



# TOGETHER

In the Diocese of

Wagga Wagga

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FREE

AUGUST 2020

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St Joseph's  
Primary School,  
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## Feast of the Assumption of Mary

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# Bishop's Voice

**Bishop Mark Edwards OMI** - Bishop of Wagga Wagga Diocese



## Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Thank you for the welcome you have given me as I have moved around the diocese. It has been deeply moving to learn how much you and your priests have been praying for me.

I have been the bishop of Wagga Wagga for almost four weeks. As only very few people could be at the Liturgical Reception, I arrived early in the diocese with the intention of visiting every parish before that event. I apologise to those parishes where I had to cancel visits due to my COVID-19 test and the need to isolate while awaiting the result.

I have now been to all but three of our parishes, albeit only briefly in some. I will get to the parishes I missed as soon as my diary and COVID restrictions allow. My plan is to say Mass in the Cathedral on the last weekend of each month and to visit other parishes and their schools on the other weeks. I intend to visit all the parish Sunday Mass communities in the diocese and their schools before this time next year and will prioritise those parishes that I haven't been to yet.

The day before the Liturgical Reception, thirty priests gathered for prayer and lunch. Mgr Doug George led us in the prayer and in a homily put my service and Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity into context. Those priests present - priests from the Border Bubble were not able to attend because of a Government request - renewed the promises they originally made on the day of their ordination and did so with earnestness. Jesus and our spiritual care for you is at the heart of our presbyterate. His friendship makes sense of our lives and service. I thank all our priests for their commitment to friendship with Jesus, to the Church and our diocese. On your behalf, I thank them for their care for you and, on a personal level, I am deeply grateful for the support and priestly friendship they have offered me. I plan to meet individually

with all of our priests over the next year to hear their stories and to listen to what is in their hearts.

It is my hope that I slip into the life of the diocese rather than making a splash. It is my intention to spend the first year listening and learning. While I will make urgent decisions and day-to-day decisions, I will leave as many important decisions as possible for some time.

I don't come with a vision for the diocese. While I have ideas that I am excited about, I am aware that I don't know you or the clergy and that my ideas could be of little value or even counterproductive. My vision will develop from what I learn from you and others in the diocese, from my visits to parishes and their schools, from the Plenary Council and from my history as formator, educator and auxiliary bishop.

The Plenary Council process has my confidence. While there are pressure groups pushing their agendas, the closer I get to the heart of the process, the more I experience that the people there are trying to listen to what the Spirit is saying and I believe that God's Will is being discerned.

Learning how we are called to be a Christ-centred Church that is missionary and evangelising, that is humble, healing and merciful, that is inclusive, participatory and synodal, that is a joyful, hope-filled and servant community, that is prayerful and eucharistic, and that is open to conversion, renewal and reform must be a helpful and good thing. Even these topic headings that came out of discerning the data from the listening and dialogue sessions fills me with hope and energy. The agenda for the Plenary Council will also include governance issues from the report that the bishops commissioned which is entitled Light of the Southern Cross. This report will be made public later this year. I am excited that we are able to be a part of this process and its timing at the start of my time with you in the diocese is a gift from God.

I am writing this while on my annual retreat with my Oblate community via Zoom where I will pray for you and your families.

**In Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate**  
**Mark Edwards OMI**



## TOGETHER

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## Prayer Intention for August - Pray with Pope Francis

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Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his monthly prayer:

<http://popesprayerusa.net/category/pope-video/>



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The beauty of the sunrise took my breath away. A tall fishing vessel glided over the horizon as it approached the shore. A little while later it yielded up its harvest of 153 beautiful fish. Despite the catch, the nets were not broken. (John 21:11) Fishermen had breakfast on the seashore and gave thanks for the labor of the night.

Sadly, for many a different story unfolds. Inclement weather, poor quality boats and ever changing legislation cripples the fishing industry plunging the families of these good men into poverty and distress. Man's abuse

of creation pollutes the oceans – the seabed is poisoned, fish die.

On some occasions fishing trawlers are captured by human traffickers – the soul of man bleeds as victims endure all forms of abuse and the God of all creation fills the sea with his tears.

Our world cries out for healing and renewal. May we place our hand into the hand of the God who calmed the seas that his beautiful gift of creation may be restored and all whose lives depend on the fruits of the ocean be protected, this day and always. As one, may we rejoice and give thanks. Amen.



# Wagga priest Paddy Sykes celebrates first wedding since COVID-19 restrictions introduced

A Wagga priest has shared his confidence in live-streamed weddings becoming the new norm after celebrating a wedding for the first time since Covid-19 restrictions were introduced.

by Jessica McLaughlin - The Daily Advertiser

**Father Paddy Sykes celebrated a wedding at Saint Michael's Cathedral, with a total turnout of 25 people.**

While the crowd was smaller than they had originally hoped, the amount of people helping celebrate the occasion was anything but small.

"They live streamed the ceremony so their friends and family in Victoria, and those overseas, could watch it all still in real time," she said.

"I only heard positive feedback from everyone involved, and about how much they enjoyed it."

While COVID-19, hopefully, won't last forever, Fr Sykes said he could see the live streaming of weddings becoming commonplace.

"I really think it's going to become standard," he said.

"Take elderly grandparents, for example, who may be in nursing homes and would not ordinarily be able to make it - live streaming means they don't have to wait ages down the track to see photos, they can actually watch it as it happens."

Wedding celebrants' roles in couples' special days have become all the more valued with the limited number of guests allowed to share the experience, and Fr Sykes said he was thrilled to be involved.

**"It was a very special day and it was nice to be back in the Cathedral," he said.**



Father Paddy Sykes is thrilled to be back joining couples in Holy matrimony. Picture: Les Smith

Bishop Mark visited St Joseph's School at Lockhart on Monday 3rd August. The students all got a chance to see the Crozier up close.



Bishop Mark was welcomed to the Lockhart Parish and celebrated Mass on Saturday 1st August.



Above: Father Henry, Bishop Mark and Larry Smith, Chairman of Lockhart Parish Council.

Afterwards, parishioners enjoyed a meal with Bishop Mark and Father Henry. The Lockhart parish feel very blessed to have had Bishop Mark visit them and are so grateful for his appointment.



On Tuesday, 4th August, the Feast of Saint John Vianney, Bishop Mark Edwards paid his first official visit as Bishop of Wagga Wagga to the Diocesan Seminary, Vianney College.

Due to current restrictions the celebration of the seminary’s patron was somewhat subdued. But Bishop Mark celebrated Mass in the seminary chapel with the students and staff and then joined the seminary community for the feast day luncheon. Pictured is Bishop Mark with the seminary community around the statue of Saint John Vianney, after the Mass.



# Natural Fertility Awareness Week 2020

Natural Fertility Awareness Week is Monday 17th August through to Sunday 23rd August, 2020. It is an annual campaign to educate individuals and couples about the gift natural family planning is to marriages and families.

by Carla Chigwidden

**During these times of uncertainty, with so many in isolation, more people are becoming very aware of their physical and mental health.**

Perhaps it is a time to reflect also on our reproductive health and consider how this may also be impacted.

The theme for Natural Fertility Awareness Week is: *Stay Connected with your Fertility – Get the Know-How.*

Stress can impact us in many ways .... even the reproductive cycle can be affected. This can be readily recognised when there is an understanding of how the body's natural signs inform us of what is happening in the reproductive system. The Billings Ovulation

Method® can help women in any stage of their reproductive life to recognise and chart these signs. It provides a woman with knowledge of fertility and infertility, indicating the optimum time for conception and alternatively the awareness of infertility can be used to space pregnancies. During this pandemic, it is also a great tool for monitoring reproductive health.

There are so many apps available to track a cycle. These may be helpful to keep track of the regularity of a period but there is on offer a very reliable teaching tool that can be accessed remotely/on-line and which is interactive with a teacher.

Fertility Pinpoint™ was developed to



be more than an app to track menstrual cycles. It is a convenient, interactive teaching system that lets a woman have personal and confidential contact with an accredited teacher of the Billings Ovulation Method® to help her understand her hormone levels and identify infertility and fertility through her personal chart.

Already many women, some who live overseas, access this service as the tutor is only a click away. It is a wonderful

resource for those who live in remote areas but just as useful and accessible for busy city dwellers who are time-poor or in restrictive isolation.

**More information can be accessed through the Billings LIFE web site:**

**[www.billings.life](http://www.billings.life) and [www.fertilitypinpoint.com](http://www.fertilitypinpoint.com)**

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#### Wednesday 5 August

- The origin of the Mass
- Why come to celebrate? (we come to share our story)

#### Wednesday 12 August

- Introductory Rite
- Liturgy of the word (we come to know our rising from the dead)



#### Wednesday 19 August

- Liturgy of the eucharist (we come to break the bread)
- Offertory (we offer ourselves)

#### Wednesday 26 August

- Holy communion (Christ's gift to us)
- We are sent forth into the community to be a life giver (we are called to heal the broken)

**Time: 10.30 - 12 Wednesday**

**Venue - Marian Room (Up the ramp and behind the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.)**

#### Facilitors:

**Sr Theresa Foley RSM (Spiritual Director) Ph: 0429 661 401**  
**Mrs Kay Scobie (Charismatic Renewal)**

#### Resources:

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- "The Mass" by Fr Tony Doherty

**All welcome and please bring your Bible**  
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# The club no one wants to join

Last year Felicity shared with Together the grief of losing her son. June 23rd was the first anniversary of the death of Paul and Felicity de Fombelle’s son Etienne. Here, Felicity shares a personal reflection.

by Felicity de Fombelle

**I hug the photo of my precious five-year-old son, who died one year ago, as I walk to my grief counselling appointment.**

Each week I take a different photo with me. It rests on the front passenger seat of the car as I set off from home.

I dread the sessions but know I need them.

I pack some makeup in my handbag too. The appointment goes for more than an hour and afterwards I need to fix up my tear-streaked face before heading to work.

My grieved self cannot enter the office. People can’t see me that way.

The sharing with my counsellor is intense and it is a challenge to switch to work mode in the office, but we all wear our masks.

Some are thicker than others.

So I arrive at the Red Nose office for my Friday morning appointment. Formerly SIDS & Kids, the organisation was started in 1977 by bereaved parents to support grieving families and reduce child deaths.

I dread the long walk from the carpark, every step reminding me I am a bereaved mum.

I wish there was no such thing. That there was no Red Nose office.

My son Etienne died suddenly on Sunday June 23, 2019. He was having a mid-morning nap on the couch. When I went to wake him he was dead.

A swarm of police, paramedics and doctors invaded our home that long

afternoon and a police officer asked if he could pass my details to Red Nose.

It was one of many questions fired at me that dizzy day. I said Yes, and there began my journey of counselling and healing.

I don’t know when, how or if it will end.

While I feel apprehensive in the days leading to each appointment, I ignore the voice urging me to opt out, feeling I have little choice but to confront head on this beast called grief.

Counselling gives me a safe place to fall apart and vent feelings of rage, resentment, sadness and despair.

And feel protected, because grief strips you bare. Clothed only in vulnerability.

The control you once clung to has gone. The child you once nurtured ripped from you. In its place only pain, a constant pain that is too much for one person.

As my 10 year old son Eric wrote on my birthday card, “Our hearts are broken and we need to put them back together.”

My counsellor and I explore difficult terrain such as:

- My sense of despair and not wanting to go on living, knowing how much my three living sons need me but yearning to be with Etienne,
- Finding the confidence to say I am a mother of four, with three living sons and one in heaven. That takes practice,
- Navigating well-meaning friends who want to support when all I want to do is hide,



- Coping with ordinary events that are now nerve-racking and fill me with dread such as meetings and work, and
- Feeling nothing but pain and nothing beyond.

She assures me that life can and will be better and I have to believe that.

Carving out time to talk about Etienne and the pain of his loss is the right thing to do.

My youngest son comes alive, if only through words, photos and memories. And his Mum, ever so slowly, can heal.

A few months into our sessions, I have a confession for my counsellor.

“I hate coming here,” I blurt out.

“I know,” she replies understandingly.

“It’s the club no one wants to join.”

I am a member of the Bereaved Parents’ Club and she is with me for the journey.

**God is doing his share of heavy lifting too, but that’s another story.**



Top: Etienne with his mother, Felicity.  
Above: Etienne with his older brothers from left Thibault, Arnaud and Eric.



## ErinEarth opening times

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# A Checklist for Catholic Dads

Father's Day will be celebrated on Sunday 6th September. This article talks about living up to 7 expectations that will help Catholic men with their responsibility to be strong fathers and husbands as well as humble followers of Christ.

by **Randy Hain**

**I have had numerous conversations over the years with other Catholic dads about the challenges of raising kids in today's world.**

The discussions usually center on the bad cultural influences affecting our children, our hectic schedules, and our well-intentioned desire to be better fathers.

We mean well, but how do we move from conversation to action? The stakes are high, and this generation of children desperately needs fathers to step up to their responsibilities.

I was blessed to grow up with great parents. We didn't have much, but my parents made sure my sister and I had love, discipline, faith, strong values, and a solid work ethic. My mother played a vital role in our family, as all mothers do, but I find as I grow older that I am most like my father.

I pass on to my own children many of the lessons he taught me, and I still look to him for wisdom and advice.

Look back on your own upbringing. What role did your father play? Were there other role models? Just as many of us live out the lessons we learned in our youth, our children will someday emulate us. They are always watching, and we have to decide if we will be their heroic role models who consistently set the right example or relinquish our fatherly responsibilities to a host of bad societal influences. Which will it be?

After recently reflecting on my conversations with other dads, I made a list of the actions I am working on which I learned from my father and my own experiences as a parent. Just making this list was convicting and challenging for me, as I became acutely aware of where I fall short. Yet developing this list has also inspired me, and I try to reflect on these actions during my prayer time each day.

I have a long way to go, but I believe living up to the expectations below will keep me headed in the right direction:

**Surrender.** We have to surrender on an ongoing basis to Christ for his will to be done in our lives. Guys, we are not in charge ... as much as we want to be! St. Ignatius of Loyola once said: "Few souls understand what God

would accomplish in them if they were to abandon themselves unreservedly to him and if they were to allow his grace to mold them accordingly."

**Be a Man of Prayer.** Our children will be much more likely to pray if we do. Work on developing a daily prayer routine with the goal of at least an hour a day devoted to prayer. Sound difficult? Think about how much TV we watch a day or time spent answering email. Consider how much time we spend in our cars each day and how much time we devote to exercise. We have more than enough time for prayer if we schedule it and integrate it into our day. Also, imagine the powerful influence we can have on our children if they see us on our knees in prayer each night at family prayer time.

**Understand Our True Vocation.** For those of us blessed to be married and have children, we must recognize that helping our families get to heaven and being good husbands and fathers—

not our business careers—is our real vocation. Ask yourself: "Is my work serving my family? Or is my family serving my work?"

**Invest Time.** Our children need our time. Put down the smartphone; turn off the TV; cancel the golf outing. Let's spend more time with our kids! In the absence of a father's time with his family, you can bet there are countless bad influences ready to take his place and guide his children in the wrong direction. I paraphrase author-theologian Scott Hahn, who wrote that in our modern age the father or mother who is willing to walk out of the office after forty hours in order to have more time with his/her family is the real hero.

**Be Courageous.** Christians are meant to stand out, not blend in. Blending in speaks to conforming so that our faith becomes part of the mainstream ... and we need to fight the culture. These are difficult times, and we have a responsibility to love and defend Christ, be great role models for our families and stand up for our faith.

**Practice Detachment.** Are we too focused on acquiring toys, bigger houses, nicer cars, or the next promotion? We need to let go of the things that are in the way of our prayer lives, Mass attendance, charitable giving, volunteering, time with our families, and certainly our relationship with Christ.

**Love Our Wives.** Husbands, we must love and cherish our wives, plain and simple. Our children will learn to love others by how they see Mom and Dad love each other. We need to say, "I love you" to our wives and our children as often as possible. Let's show our wives respect and cherish the critical role they play in our families. "The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." So said Theodore Hesburgh.

Today's kids face significant challenges and strong fathers, without a doubt, are part of the solution.

Let's take a few minutes to reflect on how we are doing as fathers and husbands. Take the results of this reflection to prayer and reconciliation. Most importantly, commit to make the necessary changes.

As Catholic men, we have a responsibility to be strong fathers and husbands, leaders in our parishes, good stewards in our communities and humble followers of Christ.

Let's look to the inspiring example of St. Joseph, patron saint of fathers, workers and the universal Church, for his obedience, humility, selflessness, courage, and the love he showed to Mary and Jesus.

**If we can emulate St. Joseph even a little each day, we will be that much closer to becoming the men and fathers we are called to be.**



# ACN Australia launches National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon

The Australian office of the international Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched a national emergency appeal for Lebanon, requesting prayers for victims and their families, and raising funds in the wake of the deadly explosion in Beirut on the 4th of August, which has killed at least 135 people, injured 5000 and decimated the capital city.

**The funds that are raised will be used to support the most urgent needs in Lebanon (such as emergency food packages) but they will also respond to the physical and spiritual needs that arise in the coming weeks, months and years.**

ACN is grateful that the appeal has been given the endorsement and support of Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay of the Maronite Catholic Diocese of Australia and Bishop Robert Rabbat of the Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Australia and New Zealand.

In launching the appeal, the National Director of ACN Australia, Mr Bernard Toutounji, is asking the Catholic people - and all people of goodwill - to offer a prayer and a donation for the Lebanese people. "Australians love the Lebanese people, who have been an integral

part of this nation since the 19th century; indeed almost 250,000 Australians claim some Lebanese ancestry. Lebanese Australians have, and continue to, contribute significantly to our civic, religious and business fabric. The explosion in Beirut has devastated the lives of our Lebanese brothers and sisters, and we feel their pain today. I appeal to the Catholic and wider community to support the people of Lebanon with their prayers and financial resources. The sort of carnage we have witnessed cannot be fixed overnight, this will take years, and even though all of us are currently living through the stress of the coronavirus pandemic, we must put ourselves in solidarity with Lebanon and her sons and daughters."

Bishop Tarabay, the spiritual leader of 160,000 Maronites in Australia, expressed his gratitude for the appeal.



"I give my blessing to this national appeal. ACN has been on the ground in Lebanon for many, many years working with the priests, religious and the people to keep the faith alive. Our people have suffered so much for so long, but I know Australians will be carrying them in their prayers and I thank them for anything they can do to help us."

Bishop Rabbat leads the 50,000 Melkite Catholics of Australia, many of whom are themselves Lebanese. "This is a shocking situation, this is the land of my own birth, and I mourn with the people of Lebanon. I am conscious though that in this month we will commemorate the Dormition (Assumption) of the Mother of God, so we must pray that the Theotokos will bring hope and healing in the lives of all those who have been

affected. For those who have died, memory eternal! I thank everyone for supporting this appeal."

Founded in 1947, Aid to the Church in Need has long-term and trusted project partners on the ground in Lebanon, and around the world. These project partners are already providing vital information as to where resources are most needed and how they can be most effectively used. ACN supports more than 5000 projects annually around the world and all are undertaken with strict processes of accountability and transparency in place.

**To donate to ACN's National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon) or call ACN on 1800 101 201 during business hours, 8am-5pm, AEST.**



Aid to the Church in Need



Above: A general view of the scene following the explosion at the port of Lebanese capital, Beirut [AFP]

# Christians in Lebanon can count on help from ACN

The international Catholic pastoral charity and pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need (ACN International) has been working for decades with numerous different project partners within Lebanon – above all in the areas of pastoral care and help for refugees.

**This has proved to be a great advantage in the aftermath of the recent catastrophic explosion in the port of Beirut.** ACN has immediately sent 410,000 AUD in emergency aid to starving Christian families, many of whom are facing real hunger. There is a great deal more still to be done. For example, the Christian quarter of Beirut has been extensively damaged. Tobias Lehner has spoken to Regina Lynch, the Director of Projects for ACN International, about the situation in Beirut and what further aid the charity is planning.

**What news do you hear from the project partners in Beirut? What is the situation in the city?**

Beirut is in a state of crisis. There is hardly any electricity and in some places no means of communication (telephone, Internet etc.). Some 90,000 homes and houses have been destroyed or damaged. The

international aid of AUD 488 million promised on Sunday falls far short of what is needed to rebuild the district affected by the explosion.

**What is the local Church doing to help those who have survived the disaster?**

Already before the explosion, the Catholic Patriarchates (Maronite, Greek-Catholic, Syriac-Catholic, Armenian) in Lebanon had got together with local parishes and institutions such as Caritas, St. Vincent de Paul and the Pontifical Mission Societies, and created a committee to see how to help the Christians who were already facing soaring inflation, coupled with spiraling unemployment. Many families were on the brink of starvation and Christians were already talking of leaving the country.

Since an aid distribution plan had already been set up, this now means that the Church is in a good position



Food packages distributed through Syriac Catholic church. Photographer: CNEWA/Pontifical Mission. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need

for distributing the aid that is being provided by foreign NGOs, e.g. food, medicine, blankets. It is inspiring to see the role that the Catholic young people are playing in helping with the distribution of the emergency aid.

**For what purpose will the aid from ACN be used?**

The initial aid of AUD 410,000 from ACN will be used for supplying food packages to 5,000 families, most of whom were affected by the explosion, but also for those Lebanese and refugee Christians, who were already struggling to survive before the explosion. Some of Lebanon's main grain silos were destroyed in the explosion, resulting in even higher food prices.

**What other relief efforts is ACN planning?**

Some 80% of the Christian district of Achrafieh has been among the areas worst affected by the explosion – the lower part of it nearest to the

port has disappeared. Hundreds of Christian families have lost their homes and livelihoods. Numerous Catholic hospitals and dispensaries are in urgent need of repair, so that they can continue to function. Countless Church structures have been destroyed or badly damaged, e.g. St. George's Maronite Cathedral, several parish churches, the Middle East provincial houses of various congregations, convents. Aid to the Church in Need is working with our local Church partners to see which of these needs can be addressed immediately and which subsequently, in the next few months before winter sets in.

**Christians in Lebanon may be sure that they can count on the prayers and financial support of ACN's benefactors.**

**Important note:** The projects above are just a small sample of the project requests Aid to the Church in Need receives. Therefore when making a donation we recommend you specify your gift to "projects most in need" that way your donation will be allocated to a project that desperately needs funding.

We greatly appreciate when you specify your donation in such a way. However if you would like your donation directed to a specific project area or country, you can leave a comment in the online donation form. To avoid overfunding of individual projects, if a project has been fully funded your donation will be directed towards a similar project in that region.

If you have the means and would like to "adopt a specific project" please call 1800 101 201 during business hours (AEST) and we can match you with a project that you can fully or partially fund.



People attending Mass at Socio-medical dispensary in Nabaa prior to distribution of food packages. Photographer: CNEWA/Pontifical Mission. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

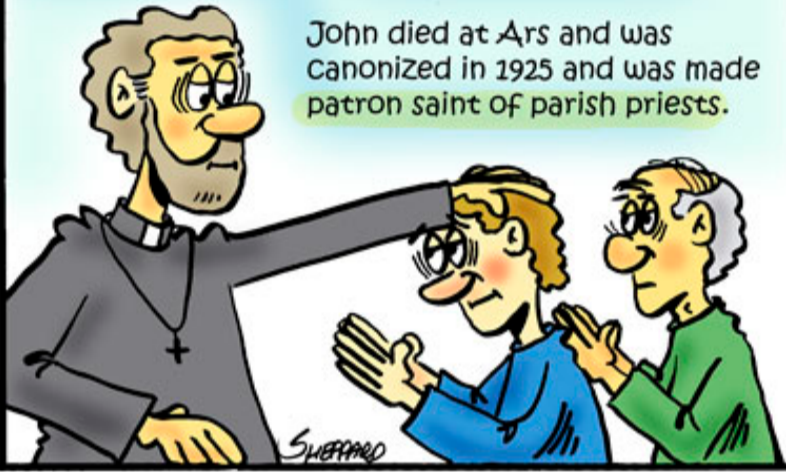
# KIDS corner

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

St John Baptist Vianney was born in France in 1786. After being drafted into the Army, he deserted and returned home and entered the seminary in 1813.

He was assigned to Ecully and in 1818 he became Cure, as pastor of Ars. He worked 16 to 18 hours a day working in the confessional, administering the Sacrament of Penance, or Reconciliation.



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Saint John Vianney



# Craft...

## Father's Day: Ice block stick keys and coins box

*This simple ice block stick craft is a great idea for Father's Day. Little kids will get a big sense of achievement from making Dad this box to keep his coins and keys in.*



- You'll need:**
- approximately 50 coloured ice block sticks
  - glue and paint
- How to make:**
- Paint the sticks and allow to dry or you can buy them already coloured.
  - Start by laying 11 sticks, side by side.
  - Put a row of glue across the top edge and stick another single ice block stick along the top edge of these to form a cross frame. Do this along the bottom as well.
  - Now layer up the sides of the box the same way: placing a stick along each edge alternately to make a pattern.
  - Keep going until you have about six or seven layers up.
  - Perfect for keys and coins!

Send your coloured picture, word search or joke ideas with your name, age and school to:

Together Editor  
PO Box 473  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

We'd love to hear from you!



## AUGUST SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS

# Word Search

Find all of the words or phrases in the puzzle that are in **BOLD** in the word bank below:



T	R	A	N	S	F	I	G	U	R	A	T	I	O	N
L	A	S	S	U	M	P	T	I	O	N	W	X	A	B
A	P	B	G	H	P	V	S	B	P	J	W	S	U	E
W	Y	M	E	M	W	P	M	T	B	K	K	U	G	R
R	N	V	T	N	O	T	B	W	E	D	D	I	U	N
E	L	Y	M	B	E	N	M	C	Q	P	T	P	S	A
N	Y	L	H	L	F	D	I	J	G	P	H	J	T	R
C	E	M	T	B	K	N	I	C	N	Y	R	E	I	D
E	N	R	R	N	I	P	F	C	A	E	F	Y	N	T
K	N	W	X	M	N	Q	E	E	T	R	N	M	E	S
B	A	L	O	F	M	B	S	T	K	A	M	Y	K	I
L	I	D	R	T	L	O	N	P	R	L	B	M	R	T
Q	V	H	Q	O	R	K	L	R	D	C	C	K	J	P
P	C	L	K	K	L	O	U	I	S	M	M	M	P	A
N	V	V	Y	B	D	H	W	L	M	T	H	Y	Q	B

- St. John **Vianney**
- Transfiguration**
- St. **Dominic**
- St. Teresa **Benedicta** of the Cross
- St. **Lawrence**
- St. **Clare**
- St. Maximilian **Kolbe**
- Assumption** of Mary
- St. **Stephen** of Hungary
- St. **Bernard**
- St. **Pius X**
- St. **Rose** of Lima
- St. **Louis** of France
- St. **Monica**
- St. **Augustine**
- Passion of St. John the **Baptist**

# Our Lady of Fatima First Eucharist Weekend

Children from Henschke Primary School in Wagga Wagga celebrated their First Eucharist on 8 and 9 August at Our Lady of Fatima Church.





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# PARENTING CHILDREN WITH ADHD

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- What is ADHD?
- How does ADHD affect family life?
- Using rewards & consequences
- Managing difficult behaviour

- Creating better routines & relationships
- Working with schools
- Building self-esteem
- Family problem-solving



- Family Counselling Services
- School Wellbeing Program
- Personal Helpers and Mentors Program
- Employee Assistance Program
- Family Education Services
- Complex Case Services
- Natural Fertility Awareness
- Settlement Grants Program
- Recovery Approaches to Dementia
- Pre Marriage Education
- Partners in Recovery
- Clinical Clergy Assessments

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[www.centacareswnsw.org.au](http://www.centacareswnsw.org.au)

**The course is suitable for parents carers, grandparents and community members.**

**Recommended for parents of primary/early high school aged children, but all are welcome.**

The goal of this course is to inform and empower parents to work together with their child to cope with the many difficulties of ADHD by passing on practical, workable strategies that will make a difference in the lives of all family members.

An environment conducive to the engagement of parents through non-judgment, empathy and acceptance is a priority. Plenty of time will be allowed to discuss the home practice exercises to encourage parents to support each other in putting these ideas into practice and celebrate their successes.

An important goal of this course is to foster solidarity and support amongst the participants whereby they share and discuss their parenting experiences. This in turn can lead to lasting friendships, which offer parents the hope of ongoing support on their parenting journey.

**Where:** Online Microsoft Teams

**When:** Please call for next available program dates.


**Evening session:** 6:30pm- 8:30pm

**Fees:** \$30 standard \$15 concession

**Facilitator:** Maree and Tammy

**Bookings Essential**

For further information or to register your interest please contact Centacare South West NSW on 1300 619 379 or email [info@centacareswnsw.org.au](mailto:info@centacareswnsw.org.au)



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We are urgently in need of volunteers to work in the Vinnies shop at Turvey Tops.

If you have some spare time in your week we would love to hear from you.

Please phone Kerry on 0426 113 991 or Turvey Tops shop on 6925 2335

# New Wellness Centre for seniors in Wagga Wagga now open

Catholic Healthcare’s new Wellness Centre in Wagga Wagga is now open, providing services and support for local Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and Home Care clients.

**The Wellness Centre is open on Thursdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm and is located at The Haven, 156 Bourke St, Wagga Wagga.**

“The Centre offers diverse opportunities for clients to enjoy a range of activities in a relaxed environment, while also promoting social connections, fun, confidence, security and wellness for local seniors receiving CHSP and Home Care support,” says Joylene Crossley, Care Advisor for the Riverina Murray region.

“When clients arrive at the Wellness Centre, they can choose from a range of activities focusing on health and wellbeing, independence, self-expression and companionship.


“As we are a small Wellness Centre, we are able to design a support plan based on client choice, delivered by a friendly, local team of caring and

skilled healthcare professionals.”

The Wellness Centre is one of a suite of aged care services provided by Catholic Healthcare in the Riverina region including Home Care Packages, CHSP, Residential Aged Care and Independent Living Units.

The Centre has strict Covid-19 protocols in place with social distancing, sanitising and additional cleaning. All staff and clients attending the Centre are required to have had the flu vaccine, and are screened for Covid-19 symptoms.

**For more information call (02) 6936 0111 and speak to the Catholic Healthcare team or visit <https://www.catholichealthcare.com.au/homecare/>**





Jeff, enjoying the new Wellness Centre.

# St Joseph's Primary School, Leeton

FERRAGOSTO! What a wonderful day St Joseph's Primary had celebrating the feast of Ferragosto and the Catholic feast of the Assumption of Mary. Dressed in Italian colours they enjoyed delicious Italian food and took part in Italian games. Well done to Mrs Q-T for making it happen!



# Holy Spirit School, Lavington

It is with great sorrow that we inform the larger Holy Spirit School community our friend, teacher and colleague, Mrs Brenda Konecnik passed away at home surrounded by her family on 21st July.

Brenda has been a long term staff member of our school community. Students taught by Brenda remember her with great fondness and affection. She genuinely cared for her students and colleagues alike. Her infectious smile and positive attitude will be sorely missed by all.

Brenda had fought a very brave battle with breast cancer for the past few years. Our deepest sympathies go out to Andrew, Steven, Josh, Nikki & Tim and close friends at this very sad time.

Eternal rest grant unto Brenda,  
O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her.

May Brenda and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.  
Amen



Rest in Peace

# Holy Trinity Primary, West Wagga

Year 1 students were recently practising mindfulness with their new eye masks.



# St Joseph's Primary, Finley

St Joseph's Primary ended last term with a colour run around Finley Lake.







All schools enrolling now

# St Michael's Primary, Coolamon



Kindergarten are learning to find different combinations to ten while playing a really fun card game. Learning, communication, team work, and having fun!!



# St Joseph's Primary, Wagga Wagga



The Stage 3 girls had a fantastic day at the Sydney FC Cup. They snagged two wins against Lake Albert Public School and Ashmont Public.

The Stage 3 boys took out the Boys Sydney FC Cup for the first time. They beat three times champions South Wagga in a penalty shootout in a tense final that finished 1 all. Congrats boys!!



# Mater Dei Primary, Wagga Wagga

Thank you to our Mini Vinnies leaders and Mrs Sandral for hosting our beanie and scarf day to finish off Term Two. There were smiles all round with many of our students enjoying a warm Milo at recess! The money raised was \$567. This will go to the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Thank you to all who participated and donated!



# St Joseph's Primary School, Jerilderie

St Joseph's recently had their Craziest Cross Country. Well done students.



# Sacred Heart Primary, Wagga Wagga

Year 3 did some research about Mary, the mother of Jesus. They chose either a slideshow, a poster or a book to present their information to the Kindergarten children. We asked the Kinders to tell us what they learned about Mary. Their answers showed that Year 3 are great teachers and Kinders are great listeners!



# Celebrating National Vocations Awareness Week

2nd to 9th August is National Vocation Awareness Week 2020. During this week the whole Church community is called to pray for an increase in vocations, and to support and encourage those discerning their vocation.

**We pray for young people in our community and our families that they may be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and that the Lord enlighten and give them the grace and courage to respond to His call.**

And responding does take great courage! Perhaps you know of someone? Have you ever asked them what they think God is calling them to?

Pope Francis recently encouraged all Catholics to contemplate their vocation, but in a particular way he called on young men to be courageous and generous in embarking, just as the first disciples did, on a vocation to the priesthood. The Pope

acknowledged that answering the Lord's call demands the courage to take a risk. "I invite everyone," he said, "to ask the Lord for the gift of good labourers for His Kingdom, with hearts and hands open to His love."

If you are a young man or woman who feels God is calling you to religious life, come and have a chat, and we can help you discern and point you in the right direction. Let us journey with you, do not be afraid, to answer His call. *"The Teacher is here... and He is asking for you."* (Jn 11:28)

**See page 19 for a list of our seminarians to pray for.**

## Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, O Lord,  
that we may be holy.

In your mercy, guard and strengthen us to be disciples who witness to the Good News of Jesus.

Call forth from our community of the Church generous and loving shepherds after your own heart.

May they be zealous preachers of the Word;  
faithful teachers of the Truth;  
and devoted servants at the Altar.

Fill their hearts with love for you and your creation;  
open their minds to a lifetime of learning;  
and make them humble servants of  
your holy people.

For you, O God, are kind and merciful,  
and to you we offer glory, in your holy  
Church, now and forever. Amen.

## 7 ESSENTIAL THINGS ABOUT YOUR VOCATION



### VOCATION IS BY INVITATION

The word vocation comes from the Latin *vocare* which means to call. God calls or invites you to a particular vocation: single life, marriage, priesthood or consecrated life.

### GOD CALLS YOU PERSONALLY

God is interested in you personally and he calls you personally...Pope Francis has commented on this personal aspect of vocation: "In calling us God says to us: "You are important to me, I love you, I count on you."



### YOUR VOCATION IS AN EXPRESSION OF WHO YOU ARE

"Be who you are meant to be and you will set the whole world on fire": this is a common paraphrase of the words of St Catherine of Siena. It's tempting to think of your vocation as something you do.

### GOD KNOWS US BEST

"Which of us knows what will make us happy?" asks Fr Jacques Philippe in *The Way of Trust and Love*. We have all had that experience of getting exactly what we thought we wanted, only to find ourselves still unsatisfied. But God knows us better than we know ourselves;



### A VOCATION IS DIFFERENT FROM A CAREER

When we speak of Christian vocations, we don't mean a job or a career. Your vocation is the way God invites you to love and give yourself to others.



### EVERY VOCATION IS A CALL TO LOVE

On the surface the vocations of priesthood, religious life, married life, and single life seem quite different, don't they? Although there is a beautiful diversity among these vocations, at their heart each shares a common commitment to love.

### GOD RESPECTS YOUR FREEDOM

God created us with the "dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions"; we have the freedom to choose and be responsible. (CCC 1730). God does not want to force you to choose a certain path, but to listen to His invitation and respond freely, and so "God does not shout but whispers"



## EXPLORE YOUR CALL



†  
PRIESTHOOD



†  
CONSECRATED  
LIFE



†  
SINGLE



†  
MARRIAGE

# Drawing on the wisdom of Saint Mary MacKillop through National Vocations Awareness Week

Each year the Church celebrates National Vocations Awareness Week. This year the week is held between 2nd to 9th August and is dedicated to promoting the various expressions of Christian vocation with a focus on promoting priesthood and consecrated life.

**This year, a group of Josephite Sisters and Affiliates have been asked to contribute video content about their Ministries and how they participate in God's mission today.**

"The response has been extremely pleasing, and we are thrilled to showcase the great works of these individuals," said Kathleen Norman, Communications Manager, Sisters of Saint Joseph. "The first of the content series was launched on Sunday 2 August in time for the start of National Vocations Awareness Week, and then continue throughout the remainder of this year."

Drawing from reflection on Saint Mary MacKillop's experience, Sister Monica added: "My advice to young Australians of faith is – be the voice of the gospel and the face of God in the world today. Be

courageous; use your passion and energy to address the critical issues facing the world and church today."

During these unusual times throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, research shows us there is a new openness to the sharing of faith in 2020. Australians have turned to prayer during the coronavirus with many wanting to spend more time growing their faith once restrictions are lifted.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph believe that Saint Mary MacKillop would offer encouragement during these difficult times. In 1907 she wrote to the Sisters: *"We must let no obstacles deter us from proceeding with courage in the path marked out for us. It may sometimes be dark and full of windings, but a beautiful bright light shines at the end of this path and a few more windings will bring us to it."*



*I am Josephite - Pauline's Story*

Sr Monica Cavanagh, Congregational Leader, believes strongly that Mary MacKillop is with us. "Her own experience of life leads us to be in deep communion with her. We remember that Mary herself suffered from ill-health and will be close to all those whose health has been impacted by the COVID-19. She was close to death on a few occasions and found comfort in those who shared these times with her."

Saint Mary MacKillop herself wrote about her testing experience of being dangerously unwell:

*"I was for many weeks dangerously ill, so ill that I nearly died... I was weary of the world and its crosses... The mental conflict had been too much for me."*

Lesley O'Brien,

*Mary MacKillop Unveiled*, p.145

Drawing from that insight into Saint Mary MacKillop's experience, Sister Monica added: "My advice to young Australians of faith is – be the voice of the gospel and the face of God in the world today. Be courageous; use your passion and energy to address the critical issues facing the world and church today."

The opening prayer of the Liturgy for

Saint Mary MacKillop's Feast Day on 8 August begins:

*"Holy God, source of all goodness, you show us in Mary MacKillop a woman of faith who lived by the power of the cross."*

On this feast day let us be mindful that Mary MacKillop stands at the cross with us encouraging us to keep alive the flame of hope, bringing solace to those who have lost loved ones or employment, and comforting those whose lives have been changed for ever through the COVID-19 pandemic. For Mary MacKillop the Cross became the Tree of Life. Walking in and through the Cross she drew strength from the God who loved her. Mary MacKillop embraced the suffering in her life and shows us how to persevere in the face of adversity. We take to heart her message: "God is good and has brought light and help when all was very dark." 1899

**The Sisters of Saint Joseph look forward to sharing their message of hope and faith.**

**The video links can be found at:**  
**<https://youtu.be/26TXrogQs0k>**  
**and**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pBngeKlOc7Y>**



*I am Josephite - Sister Lee's Story*

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# Caritas Australia provides support for Beirut following devastating explosion

Caritas Australia has today provided an initial \$50,000 in crucial emergency relief as part of its Middle East Regional Appeal.

**“Today Lebanon is reeling from the effects of the explosion in Beirut on Tuesday. Caritas Lebanon is already on the ground working to assist the most vulnerable - a huge undertaking with the sheer scale of people impacted. The most urgent needs are food, health and shelter”, said Kirsty Robertson, Caritas Australia’s CEO.**

Hygiene kits, already essential to combat COVID-19, are even more needed to protect people from the

toxicity dispersed into air from the 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate. Medications are needed with many supplies and hospitals directly impacted in the blast, coupled with the high number of injuries experienced. Material for clean-up and renovation is critical.

“The situation is dire. Caritas Lebanon has told us that hundreds of thousands of families were affected, many of whom have slept in shattered homes and in the streets during a deadly pandemic.



Caritas emergency relief in Beirut.

The economy is in free fall and parts of Beirut are uninhabitable”, Ms Robertson said.

“Through its in-country staff and partners in Lebanon, the wider Caritas network is working to deliver emergency food and water, hygiene kits including masks and soap, material for shelter repairs and the clean-up of debris and medication and other health services”, she said.

Caritas Australia continues to monitor

the situation and is in regular contact with partners on the ground in Beirut.

According to Ms Robertson, “We pray for the people of Beirut, wider Lebanon and the Lebanese community here in Australia at this time of enormous heartbreak and loss”.

**Donations to Caritas Australia’s Middle East Regional Appeal can be made at [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon) or by calling 1800 024 413.**



Caritas network on the ground in Lebanon.



Caritas youth and volunteers on the ground in Lebanon.



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# COVID-19 Diocesan Protocols

**Effective  
Friday 24 July 2020**

### 1. Covid-Safe Business

All Parishes must comply with the NSW Government requirement to complete a Covid-Safe Plan and register as a Covid-Safe Business.

### 2. Maximum Attendance

Places of worship are limited to 100 people, subject to the one person per four square metre rule (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers).

### 3. Hygiene practices

- Sanitisation of hands before entering the church, hall, prayer room, etc.
- Wiping down of pews and common areas at conclusion of Mass or gathering.
- Priest and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to purify hands with sanitiser before and after offering Holy Communion.
- Limit the use of communal books. Ensure they are cleansed between use.

### 4. Register of people upon entering the church, hall, prayer room, etc.

- Name, phone number and/or email to be recorded
- To be kept in a safe place (respecting privacy laws) for at least 28 days.
- Funeral directors to keep attendance register for funerals.

### 5. Eucharist

- Holy Communion in the hand only.

- Sacred Host to be offered only, not the Precious Blood.
- No touching at the sign of peace.
- No offertory procession.
- No congregational singing.
- No collection plates are to be used, but money/envelopes placed at collection points.

### 6. Communion to Sick and Elderly Persons

Normal pastoral practice continues including Communion to sick persons in hospitals, aged care homes and private homes.

### 7. Anointing of the Sick

- Normal Pastoral Practice continues.
- Anointing of the sick in hospitals, aged care homes and private homes if permitted to enter.
  - If the person has COVID-19, please consult the Bishop's Office.

### 8. First Penance & First Holy Communion

Normal Pastoral Practice continues, respecting liturgical and pastoral protocols.

### 9. Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga is to be delayed until term 4. If all is clear at that time, Parish Priests will have delegated authority for Confirmations for this year.

**Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI**  
Bishop of Wagga Wagga



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Patrick Drum  
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Confraternity of Christ the Priest

Bro. Valentine Nicholas  
Confraternity of Christ the Priest

Bro. Marvin Coonghe  
Confraternity of Christ the Priest

Doan Van Nguyen  
Wagga Wagga

Bro. John Hiep Van Nguyen  
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Bro. Anthony Phu Van Dang  
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Saxon Onions  
Wagga Wagga

Configuration Stage








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Connell Perry  
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Association of Saint Anthony

Michael Perry  
Wagga Wagga

Victor Atuhura  
Armidale

Configuration Stage






Bro. Joseph Duc Thai Hoang  
Association of Saint Anthony

Bro. Michael Anh Van Pham  
Association of Saint Anthony

Bro. Xavier Sy Van Nguyen  
Confraternity of Christ the Priest

Mark Vettikombil  
Wagga Wagga

Pastoral Stage



Rev. Deacon Cyprian Onuorah  
Wagga Wagga


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**- Diocese of Wagga Wagga -**

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# Mass times across our Diocese

## Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

**St Michael’s Cathedral**  
Church Street, Wagga Wagga  
Monday - Friday 7:00am, 12:45pm  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday - 12:15pm  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am and 5:30pm  
**Confessions**  
Monday - Thursday 12:30pm - 12:40pm  
Friday 12:00-12:40pm & 6:30pm-6:45pm  
Saturday 11:00am-12:00noon & 4:30pm-5:30pm  
**Rosary times**  
Monday to Thursday 12:25pm and Saturday 11:55am (before Mass)  
**Carmelite Monastery**  
10 Morshead Street, Wagga Wagga  
Monday - Friday - 7:30am  
Saturday - 8:00am  
Sunday - 9:30am  
**St Mary’s Chapel**  
Vianney College, 17 Durack Circuit  
Sunday - 9:00am  
**Mt Erin Chapel**  
Kildare Catholic College  
Edmondson Street, Wagga Wagga  
Sunday - 10:00am (Extraordinary Form)

## Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

**Sacred Heart**  
Lake Albert Road, Koorungal  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm  
Sunday - 9:00am and 5:30pm  
Children’s Liturgy during 9:00am Mass  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 7:00am  
Tuesday and Thursday - 5:45pm  
Saturday - 9:30am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 10:00am - 10:30am

## Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

**Our Lady of Fatima**  
Bourke Street, Wagga Wagga  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm  
Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am & 5:30pm (Syro-Malabar Rite)  
**St Patrick’s Uranquinty**  
Sunday - 8:30am  
**Weekday Masses - Our Lady of Fatima**  
Wednesday - 10:00am  
Thursday - 11:00am (Ethel Forrest Centre)  
Friday - 5:45pm  
**Anointing Mass**  
Marian Foyer, Henschke Hall  
4th Tuesday of the month - 10:30am  
**Weekday Masses - Calvary Hospital**  
Monday-Friday - 8:00am (except public holidays)  
**Aged Care Facility Masses**  
**Forrest Centre**  
Every Thursday - 11:00am  
**Nan Roberts Nursing Home**  
- The Haven  
3rd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am  
**RSL Remembrance Village**  
2nd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 10:30-11:30am

## Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

**Holy Trinity Church**  
Bardia Street Ashmont  
Monday-Saturday - 7:00am  
Friday - 10:15am  
Sunday - 9:00am and 5:30pm  
**Loreto Home of Compassion**  
Sunday - 10:30am  
Monday - 5:45pm  
Tuesday - 10:30am  
Thursday - Eucharistic Adoration - 5:15pm  
Thursday - 5:45pm  
**Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church**  
Benedict Avenue San Isidore  
Vigil Saturday - 6:00pm  
Wednesday - Eucharistic Adoration - 5:15pm  
Wednesday - 5:45pm

**St Michael’s Church**  
Linton Street Collingullie  
2nd Sunday - 9:30am (Christmas Day & Easter Sunday)  
**Confessions**  
Sacrament of Penance  
Saturdays - 11:00am-12:00noon  
Prior to weekend Masses or by request

## Albury

**St Patrick’s**  
515 Smollett St, Albury  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
Saturday - 9:30am  
Vigil (Saturday) - 5:00pm  
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am, and 5:30pm  
Latin Mass - Sunday 12 noon  
**Weekday Mass Times**  
Monday to Friday - 7:00am  
Tuesday & Thursday - 9:30am  
Latin Mass Mondays - 7pm in the Adoration Chapel  
First Friday - 5:30pm  
**Rosary before Mass**  
Saturday - 9.10am and 4.30pm  
Sunday - 7.40am and 9.40am

## Albury - North Albury

**Sacred Heart** Mate Street, North Albury  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00 pm  
Sunday - 9.30 am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday to Friday 9.30am or as printed in weekly newsletter  
First Tuesday of month – Mercy Place 11.00am – Includes sacrament of anointing  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 5.15 - 5.45 pm

## Albury - Lavington

**Holy Spirit**  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
Sunday - 8.00am, 10.00am  
St Mary’s Jindera - 9.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - Friday - 7.00am  
Saturday - 9.15am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 8.15am, 5.00pm  
St Mary’s Jindera - Sunday 8.30am

## Albury - Thurgoona

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
Sunday - 9.30am, 5.30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - 8.00am  
Tuesday - 10.00am  
Wednesday - 8.00am  
Thursday - 7.00pm (Mass Novena and Benediction)  
Friday - 10.00am  
**Confessions**  
Prior to Masses  
Saturday - 5.30pm-5.55pm  
Sunday - 9.00am-9:25am & 5.00pm-5.25pm  
Thursday - 7.00pm following Novena  
Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

## Berrigan

**St Columba’s**  
4 Corcoran Street, Berrigan  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 6:00pm Saturday Vigil  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 10:30am  
**Savernake**  
1st Sunday - 5:00pm  
**Weekday Masses** are announced in the Sunday bulletin  
**Confessions** before Saturday Vigil Masses

## Coolamon

**St Michael’s**  
Sunday - 7.30am and 9.00am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm  
**Masses**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 7.30am

Thursday - 10.15am  
Saturday - 9.00am  
**Marrar**  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
**Confessions**  
1st Saturday - 5.30pm  
**Allawah Village**  
First Thursday of each month.  
Mass at 9.15am

## Corowa

**St Mary’s Star of the Sea**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 9:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Refer to Parish Bulletin available in the Church or on the parish website  
**Confessions/ Reconciliation**  
Saturday - 11:00am-12:00, 5:30-6:00pm  
**St Pius X, Coreen,**  
1st, 3rd Sunday - 10:45am Mass

## Culcairn

**St Patrick’s Culcairn**  
1st, 4th Sunday - 8:00am  
2nd, 3rd Sunday - 10:00am  
5th Sunday - Vigil Mass 6:30pm (Saturday)  
**Henty**  
2nd, 4th Saturday Vigil - 6:30pm  
1st Sunday - 10:00am  
3rd, 5th Sunday - 8:00am  
**Walla Walla**  
1st & 4th Sunday - 6:00pm (Sunday)  
**Weekday Masses**  
Vary according to needs and are announced in the Sunday bulletin  
**Confessions**  
Before each weekend Mass

## Darlington Point

**Oliver Plunkett**  
Hay Road, Darlington Point  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8.30am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm (Saturday Vigil)  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 8.30am - Darlington Point  
**St Peter’s**  
Cnr of Currawong Crescent and Kingfisher Avenue, Coleambally  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 10.30am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 8.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Thursday - 8.00am Coleambally  
Holy Hour - Friday 5.00pm - 6.00pm at Darlington Point  
**Confessions**  
15 minutes before 10.00 am Mass on Sunday or by request

## Finley

**St Mary’s**  
1 Denison Street Finley  
Sunday - 10.15am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Are announced in the Sunday bulletin  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 10.30 - 11.00am

## Ganmain

**St. Brendan’s Ganmain**  
**Sunday Mass**  
9:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday to Friday:  
December-February 7:30am (Tues., Thurs.) & 5:30pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.)  
March-November 5:30pm  
Saturday: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).  
**Confessions**  
8.00-8.55am Sunday and 30 minutes before all Masses.  
**St. Patrick’s Matong**  
6:00pm Saturday  
**Confessions** 30 min before Mass

## Griffith

**Sacred Heart**  
Warrambool Street, Griffith  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
Saturday - 8.00am  
Sunday - 7.30am, 9.00am, (Italian), 10.30am, 6.00pm

**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - Friday - 7.00am, 5.30pm  
**Confessions**  
Friday - 4.30pm to 5.30pm  
Saturday - 11.30am to 12.30pm  
**Marian Catholic College Chapel**  
185 Wakaden Street Griffith  
Sunday - 9.00am

## Holbrook

**Our Lady of Sorrows**  
125 Albury Street, Holbrook  
1st & 3rd Sunday - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm  
2nd Sunday - 8.00 am  
4th & 5th Sunday - 10.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Phone parish for details  
**Confessions**  
Before Mass on weekends  
**St Francis De Sales Church of the Pioneers**  
Hume Highway, Bowna  
2nd Sunday - 11:30am

## Howlong

**St Brigid’s**  
Hovell St, Howlong  
**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
Queen Street, Walbundrie  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
**Howlong**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
**Walbundrie**  
Sunday - 9:00am  
**Masses**  
**Howlong**  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays - Oolong Nursing Home 10:00 am  
Saturday 9.00 am - Howlong  
For other Masses during the week, see the parish website.  
**Reconciliation**  
**Howlong**  
Saturdays 9:30am (after 9:00am Mass) 5:30pm - 5:55pm  
**Walbundrie**  
Sundays 8:30am - 8:55am

## Jerilderie

**St Joseph’s**  
Coreen Street, Jerilderie  
1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 10:30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Are announced in the Sunday bulletin

## Junee

**St Joseph’s**  
21 Kitchener Street, Junee  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 9:30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - 9:00am  
Tuesday - 7:00am  
Wednesday - 9:00am  
Thursday - 7:00am  
Friday - 9:00am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 10:30-11:00am; 6:00-6:15pm or by appointment  
**Illabo and Junee Reefs**  
Alternate Sundays - 8:00am

## Khancoban

**Church of St Joseph the Worker**  
Sunday - 9.00 am  
**Weekday Masses**  
9.00 am  
**Confessions**  
Prior to Sunday Mass

## Leeton

**St Joseph’s Leeton**  
Wade Avenue, Leeton  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 10:00am (First Sunday of the month is Italian)  
**St Patrick’s Yanco**  
Sunday - 8:00am  
Tuesday - 9:00am  
**Weekday Masses in Leeton**  
Monday - 9:00am  
Tuesday (Yanco) - 9:00am  
Wednesday - 9:00am

Thursday - 9:30am (Assumption Villa)  
Friday - 9:15am and 5:30pm  
**Sacrament of Penance**  
Friday - 4:45-5:15pm  
Saturday - 5:30-5:50pm  
**Eucharistic Adoration**  
St Joseph’s Church Leeton  
Friday - 4:30pm

## Lockhart

**St Mary’s Church**  
55 Ferrier St, Lockhart  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday (Vigil) - 6:00pm  
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - 9:00am & Friday - 10:00am  
**Confessions** Up to 5 mins before Mass.  
**Urangeline St Terence’s Church**  
Currently no Masses.

## Mulwala

**St Brigid’s**  
Havelock Street, Mulwala  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 8:00am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm Saturday Vigil  
**Weekday Masses**  
Refer to parish notices  
**St Joseph’s**  
Barooga  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 10:00am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 8:30am  
**Weekday Masses** Refer to parish notices  
**Confessions** Before weekend Masses

## Narrandera

**Narrandera**  
St Mel’s Church, Audley Street  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
Sunday - 9:30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - 5:30pm  
Wednesday, Thursday - 7:30am  
Friday - 5:30pm  
(subject to changes announced in the Sunday bulletin)  
**Confessions**  
Friday - 4:30-5:20pm; Saturday - 9.30-10:00am and 5:00-5:45 pm  
**Grong Grong**  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8.00am  
**Galore**  
St Kevin’s Church  
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am

## Tarcutta

**St Francis Xavier**  
Sydney Street, Tarcutta  
Sunday - 8:30am  
**Ladysmith**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
**Confessions**  
Before all Masses

## The Rock

**St Mary’s**  
102 Urana Street The Rock  
**Weekend Masses**  
Sunday - 8:00am (Extraordinary Form)  
Sunday - 10:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - 7:00am  
Tuesday - 6:00pm  
Wednesday - 7:00am (Extraordinary Form)  
Thursday - 7:00am  
**Confessions**  
Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

## Tocumwal

**St Peter’s**  
Charlotte Street, Tocumwal  
Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm  
Sunday - 8.30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Thursday - 9.30am  
**Confessions**  
Half an hour before weekend Masses

*continued on page 21...*

Tumbarumba

**All Saints'**  
40 Murray Street, Tumbarumba  
Saturday 9.15am  
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm  
Sunday - 9.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - Friday - 5.30pm  
**Confessions**  
Friday 4.30pm - 5.15pm  
Saturday - 8.00am - 9.00am  
And 30 mins before weekend Holy Masses  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Tooma**  
4th Sunday - 7.30am  
**Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Friday - 4.30pm & Saturday - 8.00am

Urana

**St Fiacre's Church**  
5 End St, Urana  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 8:00am  
2nd & 4th Saturday (Vigil) - 6:00pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Thursday - 12:30pm  
**Confessions** Up to 5 mins before Mass.  
**Oaklands**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 10:00am

Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

**Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii**  
17 Edon Street, Yoogali  
Sunday - 9:30am  
**St Anthony's - Hanwood**  
Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm  
Sunday - 8.00am  
**St Therese's - Yenda**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - 5:30pm - Yoogali  
Wednesday - 8.00am - Hanwood  
Thursday - 5.00pm - Yenda  
Friday - 9:30am - Yoogali  
**Confessions**  
Yenda - Thursday, before Mass  
Yoogali - Sunday, before Mass  
Hanwood - Saturday - 4:30pm  
Or by arrangement with the priest.

*Please note that Mass times were true and correct at the time of printing. For further clarification, please check parish bulletins and noticeboards closer to the date.*

### Please pray for those priests whose anniversary of death occurs in August:

1 August 1995	Mgr Michael Francis Lane
2 August 1975	Fr Norman Duck
4 August 2012	Fr Patrick O'Connell
7 August 2001	Mgr George M Crennan
10 August 1972	Fr Thomas Francis Shanley
21 August 1909	Fr Daniel Leahy
22 August 1970	Mgr Owen Clarke
22 August 2014	Mgr William Fulton
27 August 1935	Fr John J Curley CSsR
29 August 2012	Fr Francis Clune
30 August 1982	Fr Allen Douglas Patrick Whitty
31 August 2013	Most Rev William Brennan

*These faithful servants, Lord, put their wholehearted trust in you - Grant that they may live in your love.*

Monthly Laugh

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# Family reflections for: August

**9th August - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**

**The mission of the Church is to continue the work of Jesus.** The family, the domestic church, participates in this mission too.

Talk about how your family participates in the mission of the Church. Discuss ways in which you seek to reach out to your neighbors and people in need through acts of kindness, mercy, and justice. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 14:22-33. Talk about how Peter wanted to be like Jesus, to walk on water like Jesus did. Note that Peter was successful for a time, but then he doubted Jesus, and he began to sink into the water. Talk about how your family's acts of mercy and justice are rooted in your faith in Jesus. Pray together that Jesus will continue to work through your family to prepare the kingdom of heaven. Pray together the Morning Offering or the Lord's Prayer.

1 Kings 19:9a,11-13a Psalm 85:9-14  
Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33

**16th August - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**

**Even when spurned by Jesus, the faith of the Canaanite woman makes her bold enough to argue and ask again for what she needs.** Her persistence and great confidence that Jesus could heal her daughter reminds us of the confidence with which our children bring to us their own needs. In their faith and trust we can find modern examples of how we might approach God in prayer.

As a family recall some times when a request for something was presented by one family member to another with confidence and persistence. If the request was denied, talk about why that was so. If the request was eventually granted, talk about what led to the change of heart. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 15:21-28. Was anyone surprised by Jesus' response to the Canaanite woman? Why or why not? What makes Jesus change his mind and heal the woman's daughter? When we pray, God wants us to be as confident in his mercy. Invite family members to identify the things that they most need from God. Pray these prayers of petition together as a family, confident that God will hear and answer your prayers.

Isaiah 56:1,6-7 Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8  
Romans 11:13-15,29-32 Matthew 15:21-28

**23rd August - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**

**Today's Gospel reminds us that the Church is built on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ.** Peter announces the core of our faith, that Jesus is God's only Son. The family, as the domestic church, has this same faith as its foundation.

As you gather together as a family, talk about people whose faith has helped you to be a member of the Church and talk about what you have learned from leaders in our Church today. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20. Talk about what you know about Peter and his importance to the early Christian community. Talk about what we can learn from Peter and

his profession of faith about Jesus. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm or an Act of Faith.

Isaiah 22:19-23 Psalm 138:1-3,6,8  
Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

**30th August - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**

**Peter was expecting a Messiah that would carry out a different plan than the one Jesus had explained.** Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We too have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more than we can ever imagine.

As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life. Then read today's Gospel, Matthew 16:21-27. Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying? Notice how Jesus reprimands Peter. Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world in the ways that we expect? Pray together that your family will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways that are beyond our human imaginings. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 63.

Jeremiah 20:7-9 Psalm 63:2-6,8-9  
Romans 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

# Mater Dei Catholic College (MDCC) makes mission real

Amelia Bright, Leader of Mission at MDCC and Jane Plum, Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission discuss the work students have been doing for Catholic Mission.

**From Amelia Bright, Leader of Mission, MDCC:**

Each of our year groups enjoys opportunities to learn about the work of Catholic Mission, through exploration into the charitable and service dimensions of the Catholic Church in Australia. At Mater Dei we embrace the opportunity to develop students' Christian worldview in a holistic sense. Student formation is embedded into the Religious Education curriculum, as well as being shaped into Homegroup learning experiences, charitable fundraising and daily prayer.

In Year 8, Mater Dei students undertake a unit called 'The Church Spreads the Good News'. Throughout the learning cycle, they examine the challenges and opportunities for spreading the Gospel

in today's world through active service to the spiritually and materially poor. Students undertake an inquiry learning task, where they investigate the work of Catholic Mission, along with other organisations who are sharing the good news and prepare a Newspaper Article to communicate their findings.

In Homegroups, staff and students collectively learn about the individual encounters and programs facilitated by Catholic Mission. Through this lens, they develop a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching in relation to; stewardship, community and the common good, solidarity, option for the poor and vulnerable, human dignity and the promotion of peace.

The five House groups: Kennedy, Webber, Rosarie, Carroll and Sherrin,



MDCC Cake Stall for Catholic Mission.

drive the charitable fundraising through activities which include activities, such as, mufti days, cake stalls, karaoke, game show trivia, faux fashions and colour themes as a few of these.

In preparation for upcoming House Days, our students view videos created by Catholic Mission and listen to the positive messages of global and regional change, enabled by fundraising efforts. In preparation for Webber Day, students learnt about the work of Sister Louise and the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, who are dedicating their efforts to supporting families in need with protective masks and critical supplies during this difficult time of COVID-19. This learning is coupled with a prayer focus, providing a valuable reminder of our call to the mission of the Church, enacted through House fundraising days.

**From Jane Plum, Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga:**

Catholic Mission is grateful to Mater Dei Catholic College and all Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga who are dedicated in their support

of Catholic Mission and our Mission partners both in Australia and overseas. I look forward to working with schools as we share in God's mission to reach out, give life by sharing our personal and financial resources to

- proclaim the Gospel;
- serve people in need;
- act for peace, justice and creation; so that all may have life in Christ.

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."* John 10:10

**For more information and to support the mission, visit**  
**catholicmission.org.au**  
**or contact our local Diocesan Director, Jane Plum:**  
**Telephone 02 6937 0013**  
**Mobile 0400 445 605**  
**Email jplum@catholicmission.org.au**



Students and staff from MDCC prepare to raise money for Catholic Mission.



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# For the joy of the Lord is your strength

At just 16 years old, Chen's life changed in a moment when he stood on a landmine that took both of his legs.



Chen on his family farm, near where his accident occurred.

**With his family already struggling to make ends meet, they were unsure if they would be able to provide the necessary care for Chen.**

With his family already struggling to make ends meet, they were unsure if they would be able to provide the necessary care for Chen. Thankfully, Bishop Enrique Figaredo Alvargonzalez, known to most as Bishop Kike, offered a lifeline, which has opened up many doors for Chen. The Arrupe Centre, established by Bishop Kike in north-western Cambodia in 2001, has been a home for many people, especially children, with disability – helping to empower them and offer opportunities they might otherwise not have.

The impact of the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979, and the

nearly twenty years of civil war that followed, is still felt today. Buried, unexploded landmines still cause accidents across the country today. Distressingly, although many organisations are working to clear these landmines, on average, 100 accidents and casualties still occur each year – and there is little support provided for these people.

The Arrupe Centre provides children and youth, like Chen, with shelter, food and healthcare, education and career opportunities to help empower them and build their future. The Centre works in conjunction with the Outreach program, another Church-run mission project in Battambang, which provides practical support - such as food, microloans, scholarships to the siblings and repair

of homes - to the families of the Arrupe residents.

Without this critical support, many families, like Chen's, would struggle to provide adequate care and support for their loved ones. Your support will help us reach out to the most vulnerable in communities like Chen's around the world.

*'We are in God's arms, we are God's heart, we are here like a part of the body of Christ in the world.'* - Bishop Kike

**For more information and to support the appeal, visit**

**[catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia](http://catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia)**  
**or contact our local Diocesan**

**Director, Jane Plum:**

**Telephone 02 6937 0013**

**Mobile 0400 445 605**

**Email [jplum@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:jplum@catholicmission.org.au)**

**catholic mission**  
*Reach out. Give life.*



Bishop Kike and children from the Arrupe Centre at a house blessing.



Chen working at the La Paloma Textile Centre.

## ALAN HARRIS McDONALD

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# Mater Dei Catholic College vs Kildare Catholic College in two footy finals

The Mater Dei Catholic College boys soccer team won their third straight Creed Cup by only one goal against arch-rival Kildare Catholic College.



Mater Dei Catholic College celebrate their Creed Shield win at Rawlings Park on Wednesday night. Picture: Matt Malone

The Kildare Catholic College girls touch football team defeated Mater Dei Catholic College by 9-4 in the Preston Butcher Open Girls Touch Grand Final.

