeness. So there are seven spiritual works of mercy, as well as seven corporal works of mercy.

Let us draw up a complete list (although they are never meant to be exhaustive):

ing in preparation for the central Christian celebrations: the death and Resurrection of Jesus in the Easter (Paschal) mysteries. It is a season of conversion. This Lent, during a Year of Mercy, you may find it helpful to reflect on the above spiritual

Lent is a penitential season in

the life of the Church. It is a time

of prayer, fasting and almsgiv-

February

2 February The Presentation of the Lord 3 February St Blaise, St Ansgar 5 February St Agatha 6 February St Paul Miki and companions

8 February St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita

10 February ASH **WEDNEDSAY** 11 February Our Lady of Lourdes 17 February The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order 22 February The

Chair of St Peter the Apostle 23 February St Polycarp

and corporal works of mercy and respond in a deeper way to their urgency in your personal lives and communities. Supporting Project Compassion is surely one such expression. Also responding more fulsomely in your family, neighbourhood and parish/school communities is another possibility.

The '24 Hours for the Lord' (March 4-5), the 'Missionaries of Mercy' and the 'Jubilee Indulgences' are other initiatives of Pope Francis which we will hear more about shortly.

During this Lenten season, let us join in the Jubilee prayer of Pope Francis, especially when he prays to Jesus:

> "You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all, by forgiveness and mercy; let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified."

May the merciful Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones always, especially during Lent.

> Archbishop Christopher Prowse Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn



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Feast Days

LOCAL 3

Holy Doors opened as Year of Mercy commences

THE St Christopher's Cathedral Holy Door for the Extraordinary Year of Mercy was officially blessed and opened on December 13 in front of more than 800 people.

Located on the Franklin Street side of the cathedral, the Holy Door includes a depiction of the Good Shepherd carrying the lost sheep on his shoulders, while the theme of the Holy Year, 'Merciful like the Father' is displayed above the door.

During his homily for the Mass, Archbishop Christopher Prowse said the occasion was "a wonderful moment of grace".

"In opening the Doors of Mercy in all the cathedrals of the world, we invite Jesus Christ, the fullness of the Father's merciful love on us, to enter into our lives during this Jubilee Year," he said.

"I pray that those who come through the Mercy Door truly feel that they are coming through the heart of Jesus, who is mercy personified.

"I pray that anybody coming through this door might receive God's plenary indulgence of forgiveness, and is given strength through the sacraments, especially through the Sacrament of



Reconciliation, and the mother of all the sacraments, the Eucharist,

importance of conversion and repentance as being the best re-

"I pray that those who come through the Mercy Door truly feel that they are coming through the heart of Jesus, who is mercy personified."

to turn afresh towards Jesus." Reflecting on the Jubilee Year, the Archbishop stressed the

sponse to God's merciful initiative towards us. "All of us as a whole Church, Christopher said, would be the active practice of works of mercy. "Over this year, Pope Francis

and all of us as individuals are

to turn around 180 degrees from

darkness into the light of God's

little acts of conversion. These

conversions move away from self-

ishness and move towards selflessness. It's a turning away from sin

The practical dimension of

Archbishop

and turning towards grace."

such conversion,

"Every day we're called to make

forgiving mercy," he said.

calls us to visit again the Catholic tradition as it expresses itself in the spiritual works of mercy and corporal works of mercy," he said.

Holy Doors were opened at St Christopher's Cathedral and Our Lady of Good Counsel

Church in Cobargo for the Year of Mercy. PHOTOS: JOSHUA SCOTT; PAUL RUMMERY

"We particularly make our outreach to those on the periphery and the margins of society. Also, the margins of our own family and the margins of our neighbourhoods."

The Holy Door will be lit at night during the Year of Mercy, which ends on November 20.

A Holy Door was also opened on December 8 in the Archdiocese's Coastal Deanery, at the church of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Cobargo.

The celebration was led by Fr James Antony CMI, Dean of the Coastal Deanery, with assistance from clergy from each of the coastal parishes.

Syro-Malabar youth excited for 2016

THE first official Syro-Malabar youth group in Australia is planning big things for 2016.

Syro-Malabar Youth Movement (SMYM) was formed in July last year, and while its first few months were largely spent on administrative tasks and planning, the group is about to launch a number of programs and initiatives for youth. One of the group's leaders, 18-year-old Franklin Wilson, told *Catholic Voice* the SMYM already have about 10 events planned for the year ahead.

"One of our main priorities is mission, so we will have a blood donation camp in March, and we're thinking of going out and helping the Sisters of Charity later this year," he said.

"Another one of our focuses was to pass down our culture and the Malayalam language, so we will be holding weekly Malayalam classes for children."

The classes kicked off with a week-long introduction beginning on January 25, with almost 50 children taking part.

Fr Varghese Vavolil, parish priest of the St Alphonsa Syro-Malabar Parish of Canberra and coordinator of the Australian Syro-Malabar Eparchy youth



Leaders of the Syro-Malabar Youth Movement began hosting Malayalam classes for children in the local Syro-Malabar community in January. The newly-formed youth group has planned a number of events for 2016. PHOTO: MATTHEW BIDDLE

movements, said the SMYM places a strong importance on active means of expressing one's faith.

"Our highest priority is the social commitment, service through the Church for the wider community for others, Catholics, non-Catholics, the poor and the marginalised," he said. "The presence of this youth group will benefit the Syro-Malabar community and the whole Catholic Archdiocese."

For Franklin, involvement in the SMYM was an attractive option from the moment the prospect was first discussed within the parish.

"It was a pretty captivating idea because we would be able to do

something other than just coming to Mass," he said.

"We could give our input to the community, help others and help the wider community as well.

"Within two or three years we will have a strong foundation, and hopefully about 30 or 40 people, and who knows what we can do." National Day Prayer and Fasting Sunday 7 February 2016



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4 LOCAL

Seminarians continue the journey

By Matthew Biddle

FOUR seminarians for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn will return to the Seminary of the Good Shepherd in Homebush, NSW for the beginning of another year of studies.

Joshua Scott and Namora Anderson will commence their seventh year in the seminary, while Alex Osborne will begin his sixth year.

The trio will be joined by Eden Langlands, who will be the Archdiocese's first new seminarian since 2011.

The 21-year-old was introduced briefly to parishioners of St Christopher's Cathedral on December 20, when fellow seminarian Namora Anderson was admitted to candidacy by Archbishop Christopher Prowse.

Namora told *Catholic Voice* he was excited to be able to make his intentions to become a priest public.

"Being accepted by the Archbishop affirms me in my path to become a priest," he said. "It is a big step. It is a foreshadowing of ordination so it is a preparation of sorts for the promises that are made at diaconate ordination.

"It was so inspiring for me to see the smiles in the congregation that make me more encouraged to keep strong and invigorated me with a greater sense of peaceful joy."

Prior to Christmas, Namora completed a pastoral placement



Above, seminarians Joshua Scott, Namora Anderson and Eden Langlands with Archbishop Christopher Prowse, who admitted Namora to candidacy for the priesthood on December 20, below. PHOTOS: MATTHEW BIDDLE

his placement at Corpus Christi Parish in South Tuggeranong, and said it was a wonderful experience.

"Being placed with three great priests who mentored me in the day-to-day living and ministry of parish life and having the opportunity to serve alongside a wonderful parish team was encouraging and affirming," he said.

"It was a great encouragement

"It was so inspiring for me to see the smiles in the congregation that make me more encouraged to keep strong and invigorated me with a greater sense of peaceful joy."

at Young Parish, before returning home to Queanbeyan for the remainder of the seminary holidays. "It was great to be inspired by the enthusiasm of a young priest (Fr Paul Nulley) who works hard for the care of souls," Namora said.

"Fr Tom Thornton was a great mentor. He is a man of great understanding of what the priest is and does, which comes out of a deep prayerfulness and an attuned ear listening to people."

Joshua Scott, who was admitted to candidacy last June, completed to be in such a vibrant, welcoming parish, and in such an environment I learnt a lot."

One of Joshua's main tasks in the past year was to redevelop the seminary's website (www.sgs.org. au), a project that took about nine months to complete.

"It's fresh, it's colourful, it reflects things new and old, but it also shows the reality of seminary life," he explained.

"It shows who we are and it demystifies the seminary, that's probably the biggest thing this new website does." Fellow seminarian Alex Osborne says he's looking forward to returning to the seminary for what

will be his sixth year of studies. During December, Alex took part in a pastoral placement in Bateman's Bay and Moruya with Fr John Armstrong and Fr Dominic Byrne. "I was in charge of running the second rite of Reconciliation at both churches, which was my first time organising a major liturgical event," he said.

"I was a bit worried but after some practice everything turned out well."

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Gerard Heffernan

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God, Mary, from the

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to be the Ark of the

God and man. She

mercy in her heart in

perfect harmony with

The red and white

beads represent the rays of light of the

her Son Jesus.

Divine Mercy.

between

divine

Catholic

Covenant

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Flores Island.

Every confessor must accept the faithful as the father in

the parable of the prodigal son. Confessors are called to

embrace the repentant son who comes home and to express

the joy of having him back again.

Aranda's multicultural celebration



A diverse group of nationalities were represented at a special multicultural gathering at St Vincent de Paul Parish in Aranda recently. The parish, which is home to large Korean and Samoan communities in particular comes together twice a year to celebrate the richness and talents of the various migrant and ethnic groups within the parish. Top left, the parish's Korean choir sing during the special Mass. Bottom left, parishioners share PHOTOS: SUPPLIED various foods unique to their cultures. Above right, Kuka, Matthew and Teresa enjoying the day.

Priests celebrate Silver Jubilees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the things that sticks in my memory from that is the idea that priesthood is walking with Jesus, not working for him. "The theme of pilgrimage has been very important to me, as has the idea of journeying with others."

Being involved in spiritual direction has been one of the highlights of his ministry, Fr John said.

"Particularly in the Called and Gifted program that I've been involved in, it's certainly helped me and I think it's helped others to discern more clearly where God's calling them," he said.

"Obviously the various parishes I've been in have been a real blessing, and also the opportunity to continue my studies as well."

For Fr Tony, the Archdiocesan Vicar-General, the Silver Jubilee evoked feelings of deep gratitude for the call to priesthood, the people who have aided him along the way, and the opportunities given to him.

"You meet some really fabulous people who help you develop and grow as a person and also deepen your calling," he told Catholic Voice.

One of most enlightening moments of Fr Tony's priesthood thus far occurred soon after his ordination, when he was in the parish of Young, in country New South Wales.

"They had a lot of nursing homes and hospitals there, and there were a lot of funerals, so I began to realise that people really do suffer a lot in life and that for many, it's not always normal to be healthy. That was very interesting," he said.

The former seminary rector said his only hope for the future of his priestly ministry is to "just do whatever is asked of me".

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6 LOCAL

Ethan the ACT's best in 2015

ETHAN Beaumont says he was surprised when he received the news that he had achieved the highest Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) in the ACT for 2015.

"I wasn't expecting it," he told The Canberra Times. "My estimate was 90 to 100, and there is a lot of leeway in there.

"But it's a great reward for the past two years, with lots of late nights, lots of hard work. It has paid off and looking back, I wouldn't change a thing."

Ethan plans to study aeronautical engineering at the Australian **Defence Force** Academy.

The Marist College graduate scored an incredible 99.95 - the highest rank possible.

College headmaster Richard Sidorko said Ethan was a great example of the Marist values in all aspects of school life.

"As well as gaining outstanding academic results, Ethan is a good-natured and positive young



Marist College graduate Ethan Beaumont scored an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of 99.95 last year, the highest ranking in the ACT. Seven other Marist students also achieved an ATAR above 99. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

man who has continually contributed to college life through his service contributions, and in playing for the First XI hockey team," Mr Sidorko said. "Ethan's performance is indicative of the strong academic results achieved by Marist students this year."

Seven other Year 12 students at Marist also achieved an ATAR above 99, while a total of 36 students scored above 90.

Ethan, who nominates the sciences as his favourite subjects, plans to study aeronautical engineering at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) this year.

Australia Day

LOCAL NEWS

honours for rural Catholic pair

TWO Catholics from the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn have been recognised for their dedication to their local communities, receiving awards as part of the Australia Day Honours List.

Judith Williams and Brian McCormack were among the recipients of the Medal of the Order of Australia.

Ms Williams, who was the 2015 Citizen of the Year, was recognised for service to local government and to the community of Yass.

Mr McCormack, a local councillor, was similarly awarded the honour for his service to the local community in the Upper Lachlan Shire.

Governor-General and Chancellor of the Order of Australia Sir Peter Cosgrove said the actions of all the recipients have greatly enriched the nation.

"They are a source of courage, support and inspiration, and we are a stronger, safer and more caring nation because of them," he said.







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Fr Bill ready to swap the bush for the city



Fr Bill Goldman will leave St Clement's this month.

PHOTO: JOHN MCLAURIN

BY JOHN MCLAURIN

CHANGE is in the air out at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre in Galong.

After three years in charge, Fr Bill Goldman is being transferred to the Redemptorists' Brighton publishing house in Melbourne's south-east, effective from February.

There he will take up a position of protocol officer for the Redemptorist Fathers and Brothers in Australia, meaning that he will leave the bush retreat for the city lights.

Originally from Armidale in

country New South Wales, Fr Bill said he would miss the serenity Galong offers, but that he would remain connected to the famous retreat centre.

"I have loved being at Galong and enjoying a piece of the bush, so I will find the move challenging," he said recently.

"I am not altogether severing my connections with St Clement's, as I will still be on the board and remain involved with the farming side of things."

Fr John Airey from Auckland will arrive in February to replace Fr Bill as rector, and he will be assisted by Fr Pat O'Neill.

Archdiocese's Kerala connection grows

TWO priests from Kerala, the Catholic heart of India, have arrived in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn after being transferred from their own dioceses.

Fr Johny Abraham OHS and Fr Jiss Kunnumpurath MS arrived late last year, taking the total number of priests to join the Archdiocese in 2015 to nine.

A priest of the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette (MS), Fr Jiss was sent to Australia as a replacement for Fr Joseph Punnakunnel MS, who recently returned to India.

He has already commenced his role as assistant priest in the parishes of Gundagai, Jugiong and Tumut, where he resides with parish priest Fr Sijo Jose MS.

The 30-year-old said he greatly enjoyed celebrating Christmas in Australia, a country he had never visited previously.

"I had a lovely Christmas in Australia and I celebrated Mass at Gundagai and Jugiong... it was a wonderful experience," he said.

"I am very happy to be here and I am happy to serve with full commitment to the Archdiocese." Fr Jiss said one of the main differences he's observed already

between the Australian Church and



Fr Jiss Kunnumpurath MS says he's enjoying his role as assistant priest at Gundagai, Jugiong and Tumut. PHOTO: MATTHEW BIDDLE

the Indian Church is the number of Mass-goers.

"In India, churches are crowded," he said. "In Australia, we don't find as many people, but there is a deep faith... they are very authentic and committed, and they show a lot of hospitality to their priests here." A cricket and basketball enthu-

a Ferrari 458

Italia driving

2 nights of relaxation in

picturesque

Lake como

experience

siast, Fr Jiss entered the seminary

after completing high school, motivated by a strong devotion to Our Lady.

"In Year 8 I happened to attend a retreat where a priest spoke a lot about the Rosary, so I started reciting the Rosary," he explained.

"Later, my hometown priest invited me to join the Order, and I decided I would."

After his ordination in 2012, Fr Jiss spent a year serving in a parish and another year living in community with other members of the Order.

Fr Johny, who has been assisting at Gungahlin parish temporarily, was ordained to the priesthood as a member of the Society of Oblates of the Sacred Heart in 1993.

For 21 years he served in a number of different roles and locations, including as youth director of the Kottayam Diocese and as spiritual leader of the seminary.

In October 2014 the 48-yearold visited his four siblings, who have lived in Canberra for almost a decade, and it was during this visit that he felt called to minister in this Archdiocese.

"I went to see Archbishop Christopher, we had a friendly talk and I said I would like to work here because my siblings are here, and he accepted me," Fr Johny explained. "My bishop has allowed me to stay here for up to 10 years."

It is expected that Fr Johny will receive a permanent appointment in the near future.

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ACU leader receives Papal Knighthood |¹

AUSTRALIAN Catholic University (ACU) Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven has been appointed to the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St Gregory the Great.

In an investiture ceremony in Sydney on December 6, Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP installed Professor Craven in the ancient Order of Knighthood of the Holy See, in recognition of his services to the Catholic Church in Australia. Only six other Australians have received this honour.

"Greg Craven is an immensely gifted man, a man of faith, a loyal son of Christ..."

In his speech, Archbishop Fisher spoke of the many years of dedicated and faithful service that Professor Craven has given, not only to the advancement of Catholic higher education in Australia, but also to the many and varied ways that he has lent his wisdom and intellect to the Church more generally through service on numerous advisory boards and committees, including the National Catholic Education Commission and the Truth, Justice and Healing Council.

Archbishop Fisher said Professor Craven encapsulated the true spirit of the Second Vatican Council and its call for greater lay collaboration in the mission of the Church.

"Greg Craven is an immensely gifted man, a man of faith, a loyal son of Christ; a distinguished exemplar of Vatican II's teaching about the role of Catholic laity in the world," Archbishop Fisher said.

Receiving the award was both a great honour and a humbling experience, Professor Craven said.

"The thing that pleases me most is that the award really marks not anything I personally have done but the emergence of ACU in its 25th year as one of the leading Catholic universities in the world," he said.

Pope Gregory XVI established the Order of St Gregory the Great in 1831. It is bestowed upon Catholic men and women in recognition of their personal service to the Holy See and to the Catholic Church through their work, their support of the Holy See, and their exemplary faith in action in their communities.



ACU Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven has been appointed to the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St Gregory the Great. PHOTO:SUPPLIED

Biennial conference set to be grace-filled

SISTERHOOD will celebrate 10 years of ministry in Australia this year with its biennial national Catholic women's conference to be held this month, titled 'Everything is Grace'.

Sisterhood is a movement that seeks to support women in their faith journey through small groups that meet fortnightly throughout the year across Australia, as well as local social events and the biennial national conference.

The vision of Sisterhood is to see women return to their local parish, workplace and families renewed in their understanding of the vocation of womanhood and a deeper mission for evangelisation. The conference is a weekend of fellowship, authentic Catholic formation, the Sacraments and Adoration. There are also several keynote inputs from some of Australia's top Catholic speakers.

This year's conference will be held at the Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops, NSW, from February 26-28. Speakers will include Sr Mary Rachel OP, Tim and



Above and below, participants at the last Sisterhood national conference in 2014. This year's conference will be held from February 26-28 in Sydney, and will mark 10 years of ministry in Australia for the Catholic women's movement. PHOTO: KATARINA DOYLE

Lara Kirk, Karen Doyle, Therese Nichols, Philipa Caulfield and Fr Ken Barker MGL.

This year's conference will also see Sisterhood welcome their first international speaker, Lindsey Dennis from Florida, USA, to share her inspiring story of how she discovered true hope in the midst of great loss. Having lost two daughters 14 months apart she invites women into the wonders of how God works in our lives in seasons of loss and reveals himself in ways we never dreamed possible.

For more information about the conference and to register, visit www.sisterhood.org.au.



Lenten penance explained

THE Church's Canon law reaffirms the obligation to do penance – to interrupt the usual comforts of life, to rediscover in prayer the saving love of God, and to practice charity and justice towards those in need.

During Lent and on the Fridays of the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choices. We should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

DAYS OF PENANCE

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.

2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

(a) prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.

(b) self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.

(c) helping others – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday (February 10) to the Mass of the Lord's Supper (March 24) exclusive. On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, February 10, and Trinity Sunday, May 22, 2016 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

*This is an edited version of a statement provided by Catholic Communications, Archdiocese of Sydney.

Concentration camp priest declared a martyr

FATHER Engelmar Unzeitig, a young priest with Czech roots serving in Germany and Austria, was arrested by the Nazis on April 21, 1941.

His crime? Preaching against the Third Reich from his pulpit, particularly against their treatment of the Jewish people. He encouraged his congregation to be faithful to God and to resist the lies of the Nazi regime.

As punishment, Fr Unzeitig was sent to what has been called the "largest monastery in the world", Dachau concentration camp, which became renowned for the number of ministers and priests within its walls.

The camp housed some 2,700

clergy, roughly 95 per cent of whom were Catholic priests from Poland, making it one of the largest residences for priests in the history of the Church - hence the name.

Fr Unzeitig was just 30 years old, and two years ordained, when he was sent to Dachau. Born in Greifendorf, in what is now the Czech Republic, in 1911, Fr Unzeitig joined the seminary at the age of 18 and became a priest for the Mariannhill Mission Society, whose motto is: 'If no one else will go: I will go!'

For several years, Fr Unzeitig was able to remain in relatively stable health despite the poor treatment he received. However,



Fr Engelmar Unzeitig. PHOTO: CNA

when a wave of the often-fatal typhoid fever swept through the camp in 1945, he and 19 other priests volunteered to do what no one else wanted to - care for the sick and dying in the typhoid barracks, an almost-certain death sentence in and of itself. He and his companions spent their days bathing and caring for the sick, praying with them and offering last rites.

Despite his bleak circumstances, Fr Unzeitig found his hope and joy in his faith, as evidenced in letters to his sister from the camp:

"Whatever we do, whatever we want, is surely simply the grace that carries us and guides us. God's almighty grace helps us overcome obstacles... love doubles our strength, makes us inventive, makes us feel content and inwardly free. If people would only realise

what God has in store for those who love him," he wrote.

On March 2, 1945, Fr Unzeitig succumbed to typhoid fever, along with all but two of the other priest volunteers. Dachau was liberated by American soldiers just a few weeks later, on April 29.

In recognition of his heroic virtue, Fr Engelmar Unzeitig was declared venerable by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on July 3, 2009.

On January 21, Pope Francis officially acknowledged Fr Unzeitig as a martyr, killed in hatred of the faith, which opens the path for his beatification, the next step in becoming a canonised saint.

- CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

American pro-lifers out in force

MORE than 15,000 people took part in the annual 'OneLifeLA' walk in Los Angeles on January 23, marking the 43rd anniversary of Roe vs Wade, the Supreme Court decision that mandated legal abortion across the USA.

After the event, Archbishop of Los Angeles Jose Gomez celebrated a requiem Mass for the unborn at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

"There is a darker, quieter beauty to our liturgy tonight, as tonight we mourn the lives that will never be, because of abortion," he said in his homily. "We need to restore the sense of mercy in our own lives and in our society. Mercy for those who make mistakes. Mercy for those who are inconvenient and unexpected. Mercy for those who impose a burden on our way of life."

The event followed the January 22 'March for Life' in Washington DC, attended by tens of thousands. - CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY



Pro-life groups gather for the 'March for Life' in Washington DC on the 43rd anniversary of Roe vs Wade, January 22, 2016.

PHOTO: JEFFREY BRUNO/CNA

Pope's post-synod document to be released in March

POPE Francis' apostolic exhortation on family life following last year's Synod will be published in March, according to Archbishop Archbishop Paglia said. Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family.

In an interview with the Portuguese Catholic agency Ecclesia, Archbishop Paglia said the document will "show that the Church is close to families in all stages of their lives".

"I am convinced that the apostolic exhortation will be a hymn to love, to a love that will care for the well-being of children, that is open to wounded families

who need strength, that wants to be close to the elderly, a love that the whole of humanity needs,"

The document will be the conclusion of a multi-year synod process. In 2014 the Vatican hosted an Extraordinary Synod which was in preparation for the October 2015 Ordinary Synod. An estimated 190 bishops from around the world participated in each gathering.

The 2015 Synod, which the Pope's exhortation is expected to focus on, was themed 'The vocation and mission of the family in the Church and the modern world'.

The Synods were surrounded by controversy, with hot-button topics of ministry to homosexuals and the divorced-and-remarried dominating media coverage.

Discussion in the Synod hall also touched on such issues as marriage preparation, pornography, and domestic violence and abuse.

The apostolic exhortation is expected to be based on the final report from the Synod, which was released on October 24. That report reflected collegiality among the bishops, though two of the 94 paragraphs were included by only a slim margin.

- CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY



The First General Congregation of the Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Vatican City with Pope Francis on October 5, 2015. PHOTO: L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO



Above, Daniela and Ivan Matic with their son Tommy during the Archdiocesan Assembly in March last year.

PHOTO: LOUI SESELJA



Above, former Archdiocesan director of pastoral support Shawn van der Linden addressing the large crowd who attended the 'Embrace' PHOTOS: LOUI SESELJA Assembly, held at St Clare's College in Canberra. Below, Archbishop Christopher Prowse with participants.



Regional Assemblies to focus on

MERCY **IN MARRIAGE** AND FAMILY LIFE

Archbishop Christopher Prowse has written the following pastoral message to Catholics in the Archdiocese...

O MY dear people of God in the Archdiocese. You may recall last

year in March so many of us gathered for our Archdiocesan Assembly in Canberra. Over 700 participants, and many more via live stream, listened to the 'Embrace' speakers with respect and joy. The day centred on marriage and family life. It was a wonderful gathering of the Archdiocesan family. Hopefully, we all returned to our communities with a deepened sense of Gospel energy in this area that concerns us all.

This topic of marriage and family life continues to focus our attention. The recent two world Synods in Rome were on this topic. Continued national discussion on changing the Marriage Act of 1961 causes so many of us great concern.

Virtually every family we meet speaks of great challenges in their family life in our increasingly stressful world. Deeper issues concern the basic fundamental human rights for the freedom of speech and religion.

One of the main suggestions arising from our 2015 Archdiocesan Assembly was the need to discuss these matters further. The idea was to give testimony to the importance of marriage and family life in the Archdiocese and to discuss in the various regions arising chalences We want to encourage each family further and draw us all closer to our essential Catholic anchorage in Jesus, the source of all love and mercy.

This need is further deepened due to the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy that we have now begun with the entire Catholic Church. We cannot envisage marriage and family life without the 'soul' of mercy and loving kindness animating all we do on the practical level.

Listening carefully to all that

has taken place since March 2015 and discussing the matter with my priests, I have decided that Regional Deanery Assemblies will take place on this topic in 2016.

The foundations for conducting these Deanery Assemblies would include the following:

• The topic for the Assemblies will be 'Mercy in Marriage and

• Listening carefully to the local testimonies of marriage and family life;

• Discussing practical strategies to assist the strengthening of family life in our local deaneries;

• Offering practical suggestions to the Archdiocese in supporting families today.

Specific dates for these gather-



Assembly. The matters discussed at the Assembly will continue to be explored in the Archdiocese, particularly in this year's Regional Deanery Assemblies. PHOTO: LOUI SESELJA

Family Life';

• The invitation will be for people to gather in their Deaneries for a period of listening; • Encouraging each other in the

area of mercifully supporting marriage and family life.

Emphasis will be given to: • Revisiting the major insights of our March 2015 Archdiocesan Assembly;

ings in your Deaneries during 2016 have already been secured. These dates are:

Monaro Deanery: April 16 Northern Deanery: April 30 Coastal Deanery: June 3-4 Central Deanery: August 12-13 Western Deanery: October 14-15

The services of our Archdiocesan Office of Evangelisation will be available for your assistance and

FEATURE 11



struct a day of reflection that suits the particular needs of your local area. I hope to attend personally each gathering. With you, I wish to listen carefully and accompany you as

advice. My hope, however, is that

the Deaneries themselves will con-

the joys and challenges of marriage and family life are shared on a local level. I want to see how the entire Archdiocese can support families in the years ahead. It is a pastoral exercise in co-responsibility.

Let us consecrate these gatherings even now to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. May the love and mercy of the Holy Family of Nazareth lead us forward!

May I conclude by offering you all this simple prayer for families as we begin this new pastoral initiative. Be assured of my encouragement and prayers for you.

We thank you for the gift of marriage and

We ask your blessing on all families today

Be with us in our daily life together.

Be our guide in times of challenge.

Be our joy in times of delight.

as you have loved us.

in our home.

Be our strength in times of difficulty

Be our mercy and forgiveness always.

Help our families to grow stronger in your

love and show us how to love one another

May we welcome Jesus as the unseen guest

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Loving and merciful God,

family life.

and always.

May we be his voice and hands, Respecting and caring for those we meet. May we look to the example of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, As we strive to be the best family that we can be. Most Holy Family of Nazareth, pray for us. Amen.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn



Below, members of Couples for Christ during the March 21 Archdiocesan Assembly, which focused on the topic 'Embrace: The Joy of the PHOTO: LOUI SESELIA Gospel in Marriage and Family Life'.





Above left, a young Frank Keogh (right) with his younger brother Bernie. Above right, Fr Frank after celebrating Mass with Fr Pat Kenna at the St Lawrence's Apartments aged care facility in Harden. PHC

PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

A champion of the country

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Yet Bishop Cullinane in his own account of events points out that it was a group of prominent Catholic laymen who were the brains behind it all. But coordinating it was the much respected administrator of the Cathedral, Fr Frank Keogh. He is depicted with great competence, convening and chairing delicate meetings and being the 'front man' for much of what was going on behind the scenes."

Despite his important role in the strike, it was Fr Frank's ministry in rural parishes that he gained the most fulfillment from. And his parishioners responded with great fondness for their priest, Bishop Pat said.

"I have not known any other priest to have gained such universal love of parishioners and affection of his brother priests," he said.

"Fr Frank had a great capacity to find unity in diversity and he enjoyed the respect of people of a great range of views. I am sure that much of that was attributable to his genuine holiness and depth of human goodness."

During the eulogy for Fr Frank, his nieces Julie Young and Estelle Muller and nephew Martin Connor recalled happy memories of their uncle's visits each year at Christmas and Easter.

Ms Young said Fr Frank would arrive with a variety of food, as well as clothing that he needed his sister Mary to mend, and of course his Missals and prayer books for saying the Divine Office and Mass.

"These daily Masses were a real feature of our holidays, and while we were not always super keen to go along, we will certainly always remember the sound of his deep voice echoing around the vast marble altar of the Taralga church," she said.

Fr Frank would play tennis with his nieces and nephews, and loved playing the card game Euchre with the whole family.

"Perhaps as we went to bed he might spend time on his hobby, repairing wristwatches, tinkering over their small cogs with special tools," Ms Young said. "But every night he would say his Office, which seemed a little mysterious to us as young children; it reminded us of his special commitment to God."

Mr Connor spoke about Fr Frank's generous spirit, and said he was always happy to give his time freely to his grand nephews. "Before the passing of Bernie (Fr Frank's brother), it was not uncommon for them to have phone conversations as late as 11pm or midnight, and this would also involve saying the Rosary over the phone together," he said.

"Uncle Frank was kind, compassionate and generous to the poor.

"It was common for Uncle Frank to have people in need knocking on his presbytery door. He would give them the money from his own pocket."

Ms Muller said Fr Frank "loved the people of Harden-Murrumburrah and the area became his true home".

"He especially loved the way the local school children would involve him in their activities, and how they made an effort to remember his birthday," she said. "He was proud of his vocation to the priesthood, as were his parents and siblings, and all his nieces and nephews have always had a sense of pride in having such a wonderful priest in the family.

"From his own gentle, courteous nature and a lifetime devoted to Christ, he demonstrated the way of life that Jesus taught."

Ms Muller thanked the Redemptorists at Galong who welcomed Fr Frank for lunch every Sunday for many years, as well as the priests and laity who had supported Fr Frank in recent years as his health declined.

Following the Funeral Mass, Fr Frank was buried at Taralga Stonequarry Cemetery, alongside his parents James and Florence and his siblings Patrick, Bernard and Mary.

Sr Mary a woman of great faith and devotion



Sr Mary Hereward passed away on January 20, aged 91. She had been a Josephite Sister for almost 70 years. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

SISTER Mary Hereward was born on March 20, 1924 in Boorowa NSW, to John - a grazier, and Mary (nee Dwyer) who cared for home and children. Baptised Mary Josephine, she had a brother, Basil, who pre-deceased her. Mary's closest living relative is her cousin Veronica Henderson, who lives in Binalong and turns 100 in May.

Mary Hereward entered the Sisters of St Joseph on the July 16, 1946 and in religious life was given the name Sr Mary Jane Frances.

After primary teacher training, Mary taught in many schools across the Canberra and Goulburn and Wagga Dioceses, some of these with more than one appointment. Schools included Goulburn, Koorawatha, Ardlethan, Quandialla, Yoogali, Leeton, Temora, Yenda, Narrandera, O'Connor, Batlow, Coolamon, Holbrook, Barellan and Taralga. Sr Mary moved to Neutral Bay in 1991 before moving to Nazareth House, North Turramurra in 1998. She lived at Nazareth House until 2011, when she moved to Mary of the Cross Apartments in Goulburn. In 2013 Sr Mary's home became the Southern Cross Care Tenison Apartments, Goulburn.

Sr Mary Hereward is remembered as a woman of great faith and devotion. She was a woman of prayer, and constantly 'on mission' reaching out through prayer, support and relationships with those in need and those she met on life's journey. Totally devoted to St Mary MacKillop, Sr Mary loved her years of teaching; she loved little children, and loved the Australian bush. She continued active ministry in various forms for as long as her health would allow. Sr Mary was greatly loved by all who came to know her in her years of ministry.

In the past two years Sr Mary's health declined gradually, and she slipped home to God very peacefully in Tenison, on the morning of Wednesday, January 20, at 4.10am.

Sr Mary Hereward was prayerful and faithful. She gave her all to the God who gave her so much throughout her life. Sr Mary had deep affection for her family, relatives and cousins, and her Sisters in the Congregation. She held in high esteem and valued the many people who became her friends throughout her life's journey.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Sr Mary Hereward was held at Our Lady of Dolours Chapel, North Goulburn, on January 28, followed by interment at St Patrick's Cemetery, Kenmore.

FEATURE 13





Above, a member of the Ukrainian Catholic community venerates an image of Our Lady on Christmas Day. Right, Fr Laurie Foote OP PHOTOS: LOUI SESELIA celebrates Mass, commonly referred to as the Divine Liturgy by Ukrainian Catholics.

Ukrainian Catholics' January Christmas

THE Archdiocese's Ukrainian Catholic community gathered on January 7 at St Michael's Church in Queanbeyan to celebrate Christmas Day according to the Julian calendar.

About 80 people were present for the Mass, celebrated by Ukrainian chaplain Fr Laurie Foote OP. Ukrainian (Eastern) Catholics celebrate Mass, often called the Divine Liturgy, according to the Byzantine Rite; in contrast to Western Catholics who celebrate the Roman Rite of the Mass.

The liturgical seasons of the Byzantine Rite are determined according to the Julian calendar, which was followed by all churches in the early centuries. The Gregorian calendar was later adopted by most churches, however, the Ukrainian Church decided to retain the Julian calendar.

The Christmas Mass was the last liturgy celebrated by Fr Laurie as chaplain to the community, with the arrival of Fr Nikola Segedi on January 10.

Fr Laurie said after taking a short break away from Canberra, he will return in time for the start of the university year to resume his role as chaplain at the Australian National University (ANU).

He said he had enjoyed his time serving the Ukrainian community over the past two years and intends to visit regularly in the future.

"I will pop over for a cup of tea quite regularly. If there's a lunch happening make sure you invite me," he told the congregation at the conclusion of the Christmas Day Mass.

Unlike most priests serving the Ukrainian Church, the multilingual Dominican didn't grow up speaking the language.

"I started learning it when I was at the Dominican parish in Adelaide," he explained.

"Just by chance I got to know the Ukrainian priests and nuns, and I used to talk to them in Croatian, and they would talk back to me in Ukrainian. Slowly, I started to get the hang of Ukrainian.

"Then I got sent to Melbourne to be chaplain at Monash University... and there I started to study Ukrainian and slowly started to pick it up. My Ukrainian's not brilliant, but it gets by."

There are a number of differences between the Roman Rite of the Mass and the Byzantine Rite, although both are legitimate forms of the Catholic Mass.

The liturgy of the Byzantine Rite is based on singing and praising God, and the congregation stand for the majority of the Mass.

Pieces of bread cut into little cuboids and soaked in wine become the Eucharist during the consecration.



Fr Laurie Foote OP proclaims the Gospel during Christmas Day Mass (January 7) at St Michael's Church in Queanbeyan. It was Fr PHOTO: LOUI SESELIA Laurie's last Mass as chaplain to the Ukrainian community in Canberra and Queanbeyan.



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Chivalry and character hit for six

Chris Gayle's behaviour highlights the urgent need to readopt a cultural revolution of good character...



BELOW THE SURFACE BY BRIANNA THOMAS

IN case you missed it (which just means you're not Facebook obsessed), West Indian cricketer Chris Gayle managed to set Australia ablaze in debate last month. Playing in Australia's 'Big Bash League', the 36-year-old joined Channel 10 reporter Mel McLaughlin for an interview, immediately after hitting a quickfire 41 runs from 15 balls (I had to ask what that meant). He was confident and overly friendly, flirting with the journo on live TV, mid-interview. She deflected Gayle's advances well, but clearly looked uncomfortable, to which he responded with: "Don't blush baby".

The public's reaction came like a furious tornado, with judgement emerging from not only every corner of the sporting world, but right across the nation. The polarised response was intriguing, stretching across a spectrum from 'intolerable and sexist' to 'get over it'. In my opinion, one side defends slightly better than the other.

In the whirlwind of fuss surrounding the incident, broadcaster



West Indian cricketer Chris Gayle hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons last month.

Piers Morgan backed Gayle, saying he was just being "a bit cheeky". Many (generally blokes) supported this notion, arguing that Gayle was allowed to flirt; that McLaughlin doesn't know how to take a compliment; or that it's quite common in sport and we all need to get over it. This type of thing does happen in sports and media, but Gayle's incident wins the prize for most intrusive and humiliating.

A large number stand on the ground that Gayle's actions were inappropriate and even sexist. Many who took this view were women fighting for women's rights,

but not all. Some close to the West Indian came out and dobbed on his character. His former captain and opening batting partner at Sydney Thunder, Chris Rogers, said Gayle was a terrible influence on young sportsmen: "This is a pattern of behaviour. If you know the guy, you see it over and over... and to defend it is not right at all". Others made similar comments, honing in on the fact that the cricket field just so happens to be McLaughlin's workplace. Feels like the 'let him do what he wants' argument is outweighed by the basic need for respect.

PHOTO: ONLINE

So what was the real problem here, and why did Australia kick up a storm about it?

Partly I think it's because we like to whinge and are overly opinionated, but I think it goes deeper than that. Something about this scenario really sparked controversy. I'd put my money on Gayle's poor choice of words, tone and timing being the fruit of a deeper, more widespread problem.

Abraham Lincoln once said: "Character is like a tree and reputation is like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing". What we know of Chris Gayle is just a snapshot into his character, much like Lincoln's shadow. Something gives the impression it's not a very healthy tree.

I used to roll my eyes at 'chivalry', because to me it meant the awkwardness of waiting for a door to be opened, or fighting someone to let me pay for my own ice cream. These are leftover fragments of what chivalry once was. In the Middle Ages when knights were real (I'm jealous of those times), chivalry was more like a code of conduct. The knights pledged to fight for the weak, show respect and honour to women, have courage and be willing to lay down their rights. It wasn't all about opening doors and external behaviours, but a deep character transformation. It was a cultural revolution of good character, one that we need to readopt - and not just the men. Could someone let Chris Gayle know?

As Christians (and good humans) this is vital for us. The Bible reminds us that "A good name will shine forever," (Proverbs 9:43). No one really named it, but the root cause of this incident was a complacent character revolving around selfishness and gratification. Penalising Gayle won't help with that! We need to stop and check ourselves - have we decayed a bit too? In amongst a cultural character disaster, be someone who takes up the code of conduct to display goodness and respect, and the other things you deem important. Fight against the norm and choose the knight over Chris Gayle.

Social justice and Christian leadership



JUSTICE MATTERS CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

HUMAN beings instinctively see leadership in terms of a master-servant relationship – leaders are the masters, the rest of us are servants. The Gospels present a different picture, in which leadership itself is a form of service and those who exercise it are gifted by God with the skills and talents needed.

At the Last Supper, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Peter initially refused to let Jesus do so, clearly regarding this gesture as profoundly at odds with Jesus' role as leader. Jesus rebuked him, saying that Peter could not be a disciple if he persisted in his refusal.

In Mark's Gospel (10:43-45), Jesus says that anyone who "wants to be great... must be the servant of the rest. Even the Son of Man came to serve and give his life to redeem many". Thus in major statements Popes have used the Latin title '*Servus Servorum Dei*' (Servant of the Servants of God) as a mark of their commitment to following this principle.

Clearly Jesus' attitude to leadership was based on service, not domination. In contrast, how often do we hear that anyone aspiring to leadership must have a strong ego and a powerful sense of personal ambition?

It is easy, of course, to say that service is the essence of leadership. It is another thing to be clear about its implications in specific situations. How, for example, do we deal with conflict between the legitimate but competing needs of different people? How do we accommodate the practical limits on what can be done? How can the concept of service be reconciled with the need to exercise authority? It is impossible to answer such questions definitively, but perhaps Catholic teaching on social justice offers some guidance.

One key element of such teaching is the principle of 'a preferential option for the poor'. In a nutshell, it says that the less powerful come first.

Let's consider how this applies in a political context. For example, does it mean giving first preference to vulnerable groups such as children (including the unborn) and people who are aged, have disabilities, are unemployed, have caring responsibilities, or are on low incomes?

The answer is clearly 'yes', but that leads to another question: what policies will best add to these groups' wellbeing? For example, directly redistributing resources to those with least is essential but how far can this be taken? Beyond some point (impossible to define precisely) it may erode incentives to work and save, possibly putting the economy at risk and reducing the community's longer-term capacity and willingness to support vulnerable people.

How then do Christian leaders in politics choose between various groups' needs? Do they, for instance, focus on aged or unemployed people? Should the interests of well-off retirees prevail over those of poorer people who rely mainly on a pension? Should the needs of older unemployed people have priority over those of youth? Such questions focus on the right issues, even though they are not easily answered.

Let's now look at authority. How is it possible for Christian leaders to exercise authority over people they are, by definition, serving? Here again, Catholic social teaching provides guidance through the 'subsidiarity' principle. It essentially says that decisions should be made as close to the local level as possible.

What questions does this raise for Christian leaders? Five come to mind. Do these leaders delegate authority where they can? Do they give a voice to lower levels in their organisations? Do they accept accountability when things go wrong? Do they share the credit when things work well? Do they conduct themselves modestly and acknowledge that their leadership abilities are not their own creation but free gifts from God?

If the answers to these questions are 'yes', leadership will be in the nature of an enabling role rather than a dominating one. It will liberate leaders to focus their own decisionmaking responsibility on those areas where it is genuinely needed, rather than to spread it thinly across issues that others are able to manage.

An insight into the life of Bishop Pat



BOOK REVIEW By Margaret Ryan

MANY people in Catholic circles, and way beyond, know of Bishop Pat Power, or 'Fr Pat'. His recentlylaunched book, *Joy and Hope: Pilgrim Priest and Bishop*, provides an opportunity for readers to become familiar with many of his ideas or to reflect anew on his perspective and leadership over 50 years.

Almost 60 short 'chapters' cover a broad scope: from letters to Popes and a President to reflections on personal travels; from support for the Rabbitohs to the recent Royal Commission. All provide interesting insights into Bishop Pat. Most are imbued with his passion for social justice.

The title of the book seems to be primarily drawn from the beginning of the final Vatican II document, *Gaudium et spes* (The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World), which suggests that all human beings are affected by the joys and sufferings of others. It also recalls the spirit of papal exhortations, including *Evangelii Gaudium* from Pope Francis.

He draws his hope and joy from Jesus Christ, whose attitudes, words and actions were totally loving. Bishop Pat's joys and hopes come from witnessing the promptings of the Holy Spirit active in people's lives, leading to words and actions of courage and compassion. Several times the author mentions learning of God's unconditional love from his mother.

Four years of Bishop Pat's theological formation occurred at the time of the Second Vatican Council, and it was very influential. He emerged with an understanding that the whole people of God have innate dignity, are called to both holiness and participation in the mission of the Church, and that the Holy Spirit will not be restrained or confined. He believes that process is vital (conversation and dialogue must precede action) and that we need to seek unity in our diversity.

Bishop Pat attributes his sense of justice to his father who made impressive contributions to the Queanbeyan community. Vatican II documents challenged Christians to "engage with the contemporary world", and this aspect of Bishop Pat's life is probably the best known.

Pilgrimage is an approach to life favoured by Bishop Pat, and its

choice as book title is appropriate. 'Pilgrim' most likely comes from the Latin *per agrum* (through the fields). It implies contact with the earth, getting in touch with 'the holy ground' that inspires and strengthens faith. Pilgrims are mobile, risk-takers, questioning seekers who rely on the goodness, experience and wisdom of others. They are willing to be transformed and renewed.

One of Bishop Pat's strengths is his decision to be a pilgrim, in touch with the everyday; to listen, reflect and discern. He is conscious that he has learned from those he has met.

Bishop Pat writes seriously, clearly and conversationally, sometimes sadly, though with occasional humorous quips. He draws naturally on both Church documentation and individual people who have affected his life and ministry.

Bishop Pat emerges as a courageous and humble general leading his troops from the front, as a consistent prophet reminding his countrymen and women of God's vision, and as a listening and compassionate pastor helping to include and heal. The book is offered as a 'retirement' gift to the local (and wider) Church.

Helpful guide to praying the Rosary

BOOK REVIEW

"AMONG all the devotions approved by the Church none has been so favoured by so many miracles as the devotion of the most Holy Rosary," (Pope Pius IX).

The Rosary is one of the principal forms of Catholic devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. While its main component, the Hail Mary, originates from the angel Gabriel's salutation to Our Lady, the Rosary in its complete form traces its history back to the 13th century.

During that time, the Albigensian heresy was rampant in Toulouse, France, and St Dominic sought the help of Our Lady. According to Tradition, she instructed the friar to preach the Rosary to the people of Toulouse. In the short, 26-page booklet, Meditating on the Holy Rosary, Fr Laurie Bent, a retired priest of the Archdiocese who resides at Goulburn, provides readers with simple, yet profound, thoughts on which to meditate while praying the Rosary.

Fr Laurie describes his reflections on each mystery as "the fruit of a lifetime of praying the



Rosary", and indeed his years of Scripture study and theological knowledge are evident throughout the short work.

The events depicted by each mystery are described with the help of Scripture and Tradition, and readers are provided with though-provoking questions to reflect and meditate upon.

Despite the deep theological mysteries of the Catholic faith the booklet explores, it is written in a way that would make it suitable for readers of all ages. It would be a helpful tool for school-aged children, and is brief enough to be incorporated into an individual's or a family's daily Rosary.

Funds raised by sales of the booklet go towards the restoration fund for Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral in Goulburn. It can be purchased for \$10 from the Goulburn parish office.

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16 OUR SCHOOL CAPTAINS FOR 2016



Above, Trinity Catholic College Captains Claudia Maddren and Lewis Walkom. Below, Daramalan College Captains Sarah Larkin and Brendan Ly.



Above, St Clare's College Captains, back row, from left to right, Sophie Edwards, Abigail Ryan and Felicity Back; front row, from left to right, Caitlyn Baljak, Kimara Pillay and Rachel Bernabe. Below, Merici College Captain Georgia Larsen (left) and Vice-Captain Danielle Bewick (right).





OUR SCHOOL CAPTAINS FOR 2016 17



Above, Hennessy Catholic College Captains Emme Williams and Beau Hobba. Right, St Mary MacKillop College Captains Matthew Dredge and Anastasia Sysengthong.





Above, Marist College Captain Toby Morwitch (middle), Service Captain Patrick Hartwell (left), and Vice-Captain Will Gosper (right). Above right, Lumen Christi College Captains Theo Dracopoulos and Erin Grimes. Below, St Edmund's College Captain Luke Gersekowski.





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Classifieds

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

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NOOSA - Well appointed twobedroom townhouse at Noosaville by the Noosa River and cafes. Heated pool/spa, tennis court, BBQ, linen and towels. For brochure, map and tariff list phone owners: (07) 3289 7178.

BROGO - Discover Brogo at The Homestead family-friendly cabins. Self-contained, 20km to Bega, halfhour to Sapphire Coast, 10 minutes to Brogo Dam, walk to Brogo River to fish, swim etc. Phone (02) 6492 7362; 0451 047 702, email info@

thehomesteadbrogo.com.au.

FOR SALE

BAGS of garden manure cow and sheep \$6 a bag, minimum order five bags, free delivery around the Canberra area phone Mark 0427 053 988 or email Kellie.potts@ bigpond.com.

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COUNSELLING - Things not going to plan? Sometimes we need to talk to someone who can help. Maybe it is time to contact a professional at Counselling Solutions ACT. Check out the website: counsellingact. com.

SINGING - If you can talk you can sing. Lessons make singing easier. Experienced teacher. Varied styles: classical, sacred, musicals and popular. Phone Rosemary (02) 6297 2974 or 0414 228 618.

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SELF-HELP GROUP

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PRAYERS

THANKS to St Jude and Our Blessed Mother for blessings granted. O Holy St Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles. Near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke you. Special patron in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depths of my heart and humbly beg you to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me now in my present and urgent need and grant my earnest petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, Hail Mary's and Gloria's.St Jude pray for us all who honour and invoke in your name. Amen.

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ACROSS

- _ Fideles" З
- 9 Evil king of Israel
- 10 Catholic actor Connery
- _ de Paul St 11
- 12 Bible book about the early Christians
- "Do thyself no ____ for we are 14 all here" (Acts 16:28)
- 16 Jewish month of Passover
- 17 Ishmael, to Jacob
- 18 Another name for Jacob 20 "... the ____ of life" (Gen 2:7) 22 Simon of
- 24 Chant, as a monk
- 26 "So the last will be ____" (Mt 20:16)
- 27 Second century pope "The disciples forgot to bring 30 bread, except for one ____ (Mk 8:14)
- "Angels we have heard on 32
- 34 Nationality of most popes
- 35 Abbr. for two OT books
- 36 God is the Supreme Being who ____ all things and keeps them in existence
- St Mary's Cathedral in this 37 New South Wales capital

DOWN

6

- David married his widow Cain travelled this direction
- from Eden (Gen 4:16)
- Pertaining to God 4 5
 - What the choir does Divine time
 - AKA Hadassah
- 7 8 The sign of Samson's dedica-

Parisian basilica 15 OT book

tion to God

13

Pope (II) who called for the 17 Crusades

First word in the name of

- College of Cardinals' task 19 regarding the pope
- 21 "... as we forgive those who
- 23 The Church Militant is here "He healed all who were _ 24
- (Mt 12:15)
- 25 Divine 26 St Therese of Lisieux is a
- patron saint of this country
- 28 Day on which Jesus rose "Feed my ____" (Jn 21:17) 29
- 31 Patron saint of Norway
- "Dies _ 33

SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT CATHOLIC VOICE

December's solutions:



February 2016



Written entries are invited for the March issue to: Catholic Voice, PO Box 7174, Yarralumla, ACT 2600, or email catholic.voice@cg.org.au by February 15. Entries which are accepted are free, courtesy of sponsorship by the Catholic Development Fund.

Archdiocesan Coming Events

PROJECT COMPASSION:

You are invited to Caritas Australia's 2016 Project Compassion Appeal, to be launched by Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous and continued support. Tuesday, February 9 (Shrove Tuesday), 8am to 9.30am at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Secretariat, 63 Currong Street, North Braddon, ACT. Please RSVP to Lulu Mitshabu on 0437 295 327 or lulum@caritas. org.au. We hope you are able to join us.

SERRA CLUB OF CANBER-

RA: Rosary and Mass, 6.10pm, Thursday, February 11, at Holy Trinity Church, Curtin, followed by dinner at Southern Cross Club, Woden. Inquiries: John Malycha, telephone (02) 6251 2912.

ST VALENTINE'S MASS:

The Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Kambah invites you to celebrate the love, romance and joy of Christian marriage with a St Valentine's celebration Mass on Saturday, February 13 at 6pm. Mass will include a renewal of marriage promises for married couples, and a special blessing for engaged couples. Everyone is welcome. Mass will be followed by an informal meal out together at a local club. Just turn up for the Mass, but please RSVP if you would like to join us for dinner to Elizabeth: (02) 6231 9219 or Trish: (02) 6231 8468 ah.

AMICUS: Saturday February 13, meet at 7pm for 7.30pm dinner in the bistro at the Southern Cross Club, Woden. Contact Patricia for more information on 0412 351 548.

ST. THOMAS MORE FORUM



ST THOMAS MORE FORUM: 'The death penalty in the world today, and the execution of St Thomas More', presented by Julian McMahon, Barrister, President of Reprieve Australia and Board Member of Jesuit Social Services. Date:Wednesday, February 24 at 7.30pm. Julian McMahon is a Melbourne barrister who has worked on death penalty cases for over 13 years, including recently for Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan. He is currently the President of Reprieve Australia, a single issue organisation opposed to the death penalty. Mr McMahon has been a barrister since 1998, working in the criminal law. He has been involved in a range of community activities over many years, and is on the boards of Jesuit Social Services and Reprieve. Mr McMahon has worked on capital cases in a number of countries and will discuss his own work and the issue more generally. He will also share his interest in the life and prison writings of Thomas More. RSVP by COB Monday, February 22 to Sharon Brewer on (02) 6163 4300 or email info@catholiclife.org.au.

LENTEN RETREAT: Year

of Mercy Lenten retreat with Fr Ken Barker MGL at St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah on Saturday February 20, from 10am-4pm. BYO lunch; tea and coffee available. Bring something to share for morning tea. Inquiries to Fr Bony Abraham MGL: office (02) 6296 7879 Tuesday-Thursday 9am-3pm. Gold coin donation appreciated.All welcome.

EVERYTHING IS GRACE:

Sisterhood national Catholic Women's conference, February 26-28 Stanwell Tops, NSW. With special guest speaker Lindsey Dennis from Florida, USA. Join women of all ages from around Australia for a weekend of inspiring talks, workshops, prayer and reflection and the Sacraments. Places limited. Register at www.sisterhood.org.au.

BARMEDMAN: St Joseph's Catholic Church turns 100 years. 10am Mass, Sunday March 13. Dinner Saturday March 12, Bowling Club 7pm. Former parishioners invited to attend. Contact Patricia Wells (02) 6976 2021, or mobile 0428 688 060.

MOTHERS PRAYERS

RETREAT: Mothers - both spiritual and natural - are invited to attend the Mothers Prayers Retreat from March 18-20, on the theme: "If you knew the gift of God," (John 4:10).The retreat begins with dinner at 6pm on 18 March and finishes by 4pm on Sunday afternoon (after 2pm Palm Sunday Mass). The retreat is at St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong. Bookings and payments can by made by contacting St Clement's on (02) 6380 5222 or by emailing info@stclement.com.au. General inquiries to Anne Hartwell (02) 6282 0874.

LISTENING TO THE HEARTBEAT OF THE WORLD: Celebrate 150 years

of the Sisters of St Joseph at St Joseph's Church, O'Connor, with Mass at 11.30am on March 19. Please join us in celebrating this wonderful occasion. Please bring a plate of light refreshments to share after Mass.

REGULAR EVENTS

HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR FRANCISCAN FRATER-NITY: Third Friday of the

MITY: Third Friday of the month, 7.30pm, St John Vianney's, Waramanga. Secular Franciscans try to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis. Inquiries:Tony 0407 072 139, Frank 0400 793 260, email sfo@fastmail.fm.

GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER

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

MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED: A mentoring

program for newly married couples, just married, or soon-tobe married. Contact Catharina and Graham or Debbie and Brian, phone (02) 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167, email: mnm@grapevine.com. au.

ADORATION OF THE

BLESSED SACRAMENT: St Benedict's, Narrabundah, Monday 8am-10pm, Tuesday 12pm-10pm, Wednesday and Thursday 1pm-10pm and Friday 7am-Saturday 8am.All welcome.

COMMUNITY OF THE RISEN LORD CANBERRA:

Join us for a weekly charismatic praise and worship with an anointed sharing of the word every Friday at 7.30pm in the St Brigid's Church parish hall, 2 Bancroft Street, Dickson. Contact Shan 0412 310 364 or Sean 0448 510 237.





EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF CERCY

How to gain a plenary indulgence

BELOW are excerpts from Pope Francis' letter to Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation, outlining the ways in which an indulgence can be granted to the faithful during the Jubilee Year.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Door:

"To experience and obtain the Indulgence, the faithful are called to make a brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door, open in every Cathedral or in the churches designated by the Diocesan Bishop, and in the four Papal Basilicas in Rome, as a sign of the deep desire for true conversion.

Likewise, I dispose that the Indulgence may be obtained in the Shrines in which the Door of Mercy is open and in the churches which traditionally are identified as Jubilee Churches. It is important that this moment be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy. It will be necessary to accompany these celebrations with the profession of faith and with prayer for me and for the intentions that I bear in my heart for the good of the Church and of the entire world."

For the sick, the elderly and the imprisoned:

"Additionally, I am thinking of those for whom, for various reasons, it will be impossible to enter the Holy Door, particularly the sick and people who are elderly and alone, often confined to the home. For them it will be of great help to live their sickness and suffering as an experience of closeness to the Lord who in the mystery of his Passion, death and Resurrection indicates the royal road which gives meaning to pain and loneliness. Living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial, receiving Communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through the various means of communication, will be for them the means of obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence.

My thoughts also turn to those incarcerated, whose freedom is limited. The Jubilee Year has always constituted an opportunity for great amnesty, which is intended to include the many people who, despite deserving punishment, have become conscious of the injustice they worked and sincerely wish to re-enter society and make their honest contribution to it. May they all be touched in a tangible way by the mercy of the Father who wants to be close to those who have the greatest need of his forgiveness. They may obtain

the Indulgence in the chapels of the prisons. May the gesture of directing their thought and prayer to the Father each time they cross the threshold of their cell signify for them their passage through the Holy Door, because the mercy of God is able to transform hearts, and is also able to transform bars into an experience of freedom."

Practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy:

"I have asked the Church in this Jubilee Year to rediscover the richness encompassed by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The experience of mercy, indeed, becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus himself taught us.

Each time that one of the faithful personally performs one or more of these actions, he or she shall surely obtain the Jubilee

4.30pm-5pm

Indulgence. Hence the commitment to live by mercy so as to obtain the grace of complete and exhaustive forgiveness by the power of the love of the Father who excludes no one. The Jubilee Indulgence is thus full, the fruit of the very event which is to be celebrated and experienced with faith, hope and charity."

For the deceased:

Furthermore, the Jubilee Indulgence can also be obtained for the deceased. We are bound to them by the witness of faith and charity that they have left us. Thus, as we remember them in the Eucharistic celebration, thus we can, in the great mystery of the Communion of Saints, pray for them, that the merciful face of the Father free them of every remnant of fault and strongly embrace them in the unending beatitude."



REGULAR CONFESSION TIMES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

Aranda: Saturday 7pm-7.30pm Batehaven: Saturday 5pm Bega: Friday 5.30pm-6pm; Saturday 9.30am-10am Boorowa: Saturday 5.30pm Braddon: Friday 12pm-12.30pm Campbell: Sunday 9am-9.20am 6pm-6.30pm; Cathedral: Thursday Saturday 11am-12pm Charnwood: Saturday 4.30pm Cooma: Saturday 5pm-5.45pm Cootamundra: Saturday 5pm-5.30pm Crookwell: Saturday 5.30pm Dickson: Saturday 9.30am Evatt: Saturday 4.30pm-5.30pm Gundagai: Sunday 5pm-5.45pm Gungahlin: Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm

Gunning: Sunday 8am-8.15am Holder: Saturday 5pm-5.45pm Kambah: Saturday 5pm-5.30pm Kippax: Saturday 11am-11.30am Latin Mass Community: Saturday 10am-10.30am; 7pm-8pm (Garran) Merimbula: Saturday 9.30am-10.30am Moruya: Saturday 10.30am-11am Murrumburrah: Sunday 9.45am-9.55am Narooma: Saturday 9.30am-10am Narrabundah: Friday 6pm; Saturday 5pm-5.30pm North Goulburn: Saturday 9.30am-10am North Woden: Saturday 5pm-5.30pm (Curtin) O'Connor: Saturday 4.30pm-5.30pm Page: Saturday 11am-12pm Queanbeyan: Friday 11:30am-11:50am; Saturday

South Tuggeranong: Saturday 10am-10.30; 5pm-5.30pm; Sunday 5pm-5.30pm South Woden: Saturday 11am-12pm Temora: Friday 5pm-5.50pm; Saturday 10am-10.45am Tumut: Saturday 5pm-5.45pm Ukrainian Catholic Community: Saturday 8.30am (Lyneham) Wanniassa: Saturday 9.30am-10am; 5pm-5.30pm Waramanga: Saturday 11am-12pm Watson: Saturday 12pm-12.30pm; 5pm-5.30pm West Wyalong: Saturday 9.30am-10am Saturday Yarralumla: Tuesday 6pm-6.30pm; 5.15pm-5.45pm Yass: Saturday 10am; 5pm-5.15pm Young: Saturday 10am