Inside:

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≥ § 13 Retirement

Wagga Wagga Celebrates 100 Years of Diocese

'The years have turned the rusted key, and time is on the jog, yet spend another night with me around the Boree log.' John O'Brien Around the Boree Log



Archbishop Francis Carroll quoted the diocese's most famous priest, Father Patrick Hartigan, in his homily for the Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrating the centenary of the Diocese in July.

The third Bishop of Wagga Wagga

"In a sense that is what we do at a centenary time," Archbishop Carroll

"In the warmth of remembrance, we look back and tell the stories of the past 100 years.

"In the case of the Wagga Wagga Diocese we do this with thanksgiving to God in our hearts and loving memories of all who have been part

Photo top left: Archbishop Christopher Prowse. Above photo: Centenary Mass Concelebrants. Photos by Tom Denahy. of that 100 years history."

Hartigan's immortal poem, penned

as the poet John O'Brien, pictures an

old man sitting by his open fireplace,

ablaze with the fire of a Boree log,

looking forward to the arrival of a

traveller to share the warmth and

swap yarns of years gone by.

Apostolic Administrator Archbishop Christopher Prowse, of Canberra and Goulburn, was principal celebrant in St Michael's Cathedral on Sunday,

Concelebrants included Wagga's

fifth bishop, retired Bishop Gerard Hanna; St Michael's Cathedral Administrator Fr Kevin O'Reilly and Archbishop Carroll.

Archbishop homily, Carroll outlined the history of the Wagga Wagga diocese since its Continued on page 3.

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A Plenary Council for Australia in 2020:

Let us begin a new journey of conversion together

The bishops of Australia have called for a special gathering of the Catholic Church in our country for 2020.

Its name? - A Plenary Council. There have only been four of them in our history – the last one in 1937 (the others in 1885, 1895, 1905).

This particular national ecclesial event has a special place in Canon Law and is an expression of our shared Baptismal mission of co-responsibility. A Plenary Council involves all Catholics in Australia. Given that the last one was 80 years ago, it indicates that they are only called for a particular

The bishops of Australia believe that these times are of an extraordinary Grace of the Lord, in an equally extraordinary moment of change in

This will be the first Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia for 83 years.

One of Pope Francis's memorable phrases is that we do not live in "an era of change, but in a change of era." How true! We all feel this, especially in Australia. The Royal Commission and all its effects in Australia has really placed the boat of the Church in a stormy cultural sea. But so many other factors too – nationally and globally. For example, the changing face of marriage and family, the increasing separation of faith from culture, our prayer life, youth, and the integral transmission of faith and life.

Yet it is an extraordinary graced moment too. The search for God is so clearly present in Australia, despite what the recent results of our census might appear to indicate. People - The first four chapters of the Acts

spectators in life. Our recent challenges in the Archdiocese "shout out" that people want grass roots community engagement.

A Plenary Council is not some sort of "Church parliament." Rather it is a hope-filled missionary journey, of walking together into the future that has already arrived. It is engaging a world yearning for the fragrance of Christ. It is an expression of "the Church's life and her missionary outreach" (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 32).

In the months ahead, the bishops will offer further descriptions of what is envisaged. At this stage, we are proposing a three stage focus: preparation, celebration, implementation. It is early days yet, but we need to begin soon.

So how can we begin to shape exciting times ahead the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn? How can we truly engage all of our people, for all the years ahead, with all of the Australian Church, with all of the Gospel and Tradition as our inspiration and

Let us begin by asking the Lord Jesus for a "New Pentecost" in our Diocese and all of Australia. Please formulate prayers for our Masses and liturgical gatherings for this intention – even if we do not know with much detail, at present, the practical way forward.

Let us also begin by discussing with each other practical possibilities ready ourselves acknowledging that guidance and assistance will also come our way, as the Plenary Council is a national event.

Lastly, may I offer you three wonderful scripture texts that we can all pray in our quiet times, with the intention of this upcoming Plenary Council in mind and heart.

want to be involved and not be mere of the Apostles (1-4). Let us observe



Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese, Archbishop Christopher Prowse

how the early Church began by truly listening (not simply hearing) to the Holy Spirit in their midst. Let us imitate them!

- The memorable encounter of Martha and Mary with Jesus (Luke 10:38-42). This is an important text for pragmatic and busy Australians. Let us recall that listening "to what He was saying," is also a work of evangelisation.

- The Emmaus scene (Luke 24:13-**35)** is a "journeying together," episode of the Risen Jesus with two questioning people. Let us allow Jesus to journey with us to 2020 and beyond, so we too can return to the "Jerusalem" of Australia, a renewed and converted people.

'The bishops of Australia believe that these times are of an extraordinary Grace of the Lord, in an equally extraordinary moment of change in society.'

is published monthly, eleven times per year, and is available free at parish churches, schools, presbyteries and religious houses throughout the Wagga Wagga Diocese.

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Archbishop Christopher Prowse

establishment by Vatican declaration of 28 July, 1917, which separated it from Goulburn Diocese.

With the appointment of its first bishop, Joseph Dwyer, on 14 March the following year, it effectively began to function.

"The story of a diocese is the story of its people," Archbishop Carroll said.

"Joseph W. Dwyer was the first of five bishops who have been the chief pastors of the diocese, and we eagerly await the appointment of the sixth.

"Bishop Dwyer had the demanding task of building a diocesan identity and putting in place the structures necessary for the life of this new particular church.

"He laid the foundations well

guaranteed the continuing development of a vibrant diocesan church.

"In his time, the vast majority of Catholics were Irish-Australians, many of whom had come to the Riverina to take up farming blocks made available with the division of large properties.

"John O'Brien's' poems wonderfully portray how their Catholic faith so thoroughly permeated their lives.

"Sunday Mass was never to be missed and the family Rosary was a nightly ritual.

"Catholics, however, were often discriminated against because of bitter sectarianism and effectively they were seen as second-class citizens.

"If anything, this strengthened their faith and tightened the bonds uniting the Catholic community."

Looking to the future, Archbishop Carroll, who was Bishop of Wagga from 1968 to 1983, warned there was little room for complacency.

"By standards many measurement, our church is a church in decline," he said.

"We have only to look at our diminishing and ageing Sunday

Top: Bishop Gerard Hanna, Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Archbishop Francis Carroll with Vianney College seminarians, Jomer Calma (left) and Wilber *Tobe (right); Bishop Hanna greets religious sisters;* Bishop Gerard Hanna (retired). Photos: Tom Denahy

congregations with the almost complete absence of young people; to consider the burden on priests looking after several parishes and the lack of locally grown priestly and religious vocations.

"The recent census tells us of the Australia-wide decline of religious affiliation and Catholics are included in that.

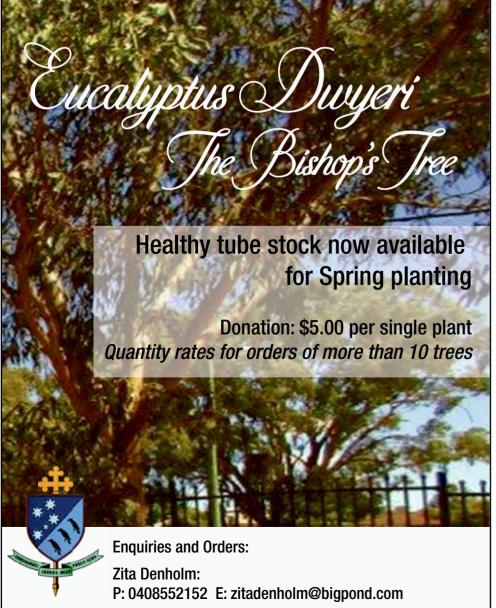
"Worst of all, the findings of the Royal Commission on sexual abuse of minors have brought to light unspeakable crimes against children by clergy, religious and church personnel.

"Making matters worse, these crimes have often been covered up.

"This must mark the lowest point in the history of the church in Australia and, sadly, our diocese has not been immune from the evil.

"Many people have scandalized to the point of leaving the church, and the church has lost its moral credibility in society."

Archbishop Carroll, who will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a bishop on 5 September, noted the longest survivor of the original 22 priests who transferred from Goulburn Diocese, Monsignor Owen Clarke, had baptized him and was "still in the same parish of Ganmain when I became his bishop in 1967."



Plants can be collected in Wagga Wagga by arrangement



Top: Items from the Diocesan Archives featured in an historical display in St Michael Parish Centre. Bottom: The Solemn Pontifical Mass in St Michael's Cathedral.

Archbishop Carroll commends Wagga Wagga's 'chief pastors'



In his homily to commemorate the centenary of Wagga Wagga Diocese, Archbishop Francis Carroll paid tribute to his predecessor, Francis Augustin Henschke, the longest serving of Wagga's bishops.

Bishop Henschke was appointed second bishop of the diocese in 1937 and remained in the position for 28

"If Bishop Dwyer (the first Bishop of Wagga Wagga) laid solid foundations, Bishop Henschke led the diocese into a period of strong growth," he said.

"Parish churches were full, and faithfilled families and parish communities brought forth numerous priestly and religious vocations.

"Multiple ordinations in the 1950s and 1960s meant the diocese had effectively become self-sufficient in priestly numbers.

"Bishop Henschke opened many new church buildings and welcomed new religious, including the Carmelite Sisters, to the diocese.

Archbishop Carroll recalled that Bishop Henschke took part in all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council, "a watershed in the life of the church and can well serve as a midway marker in the story of our centenary diocese".

In succeeding Bishop Henschke, the then Bishop Carroll set out to continue implementing the vision of the Vatican Council.

He encouraged active participation of the laity; established parish and diocesan pastoral councils, the council of priests, and Cursillo and youth movements such as YCS, as well

as emphasising the ecumenical movement relationships with other Christian churches.

When Bishop Carroll was appointed Archbishop Canberra Goulburn in 1983 he was succeeded the next year by Bishop William Brennan.

"He had been a priest of our neighbouring diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes and is best

remembered for establishing Wagga's own diocesan seminary, Vianney College," Archbishop Carroll said.

Today most of the parishes of the diocese are staffed by priests who are graduates of Vianney College, which celebrates its silver jubilee this month.

"In 2002, Bishop Brennan was forced to resign prematurely because of sudden ill-health which left him an invalid for the rest of his life.

After his death in 2013, he was buried in St Michael's Cathedral.

Wagga's fifth bishop, Gerard Hanna, who came from the Armidale Diocese, was ordained in 2002.

"He brought a spirit of warm hospitality and openness to his ministry," Archbishop Carroll said.

"He took a very personal interest in the welfare of the priests and seminarians and extended that same pastoral care to parishioners.

"As a canny administrator, he restored the diocese to a strong financial position.

"In his last few years despite ill-health he cheerfully fulfilled his commitments and retired to his beloved family in Armidale in October last year."

Archbishop Carroll paid particular tribute to religious men and women who had made a massive contribution to the diocesan church.

think that religious sisters responded to the Vatican Council more actively than any other group," he said.

"Apart from obvious changes in habits and lifestyle, one effect was that a number of sisters undertook more varied works both within the church and in the wider community.

"Over many years, parishes have been enriched by their prayerful presence and ever ready pastoral care."

Archbishop Carroll said the greatest sign of hope for the church today was its leader, Pope Francis.

"His humility and simplicity have endeared him to many both within and beyond the church," he said.

So, at the end of one century and the beginning of another, we gratefully count our blessings, but gird ourselves for the future.

"He is listened to because 'he walks the talk' and lives what he preaches.

"He takes the Vatican Council seriously when others have allowed it to fall into obscurity.

"He wants a poor church for the poor and speaks of how Jesus preferred the company of the poor, and called them blessed.

a challenge that poses for a middle-class church and the comfortable life-style of its members.

"The Pope often and severely condemns clericalism which thrives on prestige and power. He says that bishops and priests are to be shepherds who smell like the sheep.

"I believe that clericalism is alive and well in our church and requires personal conversion and systemic change.

"Like his namesake St Francis, he loves all created things and urges us to care for our home, the environment.

"His strong words on environmental issues, including climate change, have added a new chapter to the strong tradition of Catholic social justice teaching.

"In many ways, Pope Francis is a shining beacon of hope, but the hope he gives always contains a challenge which calls for our response.

"So, at the end of one century and the beginning of another, we gratefully count our blessings, but gird ourselves for the future.

"We do so with hearts full of hope, because Jesus promised to be with us always, and the Holy Spirit will never desert the church."





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Diocesan Clergy Conference

Jesuit priest and CEO of Catholic Social Services Australia, Father Frank Brennan SJ was a keynote speaker at the 2017 Diocesan Clergy Conference in Wagga last month.

Father Brennan spoke about a range of complex social issues in Australia including asylum seeker and refugee policies; children still being held in detention and people living in the community on bridging visas with no rights to work or access to welfare benefits.

Father Brennan said it is the role of priestly ministry today 'to be bridge builders; to create the capacity for the faith community to move to the other side of the river in an increasingly secular and pluralistic society'.

"The Jesus I know had a preference for the one who is dispossessed..."

He recalled visiting a rural community in Queensland in 1985 where a group of Aborigines who were the traditional owners lived in a camp outside the town as fringe dwellers.

The parish priest told him he couldn't understand the local Aborigines because they would bring their kids to the Catholic Church to be baptized, which the priest did, but he never saw them again.

"Later that day I was with some of these Aborigines who lived on the other side of the river and they said they couldn't understand the local priest.

"They told me the priest baptizes the kids but then we never see him again."



Class of 2017: Diocesan clergy on the steps of St Michael's Cathedral.

Front Row – Fr Joel Wallace (PP Albury), Fr Peter Murphy (PP Lavington), Fr John Baptist (PP Kooringal), Fr Christian Obiekwe (AP Griffith), Fr Kevin O'Reilly (Apostolic Adminstrator Delegate), Fr Sinisa Mikulek (PP Junee), Fr Paul Hart (retired), Fr John McGrath (Adm Corowa),

Second Row – Fr Anto Francis (Syro-Malabar Chaplain, South Wagga) Fr Reece Beltrame (AP Cathedral), Fr John Fowles (PP Thurgoona), Fr Doug George (Apostolic Administrator Delegate, PP Coolamon), Fr Tony Schipp (PP Lockhart & Urana), Fr Steven Ledinich (Spiritual Director, Vianney College), Fr Martin Cruickshank (PP Finley & Tocumwal), Fr Luke Joseph (Adm Tarcutta) Third Row – Fr Anthony Oboshi (AP Leeton), Fr Ronald Donoghue (AP West Wagga), Fr Bradley Rafter (Adm Narrandera), Fr Gerard Ryan (AP West Wagga), Fr Rick Micallef (Adm Berrigan and Mulwala), Deacon Rod Letchford (Dean of Studies, Vianney College), Fourth Row – Fr Blaise Kurek (PP Darlington Point and Jerilderie), Fr Stephen Onyekwere (AP Albury), Fr Wilf Plunkett (Retired), Fr John Speekman (Adm Howlong), Deacon Marco Killingsworth (Albury), Fr Paddy Sykes (PP South Wagga), Fr Thomas Casanova (PP West Wagga)

Fifth Row – Fr Neru Leuea, Fr Mark Whybrow (AP Cathedral), Fr Damian Styles (Chaplain, Kapooka), Fr Thomas Brancik (PP Tumbarumba),

Back – Fr Andrew Grace (PP Griffith), Fr Frank Brennan (CEO Catholic Social Services Australia), Fr Damian Jellett (Adm The Rock).

Fr Brennan said building relationships is the only thing that works.

"The Jesus I know had a preference for the one who is dispossessed, marginalized, poor and disadvantaged," Father Brennan said.

"I believe the vision of Pope Francis is for us to be a Church for the poor - not the rich and powerful in our society. As Francis said recently, 'I want a Church which is poor and for the poor.'

"In the words of Pope Francis this time in history is not just an era of change but a change of era and that has profound ramifications for us as priests."

"I want a Church which is poor and for the poor."



Catching up at the annual Diocese of Wagga Wagga Clergy Conference in July, from left: Fr Luke Joseph, Administrator, Tarcutta and Ladysmith Parishes; guest speaker Fr Frank Brennan SJ, CEO Catholic Social Services Australia; Fr Bradley Rafter, Administrator, Narrandera Parish and Fr Peter Murphy, Parish Priest, Lavington.





Pope Francis message of hope for a world in chaos



'Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: The Hope of Pope Francis' is the theme of the 13th Annual National **eConference** to be streamed live in Wagga on Thursday 10 August.

The eConference which has been organised by BBI - The Australian Institute of Theological Education and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, will focus on the momentous socio-political changes and uncertainty facing communities around the world.

Issues such as the rise of fundamentalism and nationalism; the growing violence and displacement of peoples in the Middle East; the election of numerous populist leaders such as Presidents Trump in the USA and Duterte in The Phillipines and Britain's historic vote to leave the European Union have thrown parts of the globe into chaos.

Pope Francis represents the hope of many people in these times of uncertainty: his message talks about belonging, dialogue, social justice and mercy in a way that is both a challenge and inspiration for the world and the Church.

year's eConference, prominent international and national speakers and panellists will reflect upon these turbulent times and discuss them in the context of Pope Francis' unique style of leadership.

Speakers will include Professor

Pope Francis represents the hope of many people in these times of uncertainty

Massimo Faggioli, political scientist, Papal expert and theologian; Paul Kelly, political columnist and Editor at Large, The Australian; Sr Clare Condon SGS, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan; Ms Elizabeth Proust AO, Chairman of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Member

of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council and Rev. Dr Gerald Arbuckle internationally respected theologian and anthropologist as well as former Foreign Minister of Australia and NSW Premier, Prof. the Hon. Bob Carr.

The eConference will be broadcast live from Sydney to McAlroy House from 10.30am until 2.45pm on Thursday 10 August and is free to anyone interested in attending. Morning tea will be provided but please BYO lunch.

Please RSVP to McAlroy House reception, 205 Tarcutta Street, Wagga or phone (02) 6937 0000. Everyone is welcome.

You can watch the eConference online by registering at: http://www. bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/ eConference-2017



Dr Massimo Faggioli Vatican expert to speak at Sacred **Heart Parish**

Professor Massimo Faggioli, internationally renowned expert on Vatican II, the Papacy and the Roman Curia, will speak at Sacred Heart Church, Kooringal on Tuesday 8 August at 7.30pm.

Massimo Faggioli will be visiting Wagga as a guest of the Catholic Schools Office. He will be talking to Catholic school leaders and clergy on Tuesday and Wednesday as well as his public talk on Tuesday evening. Professor Faggioli will be one of the keynote speakers at the eConference, Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: the Hope of Pope Francis on Thursday 10 August in Sydney and broadcast live to McAlroy House in Wagga.

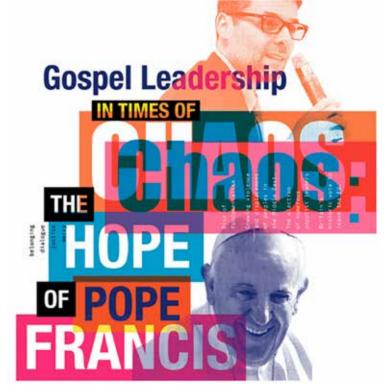
Dr Faggioli is Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University, Philadelphia. He writes regularly for Italian and American newspapers and journals

on the Catholic Church, religion and politics. He is contributing editor to Commonweal, the oldest independent lay Catholic journal of opinion in the United States and writes a column in La Croix International.

He is a leading authority on the history and administrative inner workings of the Catholic Church and is internationally sought-after as a commentator on the great changes afoot in the Catholic Church and the Papacy of Francis.

He is currently working on a book about the history of government of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis and the Second Vatican Council. His most recent book is Catholicism and Citizenship: Political Cultures of the Church in the Twenty-First Century (Liturgical Press 2017).

Massimo Faggioli's talk at Sacred Heart, Kooringal will start at 7.30pm and is open to everyone.



Pope Francis represents the hope of many people in these times of uncertainty: his message talks about belonging, dialogue, social justice, and mercy in a way that is both a challenge and inspiration for the world and the church.

At this year's eConference, prominent international and national speakers and panellists will reflect upon these turbulent times and discuss them in the context of Pope Francis' unique style of leadership.

Thursday 10th August 2017 Time:

Arrive 10.15am for 10.30am start and finishes at 2.45pm

Address: Conference Room at McAlroy House

> 205 Tarcutta St Wagga Wagga (NB: No parking available on-site)

Morning tea provided, please BYO lunch Catering:

RSVP: McAlroy House Reception Phone 69370000

EVERYONE WELCOME

By Megan Moon, Lay Director 2017

The Spirit was definitely alive and present when 24 women and one priest gathered to experience the 47th Women's Cursillo of the Wagga Wagga Diocese at St Francis de Sales Regional College, Leeton.

The Cursillo was held on the June long weekend and the weather was perfect. We had three bright, sunny, warm days in which to experience the presence of God in our lives.

Our theme was Emmanuel: God with Us and it was reflected beautifully in our theme song 'There's A Presence' by John Angotti.

The weekend consisted of talks and meditations and discussions. There was a real sense of solidarity among the old and the new. The sharing of our faith and our story was very well presented and received.

Cursillo comes into our lives at special times and gives us perspective. We see

clearer where God is in our life and are able to move forward in a more definite

St Francis College was a perfect setting. The amenities are of a very high standard and the gardens and grounds are beautifully maintained. Three new stained glass windows were fitted in the chapel window the day before our Cursillo began, and the stars of the Mary McKillop window sparkled throughout each day for us. It was a very sacred place.

During our closing liturgy we said goodbye to our new found friends and were commissioned with the words that Christ is counting on each and every one of us. We are to be Christ to those we meet and I have no doubt the women present for the weekend will live up to the challenge. I would also like to give a special 'thank you' to our chaplain for the weekend, Father Terence Mahedy, parish priest of Culcairn.



Back Row: Pam Guest, Maree Ryan, Annette Conroy, Di Kennedy, Megan Moon, Therese Moon, Vicki Morris, Georgie Wood.

Middle Row: Fr Terence Mahedy (Chaplain), Caronne Vella, Maggie O'Callaghan, Jo Norton, Christine Nielsen, Maria Doyle, Liz Lawton, Jan Fitzpatrick, Jo Colvin. Front Row: Leonie Napier, Sr Barbara Webber, Kay Humphreys, Mary Walsh, Dezi Patterson, Kerrie Patterson, Virginia Gawler.

Hallelujah Chorus finale for Cathedral concerts

Wagga Wagga's long-established mixed choir, the Cantilena Singers, will celebrate the 40th anniversary of their founding with two concerts on 12 and 13 August in the beautiful St Michael's Cathedral.

Complementing the Cantilena's performance will be the St Georg Chamber Choir from Nordlingen, Wagga Wagga's German sister city.

The concert programme is woven around Vivaldi's Gloria which the Choir's long-time repetiteur accompanist Carmel Ryan will support on harpiscord. The Riverina Community Strings, will also accompany the Choir. The performance will include many other exquisite pieces from Mozart, Faure, Lauridsen, Clausen, Douglas and Hayes.

The grand finale to each concert, the Hallelujah Chorus, will be sung by both the St Georg Chamber Choir and the Cantilena Singers – approximately 80 voices raised in

While choirs and choral singing has enjoyed a great resurgence, the Wagga Wagga-based Cantilena Singers, an ensemble of the Riverina Conservatorium of Music, have been one of the real survivors. Formed in 1977 the choir has enjoyed a longstanding place in the local cultural music scene.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate with the Cantilena Singers on Saturday August 12, 7:30pm or Sunday August 13 at 2pm, St. Michael's Cathedral, Wagga Wagga.

Tickets, \$30 Adult, \$25 Concession or \$10 under12 available from Civic Theatre Booking Office phone 6926 9688 or www.civictheatre.com.au

Wagga to host Cursillo **National Encounter**

Wagga Wagga will be the first Cursillo National Secretariat. regional diocese to host the biennial National Encounter of the Catholic Cursillo Movement in October 2017.

Lord show us the Way – a new beginning is the theme for the National Encounter to be held at the Quality Inn Carriage House Motel in Wagga Wagga from October 20-22.

More than 50 Cursillistas from NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia will come together for the National Encounter which will be held in conjunction with the 2017 meeting of the

program will presentations, reflections and meditations as well as music and liturgy, concluding with Mass on Sunday afternoon.

Volunteers are needed in Wagga to help with transport of interstate delegates to the venue as well as assistance with setting up for the National Encounter.

For more information or to register for the weekend please contact George Simon, president, Wagga Wagga Catholic Cursillo Movement on 0427 254 493 or email gsbcmgt@bigpond.com

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Spirituality Day for Women



Megan Brock rsj will be the keynote speaker at the Spirituality Day for Women in Wagga on 26 August. Megan is a Sister of St Joseph, Lochinvar Province. She has worked for more than 25 years as a registered psychologist in private practice as well as consulting to Religious Orders, Dioceses and other organisations.

A spirituality day for women to explore the important and varied roles women play in the contemporary Church will be held at Kildare Catholic College, Coleman Street, Wagga Wagga on Saturday 26 August.

Workshops will be offered on topics Spirituality; as Aboriginal Introduction to Centering Prayer; Encountering Women in Scripture and how to set up a women's spirituality group in your parish.

Beyond food, flowers & feather dusters: Women an untapped resource is the theme of the spirituality day which aims to empower and inspire women to become involved and host programs in their parish or Deanery.

The women's spirituality day is sponsored by the Diocese of Wagga Wagga and is the first one to be held since 2014. It has been organised by a group of women from the diocese who were sponsored by Bishop Gerard Hanna to attend the Council for Australian Catholic Women (CACW) colloquium in Sydney in 2016.

The CACW was established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in 2001 to promote the participation of women in the Australian Catholic Church.

Bishop Hanna set up the CACW in the

Diocese of Wagga Wagga in 2003 with Mary Crimmins as its first chairperson and seven other parish representatives. The group organised annual prayer/ spirituality days for women and a program to network and support parish representatives across the diocese.

"These days bring likeminded women together from different parts of the diocese and provide an opportunity for reflection and sharing ideas. Hopefully it will allow women to feel special and give them the courage to go back to their parish or community and 'have a go' at starting a program or group to nourish women's spirituality," said Jane Plum, a member of the organising team.

Sister Megan Brock rsj, a practising psychologist and Congregational Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar Province, will be the keynote speaker at the spirituality day. Megan will share her wisdom on the role of women in the Church today; a role which she says 'remains largely domesticated'.

"The official voice of women must be respected, welcomed and heard in our Church. Women must take their place at the table, from where, since apostolic times, they have been ministering to God's people as Jesus sent them out to do. We can commit ourselves, even in the smallest of ways, by responding to the movement of the Spirit among us. Only then can we truly be what Jesus modelled for his followers: a vibrant, inclusive community of believers reaching out to all," Megan reflected.

These days bring likeminded women together from different parts of the diocese and provide an opportunity for reflection and sharing ideas

Participants will have the opportunity to attend two x 45 minute workshops on the following topics:

- Aboriginal Spirituality: Country and community- Kelly Humphrey
- ErinEarth: Gazing on creation -Carmel Wallis
- Centering prayer: Carmel Wallis
- Mandala: Sacred Circles Jane

- Listen with the ear of your heart: Lectio divina - Pat Sheridan & **Mary Crimmins**
- Encountering Women in Scripture: the embodiment of suffering in the lives of biblical women - Patricia Weekes & Gwen Garland
- The Gaze of Love Visio Divina: Scripture through the eyes of artists - Margaret Walsh & Barbara Geale
- Mainly Music: Building Community in our Church today -Bernadette Kennedy
- Planting seeds of hope: Walking with our refugee women and families - Deidre Moulden
- Praise the Name of the Lord: encountering God through Christian and Muslim spirituality - Margaret Walsh & a Muslim guest (TBA)

- Print making: Wisdom Symbols -Emma Thomson
- Young women across the generations share their experiences of faith - Panel TBA
- Women's Book Club: How to set up a women's spirituality group in your parish - Anne Friedlieb & Margaret Molloy.

The day will start at 9.30am and conclude at 3.30pm. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. There is no charge for the day however a donation will be welcome.

To register for the spirituality day please go to: https://goo.gl/LTSBaJ or phone Katherine Klapdor 02 6925 4374 or Sr Margaret Walsh pvbm 02 6971 7140. Registrations are open until Friday 11 August.



Beyond food, flowers & feather dusters: Women an untapped resource

Key Note Speaker: Sr Megan Brock rsj Megan has a background in teaching and psychology. She has shared her wisdom both nationally and internationally in a variety of contexts including conferences, retreats, and prayer days.

9.30am - 3.30pm **26 AUGUST 2017** KILDARE CATHOLIC COLLEGE **Coleman St WAGGA WAGGA**

Morning Tea & Lunch provided

"TRULY I TELL YOU, WHEREVER THIS GOSPEL IS PREACHED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, WHAT SHE HAS DONE WILL ALSO BE TOLD, IN MEMORY OF HER." **MATTHEW 26:13**

Registrations open in July Registrations close 11th August Here's the link to the Registration form: https://goo.gl/LTSBaJ Please type this link into the address bar of your internet browser to open the registration form. Alternatively please phone Katherine Klapdor O2 69 254374 or Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm O2 6971 7140

For those employed in Wagga Wagga Catholic Schools this day will contribute 6 hours towards Accreditation to Work/ Teach/ Lead in Catholic Schools



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BENEDICTVS PP. XV

Copy of the official brief issued from the Vatican on July 28, 1917 announcing the erection of the new Diocese of Wagga Wagga which was to be created entirely from territory that until that time had been the southern and western regions of the Goulburn Diocese.

A diocese is defined as 'a portion of the people of God, which is entrusted to a Bishop to be nurtured by him, with the co-operation of the Presbyterate, in such a way that, remaining close to its pastor and gathered by him through the Gospels and the Eucharist in the Holy Spirit, the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic church truly exists and functions'.

The brief is stamped by Cardinal Gasparri, Secretary of State with the authority of Pope Benedict XV.

The brief was originally written in Latin and translated into English by Fr Luke Joseph, administrator of Tarcutta and Ladysmith parishes.

we, when the business of Propaganda Fidei was brought forward, having discussed the recommendations with our most venerable and noble Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, after mature consideration, have thought that this proposal, presented for approval by the prelates of Australia, should be sanctioned by the supreme Apostolic Authority.

Therefore by our own decision and sure knowledge and mature deliberation, and by the fullness of our Apostolic power, by force of present conditions, we separate or rather remove from the Diocese of Goulburn, with the agreement of the

Narrandera, Leeton, Jerilderie. Berrigan, Lockhart, Urana, Kenty [sic for Henty], Balldale, Corowa, Albury et Germanton [Holbrook].

From these parochial districts thus separated we wish that there be erected a new diocese to which we give the name Wagga Wagga. At the same time we decree that the place of residence of the Bishop be fixed in the City of "Wagga Wagga".

These decisions we mandate, decreeing that the present letter is and always will be stable, valid and effective and that it shall receive and maintain its full and complete effects, and that it gives full

> authority to those to whom it applies or to whom it shall apply, and thus it is duly to be judged and defined, and if it happens that anything to the contrary be attempted in these matters, by anyone, of whatever authority, knowingly or unknowingly, it shall be null and void.

> Notwithstanding rule and the rule of the Apostolic Chancery de jure quaesito non tollendo, and other Constitutions Apostolic sanctions, and all other things to the contrary whatsoever.

> Given at Rome at St Peter's under the seal of the Fisherman, on the twenty-

eighth day of July, 1917, the third year of our Pontificate.

> P. Card. Gasparri Secretary of State

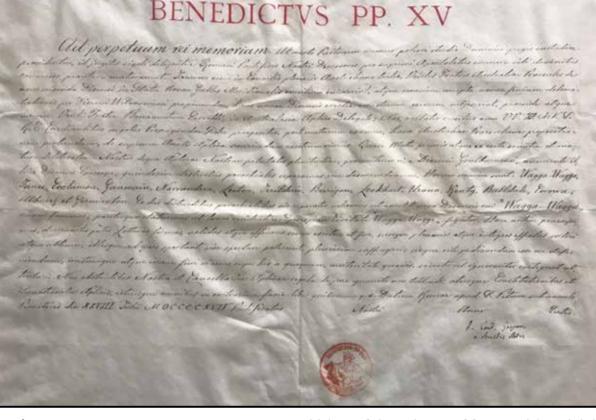
Pope Benedict XV

For a permanent record of the matter:

The Roman Pontiffs, our Predecessors, in accord with the office of the supreme Apostolate divinely granted to them, have always been ready to provide for greater dedication to the custody of the Lord's flock by increasing the number of shepherds.

Since in the the third plenary Australian Council our venerable brethren, the Prelates of Australia, already discussed the idea of erecting a new Diocese in the State of New South Wales, and

taking the opportunity of proposing a new delimitation of the boundaries of the Diocese of Wilcannia, they



auspices of our venerable brother Bonaventure Cerretti, Apostolic Delegate in Australasia, examined

bishop of that Diocese, fifteen parish districts.

The names of these are: Wagga Wagga, Junee, Coolamon, Ganmain,

again, under the presidency and this establishment of a new diocese,

'Our Languages Matter'



Aunty Gail Clark giving the Welcome to Country



Traditional games

NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Island Day Observance Committee) Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme, Our Languages Matter, focuses on the essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity and the transmission of history through story and song.

NAIDOC celebrations took place in schools around the Diocese towards the end of last Term and the beginning of Term 3.

Students from St Michael's, Coolamon and St Brendan's, Ganmain celebrated together with a range of activities. The morning started with a Welcome to Country from local elder

Aunty Gail Clark and a wonderful mass lead by Monsignor Doug George which included students singing the Aboriginal Our Father prayer.

Students were then treated to many different experiences throughout the day, including traditional hunting games, art, craft and a Johnny Cake cook-up.

Members of the Charles Sturt University's Wiradjuri Language Unit were also on hand to teach the students basic Wiradjuri words and phrases and to share traditional stories and songs in a fun sing-a-long.

Mandanguwu (Thank you) to all of the staff, students and participants in this year's NAIDOC celebrations across the Diocese.



Singing and story time with the CSU Wiradjuri Language team



Kinders making Johnny Cakes

Shame: A complex emotion which can be healing

By Paul Jensen Chief Executive Officer – Centacare South West

At the conclusion of the Royal Commission's Catholic wrap up Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council lamented that we, the Church, should 'hang our heads in shame'.... *Shame*.

Shame is a complex emotional state and not necessarily a symptom of an illness or pathology. When we have caused social injury it's abnormal if we don't experience shame. Shame can move us to repair social relationships by genuine acknowledgement, contrition and remediating the injury. This response is adaptive and redemptive. However, shame and its management can become pathological when shame becomes an enduring and integral part of our self-image or sense of selfworth. When children are continually criticized, severely punished, neglected, abandoned, or in other ways abused or mistreated, they get the message that they do not 'fit' in the world — that they are inadequate, inferior or unworthy. They are intensively and chronically shamed. Mental health professionals associate abnormal shame and styles of handling shame with a slew of psychiatric disorders including social phobias, eating disorders, depression, domestic and social violence, substance abuse and sexual offenses.

Despite our obvious failures and shame, the World needs the Church to be the Church.

To understand the dynamics of pathological shame Nathanson¹ devised the *Compass of Shame* framework. In this compass, each of the four directions (withdrawal, attack self, avoidance and attack others) is represented by a distinct

physiological, cognitive and behavioural reaction to a shame trigger. This means there is not a single 'shame' pattern but four separate 'shame' reaction patterns to aversive life events.

While shame research originated with individuals, Nathanson's framework can be applied to organisations with caution.



I make the following observations as a committed and practicing Catholic about the Catholic Church.

It would be abnormal if the Catholic Church did not feel shame about the Royal Commission. Sadly, I have witnessed the four pathological shame patterns in Church reactions.

Attack Other: We have blamed the Bishops, Clerics and Religious. However, the laity committed almost half the cited abuse and/or turned a blind eye. We, *Cleros* and *Laos* together, whether via omission or commission placed the needs of the perpetrators and institution above those of the victims. In some instances we blamed the victims.

Withdrawal: The Catholic Church once a powerful Justice and Mission advocate has largely withdrawn from the public square and

fallen silent in the face of increasing social and economic inequality and injustice. Some quarters are isolating themselves, suggesting that we the Church are the victims here, an inversion of the truth. Parishioners are choosing to withdraw from worship.

Attack organizational self: Commentators — from inside and outside the Church - have argued that there is something so fundamentally wrong with the institution that we are irredeemable. While there is no doubt of our need for institutional and individual reform, the Gospel reminds us that there is no experience beyond redemption.

Avoidance: Some minimize the truth maintaining that 'the media are exaggerating/ distorting the scale of abuse'. While the actual percentages of abuse are somewhat contested, there is no doubt the scale and intensity of abuse within Catholic institutions was staggering and indefensible.

While it is understandable that we, the Church, might react to the Royal Commission according to the above four pathological shame patterns these reactions are ultimately pathological and only prolong injury. The only way that shame will be adaptive and healing will be via genuine acknowledgement, contrition and just remediation. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, chair of the South African Truth and Reconciliation commission set up to address the national and social injury of apartheid, is reported to have said 'we are at our best when we can acknowledge our worst'. One of the Penitential Rites of the English translation of the Mass guides us in this acknowledgement through the prayer 'through my/our fault, through my/our fault, through my/ our own grievous fault'. I witness us responding adaptively and taking up the cross when we, Cleros and Laos, acknowledge our worst, accept responsibility, genuinely repent, justly remediate injury, participate in reconciliation and the healing of social injury and re-engage in mission.

Despite our obvious failures and shame, the World needs the Church to be the Church.

¹ Nathanson, D. L. (1992). Shame and pride: Affect, sex, and the birth of the self. New York: Norton.

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH Diocese of Wagga Wagga

Outreaching to all those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and would like the Church to look into the validity of their marriage.

Enquiries to the Tribunal Office at McAlroy House PO Box 473 Wagga Wagga 2650 Phone: 6937 0017 Email: tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.au



Retreat at Galong for Women & Men

8 - 12 September 2017

Theme: "Planting Seeds of Hope..



Pope Frances: "Planting seeds of hope is needed today. It's not easy, but with Christ at the centre of one's life, it will be him who gives us the strength, the patience, the hope and the consolation needed to live in harmony. 22 March 2017

Start: 8 September 2017 between 4 - 5.45pm

Finish: Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 2.30pm

Venue: St Clement's Retreat & Conference Centre at Galong

Sally Longley — Spiritual Director **Retreat Director:**

Spiritual Directors: Anne Friedlieb, Liz Rothe, Margaret Walsh & Fr Tony Loth

Cost: \$550: Includes 4 nights accommodation, 3 daily meals, morning and afternoon tea, individual spiritual direction and stipend for Retreat Director.

DETAILS:

- Registration 4 5.45pm Evening Meal 6pm
- Single, double, twin rooms with basin
- Shared bathroom facilities
- Stairs / Ramp to Prayer Room
- Opening Session 7pm
- ◆ Return application form and deposit \$70 by 18 August, 2017

Anne Friedlieb: annefriedlieb@bigpond.com Ph 02 6925 3913

Organised by: "Breath of Life" Ministry: Diocese of Wagga Wagga Co-ordinator: Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm 02 6971 7140. mmwalsh@wagga.net.au

Mater De Mater Dei congratulates the Diocese of Wa

A Pilgrimage for the Heart 20 March - 10 Apríl 2018

Accompanied by Dr Kerrie Hide and Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm



The Mystics in Europe

"All our life is grounded and rooted in love..." Julian of Norwich, A Revelation of Love, ch 49

We will begin our mystical journey in the silence of Julian's cell in Norwich, travel across to Spain to encounter the spirit of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, then go on to Italy to meet Clare and Francis of Assisi. We will conclude the pilgrimage in Germany enjoying the beauty of the Rhineland and surrounds with Hildegard, Gertrude and Mechthild.

DATES: Depart Sydney Tuesday 20 March 2018

Return Sydney Tuesday 10 April 2018

COST: \$9,850 twin share. Extra: Insurance, tipping & single supplement

Contact Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm for further details about the pilgrimage and for the application form and information brochure. Email: mmwalsh@wagga.net.au Ph: 02 6971 7140 13 Marns St, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

The Travel Agent we are going through is Harvest Journeys. As this is a private pilgrimage all enquiries at this stage go through Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm.

Harvest Journeys-11th Floor, 133 Liverpool St. Sydney NSW 2000 Monica Mansour Operations Manager – Private Groups toll free: 1800 819 156 Pilgrimage: Ref No. 8PVO7 tel: +61 2 9390 5460 www.harvestjourneys.com



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Cycling across Cambodia to raise funds for Catholic Mission

By John Goonan Diocesan Director, Catholic Misson



John Dodwell training hard in the gym.

John Dodwell, a parishioner of St Michael's Cathedral parish, in Wagga has begun training for

Cambodia for 12 days in November.

John is one of up to 20 people participating, and along the way they will be visiting several Catholic Mission education projects for disadvantaged communities which are funded by Catholic Mission.

The team of bike riders hope to raise a total of at least \$70,000 to be shared among the various projects.

"One of the places we will be visiting, and which will benefit from the money raised, is the Arrupe Welcome Centre, a place of rehabilitation for people with disabilities," John says. "Many of those disabilities come as a result of injuries from landmines."

John's interest in the plight of many

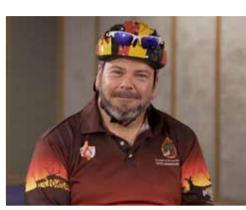
a 266 kilometre bike ride across Cambodian people began when he spent six months with Cambodian refugees in Long Beach California, mainly teaching English, but also providing food relief. "Most of the refugees were illiterate in their own language, so it was doubly hard for them to learn English," he said.

> 59 year old John recalls, "When I look back, I see my time in Long Beach as one of the most meaningful and important periods of my life, where I felt that what I was doing was making a difference.

"I have been a supporter of Catholic Mission for many years and when I saw they were looking for volunteers for the ride, I thought I'd be in it."

You can find John's fundraising page at www.catholicmission.org. au/r2ro, where you can support his efforts directly.

One of John's fellow riders will be known to many in our diocese. Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green (pictured in his cycling gear) of neighbouring Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese is just as excited as John to take up the challenge.



Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green in his cycling gear.

John would like the thank the parishioners of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, South Wagga and Sacred Heart Parish, Kooringal for their very generous support.

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Email: dpf@wagga.catholic.org.au



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Calling for Expressions of Interest Level 1 Part 1 (3-6 year olds) Training



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a faith formation process that honours the spiritual values of childhood and the child's covenant relationship with God. Founded by Dr. Sofia Cavalletti and Professor Gianna Gobbi in Rome, this method draws on the discoveries of childhood development made by Dr. Maria Montessori and implements Montessori principles of education, such as the use of concrete materials, spontaneous choice of work and freedom of movement.

Tentative Training

Date: Monday 2nd to Saturday 7th October (6 days) Trainer: Angela Hague from Chatswood Sydney

Location: St Joseph's Atrium LEETON

Cost: Dependent on the number of participants

Deadline for expressions of interest is Friday 18th **August, 2017**

Course Description and Aims:

The Level One Formation Course is the foundation course for all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

- Explore with participants the general developmental characteristics, religious nature and religious needs of the 3 to 6 year
- Meditate on the Biblical and Liturgical themes of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.
- Offer guidelines and assistance to catechists in setting up an atrium for the 3 to 6 year old child, preparing presentation
- Experience being formed as catechists by the Word of God and deepening our ability to observe and learn from the children, the joy of the Gospel!
- Participation in the course is not a commitment to working in an atrium
- Course content is also helpful for those working in other catechesis settings or for parents interested in understanding what the CGS is and what their children will experience in the atrium

For more information or to express interest please contact Victoria Kirley Diocesan Catechist Coordinator 0407 537 994 (Tuesday-Wednesday) catechist@wagga.catholic.org.au

1977-2017: Fr Kevin Flanagan farewelled by Nth Albury community

After 54 years of priestly service, Albury's much loved and longest serving priest, Father Kevin Flanagan has retired.

Fr Kevin began his early life in Tocumwal where he was ordained on 22 July, 1963. During his priestly life Fr Kevin served in a number of parishes in the diocese including Narrandera, South Wagga, St Patrick's Albury and St Michael's Cathedral, Wagga.

Ten years into his life as a priest Fr Kevin made the journey to work in Papua New Guinea where he embraced the life of the people and gained a great love for their culture.

On returning from Papua New Guinea he served at Our Lady of Fatima parish, South Wagga and St Patrick's, Albury. In 1977 Fr Kevin became the Parish Priest of the Sacred Heart Parish at North Albury where he has ministered to the people over the past 40 years.

During these years he has endeared himself to many through his compassion, care and inclusiveness and has always been welcomed at both St Anne's School and Xavier High School.

Since the announcement of his retirement many people have expressed sentiments about Fr Kevin. Prior to the July school holidays, St Anne's School held a special farewell Mass on the feast of the Sacred Heart. At this Mass Liz Johnston expressed their thoughts, 'You truly are an inspirational person. You are an integral part of our school community and it would be impossible to put a figure on the number of peoples' lives you have impacted over the last 40 years.'

The students presented Fr Flanagan with a montage of photos depicting his involvement and association with the school.

Another expression of gratitude from the wider community: 'Fr Kevin Flanagan has been a bridge

builder between faith and cultural communities, the Indigenous community, refugees and people of every or no faith.'

Many people both within and beyond the Sacred

Heart Parish have been affected by Fr Kevin's presence in their lives. Be it in the celebration of the Eucharist, baptisms, weddings, sacramental occasions, funerals, visits to the sick and dying, all have felt their lives touched and supported.

The weekend of the 22nd and 23rd July drew to a conclusion Fr Kevin's full time priestly ministry. Both weekend Masses were celebrations of gratitude for his 54 years of priesthood and 40 years as parish priest of Sacred Heart. The parish choir enriched the liturgy with their singing and the musical presentation of the theme from *The Mission*.

Fittingly Fr Kevin was supported by Fr John Frauenfelder, Fr Jim Victory and Fr Bernie Thomas and representatives from other denominations were part Council, expressed the sentiments of the parishioners with the following words from St Paul's Letter to the Philippians: 'You have a permanent place in my heart and God knows how much we will miss you.' All then were invited to extend

At the conclusion of the Sunday Mass all gathered in the Parish Hall for brunch.

their hand in a blessing over Fr Kevin as

the Irish Blessing was sung.

As Fr Kevin commences this time of retirement the thoughts of the parishioners are expressed as follows:

'You have served the Lord and our Church with gladness — tirelessly, faithfully and with great compassion for your flock. You have planted seeds of hope and love in our lives and truly made a difference in the lives of so many people of all denominations and cultures.

You have shown hospitality to all and given encouragement to many. Now, as the story which is your life opens to its next chapter:

May the God of Grace richly bless and watch over you,

May the God of Peace grant you peace always,

May the God of Abundant Joy shower vou daily.

Fr Kevin will continue to reside in Albury at Murray Gardens.



Top right: Fr Kevin Flanagan Below: Fr John Frauenfelder, left; Fr Jim

Victory, centre and Fr Bernie Thomas, far right concelebrate Mass with Fr

Flanagan. Middle photo: Sacred Heart parishioners bless Fr Flanagan

of the congregation. The liturgy reflected Fr Kevin's Ordination with Fr John placing the stole on Fr Kevin at the beginning of Mass followed by the Rite of Sprinkling of Water, a reminder of Fr Kevin's association with the Murray River. The Offertory Procession comprised children of the parish and young people who had been altar servers during Fr Kevin's time. They brought forward among the gifts a Coolamon containing cards and photos.

At the conclusion of the Mass, Justin Clancy, Chairperson of the Parish







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Mater Dei Catholic College thinks outside the square



Mater Dei Year 7 student, Jennifer Lungley and college staff member, Megan Narouz with curtains the students collected for the Vinnies Winter Appeal.

Imagine you and your children have just escaped a domestic violence situation. You are re-establishing your life, but setting up a whole new house is very expensive. You can't afford curtains yet you worry about privacy. How will the kids get into their pyjamas at night without everyone seeing in? You also worry about increased heating bills. With no curtains, heat will go straight out the cold windows.

Mater Dei Catholic College to the rescue! Hearing about struggling

families trying to re-establish themselves, Mater Dei's social justice leaders put a call out to the school community for curtain donations — new or good quality used. Over 90 curtains were collected and filled the backseat and boot of a car. With the help of Vinnies, Mater Dei were able to put a creative twist on the winter appeal.

Together we can do heroic things!

6th Annual'I Choose Life' Symposium

Members of The Culture Project

- Frances Hopkins, Katherine
Turnbull and Lorraine Ladia will be the keynote speakers at
this year's 6th annual *I Choose*Life Symposium on Saturday 12
August from 11am to 3pm at the
Griffith Regional Theatre.

The Culture Project Australia (with international headquarters in

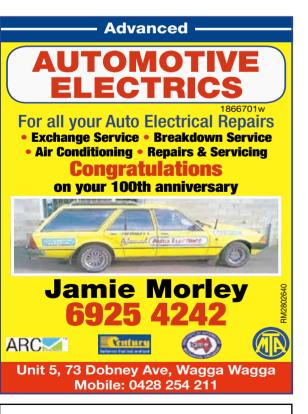
Philadelphia, USA) is an initiative of young people to restore culture. Sharing the messages of human dignity, sexual integrity and virtue as the way to happiness, they invite our culture to become fully alive.

They use personal experience, love and logic to unpack the power of relationships founded on integrity. Their goal in their presentation *It's*

Not You, It's Me is to share practical wisdom with youth and to help them take ownership of their decisions and pursue authentic relationships. They will present this at Marian Catholic College, Griffith on Friday 11 August at 1pm and Sacred Heart Youth Hut at 7pm. Admission is free for the symposium and all are welcome. For more information please contact icl. griffith@gmail.com



Katherine Turnbull, Frances Hopkins and Lorraine Ladia



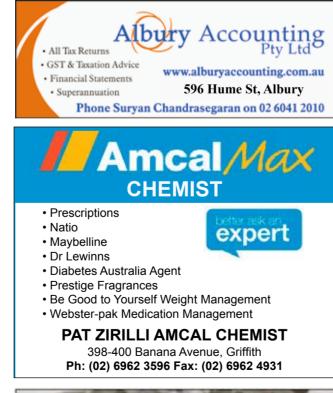
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Sister Campion McCarty pbvm

- 23 January 1916 to 28 May 2017 -

Born Zyltha Muriel McCarthy on 23 January, 1916 in Junee, she was the first child of Jack and Eunice McCarthy. Their second born, Eunice, died at an early age and Zrayda, Brian and Patricia completed the family unit. Zyltha attended Old Junee Primary School and won a State bursary to attend a secondary high school of her choice. She chose Mount Erin, Wagga Wagga and her love of learning, except cooking, continued throughout her life. After seven years working in Sydney to pursue a career in accounting she returned to Junee where she worked in the Flour Mill accounting office.

She entered the Presentation Sisters at Mount Erin and was professed in May 1947. She taught Latin, French and Maths in Hay, Berrigan and Young as well as Sutherland before her final years of teaching at Trinity Senior High, Wagga where she was Deputy Principal.

From 1984 until 1996 Campion worked in the Marriage Tribunal Office for the Wagga Diocese at McAlroy She worked tirelessly as Archbishop Francis Carroll said "giving pastoral care to people who had known grief and loss in their marriages and were seeking to rebuild their lives."

Campion lived the simple life - love, joy, laughter and God - love of God in all. Campion announced once that she loved dogs, boys and Latin Participles, in that order.

Campion was an avid letter writer keeping constant contact with family members, old classmates, ex-students and friends she made in every place she taught or worked.



Over her 101 years of lived experience she faced the challenges of change that were never dreamt of when she entered the convent in her twenties. Whilst the years brought a diminishment of eyesight and hearing together with her loss of independence, there were moments when the twinkle in her eye and chuckle were shared with those who visited. "God's good and He gets better every day," she often said. More recently she even thought maybe God had forgotten her as she was taking so

Sr Campion died on 28 May, 2017. Her funeral Mass was celebrated by her relative, Father Paul Hart in St Michael's Cathedral. Archbishop Francis Carroll concluded his homily with the words "the hope in the heart of Sister Campion put her life-story in its context and gives voice to our prayer for her: "I" said Jesus, "came that you may have life and have it abundantly – have it to the full." John 10:10

Sister Maria Goretti Pearson

- 26 September 1931 to 17 July 2017 -

Sister Maria Goretti Pearson, a former director of the Catholic Marriage Tribunal Office in Wagga, died in Sydney on 17 July, aged 85 years and in the 63rd year of her religious profession.

Evelyn Mary Pearson was born on 26 September 1931, the eldest child and only daughter of James Ward Pearson and Dorothea Mary Hoban, of Narrandera. She had two younger brothers, James Joseph and Barry William, both of whom survive her.

Her education was at St Joseph's School, Narrandera. After completing her Intermediate Certificate working in the office of a legal firm in Narrandera, she entered the Sisters of St Joseph in Goulburn on 19 March 1952. She took the name Sister Maria Goretti of the Sacred Heart and made her final vows on 10 January 1960.

Maria completed her teacher training at Mount Street, North Sydney and taught at primary schools in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and Wagga Wagga Dioceses including Culcairn, Batlow, Leeton, Yenda, Quandialla, Yoogali, Narrandera and Goulburn. She was principal at many of the schools in which she taught and was often the 'superior' of the local community as well!

In 1969 Maria was asked to establish the Motor Mission, based at Barmedman. The sisters took religion classes in State schools in the



surrounding region; trained catechists and visited families in the area served by the Motor Mission. Later she served in the role of Religious Education Coordinator and faith development in several Canberra schools.

Maria moved into work in the Marriage Tribunal Office in Wagga where she was the director for 13 years from 1993 to 2006.

Maria was a strong woman who coped graciously with whatever was asked of her. She had a strong faith and relied on this faith whenever life was difficult.

After Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Dolours Chapel, North Goulburn on 24 July 2017, Sr Maria Goretti was laid to rest at St Patrick's Cemetery, Goulburn.

Two religious sisters who both worked in the Marriage Tribunal of the Wagga Wagga Diocese, Sr Campion McCarthy pbvm and Sr Maria Goretti Pearson rsj have entered eternal life in the same year

Vianney College Celebrates 25th Anniversary

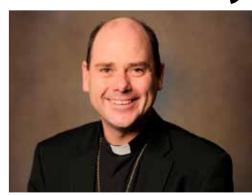
Vianney College is celebrating its silver anniversary this month with activities including a Thanksgiving Mass and inter-seminary soccer competition.

On March 29, 1992 the then Apostolic Pro-Nuncio in Australia, Franco Brambilla, Archbishop solemnly blessed and opened Vianney College, the home of the Competition on August 5.

new diocesan seminary founded by Bishop William Brennan, then bishop of Wagga Wagga.

The celebration of the silver jubilee of this event was deferred so that it would coincide with the liturgical feast of the seminary's patron, St John Vianney (August 4) and the hosting of the Inter-Seminary Soccer

A Thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Kennedy of Armidale, who was one of the original 10 seminarians, will be held at 6pm on Friday August 4 in St Michael's Cathedral. A full account of the celebrations and of the soccer tournament will appear in the next issue of Together.



Bishop Michael Kennedy of Armidale

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- Staff of John Hossack Funerals congratulate Wagga Wagga Diocese on it's 100th Anniversary -







