



TOGETHER

In the Diocese of *Wagga Wagga*

wagga.catholic.org.au

FREE

DECEMBER 2019

*Joy
to
the
world*



*Daniel & Rachel Woods
(02) 69 218 218 - All Hours
2 Station Place - Wagga Wagga*

www.funeralsofwaggawagga.com.au

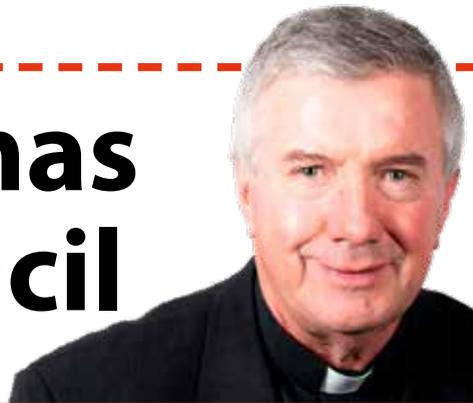
- ✦ *Funerals arranged to suit your family needs*
- ✦ *Pre-paid and pre-arranged funeral consultants*
- ✦ *Member of National Funeral Directors Association*



DANIEL WOODS
— FUNERAL CARE —

INCORPORATING HORNIBROOK & SAMUELSON, FUNERALS OF WAGGA WAGGA

Awakening to Christmas and the Plenary Council



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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

Publisher
The Diocese of Wagga Wagga
McAlroy House
205 Tarcutta Street
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Editor/Designer
Karene Eggleton

Printer
The Riverina Media Group
Peter Street Wagga Wagga 2650

Submissions
TOGETHER would not be possible without the voluntary labour and cooperation of many contributors from within the diocese and beyond. Submissions for publication are welcome but not always guaranteed to be printed.

Advertisers
TOGETHER acknowledges with gratitude the generous support of advertisers. Please show your support to our advertisers where possible. Please note that products and/or services advertised in this publication are not necessarily endorsed by this publication nor by the bishop of this diocese.

Copy deadline
15th of the month prior to publication

Contact Us
All news stories, advertising enquiries, correspondence and subscriptions to:
Together
PO Box 473
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Email
together@wagga.catholic.org.au

Facebook
www.facebook.com/togetherwagga



Phone 0437 738 726

Member of the
Australasian Catholic Press Assoc.

Annual Subscriptions
\$33 Australia \$44 Overseas

Front cover: freepix.com

Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese

I have observed some theologians use the word AWAKENING when they refer to the encounter of biblical figures with the new life experienced in the Risen Jesus.

For example, there are the Emmaus disciples (“And their eyes were opened and they recognised him” Luke 24/31) and Mary Magdalen (“Rabbuni !” John 20/17).

Even the Pentecost experience of the early Church moved them from fear and awakened them to faith (“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit” Acts 2/4).

The Advent liturgical season prepares us for the great Solemnity of Christmas. It is a time of awakening too. Indeed, we celebrate “the Word became flesh and He lived among us” (John 1/14). This the Mystery of our Faith that is absolutely central to all our hopes and joys. We need every day of Advent to prepare for Christmas. The Christmas liturgical season then helps us to savour its incredible beauty and Eucharistic nourishment for our Christian lives.

The lowly shepherds become the first Christian evangelisers. It is a twofold saving awakening. There is the impulse to “go to Bethlehem and see this event which the Lord has made known to us” (Luke 2/15). Then there is the telling to others of Jesus, our Emmanuel – Mary’s child. Their testimony was convincing: “everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds said to them” (Luke 2/19).

It is during this high liturgical season that Australian Catholics are also engaging in the second phase of the Plenary Council of Australia – Let’s listen and discern.

My prayer is that our fulsome involvement as a diocese in this second phase will be an awakening in faith for all of us too.

I encourage strongly that our parishes and communities become directly involved in these discussions. Indeed, it is a wonderful way of bringing together both our awakening to Christ born afresh in us all and our awakening to what Jesus is doing in our midst in our ancient but new land.

Some parishes are showing leadership in organising small groups to ponder upon the six national themes for discernment. These

themes need to be considered individually. There is time for reflection, sharing on scripture, discerning nationally and locally, and giving thanks. Brief outcomes of these discernment groups are compiled and then sent to the appropriate Discernment and Writing Group via the plenary council webpage.

Let us all make these groups a real Advent/Christmas Season priority for our parishes and communities. Let us carefully discern the key question: “How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church?”

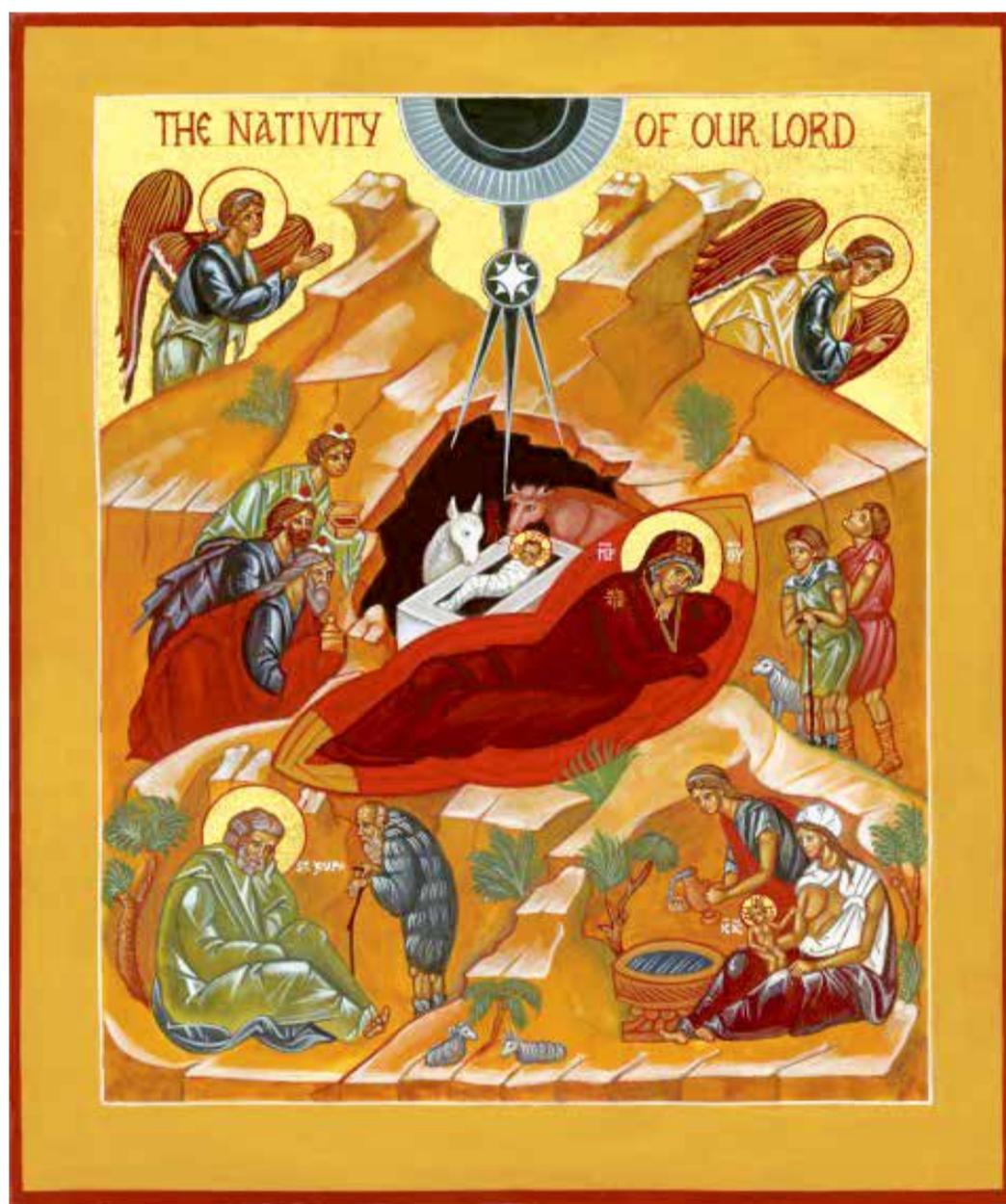
As Mary, St Joseph, the shepherds and the

people of Bethlehem “treasured all these things and pondered them”(Luke2/19), may we all do the same.

Australians are often seen as very practical and functional in their discernment. This is something good. However, without this transcendent dimension focussed on the Child Jesus within us and animating this discernment, then the awakening to the Holy Spirit is eclipsed.

I pray that this Advent and Christmas season be a real blessing for you, your family and loved ones, and all in our troubled world.

Happy Christmas and New Year 2020!



Prayer Intention for December - Pray with Pope Francis

The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

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

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



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

<http://popesprayerusa.net/popos-intentions/>

There are few British winter traditions more famous than the service of Lessons and Carols held on Christmas Eve at Kings College Cambridge and broadcast throughout the country on the BBC. Since 1919 the choir at Kings College has opened this service with the same hymn, “Once in Royal David’s City,” the simple lyrics of which speak to the profound paradox of the mystery of Christmas. “He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all. And his shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall. With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.”

By the mystery of the Incarnation, God became a little child. There are few religious scenes more moving and tender than the infant Jesus in the arms of his mother. The

Lord of all, now weak and vulnerable, is enwrapped in the loving care of Mary.

The same Mary is not only our mother but also our model. So many children throughout the world today, likewise weak and vulnerable, are also subject to poverty, injustice, and violence. In them Christ comes to us anew, albeit in “distressing disguise.” As we enjoy the beauty of Christmas creches and hear the old, familiar carols, let us pray that these venerable traditions may really move us to become more like Mary, to set aside our own interests and preoccupations to tend to those of Christ, the Christ who beckons us to care for the vulnerable and needy among us, prioritizing the “very young, especially those who are suffering.”



Prayer for the election of a Bishop

O God, eternal shepherd, who govern Your flock with unfailing care, grant in Your

boundless fatherly love a Bishop for the Diocese of Wagga Wagga who will please You by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Eulogy for John Turibius Loth CFC

13th August 1930 to
20th November 2019

by Br Mike Walsh CFC

I am indebted to a dozen or so Brothers, some of them quoted here, who contributed their memories of John for the composition of this eulogy for his funeral held on 29th November.

Born:

13th August 1930

Entered Christian Brothers:

25th January 1945

Entered Novitiate:

15th February 1948

First Profession:

25th December 1949

Final Profession:

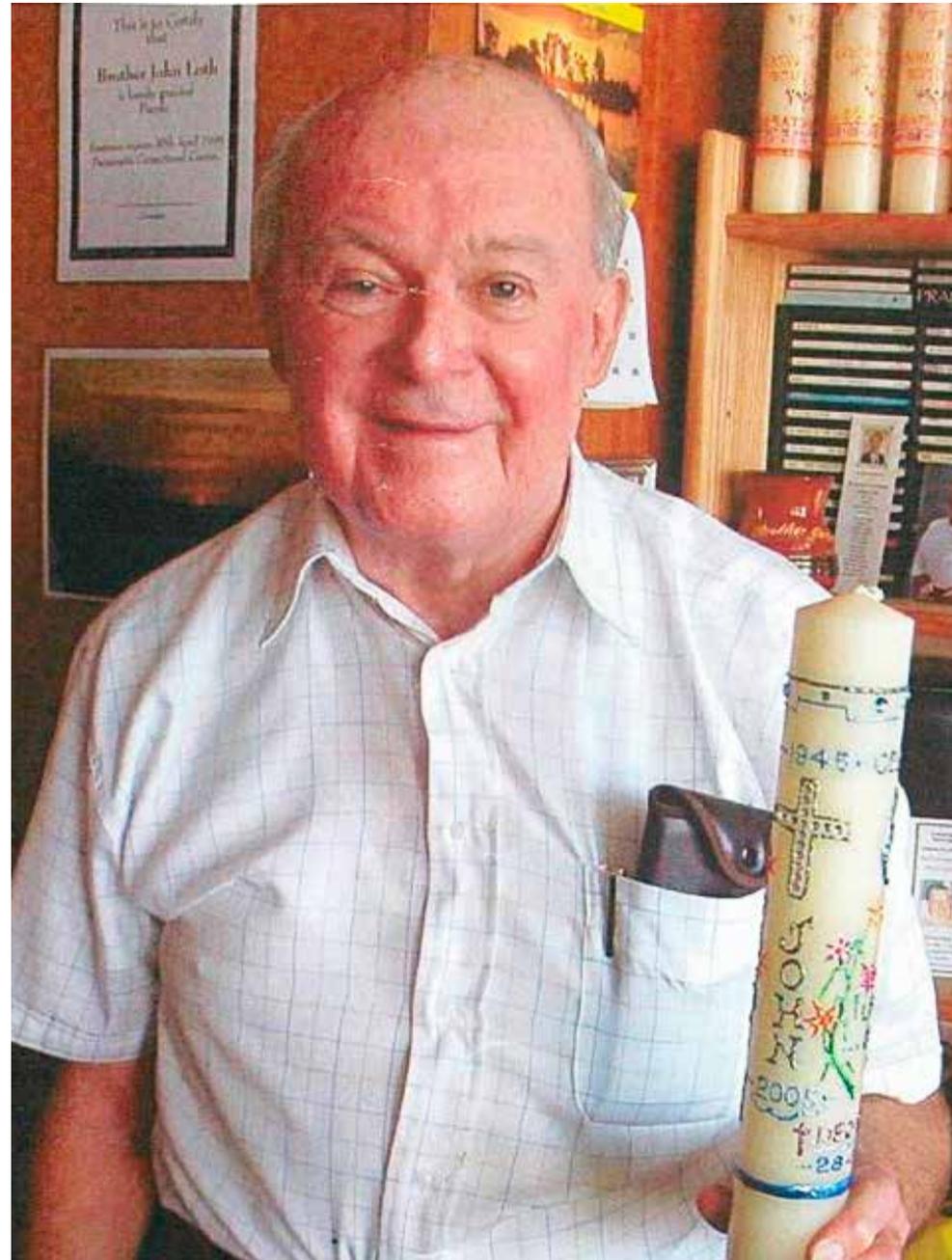
25th December 1955

John was born in 1930 into a large family of eight children, growing up in Wagga Wagga - his father was the ambulance superintendent and his mother, apart from many domestic duties, also attended to ambulance laundry. His parents were very kind and supportive of the Brothers' community at St Michael's school, as was his sister, Ann, in later years. John entered the Juniorate at Strathfield in 1945 but always maintained close contact with his family. Br Pat White, with him at Waverley College in the nineties, remembers him talking proudly about his parents and his early days in Wagga Wagga. His father died in 1962 but his mother lived on until 1979. At that time John was stationed in his home town and Brother Chris Rafferty recalls his marvellous devotion to her, with daily morning and evening visits to Calvary hospital during her last illness. John fitted in these visits despite his busy school schedule and walked the several kilometres there and back - he relied a lot on "shanks pony" as they say because he never held a driver's licence. Unfortunately the one day he missed she passed away and he was inconsolable, unreasonably blaming himself for not being there for her passing. Brother Rod Shoebridge went through the training years with John and recalls his love of order and attention to detail and also his laughter. John was given in Religious life the unusual name of Turibius. Rod noted that for many years, he kept the group together by invitations and letters informing members with relevant news regarding their confreres. Like most of us John began his school ministry in teaching primary classes, firstly in Warwick in 1950 followed by three other Queensland schools, by then teaching junior secondary classes. He returned to NSW in 1962. That year he taught at St Edmund's, at Wairoona teaching blind boys & later returned there for three

years in 1965. John is the only Brother I've known who adopted bee keeping as a serious hobby. This was while teaching in his home town in 1978 where his community appreciated the beautiful honey his bees produced. He maintained this when in other places too until late in 2001 when a bushfire at Mulgoa badly damaged his hives then situated there.

John brought a raft of talents to his teaching. His Leaving Certificate results indicate an above average ability at English and the Maths and Sciences. He was artistic and had a good understanding of music notation and choir work and later a self taught but very proficient player of the recorder. He was totally committed to his preparation of lessons, spending many hours at night on this. And yet the classroom did not give him much joy. His difficulties related to aspects of his personality and probably his health too. John was intense, a perfectionist, and sensitive. Australians are adept at attaching ironic nicknames to people - Turibius Loth was humorously dubbed by Br Eric Hyde as "Terrible Sloth," The exact opposite of his nature as an intense, relentless worker, a perfectionist, devoted to routine and orderliness, who cared greatly for his students and wanted what was best for them. However, those same students, being boys, and young teenagers at that, had less enthusiasm for hard work and perfection and orderliness. Some of his students in Wagga Wagga and elsewhere learned how to push his buttons and sidetrack and frustrate him which used get him down somewhat.

John was gifted in preparing choirs and concert items and would throw himself into such work. He looked to have presentations perfect but often on the night things would go wrong. Any of us with much experience of producing concert items with kids knows about that and maybe even welcomed an unscheduled laughter-launching mishap that professionals performers don't give us. They were great for the audience. Not so John, and Chris Rafferty recalls several instances where he has stopped the show on such occasions and berated the audience for not appreciating how much hard work the boys had put into their production and declare the audience disrespectful in their laughter. And then he'd recommence the item, from the top! For John it was a case of defending the boys' efforts. In his enthusiasm he sometimes overloaded a concert programme. Brother Rod Shoebridge described how at one



Cathedral concert he had his choir draped out in relaxing poses all over the stage for a medley of popular songs -sounds good, but somewhat less inviting when commencing at 11.00pm!! From this one might determine he had no sense of humour and yet that was not quite true. The same Brother Rod, remembers visiting John in hospital after an accident at Waverley where late one night, in bizarre circumstances, he had snapped both the tendons of his quadricep muscles and lay in the quadrangle unable to move. John related how the incident occurred in hilarious fashion. Others, including myself recall his telling humorous stories of his teaching years and prison ministry. He liked to laugh, he just didn't do it often enough perhaps.

Many Brothers remember how his artistic and creative ability found expression in the beautiful large banners he prepared for liturgies with colours, symbols and texts affixed to hanging cloths capturing aspects of the liturgical calendar or saints feast days and these were hung in churches and cathedrals and schools. He had a great devotion to Our lady and his May altars, very traditional in all Christian Brothers' schools, were outstanding. Many Brothers too would remember the decorated candles he gave them for their jubilees. He had a gift also for Floral Displays. Charlie Smith, when at Lewisham, remembers John having

“He possessed a conviction of God being present in all people, a great compassion for the outsiders in our society backed by a deep spirituality and faithful life of prayer.”

some of his class prepare cardboard borders for a St Mary's Cathedral display in 1987. Having duly instructed them on what to do he cheerfully told them: "OK, now I have to go off to gaol!" - the mystified kids had to be told by Charlie what he meant by that. This brings me to his ministry as a prison chaplain beginning in 1982 while at Lewisham and continuing until March 1999 while residing at Waverley College.

This sensitive, cultured gentleman moved among some of the perceived roughest and toughest people in the country and thrived on the experience. In this ministry he was faithfully following Blessed Edmund Rice our Founder who had a wonderful way with prisoners in his day. John had a gift for this apostolate because, like Blessed Edmund, he

continued on page 27...

Come to Bethlehem

by Fr Gerard Ryan CCS
West Wagga Wagga Catholic Parish

Planning for school and Christmas holidays can sometimes need imaginative input. Time, cost, family suitability, parking and accessibility, and the need for fun can all be matters of genuine pre-planning. Fortunately, there is one event that has been a real winner for many families over the years, and its in Wagga Wagga.

The City of Bethlehem comes alive, complete with camels and children's crafts each December with a re-creation of the times of Jesus' birth. This reenactment occurs in the grounds of Holy Trinity Primary School, Ashmont. It takes about an hour to enjoy, its only \$2 for adults and all children are free. It is suitable for all the family (even dads enjoy it), parking and accessibility are not a problem, and it's fun all-round for everyone, even teenagers.

Come to Bethlehem has attracted approximately 35,000 patrons since its inception at Christmas 2003. The *Come to Bethlehem* display reconstructs the ancient surrounds of Bethlehem. The various scenes depicted among its many exhibits are a synagogue, a carpenter's shop, a pottery shop, and a mill, and on the outskirts of the city is a small baby lying in a manger.

The event is a unique celebration of Christmas that focuses on that time long ago when a small baby was born. *Come to Bethlehem* is aimed at keeping the rustic baby Christ in Christmas festivities. Over fifty people dressed in costumes will take part in the display, participating in the various scenes, they recreate the atmosphere of the bustling marketplace of a time long ago.

The display is designed to appeal to families and



as such many of the scenes are interactive. The young, the not so young, and the young at heart are invited to try their hand at activities including cane basket weaving, mosaics, and writing in Hebrew.

After walking through the City of Bethlehem, visitors are invited to step into the school hall to see a display of the history of various Christmas symbols including the Christmas tree, mince pies and nativity displays.

All are invited to attend the display and are most welcome. *Come to Bethlehem* can be included when out and about looking at the Christmas lights.

***Come to Bethlehem* will be operating on the evenings of Sunday through to Tuesday (Christmas Eve), December 22, 23 and 24 from 8.00 pm to 9.45 pm.**

Admission is \$2 for adults and children are free. *Come to Bethlehem* and see the wonder of a great event.



ALAN HARRIS McDONALD

ALL YOUR FUNERAL NEEDS ARE NOW IN **ONE LOCATION**



76 Copland Street, Wagga Wagga

6921 4913

www.alanharrismcdonald.com.au

Crematorium



Chapel



Refreshments Room





Find your nearest Vinnies Shop

- Albury Shop** Ritz Arcade, Dean St Albury
- Coolamon Shop** 98 Cowabbie St Coolamon
- Corowa Shop** 143 Sanger St Corowa
- Griffith Shop** 101 Banna Ave Griffith
- Jerilderie Shop** 36 Jerilderie St Jerilderie
- Junee Shop** 85 Broadway St Junee
- Lavington Shop** 321 Urana Rd Lavington
- Leeton Shop** 42 Kurrajong Ave Leeton
- Mulwala Shop** 47 Melbourne St Mulwala
- Narrandera Shop** 181 East St Narrandera
- Tumbarumba Shop** 16 The Parade Tumbarumba
- Turvey Park Shop** Turvey Tops Shopping Centre, Fernleigh Rd Wagga Wagga
- Wagga Wagga Shop**
15 Peter St Wagga Wagga

VOLUNTEER TODAY



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

Grandparents Doing It Tough

A Monthly Support Group for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren & Grandparents Seeking Access to Grandchildren

A Monthly Support Group for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren & Grandparents Seeking Access to Grandchildren as a result of:

- Family Law Court Decisions
- Separation / Divorce
- Drug or Alcohol Addiction
- Illness / Disability
- Death / Suicide
- Mental Health

Grandparents face many challenges when confronted with the unexpected responsibility of caring for young children or teenagers, including:

- Loss of independence, and retirement plans
- Emotional and psychological issues
- Behavioral problems / lack of behavioral strategies
- Challenges with setting boundaries or establishing routines
- Social isolation
- Dealing with courts and the legal system
- Increased stress & financial hardship
- Decreased energy
- Child development issues

- Dealing with schools and advocating for children
- Grief and loss
- Holiday care activities / respite care
- Accessing community resources, especially for young people with disabilities

The Grandparents Group offers you:

- Understanding
- Friendship
- Shared experiences and knowledge
- Social Activities
- Parenting Strategies
- Support and advocacy
- Education
- Guest Speakers



- 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

Centacare Office Locations:

ALBURY 440 Wilson Street 02 6051 0222	FINLEY 2 Corree Street 02 6051 0222	GRIFFITH 140 Yambil Street 02 6964 1447	WAGGA WAGGA 201 Tarcutta Street 02 6923 3888
--	--	--	---

www.centacareswsw.org.au



Centacare South West NSW
Wagga Wagga | Albury | Griffith | Finley
Phone 1300 619 379
www.centacareswsw.org.au

All Saints Debutante Ball 2019

The All Saints' Debutante Ball was held in Tumbarumba on 26th October 2019. This year was their 20th Anniversary.

To mark this special occasion four debutantes from their very first ball attended. They were Hilary Richards, Amanda Caunt, Aleishe McKay and BJ Brown. Eight debutantes and their partners participated this year.

Special guests were Mr Justin Clancy, Reverend Dr Thomas Brancik, Mr Daniel Francis and Ms Kylie Bradley.

The Debutantes of 2019 All Saints Ball were:

TRINITY HUSSELL partnered by CONNOR MARTIN

Trinity is wearing a gown by Nicolina. The bodice features a lovely high neckline and bold floral lace which continues down to meet a full skirt of tulle over satin.

Trinity is the eldest child of Rebecca McAuliffe and Levi Hussell she has two younger siblings, Preston and Shelby. Trinity says her hero is her mum who despite working hard still manages to dedicate lots of time to her family.

Connor is the son of Dan Martin and Helen King he is the younger brother of Amelia and Jackson. Connors favourite subject at school is art and he would like to attend university after High School.

HOLLY GIDDINGS partnered by BRAYDEN WOODEN

Holly's gown features a soft layered chiffon skirt and a high neckline with sweetheart illusion. Lace frames and softens the bodice, neckline and stunning open back for a delicate and modern look.

Holly's Dad is Daniel and Step-mum is Sabrina, she also has two brothers Tyler and Lachlan. She lives here in Tumbarumba with her Nan Julie Giddings and Julie's partner Ken Dale. After high school Holly would like to do a gap year in the Defence Force.

Brayden is the son of Heath and Stacey, he has a brother Tyler and Sister Brooke. His favourite subject is Metal Work and he follows the NRL St George Dragons and he thinks that America would be an interesting place to visit one day.

SABRINA WU partnered by ALEX SPEECHLEY

Sabrina is wearing a gorgeous scoop neck A-line floor length dress with lovely tulle and lace detail.

Sabrina is the daughter of Coco and Stepdad Craig. She has five siblings – Oscar, Catherine, Mitchell, Erin and Rylee. Sabrina's favourite subject is Maths and after High School she would like to be a Nurse or Midwife.

Alex is the son of Jessica and Jamie, he has one brother Akira.

If he could travel anywhere in the world he would like to visit Ireland, where his Grandfather came from. His grandfathers are also his hero's, he admires that they faced challenge after challenge and never quit.

KELLY DUFFEY partnered by JYDEN ROSS

Kelly is wearing a round neck lace bodice dress, with a deep V back that has covered buttons, a full skirt with Tulle overlay and diamante band at the waist.

Kelly is daughter to Melissa and Warren, has two brothers Toby and Oliver and also has two dogs. After high school Kelly would like to move to the beach and if she gets to travel she would love to go back to San Francisco because she finds it amazing and beautiful.

Jyden Is the son of Steven and Elle, brother to Angus, Bella and Caitlyn. His favourite subject is Agriculture, he follows the NRL St George Dragons and if he had \$1,000,000 he would do a round the world trip.

AMILLEA METCALF-MCDERMOTT partnered by EDWARD WATERS

Tonight Amelia is wearing a Nicolina gown from Jack and Jill Bridal. The gown has a gorgeous sequined and lace bodice that is fitted at the waist. The skirt is gathered at the waist and then falls elegantly as a full satin skirt with a Tulle overlay.

Amelia is the daughter of Kenny



McDermott and Rebecca McKay step daughter to Matthew McKay, she has four siblings, John, Maya, Pippa and Ayla. Her favourite subjects at school are Maths and Sport.

Edward is the Son of Mont & Anita Waters, he has 4 siblings, James, Bridget, Emily & twin brother Henry.

Edward follows the AFL Swans and If he had \$1,000,000 he would live the dream, buy a big boat and a Land Cruiser to tow it.

AMELIA MURRAY partnered by WES MCAULIFFE

Amelia is wearing an elegant white halter neck dress, with intricate lace on both the front and back.

Amelia is the daughter of Mark Murray, Keesha Bremder and Step Daughter to Cameron Bremner. She has six siblings: Callum, Campbell, Adeline, Lillian, Reece and Casey. Her compassionate nurturing nature has her wanting to become a Paediatric nurse after school.

Wes is the son of Bede and Lisa, brother to Brianna and Ruby, he likes studying Metal work and follows the NRL Bulldogs. He would like to be a tradie after school and perhaps travel to America to see the Pro motorcross events.

JACQUELINE PEARCE partnered by HENRY WATERS

Jacqueline is wearing a stunning dress which has a full satin skirt, gathered at the waist with an overlay of organza. The bodice is made from satin with exquisite lace and silver beading detail setting

off the rounded neckline and creating a delicate peep at the back of the dress.

Jacquine is the daughter of Daragh and Scott she has one brother Lachlan. After school she would like to study Occupational Therapy and hopefully find time to visit Italy.

Henry is son of Mont and Anita Waters, he has four siblings, James, Bridget, Emily and twin brother Edward. He follows AFL North Melbourne Kangaroos and is thinking about becoming a Carpenter after High School but currently enjoys the practical studies of PASS/PDHPE. He says he hasn't been inspired yet and is still looking for a hero to inspire him.

LILY PETERWOOD partnered by JACK JONES

Lily is wearing an A-line princes dress that has a v-neck with lace overlay bodice that wraps around the shoulders leaving the back bare. A silk ribbon tie at the waist leads to the two layered tulle and silk skirt

Lily's mum is Jess and Step-father is Andrew she has four siblings Maddy, Violet, Zoe and Orlando.

She looks up to her mum who has been through so much in her life but manages to always stay strong and would do anything for her children. Lily likes English and would like to study Photography after High School.

Jack is the son of Amanda & Brett and brother to Brady. Jack likes Metalwork and Woodwork and thinks this would perhaps lead him to becoming a Tradie after High School. He follows the NRL Melbourne Storm and his favourite Music of the moment is by Marshmellow.

Father Brancik blessed the Debutantes and their partners who then performed their dances which had all been wonderfully choreographed by Jorg Ernst.

The Principal of All Saints School, Daniel Francis spoke as did Mr Justin Clancy.

Trinity Hussell and Holly Giddings made a speech on behalf of the 2019 debutantes then Sabrina Wu and Kelly Duffey had the honor of cutting the cake.

Congratulations to everyone involved.



The importance of religious freedom examined at interfaith breakfast

The importance of championing diversity and inclusion were key themes at Australian Catholic University's (ACU's) fifth Parliamentary Interfaith Breakfast at Parliament House in Melbourne on 26th November.

Over 150 guests attended, including more than 45 faith leaders and 40 parliamentarians.

Former NSW Premier and ACU Chancellor the Hon John Fahey AC, GCSG welcomed guests, while Victorian Deputy Premier the Hon James Merlino MP and Leader of the Opposition the Hon Michael O'Brien MP gave speeches that noted our strength as a community rests in our shared values of diversity and inclusion.

The leaders of five different faiths delivered readings on the importance of religious freedom, leadership, service and community harmony, and prayed for wise deliberations and good governance.

Deputy Premier Merlino said, "One of Victoria's greatest strengths is its history of multiculturalism and religious diversity. We are uniquely home to a culture that aims to ensure people of all backgrounds and beliefs can freely and proudly practice their faith.

"That is why a breakfast like this is so important. We know that our state is infinitely stronger because we refuse to let those differences divide us - we use those differences to unite all of us."

Opposition Leader O'Brien said, "A harmonious, well-functioning multicultural society requires a genuine appreciation of our differences. Our different birthplaces, our different languages and ancestries, our life journeys and experiences as well as our different beliefs.

“A harmonious, well-functioning multicultural society requires a genuine appreciation of our differences. Our different birthplaces, our different languages and ancestries, our life journeys and experiences as well as our different beliefs.”

"Together it is our responsibility to foster this interfaith understanding and to protect religious freedoms as an essential element of ensuring community harmony."

Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner Mr Chin Tan said, "Events like this Parliamentary Interfaith Breakfast play an important role in shaping the framework of rights protection in Australia. Interfaith dialogue is a powerful tool for overcoming bias through open communication, empathy and education.

"Ongoing conversations between different faith groups highlight our



Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne Philip Freier and Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne Peter A Comensoli

similarities and build respectful understanding of our differences. These differences are the colourful threads in the tapestry of modern multicultural Australia. Sharing in the diversity of Australia's faith groups is an opportunity to better understand not only our community but the wider world in which we live."

Archbishop of Melbourne Peter A Comensoli, who was also a guest at the event this morning said, "This morning's breakfast at the Victorian Parliament was a simple and joyful celebration of our freedom in Australia to practise our religion. It is inspiring to see members of Parliament sharing a coffee with religious leaders and listening to them with respect. We need more moments like this in contemporary Australia.

"We can all be thankful to Australian Catholic University for taking the lead in bringing different faiths together to pray and to talk with one another."

ACU's parliamentary interfaith breakfasts have become a popular event on the calendars of both parliamentarians and the leaders of faith communities. This year, parliamentarians had the opportunity to meet with leaders from more than

17 faiths - including various Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and other communities - with the intention of celebrating shared values.

ACU Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven AO, GCSG said Australians were extremely fortunate to live in a country that valued human rights and the ability to observe our own faiths.

"These should not be privileges; they should be fundamental to our existence as individuals, and collectively as a community," Professor Craven said. "Religion should always be a legitimate voice as a source of values within public life and within public affairs. People of faith should be able to express their religious freedom, to explore our differences, and to rejoice in our shared beliefs.

"And as leaders - whether in law, government, faith, industry, education or society - it is our responsibility to champion, uphold and protect these important freedoms, so we can continue to express our faith, and live in harmony and mutual respect."

ACU held its inaugural Parliamentary Interfaith Breakfast in Sydney in March 2014. Subsequent breakfasts were held in Canberra in 2015 and 2017, and in Sydney in 2018.



ACU Chancellor the Hon John Fahey AC, GCSG and ACU Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven AO, GCSG

Living Word



GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Perfect love casts out all fear

Have you ever looked at your friends' social media page and left with a feeling that perhaps your own life is not quite up to scratch? They seem to have life more together and seem to have more fun.

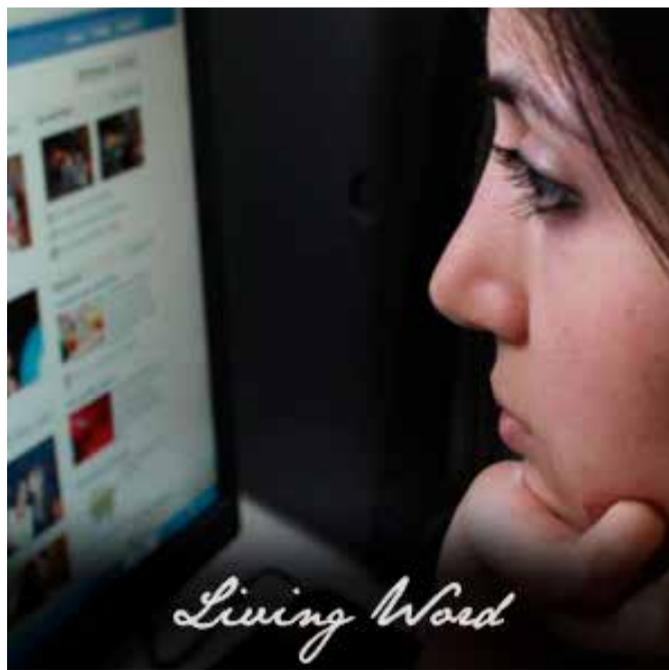
Comparing our lives to the those who display theirs through social media can often make us feel insecure. We can be fearful that somehow we are not quite doing life right. Perhaps the biggest fear we face is that somehow we are

not good enough. Today's reading speaks to this reality and presents a vastly different possibility.

While we may fear that we are not good enough, God has a different perspective. God desires us to know that he loves us and that we are loveable. We read again today that Jesus has died for us and that he has given us his Spirit. The Holy Spirit given to us is God's very self, and he dwells within us. If we try and see ourselves from God's perspective, what would he say to

us? He would say as he does today that there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out all fear.

As we allow God to love us, the fear of failure, of not being good enough will subside. Then we will be in a better position to claim scripture's promise that we are God's children.



Living Word

Mini-Vinnies

The Mini-Vinnies members of the St Vincent de Paul Conference organised a barbeque and cake stall after Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Church in Albury recently.

The stall was supplied with a variety of cakes, slices, plants and a sausage sizzle.

We wish to thank the donors and all the workers especially the young people for their great effort.

It was generously supported by the Parishioners and was completely sold out after the 8am Mass with the total raised amounting to \$1080.40.

These funds will be used to supply gifts for the disadvantaged children at Christmas.

Thank you all very much.

Helen Sandral
President



Swimwear, Summer Fashion, Smart Casual to After Five and Mother-of-the-Bride

4/209 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga
Ph: 0435 838 654



Ryneharts
CLASSIC FASHIONS

The entire team at
TOGETHER
would like to wish you a very



Merry Christmas

and to thank you for your support throughout the year. Please remember that there will be no issue of Together in January 2020 with the next issue being available in February 2020.

first Reconciliation

St Michael's Primary School Coolamon celebrated First Reconciliation for Stage Two students on Monday 21st September at St Michael's Church.



first Communion

First Communion was celebrated for Stage Two students at St Michael's Church Coolamon, with Monsignor Doug George celebrating the Mass.



Christmas Mass Times 2019

Turn to page 21 for Christmas Mass Times across our Diocese.



ErinEarth opening times

ErinEarth is open Wednesdays and also every Friday night during Daylight Savings time from 5pm – 7pm. The Garden is looking particularly good at the moment so come on in for a look.

ErinEarth - 1 Kildare St, Wagga Wagga

Marian Catholic College's Project Samoa Team of 2019

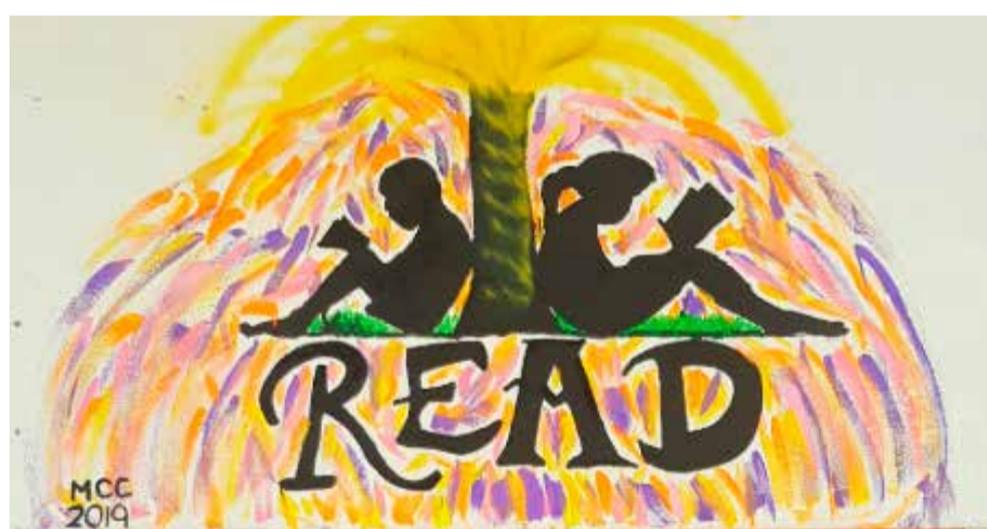
Marian Catholic College recently offered their students a choice of attending schoolies or providing a service over self. What was achieved was purely amazing.

Approximately 80,000 Year 12 graduates will attend schoolies celebrations in 2019 around Australia. This so called 'rite of passage' remains as popular as ever, and for many will be the chosen option to celebrate all that they have learnt over 13 years in the education system – one big party all about the indulgences of the self. At our College we decided to offer a choice, service or schoolies? Teneeka Andreatza, Julian Davidge, Joshua Golden, Tarnpreet Kaur, Manvir Singh, Lauren Bertolin, Isabelle Eldridge and Shanuille Parsa were the nine successful applicants assisted by Mrs Sanita Lole and myself who travelled overseas to Samoa on the 19th of November. This was the fourth trip for MCC aiding St Paul VI College, Leulomoenga and St Peter's Primary Falefa. Days before we were scheduled to arrive, the Samoan government declared a national emergency in the form of a measles epidemic. 44 deaths have been recorded with 40 of those under the age of 4. 3,357 cases have

‘ Days before we were scheduled to arrive, the Samoan government declared a national emergency in the form of a measles epidemic. 44 deaths have been recorded with 40 of those under the age of 4. ’

been recorded since October. Samoa is a country in crisis and needs help. All schools had been shut down (mid HSC), young people were banned from public gatherings and were given a curfew across the island. It was a tense situation to be in but the need for

continued on page 11...



continued from page 10...

friendly faces, compassion and care was clearly evident. The students were choosing service over self and what they achieved was purely amazing.

We visited the two schools that we annually fundraise for and completed different service work in both.

The team organised and cleaned an abandoned library. Sorting books and sanitising classrooms with shelving and learning spaces established. We used our creative ability to create murals and educational art work producing a welcoming sight for returning students. We had designed walls regarding time, science and inspiration to graduate. We had also repaired laptops the school had sent over in previous years. Both schools were left with gifts including pens, stationery, educational resources, clothing and sporting equipment. It was a humbling reminder of how so little can mean so much to those who need it. In return we were offered sincere prayer and thanks which was more than enough.

The trip involved many moments

like this and we pledged to continue to help and assist as much as we possibly could in order to continue to improve the opportunities for children in Samoa. This article is another step towards awareness and opportunity for others to be involved. It is rewarding, it is necessary and it is a part of who we are as human beings to help and assist our fellow man. The world is in need of more people that choose service over self and I was fortunate to lead a team that made this choice and made a difference in doing so.

Marian is extremely proud of the Project Samoa team of 2019. They have truly demonstrated the values of their 13 years of education by choosing to serve others. We can only hope and encourage more do the same in such times of need at home and abroad.

For more info about the trip visit the Marian Catholic College website where a day by day live blog was created around the experience.
<https://www.mccww.catholic.edu.au/samoa-trip-2019/>



Sanita Lole and Josh Golden assisting staff at St Peters Falefa with their student computers from MCC.



Women of Healing and Hope

Nurturing relationships of compassion, justice, mutuality and healing

Email katrina.brill@sosj.org.au
www.sosj.org.au



The staff at St Peters Primary accepting their school gifts in their staff room.

A special celebration at Sacred Heart Koorringal

Sunday November 24th saw a special birthday party at Sacred Heart Church Koorringal at 9.00am Mass, to mark the 5th birthday of Mainly Music in the parish.



Mainly Music is a Christian program for families with pre-school children, involving weekly sessions of music, play and food for the children and a special morning tea for parents. As well as developmental play, children sing songs around religious themes. It is a chance for young families to connect with the parish, and is sponsored by the Parish Priest. Father John celebrated the 5th birthday with a Children's Mass. Parents were special ministers, and the children sang some of their songs for an appreciative congregation.

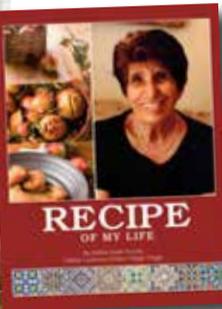



NABIHA'S KITCHEN

TRADITIONAL LEBANESE FOOD

- Book now for Christmas -

Baklava • Turkish Delight • Mamoul and more



LIMITED COPIES OF NABIHA'S 'RECIPE OF MY LIFE' AVAILABLE

Great gifts for Christmas!

FOOD MADE WITH LOVE

Shop 10 Neslo Arcade, 117 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga Ph 6921 7813

Australian Trainee of the Year Finalist



After receiving the top honour at the NSW Trainee Awards earlier this year, Sam Heffernan became a finalist for Australian Trainee of the Year.

The 19 year old regional sports co-ordinator has found employment with

the Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga after recently completing his traineeship.

In September, he was named as the Trainee of the Year at the NSW Trainee Awards, after taking out the award of the same name at the Riverina Training Awards in June.

Sam enjoyed the experience of being a finalist. "It's been inspirational hearing from the others on how they've gotten to where they are, there are some amazing stories."

"The biggest thing is that [vocational education] has opened all sorts of avenues for me to pursue my passion both professional and for myself," Mr Heffernan said.

Congratulations on your huge achievement Sam!

Climate action needed at the heart of Pacific Step Up

Ahead of the UN climate summit, Pacific Island voices are highlighting the need for climate action to be front and centre of the Australian government's Pacific Step Up.

The 2019 Caritas State of the Environment for Oceania Report shows that in the last year, extreme weather events such as cyclones and floods destroyed hundreds of homes, displaced thousands of people and created food shortages. Communities saw the ongoing erosion of their coastlines and infrastructure due to rising seas.

"When coastlines are being eroded, hospitals and other essential infrastructure being destroyed or damaged, and water sources being

poisoned, we know we are facing a true emergency in our region," Mr Nelson said.

"If Australia wants to be seen as a good neighbour in the Pacific region, then it needs to step up in this regard, putting words into action by committing more funding to climate change adaptation strategies."

Each year, the Caritas State of the Environment for Oceania Report gathers personal accounts of Pacific people and communities experiencing changes in their climate and environment.



Caritas Tonga staff distributing water to climate change affected communities
Photo: Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand



A house in Pa Tangata scene of frequent flooding
Photo: Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand

It examines five issues affecting people's lives: extreme weather, impacts on food and water, coastal erosion and sea level rise, offshore mining and drilling, and climate finance.

The report also highlights actions needed from the Australian Government and others to respond to climate change.

"We are in a critical year for action on climate change," says Nic Nelson, Caritas Australia's Director of Advocacy and Communications. "Australia needs to step up our leadership on climate. We need to deliver on the commitments we made under the Paris Agreement."

"Firstly, our Pacific neighbours are looking to us for real action to reduce emissions at home. Secondly, we should be providing Australia's fair share of global climate finance – that's funding to help countries like our Pacific neighbours tackle climate change. These are two basic aspects of climate justice. It's also just being a good neighbor,"

said Mr Nelson.

One of the key issues at next week's climate summit will be climate finance. In 2019, the Prime Minister announced that Australia would stop contributing to the Green Climate Fund, the globally agreed vehicle for providing climate finance. This puts us at odds with almost every other country in the Paris Agreement. Caritas Australia urges the Australian government to re-instate its funding for the Green Climate Fund.

The report was published by the Caritas agencies of Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tonga.

For an interactive map of this year's stories, visit www.caritas.org.au/oceania



Advanced

AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICS

1866701w

For all your Auto Electrical Repairs

- Exchange Service
- Breakdown Service
- Air Conditioning
- Repairs & Servicing

Jamie Morley
6925 4242

ARC Century AAMI

Unit 5, 73 Dobney Ave, Wagga Wagga
Mobile: 0428 254 211

Albury Accounting Pty Ltd

- All Tax Returns
- GST & Taxation Advice
- Financial Statements
- Superannuation

www.alburyaccounting.com.au
596 Hume St, Albury
Phone Suryan Chandrasegaran on 02 6041 2010

Amcal+

Expert advice for every Australian.

- Prescriptions
- Sleep Apnoea Services
- Webster-pack Medication Management
- Be Good to Yourself Weight Management
- Health & Medication checks
- Flu Vaccination Service
- Diabetes Australia Agent (NDSS)
- Fine Fragrances

PAT ZIRILLI AMCAL CHEMIST
398 - 400 Banna Ave, Griffith
Ph: (02) 6962 3596 Fax: (02) 6962 4931

Ken & Mary Morley Pty Ltd, Trading as
Ken Morley

SMASH REPAIRS

Auto Measuring Systems
Baked Enamel
Courtesy Car Available

We are recommended repairer for:

Elders SUNCORP Insurance GIO AAMI

24 hour towing
69 215 251
0431 290 725

19 Houtman St, Wagga Wagga
Lic No: MVRL47719



Featured projects in December

- A new village chapel - Ethiopia
- Help for the continuing care of the traumatised survivors of the terrorist attacks of Easter 2019 - Sri Lanka
- A car for mission work - Panama
- Help for the training of nine seminarians in the Andes - Peru
- Help to complete the pilgrim accommodation at the Marian shrine of Berdychiv - Ukraine

Ethiopia

A new village chapel

The parish of Our Lady, in Shebo, lies within the apostolic vicariate of Gambella in the far west of Ethiopia. During the devastating drought of 1985 the Marxist regime of Mengistu Haile Mariam resettled much of the population from other regions of the country here, including in the territory of the present parish of Shebo. The people were promised a better life here, but their expectations were bitterly disappointed. It was to help these suffering and disillusioned people that the parish of Shebo was established in fact.

Today the parish has five outstations, one of which is poetically named Village 9... It is situated around 10 miles (16 km) from the main centre of the parish and is a dynamic community, with 700 Catholic faithful, plus an additional 62 people who are currently preparing for baptism.

15 years ago the Catholic community built a small mud chapel here with a timber roof. Over the years, however, it has been eaten away by termites, and the roof was recently torn off by the wind. The building is so dilapidated, it is no longer usable.

And yet, for the Catholic faithful here their chapel is a place dear to their hearts. For them a church is like a bridge between life on earth and eternal life in heaven. They have been constantly pleading with their parish priest, Father Netsanet Yadeta, to build a new chapel, but so far nothing has come of it, since the people cannot afford the cost. Father Yadeta writes, "They are poor, but rich in faith. They have a strong faith and they insist that it is only thanks to the help of

God that they are able to cope with all the difficulties of their lives."

In addition to this, it is impossible to provide catechetical instruction during the rainy season, since there is no place of shelter for the people to gather in.

ACN has promised the parish a contribution of \$48,500 AUD, so that they will now at last be able to build a new and permanent chapel of their own.

Central African Republic

Success Story: 30,000 copies of the New Testament in the Sango language

At last, the new edition of the New Testament in Sango, the national language of the Central African Republic, is finished and ready for distribution! *Fini Mbuki* – "Good News" – is the title on the red dust cover of the newly printed books. For many years before this, the old edition was unavailable and out of print. Now everyone is happy, however. It is thanks to the generosity of our benefactors that ACN was able to provide the 37,000 Euros that were needed – enough to print 30,000 copies. These will now be distributed among the nine Catholic dioceses in the country – above all for the use of the catechists, who play a crucial role in the transmission of the faith.

A sound knowledge of the Scriptures is one of the fundamental preconditions for establishing a strong faith. In this country, which has been plagued ever since its independence in 1960 with political crises and violence, the inner renewal of the human person is the key to a better future. Since the bloody civil war, which began in 2013, vast sections of the country are still under the control of armed groups.



Construction of outstation chapel at Shebo Village Nine in favour of St Mary Parish Ethiopia. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

If the country is ever to be restored, it will be necessary not only to rebuild all the ruined houses and public facilities, but above all the spirits and souls of the people. There can only be a better future if hatred is overcome and a new chapter opened, in a spirit of reconciliation and forgiveness. And in any case it is vital for the faithful to have a sound knowledge of the Good News of Christ. For although two thirds of the population are Christians, nonetheless in many places superstition and belief in witchcraft are still deeply entrenched.

The vicar general of the diocese of Bouar, Italian Carmelite Father Marcello Bartolomei was the man responsible for the revised translation and publication of the new Testament. It was a painstaking and difficult undertaking, but now there is great joy at its success. He writes: "We thank the Lord and all our benefactors, and ACN above all, for having supported us in this precious work for the spreading of God's Word. Now that we have in our hands the writings of the New Testament, and above all the Gospels, it will strengthen our faith and give encouragement to our catechists, our Catholic faithful and all those seeking baptism. It is in fact our custom to give the newly baptised a copy of the New

Testament, and at Easter 2020 many of them will now receive this precious gift of the "Word of Life".

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped!

Sri Lanka

Help for the continuing care of the traumatised survivors of the terrorist attacks of Easter 2019 and their families

The morning of Easter Sunday 2019 will ever remain a horrific memory for so many people in Sri Lanka. On that day a series of suicide attacks in three Christian churches and three hotels claimed the lives of some 300 people, with a further 500 or more injured.

Hundreds of people had gathered that day, in the Catholic church of Saint Sebastian in Negombo, in the Catholic church of Saint Anthony in Colombo – also a popular place of pilgrimage – and in a Protestant church around 160 miles (250 km) from the capital, in the town of Batticaloa, to celebrate the Easter liturgy. It was here in these tightly packed churches that most of the victims were killed.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Colombo immediately came to the aid of the injured and the bereaved, tending their

continued on page 15...



The new edition of the New Testament in Sango, the national language of the Central African Republic, is finished and ready for distribution! Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need



Sister Remoshini with victims of the Easter Sunday attacks in Colombo. Psycho-social assistance is needed for the families affected by the church attacks on 2019 Easter Sunday.

continued from page 14...

wounds, burying the dead and providing such emergency assistance as was necessary. However, the spiritual and psychological wounds still go very deep. Those who survived the attacks are in many cases deeply traumatised and the bereaved family members of those who were killed continue to go through profound hurt and grief. On top of this there is the nagging fear that more attacks could happen again at any time. Many are living in a state of deep angst. The Archdiocese of Colombo wants to help these suffering people with counselling, trauma therapy and personal accompaniment, so that they can find healing for their spiritual wounds. Above all, the children who survived the attacks need help to recover their confidence in life and not be condemned to living forever under the shadow of these horrific events.

The plan is to train up 300 counsellors who can provide professional help to the affected families. At the same time youth group leaders and others working with those affected will be trained in an understanding of the problems and taught to recognise the symptoms of trauma.

ACN is helping with AUD \$133,000.

Panama

A car for mission work

Rio Congo is the newest of the 10 mission zones in the apostolic vicariate of Darien, in the region adjacent to the frontier with Colombia. Some 3500 people live here, scattered across more than 38 small communities. 18 of these communities already have a chapel, while in the remaining 20 the Catholic faithful are currently also striving to build chapels of their own.

The people are extremely poor. Most of them are simple peasant farmers who have migrated here from the interior and who just about manage to make ends meet by growing rice and bananas. But what matters most to them is their faith, and they bring with them a rich treasure of popular piety. Of great importance to them is their local patronal feast. In order to make this event into an occasion for confirming and deepening the people's faith, the diocese some years ago established an evangelization campaign whereby, immediately after the local

patronal festival, a team of evangelisers goes round visiting the Catholic faithful in their homes and speaking to them about the Gospel and the Catholic faith. An indispensable part of this is the work of the catechists, who bear the main burden of the faith life of the community when the two priests, who have to cover the whole vast area, cannot be present in person.

The priests regularly visit the communities in order to celebrate Holy Mass and administer the sacraments. The people look forward to their visits and wait eagerly for them. However, most of these settlements are accessible only in the dry season between January and April, since the remaining months experience heavy rainfall, the rivers burst their banks and transform many of the dirt roads in this relatively hilly region into treacherous mudslides. In any case, the two priests only have one old vehicle at their disposal which can no longer really cope with the challenging road conditions and now urgently needs replacing. ACN has already promised AUD \$33,600 for a robust all-terrain vehicle. It will make it possible to provide a much better and more intensive pastoral ministry to the people here in the Rio Congo mission zone.

Will you help us?

Peru

Help for the training of nine seminarians in the Andes

High in the Andes, at an altitude of over 10,000 feet (3000 m) lies the town of Huaraz. It is the seat of the diocese of the same name, and the diocesan seminary is also in the same city. There are nine young men here, currently preparing for ordination to the priesthood. A respectable number when one considers that there are not many more than 227,000 Catholics in the entire diocese.

The Catholic faithful live scattered over a region of some 5000 square miles (13,000 km²) and are ministered to by 58 priests. In fact Catholics make up only a little over half of the total population in the diocese of Huaraz, far fewer than the average in Peru as a whole, which is nearer to 80%.

Peru is one of the countries with the most acute shortage of priests in Latin America. So these future priests are



Formation of 12 seminarians in Huaraz and 4 in Trujillo.
Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

urgently needed. In order to promote vocations, the diocese of Huaraz has launched an intensive vocations apostolate, offering retreat days, holiday activities, talks and meetings for interested young people in the schools and parishes. For any who show an interest in the priesthood or religious life there is guidance and accompaniment, and visits to their family homes. Both the priests in the seminary and the local parish priests make every effort to offer help and guidance both to the young people and their families and accompany them in reaching a decision. The nine young seminarians in the diocese are one fruit of these efforts.

The rector has written to us, saying that his seminarians are "growing in their friendship with Jesus Christ" and have already proved in their lives so far that "in an environment that tempts men away from God, they have kept their faith and learned to give their lives without asking anything in return".

The diocese has asked our help, so that these nine young men can continue on their path to the priesthood. We have given AUD \$4200 towards the cost of their formation.

Ukraine

Help to complete the pilgrim accommodation at the Marian shrine of Berdychiv

Since the year 2011 the image of Our Lady in the Carmelite monastery Church in Berdychiv has been the national shrine for the Latin-rite Catholic Church in Ukraine. The monastery and its attached church were built in the year 1630 by a Polish nobleman's family, who also donated the image of Our Lady. Ever since then it has drawn large numbers of the Catholic faithful, who have brought their cares and concerns to the feet of the Mother of God. One of the most significant moments in the history of the shrine was in 1998, when the image was crowned by the local bishop with a crown that had been previously blessed by Pope John Paul II.

However, in the 20th century the shrine suffered the same fate as so many other holy places. Under Soviet rule the monastery was closed, and the centre –

which in its heyday had also housed a boarding school, a hospital, a home for the homeless and a publishing house – was now converted into a "museum of atheism" with a prison, interrogation rooms and a cinema. Later, a music school and a sports hall were also added.

In 1989 the people of the city of Berdychiv demonstrated publicly for the return of the monastery and its church to the Carmelite Order. Remarkably, the demonstrations were led by an Orthodox priest, for the Carmelite Fathers had been very active in working for ecumenical reconciliation. Success finally came in 1991, and the disalced Carmelites were allowed to return. However, the repair and renovation of the monastery and church was, and continues to be a Herculean task that is still not finished today. In fact some parts of the building have still not been returned to the Order to this day. Nonetheless, over the years – and partly also with the help of ACN which has so far contributed a total of 110,000 Euros – a great deal has already been achieved. In 2012 they were finally able to re-consecrate the Basilica.

Now they have turned to us once again for help, this time in order to refurbish the kitchens and the two large dining rooms, as well as the sanitary facilities – all of which are urgently needed in order to be able to accommodate the many Catholic faithful who come here in pilgrimage to the image of Our Lady of Berdychiv, or to take part in retreats here. We are hoping to be able to help once again with a contribution of AUD \$72,800.

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.



Purchase of a car is needed for pastoral work at the mission area of Rio Congo.
Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

Couple from The Haven celebrate 72nd wedding anniversary

A couple at The Haven in Wagga Wagga, Harold and Dossie Corben, have celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary with family and friends.

Harold and Dossie were married in Wagga Wagga on 25 October 1947. They met when they were 15 years old while still attending school; Dossie at Wagga Wagga High School and Harold at Christian Brothers.

Dossie's family insisted that they had to wait to be married until she was 21 on 2nd December, but the family were persuaded that December in Wagga Wagga was much too hot and the wedding was brought forward.

The couple have lived in Wagga Wagga their whole lives. They have two daughters, Beverley and Wendy, five grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Both had various occupations. Harold enjoyed carpentry and joinery and then later was a flight engineer in the Royal Australian Air Force. He was part of the B-24 liberator crew based at Morotai in the Maluka Islands in Indonesia. The liberators were used in the evacuation of Australian POWs in World War Two. He then worked in technical and administrative roles with the Post Master General until his retirement.

Dossie performed clerical work with the Peters Ice Cream company and various local businesses.

Both say the highlight of their lives has been having their wonderful children.

Dossie and Harold were very active in their local community. Harold was acknowledged for his 35 years of

“When asked what the key is to their successful marriage, they both answered, “enjoying each other’s company and being understanding of one another.”

service with the Wagga Wagga Fire Brigade, and Dossie worked with many groups including the Junior Eisteddfod Committee, The Haven Blue Birds and the Girl Guides Trefoil Guild who recently awarded her recognition for her long years of service.

Throughout their life, Dossie and Harold have loved travelling around Australia in their caravan, particularly enjoying Western Australia and the challenge of dirt roads through the centre of Australia. They were also avid sportspeople, playing social tennis for many years, and upon retirement became keen golfers. Harold even became President of the Wagga Wagga Country Club.

When asked what the key is to their successful marriage, they both answered, “enjoying each other’s company and being understanding of one another.”



Dossie and Harold Corben celebrating their 72nd wedding anniversary at The Haven

WE CAN'T MAKE IT RAIN BUT YOUR DONATION
Shows we care



IGA DROUGHT APPEAL

more than rain

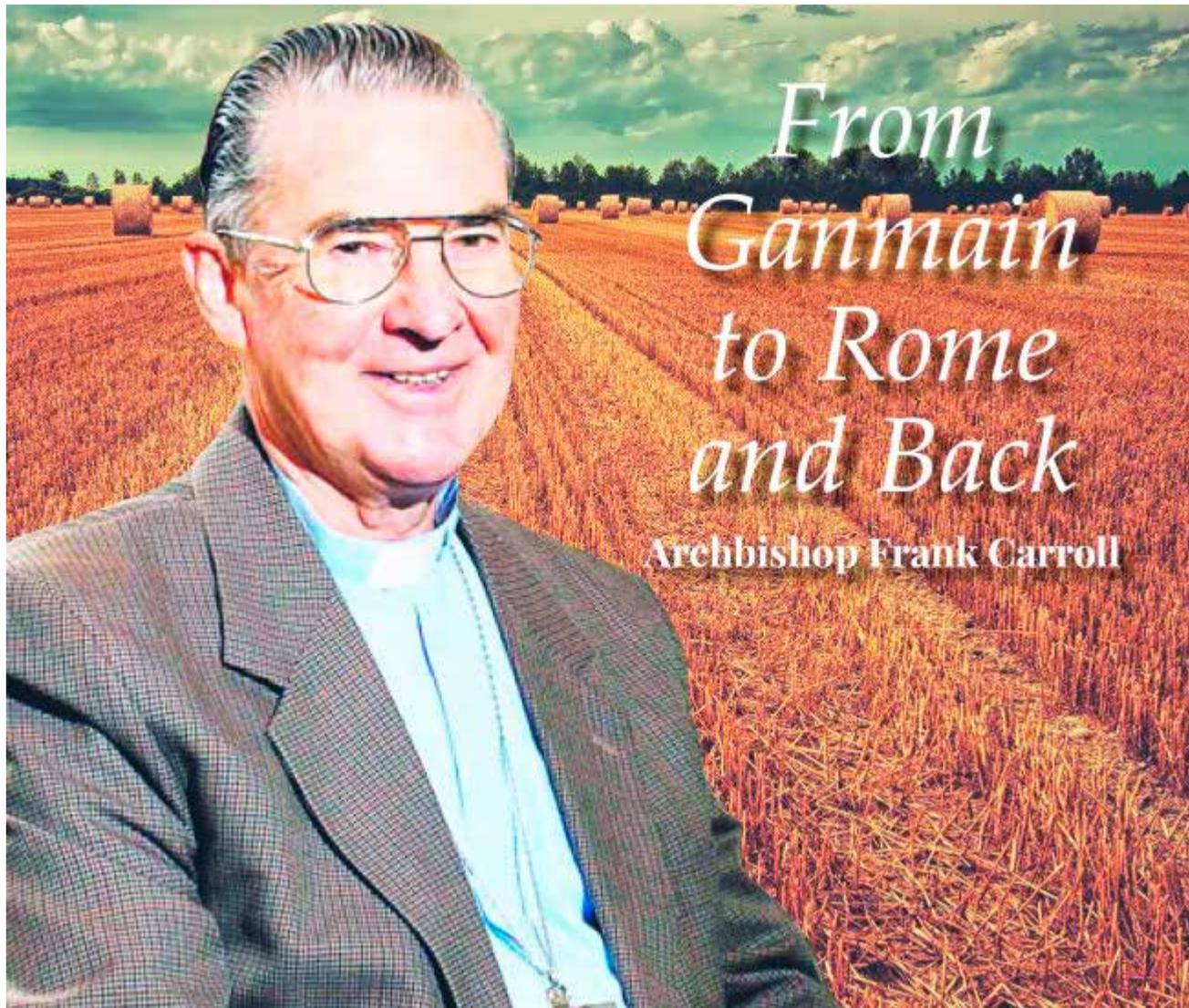
Vinnies
good works

Drought Angels
Supporting our Aussie Farmers

Fr Francis is a man of the people

Archbishop Emeritus Francis Carroll has been a Bishop for more than 50 years which is an extraordinarily long time to lead in our Australian Church. He led two Dioceses and was also President of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference.

by *Philomena Billington*



The theme of leadership is reflected strongly in a new book about the Archbishop, or Fr Francis as he prefers to be known.

His leadership and contribution to Catholic education through his role as the inaugural Chair of the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) until his retirement is unparalleled and is also a strong theme in the book.

The author, Dr Kevin Lawlor has curated the reflections of Fr Francis with skill, deep respect and knowledge. He has highlighted the voice of Fr Francis as he reflects on the Early Years through to his Legacy, which was penned by a variety of people.

Fr Francis' own words in the Preface entitled 'Nova et Vetera', his episcopal motto, set the tone for the book. His reflections reveal the person of Frank Carroll – son, brother, priest, bishop, friend and man of the people. His family is at the heart of who he is and the Carrolls of Ganmain are legendary not only in their local district but well beyond – well-chosen photos reveal this.

The story is presented in a very accessible form with well annotated endnotes revealing the variety and breadth of sources, including extensive interviews with Fr Francis. The historical background to the times prior to the Second Vatican Council to the present are both informative and reveal the breadth and complexity of the times which Fr Francis navigated in his leadership. His insight and wisdom were sought by politicians, leaders of other faith traditions and the broader community.

This is a timely book, not only to capture the wisdom of Fr Francis in his reflections but to inform us as a Church. His abiding commitment to a Church of the Baptised is prevalent throughout the reflections and his pastoral leadership is instructive during this time of discernment as the Church prepares for the Plenary Council.

The admiration and appreciation of the legacy of Fr Francis inspired the author, Kevin Lawlor who with his scholarship in Church history and

theology coupled with his generous contribution of time, has given this gift to the Church and broader community.

Copies of the book are available for purchase at the following venues for \$20 per copy:

Ganmain Newsagency

Coolamon Newsagency

Our Lady of Fatima Presbytery Wagga Wagga
(Fr Paddy Sykes)

Canberra Catholic Bookshop
55 Franklin St
Manuka ACT 2603

The following options are available for postal orders at \$25 per copy:

Please send a bank cheque for \$25 with your information to:

Philomena Billington
PO Box 3007
Batehaven NSW 2536

or contact Philomena at:
philomenabillington@gmail.com
for direct debit banking information.



SAIGON restaurant

Specialises in **Chinese** and **Vietnamese** cuisine

- Open 6 days - lunch & dinner
- BYO
- Banquets and group bookings
- Takeaway and business lunch menu

[P] 6921 2212 89-91 Morgan St, Wagga Wagga

Would you like to receive your copy of Together via email?

Just email us at: together@wagga.catholic.org.au and we will add you to the mailing list.



Open every
Tuesday and Wednesday
10am to 2pm
and also by appointment

Open the first
Saturday of every month
10am to 2pm

Parking: Please use Mt Erin Boarding School entrance or Kildare Ave entrance.



KIDS CORNER

SAINTS FUN FACTS

A successful lawyer prior to becoming a bishop, Ambrose was one of the four original doctors of the Church. Ambrose is traditionally credited with composing the "antiphonal chant," a method of chanting where one side of the choir alternately responds to the other.



Saint Ambrose is the patron of Milan and is celebrated on Dec. 7th, the date of his ordination.

© 2014 Distributed by Catholic Online www.catholic.org Written & Illustrated by John Sheppard

Saint Ambrose



Family Advent Poster



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!



DECEMBER SAINTS & FEAST DAYS

Word Search

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

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



- St. Francis **Xavier**
- St. **Nicholas**
- St. **Ambrose**
- Feast of the **Immaculate** Conception
- St. **Juan Diego**
- Our Lady of **Guadalupe**
- St. **Lucy**
- St. John of the **Cross**
- Nativity** of the Lord
- St. **Stephen**
- St. **John**
- Holy** Innocents
- St. **Thomas** Becket
- Holy** Family
- St. **Sylvester** I

2019



Recipe... Melted Snowmen Cookies



These melted snowmen cookies are the perfect Christmas cooking activity for kids. Get playing now!

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup (80g) unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup (115g) caster sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 1/3 cup (200g) plain flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- pinch of salt
- To decorate:
- 1 cup (150g) pure icing sugar
- licorice strips
- red cachous
- icing pens
- small coloured sweets

Method:

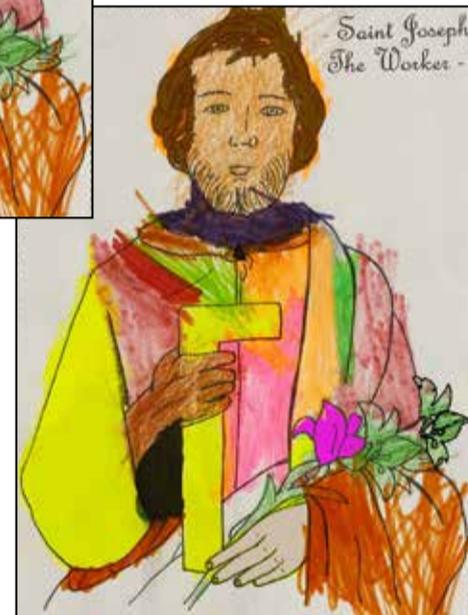
- To make the dough; Preheat oven to 180C (160C fan-forced) and line two trays with baking paper. Cream the butter and sugar together with an electric mixer until pale and fluffy. Add the egg and beat well. Fold in the vanilla, flour, baking powder and salt. Mix into a dough, shape this into a disc, then wrap in plastic and let rest in the fridge for 30 minutes. Roll out and cut into circles (using a cookie cutter or the base of a glass tumbler). Transfer these to a baking tray and bake for 10 minutes or until golden.
- Let cool completely. Slice up a few licorice strips into thin strips for arms, scarves, etc. Tiny dots for eyes or triangles for bow ties.
- Make up a basic white icing (just add a tiny bit of boiling water to pure icing sugar and stir, then add more water until you reach the desired consistency - should be fairly thick). Decorate the marshmallows with eyes, noses, mouths etc. You can use an icing pen here, or just use the white icing as glue for the cachous.
- Decorate the cookies, spoon on a little white icing and spread over the surface of your cookie, then press the marshmallow down in the middle and decorate at will!

Spot the Differences



Amelia Church from Holy Spirit School in Lavington coloured this image of Saint Joseph the Worker.

Can you find and circle the seven differences?



7 differences to find...

- ANSWERS: hand has changed colour, flower has changed to pink, line near green on shirt missing, moustache is missing, hair has change colour, extra flower in bunch, lines on yellow sleeve missing



The Bible App FOR KIDS



Download the most popular kids Bible app for free, and help your kids fall in love with God's Word.

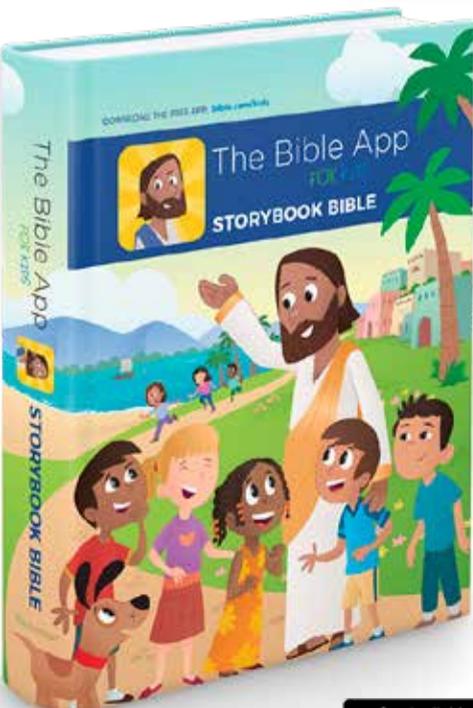
Learn more at bible.com/kids

The Bible App for Kids Storybook Bible

From bedtime stories to long road trips to reading together as a family, the Storybook Bible is the perfect companion to the app they already love.

- 400+ pages
- 28 Bible Stories
- Learning questions
- Part of the Bible App for Kids suite that includes the app, Storybook Bible, episodes, and the free church curriculum

Present it at your child's dedication, send it as a gift, or make it your go-to baby shower gift. However you choose to share it, sign the presentation page and give the little ones in your life the thing that matters most: the Word of God.



Holy Spirit Parish Lavington

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



Friday 21st February to Sunday 23rd February 2020

All past students or parishioners are most welcome to attend the three days of activities.

Full program in next month's edition...

Feast Day of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Last week the St Joseph's Lockhart school community celebrated the Feast Day of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and acknowledged the wonderful contribution the Presentation Sisters have made to our school.

Students were fortunate enough to have four Presentation Sisters visit and help celebrate the day.

The Sisters, along with our school community participated in a Liturgy that acknowledged Nano Nagle's story and enjoyed a variety of learning activities throughout the day. These included a Presentation Day Kahoot, Nano Nagle research and lantern making.

All students prepared interview questions for the Sisters to get an insight into the St Joseph's school history, the life of the Presentation Sisters and the impact they have had on our school. Our special guests were kind enough to let Stage Three students record these interviews and piece together a WeVideo that was shared at the conclusion of the day. The amazing

Nano Nagle artworks by Miss Smith and other students provided an excellent backdrop for these interviews. These artworks now adorn the school and are a reminder of our inspiring Faith story.

Staff and students would like to thank Sisters Mary Walsh, Susan Miller, Noela Fox and Philomena Sewell for making the effort to share their stories and be a part of the day.



LILLYPILLY

Lillypilly Wines
Family Owned Boutique Winery

Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm
visit us and have a taste

47 Lillypilly Rd, Leeton NSW 2705
Tel: 02 6953 4069
www.lillypilly.com
www.facebook.com/lillypillywines

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ROB GEDDES MW
Australian Wine Vintages 2015
Lillypilly Noble Blend

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
JAMES HALLIDAY - 5 STARS
Australian Wine Companion 2015

huon HOOKE .com 95
Lillypilly 2011 Noble Blend

go LEETON

GOLDEN APPLE SUPER STORE
A GOOD PLACE TO SHOP AND SAVE

OPEN DAILY FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE
ONE-STOP SUPERMARKET

Part of the Local Community Since 1960

SUPA IGA bp

YANCO ROAD, LEETON Tel:69532000

H. FRANCIS & CO.
STOCK STATION AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS
rma network Accredited Member

4/41-43 Moorong St
Wagga Wagga
Ph: 6921 6366
Fax: 6921 6493

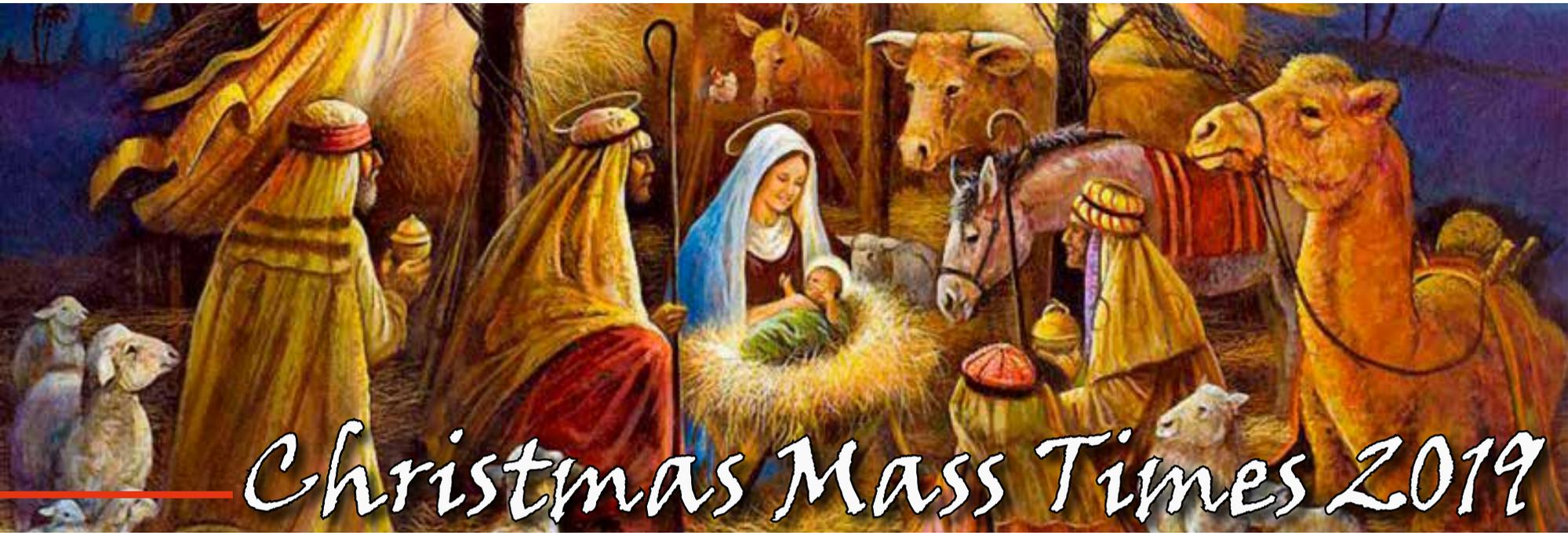
We sell Cattle at the Wagga Livestock Marketing Centre every Monday and Sheep and Lambs every Thursday and also offer a range of services:

- Paddock sales, over the hook sales and direct to feedlot sales
- On farm Stud Sales
- Auctions Plus Sales
- Clearing Sales
- Rural property sales

For any of your livestock or property needs contact one of our friendly agents:

Tim Francis	0428 263 852
Alex Croker	0428 326 810
Matt Hawker	0418 861 320
Sam Sutton	0448 080 607
David Kosa	0432 064 188
Helen De Costa	0448 353 764

Email: livestock@hfrancisandco.com.au
www.hfrancisandco.com.au



Christmas Mass Times 2019

Cathedral Parish

St Michael's Cathedral
24 December - Vigil 6:00pm, 8:00pm and
Midnight - Carols commencing at 11:30pm
25 December - 8:00am, 10:00am & 5:30pm

Mt Erin Chapel

24 December - Midnight Latin Mass
25 December - Mass 10:00am

St Mary's Chapel - Vianney College

25 December - 9:00am

St Michael's Cathedral Reconciliation

19 December - 12:00pm-12:40pm
20 December - 12:00pm-12:40pm
21 December - 12:00pm-12:40pm
and 4:30pm - 5:30pm
23 December - 11:00am-12:00pm
24 December - 12:00pm-12:40pm

Koorringal Parish

Sacred Heart Church
18 December - 7:00pm 2nd Rite of Reconciliation
24 December - 8:00pm Vigil Mass
25 December - 9:00am

Mater Dei Primary School Hall

24 December - 6:00pm Vigil Mass

South Wagga Parish

Our Lady of Fatima Church
23 December - 10:00am 2nd Rite of
Reconciliation
24 December - 7:00pm Outdoor Family Mass -
Henschke Primary School Oval;
9:00pm Our Lady of Fatima Church; and
10:30pm Syro Malabar Rite
25 December - 10:30am (in Church)
St Patrick's Church Uranquinty
25 December - 8:30am

West Wagga Parish

Holy Trinity Church
Confessions: 20 December - 7:30pm; and 21
December 11:00am
24 December - Christmas Vigil 6:45pm; Midnight
Mass 12:00am
25 December - 9:00am; and 5:30pm
San Isidore
25 December - 8:00am
Collingullie
25 December - 9:30am
Loretto Home of Compassion
25 December - 10:30am
Come to Bethlehem
22, 23 & 24 December - 8:00pm - 9:30pm Holy
Trinity School Grounds

Albury Parish

St Patrick's Church
24 December - Christmas Vigil - 6:00pm, 8:00pm,
and 12:00am (Midnight Mass)
25 December - 8:00am and 10:00am

Latin Adoration Chapel

25 December - 12:00am (Midnight Mass) & 7:00am
26th December - 9:30am St Stephen, 1st Martyr
27th December - 9:30am St John, Evangelist
28th December - 9:30am Holy Innocents
New Year's Day - Tuesday 1st January - Mary the
Mother of God - 9:30am
Reconciliation 30 minutes prior to Christmas and
New Year Masses.

Coolamon Parish

Marrar - St Patrick's Church
24 December - 6:00pm
Coolamon - St Michael's Church
24 December - 7:30pm (School Grounds)
25 December - 9:00am

Corowa Parish

24 December - 6:00pm Vigil
25 December - 9:00am

Culcairn Parish

Culcairn
24 December - 8:00pm
Henty
25 December - 9:30am
Walla Walla
25 December - 11:30am

Darlington Point Parish

Coleambally
24 December - 8:00pm Christmas Vigil
Darlington Point
24 December - 6:00pm Christmas Vigil

Finley Parish

24 December - 6:00pm Family Mass
25 December - 10:15am

Ganmain Parish

Ganmain
24 December - 6:00pm Vigil
24 December - 12:00am Midnight (During the Night)
25 December - 9:00am (Dawn)
Ganmain Confession Times:
24 December - 5:00-5:50pm; 11:30-11:55pm
25 December - 8:30-8:55am
SPECIAL TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS
Confessions: 30 minutes before every Mass &
9:00am-10:00am Sat. before Christmas (visiting
priest)
Masses: 6:00pm (Vigil); 12:00am Midnight
(During the Night); 9:00am (Dawn)
Christmas Liturgy Practice: for servers & readers
24 December (Christmas Eve) 10:00am

Griffith Parish

Sacred Heart Church Griffith
24 December - 6:00pm & 10:00pm
25 December - 7.30am, 9:00am (Italian), 10:30am
& 6:00pm

Marian Catholic College Chapel

24 December - 6:00pm
25 December - 9:00am
Confessions
Every Friday - 4:30pm-5:30pm
Every Saturday - 11:30am-12:30pm
23 December - 7:30pm Second Rite

Holbrook Parish

Bowna
24 December - 6:00pm
Holbrook
24 December - 8:00pm
25 December - 8:00am

Howlong Parish

St Brigids Howlong
24 December - 6:00pm Vigil
Walbundrie
25 December - 9:00am

Jerilderie Parish

22 December 10:30am - Weekend Parish Mass
25 December - 9:00am

Junee Parish

St Joseph's Church Junee
24 December - 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass
25 December - 9:30am Christmas Day Mass

Lavington Parish

Holy Spirit Church Lavington
24 December - 6:00pm and 9:00pm
25 December - 9:00am
St Mary's Church Jindera
24 December - 6:00pm
25 December - 9:00am

Leeton Parish

St Joseph's Church Leeton
24 December - 6:00pm - Christmas Vigil
25 December - 10:00am
St Patrick's Church Yanco
24 December - 8:00pm Christmas Vigil

Lockhart Parish

St Mary's Church Lockhart
24 December - 8:30pm Vigil
25 December - 8:00am

Mulwala Parish

24 December - 8:00pm Vigil
25 December - 8:00am

Narrandera Parish

Narrandera
24 December - 6:00pm, 12:00 Midnight Mass
(with Carols commencing at 11:30pm)
25 December - 9:30am

Grong Grong

24 December - 8:00pm
Galore
25 December - 8:00am

North Albury Parish

St Anne's Primary School Hall
24 December - 6:00pm Vigil
Sacred Heart Church
24 December - 9:00pm
25 December - 9:30am

Tarcutta Parish

Ladysmith
24 December - 6:00pm
Tarcutta
25 December - 8:30am

The Rock Parish

The Rock - St Mary's Church
24 December - 6:00pm Carols; 6:30pm Vigil Mass
25 December - 8:00am Latin Mass
25 December - 10:00am

Thurgoona Parish

24 December - Vigil 7:00pm, Midnight Mass
25 December - 9:30am

Tocumwal Parish

24 December - 8:00pm Vigil Mass
25 December - 8:30am

Tumbarumba Parish

24 December - 6:00pm Vigil
Midnight Mass 12:00am
25 December - 9:00am

Urana Parish

St Fiacre's Church Urana
24 December - 6:00pm

Yenda Yoogali Hanwood Parish

Yoogali
24 December - 7:00pm
25 December - 9:30am
Hanwood
24 December - 5:00pm
25 December - 8:00am
Yenda
24 December - 5:00pm

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



Lester & Son
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

*Caring for our Catholic community with
personal and professional care since 1907*



Darren Eddy & Andrew Harbick

359 Wantigong St, Albury
Ph 6040 5066

49 Thomas Mitchell Dr, Wodonga
Ph 6056 1700

www.lesterandson.com.au

*All Hours - All Areas
Pre-planned Funerals Available*



St Joseph's Primary, Narrandera

Congratulations to our Year 2 students for making their Sacrament of First Reconciliation! It was a lovely evening with great support from the parent community. Many thanks to Mrs Smith for her hard work in preparing the students.



St Patrick's Primary School, Holbrook

Holbrook Men's Shed completed the second of the Cubby Houses. The effort and skill is much appreciated and we thank the Holbrook Men's Shed for the wonderful work they do in our community.



St Anne's Primary, North Albury

St Anne's Primary had two VEX teams attend the Australian Championships in Adelaide. At the end of qualifying 2640M finished in 23rd place and 2640V in 19th position. ARCBOTS placed in 13th position. Top 20 teams go through to finals.

Congratulations to Belinda and Ben awarded Teacher of the Year and Mentor of the Year, respectively, at the VEX Robotics Nationals!



Kildare Catholic College, Wagga Wagga

Well done to both Kildare Catholic College's Boys and Girls year 7/8 Touch Football teams competing at the NSW All Schools Champs in Penrith recently.
Girls - 2 wins, 1 Draw and 1 loss.
Boys - 3 Wins, 1 Draw and 1 loss.



Both teams just missed out on the finals by percentage. **Great effort. Well done!**

St Francis DeSales Regional College, Leeton

St Francis DeSales Regional College Year 7 2020 Boarding Students.



Marian Catholic College, Griffith



Marian Catholic College, Griffith Community Action Team had their last cooking day for 2019 for Carevan.

Great work Team! Thank you to staff and students for volunteering your time.



St Patrick's Primary, Griffith



Year 4 kindly invited Year 1 into their learning space to make Christmas decorations together for the Christmas Tree at Griffith Central.



St Peter's Primary, Coleambally

On 22nd November St Peter's had a fundraiser for Year 6 clubs day later this term. This involved taping Mr Smith to a pole. All the students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to tape Mr Smith to the pole.



Henschke Primary, Wagga



The entire school enjoyed the Infants led Advent Liturgy on 29th November.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

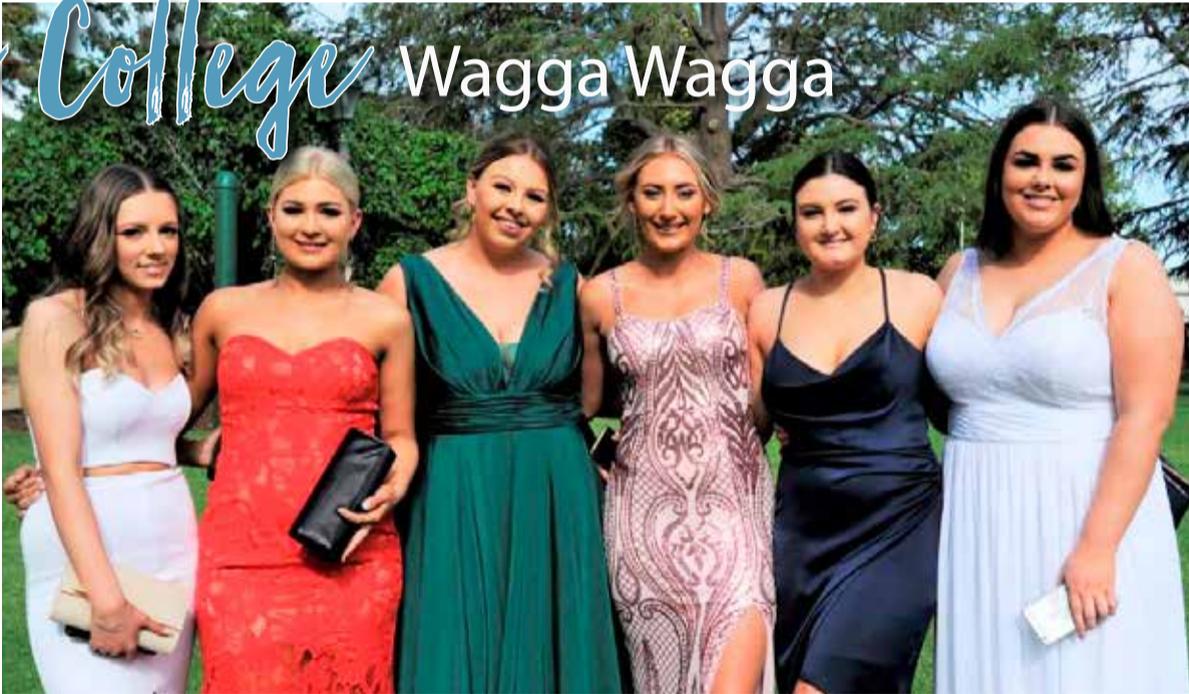
Mater Dei Catholic College Wagga Wagga



Seek out the opportunities, celebrate the successes, learn from your mistakes and most of all, keep our College motto in your heart to live God's message every day.

Kildare Catholic College Wagga Wagga

Friday evening 15th November, Mater Dei Catholic College and Kildare Catholic College formally farewelled Year 12 at their 2019 Graduation. Perfect weather greeted the glamorous students at the Victory Memorial Gardens before they went on to celebrate their graduation.



Right: Kildare students Savannah Collins, Mikayla Kapel, Ava Manning, Millie Flynn, Ella Hunter and Emmerson Petit.

Bottom right: A number of students from Kildare Catholic College looking sharp.

Bottom left: Kildare's Shaelyn Jones in her combined Indigenous and Maori dress.

Pictures by: Toby Vue



Marian Catholic College Griffith

Graduation is the culmination of 13 years of schooling and Marian Catholic College had its largest ever group of graduates this year with 102 students. The night was celebrated with family, friends and some College staff in an event that saw 660 people attend the Yoogali Club. Prior to the Yoogali Club a beautiful mass was held at MCC to officially farewell the students.

In what was a fantastic event that celebrated the success of each student, there is a huge thank you to everyone that assisted in ensuring the night was one to remember. From the organising, to the decorations, the food, the music by *Groovology* and most importantly the guests, the night was a hit. The MCC class of 2019 will be missed but there are bigger and better opportunities waiting. Good luck.



St Francis De Sales Regional College Leeton



Xavier High School Albury



On 12th November Xavier High School bid a final farewell to their Class of 2019 with their graduation. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all. Special thanks to the staff and music students for their efforts on the night.



It's time to get Australia's offshore detainees to safety

Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv has expressed deep concern over the repeal of legislation that gave doctors decision-making power in the transfer of refugees and asylum-seekers requiring medical treatment from offshore detention facilities to Australia.

"These arrangements were essential in ensuring sick people received the medical care they desperately needed. The 'Medevac' legislation put an end to needless deaths – 12 occurring prior to the legislation. It operated without a massive influx of asylum-seekers and without undermining the Government's control of Australian borders.

"The lives of a very vulnerable group of people are now placed at risk once more," said Bishop Long, the chair of the Australian Catholic Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service.

Bishop Long was part of a recent Australian Catholic delegation to Papua New Guinea to express solidarity with refugees and asylum-seekers who have been detained indefinitely in inhumane conditions in places such as the Bomana Immigration Detention Facility. The Catholic Church, through its agencies like Caritas, is rendering assistance and support to those men.

"What we witnessed and heard confirms an alarming destruction of

the physical and mental health of people already harmed by the offshore detention system," he said. "It is the result of systematic cruelty. Detainees are malnourished and not getting basic food, medical treatment and other support. Some have been in detention for up to seven years.

"With the repeal of Medevac, the onus is on Minister Dutton and Prime Minister Morrison to explain how they will ensure that these people will have their human right to medical treatment respected.

"Australians do not want this kind of treatment meted out to sick and vulnerable people in our name.

"I join with a growing number of Australians who are calling on the Government to reconsider New Zealand's offer to receive 150 refugees. For the sake of the God-given dignity of more than 500 men, women and children detained offshore, the Catholic Church calls for the Government to ensure timely and durable resettlement options in Australia and other secure countries," Bishop Long concluded.



CEREAL, OILSEEDS, PULSES

"It all begins with seed"

- Insist on Hart Bros quality assured seed
- Growing, cleaning, sales and distribution of all broadacre seed varieties

- Cleaning, treating and sizing farmer's retained canola seed

It all begins with Seed

office@hbroseeds.com.au • www.hartbroseeds.com.au

Phone: 02 6924 7206 • Fax: 02 6924 7271

Coffin Rock Lane, Temora Rd Junee 2663

"Remember: Hart Bros Seeds Spring Field Day is 2nd Wednesday in October"

continued from page 3...

possessed a conviction of God being present in all people, a great compassion for the outsiders in our society backed by a deep spirituality and faithful life of prayer. Denis Sullivan recalled his carry bag which he used for this ministry with compartments set aside for his Liturgical prayer book, meditation books and other spiritual reading and aids for certain prayer services he led. He depended on public transport and prayer occupied him in much of his travel time. Of course he was devoted to community prayer and often also seen praying in our house chapels at other times. He told someone he had a long list of people for whom he prayed daily.

Br Pat White asked him one day if he could accompany him for a day in his ministry at Parramatta Gaol. The experience moved him and he wrote: "My conclusion was that the inmates recognised in John, a Brother who was as close to Jesus Christ as they would ever meet. He certainly showed me a different side of personality in that gaol ministry." Br Tim Barnes told me that one day that John, when leaving a gaol was cleared at the first of two checkpoints and by phone passed on to the next by the warder saying loudly: "Brother is coming to you checking out." The reply came back "What brother?" Then came the extraordinary words in reply - "He's my brother, he's the prisoners' brother

and he's your brother." Br Charlie Smith was another who saw first hand John's wonderful rapport with the prisoners and also the many rehabilitation personnel working within the system. He wrote "I was amazed at the respect the prisoners had for John and how much they appreciated his help and support." John was tireless in also visiting their relatives and then also supporting in friendship many once they left gaol. It was right that the Dept. of Corrective Services in 1996 acknowledged his great work with the Ministers Commendation and later with the Meritorious Service medal in 1999.

We do well to remember that John suffered several painful maladies causing him chronic pain, he suffered from a form of spondylitis that made his back stiff causing a rigid gait. In addition he had corneal grafts to address problems he had with his vision. Ultimately arthritis forced him to give up playing the recorder at which he had become quite expert. No one seems to have heard John bemoaning his poor health, he seemed to have disregarded it while being so generous with demands on his time and ever ready to help others.

He retired to Charingfield in 2012 and he had some good years there but gradually withdrew into himself and kept to his room a lot where he had the solace of what Frank Cruice called "his treasury of religious literature and his collection of classical music." It wasn't until this

year his health collapsed. A swift decline occurred after he had to be taken to Prince of Wales hospital following cuts to his head and a broken arm through a fall he had. He had successful surgery and insertion of a stent to assist blood flow. On his return, however, he slipped into a very depressed state and gave up eating and drinking and wouldn't get out of bed. Doctors tried to alleviate his depression and he was admitted to the Mental Health ward at Prince of Wales but John declined further treatment knowing the risks that he was taking in his weakened state but accepting their consequences. He was kept comfortable and received a Last Anointing. Thus

passed peacefully our Brother John Loth, known and respected by those who had lived and taught with him, a faithful Religious, earnest, dedicated and talented, a complex man and somewhat unfulfilled in his teaching ministry. But the complexities faded when in ministering to many consigned to prison. John, through his selfless and unstinting service to them became simply, a Brother radiating the presence of the love, understanding and compassion of Jesus Christ. **I am sure he was welcomed home by the Risen Lord with: "I was in prison and you visited me John, many, many times, come, you whom my Father has blest."**



The chapel at Parramatta Gaol where Brother John served as a Prison Chaplain. Photo by Geoff King

Have you ever thought about teaching SRE?

Over 100 volunteer SRE Teachers generously donate their time each week to teach SRE in public schools in our diocese.

But classes are growing & we need more help.

If you are able to help an hour or two a week please contact
Trevor Dal Broi 0407 537 994
or catechist@wagga.catholic.org.au
Training is provided.

Parishes urgently needing SRE volunteers:

- Henty
- Darlington Point and Colleambally
- Berrigan and Mulwala

TUESDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

for All Ages and Stages 9:30am to 3:00pm every Tuesday



Sacred Heart Parish, Griffith

Bring your own lunch.



Come and go or stay all day

COME & JOIN US
Majellan Room
Church Hall

For further information: Ph. Rhonda 0429 356 415



Together is now on Facebook..!

We'd love you to drop by our new page at:
www.facebook.com/togetherwagga/
and like our page.

LMD 6808 - Channel13 UHF

Hydraulic hose manufacturers and suppliers
Steel supplies, engineering and welding supplies
Dealers for Robin & Delta stationary engines

SMITH'S MOTOR GARAGE

58-60 GREEN ST LOCKHART
PH 02 6920 5556

- Authorised Mitsubishi Dealers -



Albury Audio Diagnostics

Audiology and Hearing Aid Clinic

Stephen Jacobs Audiologist BSc, DipAud, DipEd, MAudSA(CCP)

Our Services

- The selection, fitting and trial of hearing aids to improve your hearing
- Adult and Child Hearing Assessments
- Employment, WorkSafe Vic and WorkCover NSW Hearing Services

6023 1300

563 Wyse St Albury NSW 2640

www.alburyhearingaids.com.au



A book for all those who went to school at Perthville

A new book on the history of St Joseph's College Perthville near Bathurst will be launched at the small village on 21 March 2020.

St Joseph's Perthville 1872 – 2017 by former student Marie Crowley includes recollections from past boarders – some serious, some funny, some nostalgic and some sad. There are stories of tough times during the Depression and the Wars, of the freezing cold of Perthville winters, of frugal meals and basic sleeping accommodation.

The book begins in 1872 with the first small Catholic primary school in the village. It then traces the history of St Joseph's College, a boarding school for girls with most coming from rural and remote parts of New South Wales. It concludes with the final years of the College when it served as the boarding facility for MacKillop College – the Catholic Girls' High School in Bathurst. Ms Crowley came from a Trundle

farming family. Her own experience as a boarder and careful research has enabled her to bring to life the memories and experiences of other students. Numerous photographs add to the story.

In the Foreword to the book another former Perthville student, Ursula Paul (nee Cahill), praised the book and its role in providing a comprehensive history of St Joseph's.

'As we open and read the 145 year life of St Joseph's, we can see that Marie Crowley has not only captured the history of the period, but has also shown the spirit of those years,' Mrs Paul wrote.

Whether you boarded at the College, attended the primary school as a day girl or boy or are connected to the Sisters of St Joseph, this book is for you.

St Joseph's Perthville 1872 – 2017



Artist impression of first purpose built Convent at Perthville

will be launched at 11 am on Saturday 21 March 2020 at Perthville. All former students and friends are warmly invited. RSVP by 12 March 2020. A light lunch will be available for \$20 (no EFTPOS) but bookings are essential for catering purposes.

Phone:
02 6334 3488 or 0439 938 504
Email:
sjphistory@bigpond.com
Post:
1/271 Rankin St
Bathurst NSW 2795

The launch of *A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian*

Mary MacKillop Place Café and St Paul's Publications are proud to offer the latest work from Sue and Leo Kane: *A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian*, which hit bookshelves on Friday 15 November 2019.

Inspired by the lives and legacies of Saint Mary MacKillop (the first Australian canonised saint) and Father Julian Tenison Woods, *A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian* invites the reader to take a moment and pause throughout the day, allowing their mind and soul to catch up with the hustle and bustle of daily life.

The book contains a series of meditations, which can be followed according to the calendar or dipped into at random as the reader pleases.

Each meditation draws an insight from the wisdom of Saint Mary and Father Julian, the co-founders of The Sisters of Saint Joseph, whose writings and teachings continue to resonate in the hearts of people today.

After extensive careers in Catholic education, Sue and Leo Kane have long been inspired by the spiritual legacy of Mary and Julian, and more recently by the experience of helping raise their four grandchildren. *A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian* reminds the reader to remain grounded in the everyday, and that there is always room in our lives for a cup of tea and a moment of reflection.

"It has taken us almost three years to be able to launch this book, gathering insights to help our readers take a moment to pause, reflect and re-energise throughout the day," said Sue Kane. "Everything within it is very close to my heart, inspired by two extraordinary spiritual

leaders, and I wanted share it with others."

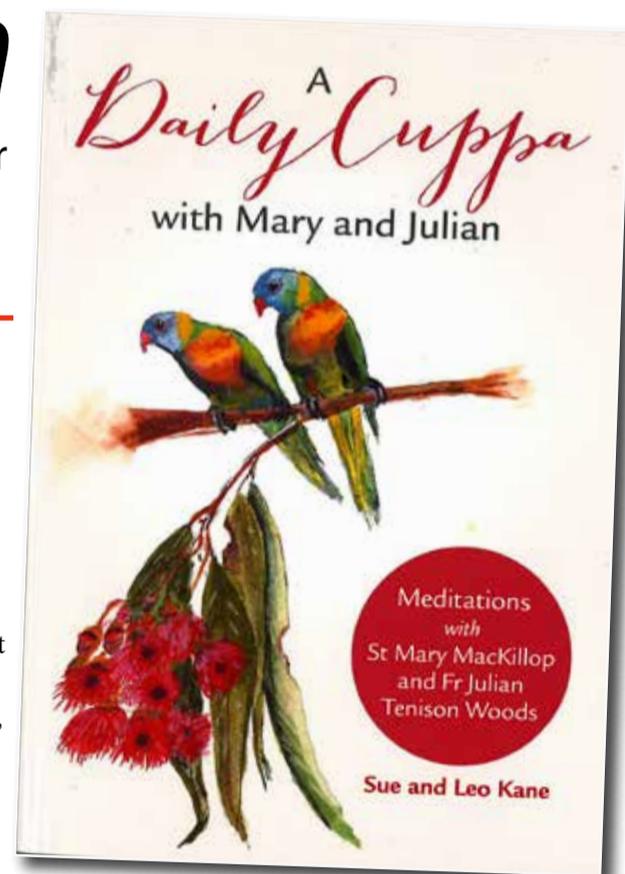
This publication follows the very successful *The Little Brown Book* and *The Little Brown Book Too* from Sue and Leo Kane, which had numerous reprints to keep up with demand.

A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian book was launched in the Tenison Room at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney at 2pm on Friday 15 November hosted and entertained by young students from Mount St Joseph College at Milperra.

Complete with a foreword by Sister Monica Cavanagh, Leader of the Congregational Leadership Team for the Sisters of Saint Joseph, beautiful sketches by Judy Mitchell, and vibrant cover art by Brother John Mahon FMS, the book makes an ideal Christmas gift.

Right: Sr Monica Cavanagh, Congregational Leader, Congregational Leadership Team for The Sisters of Saint Joseph

Far right: Kathleen Norman, Communications Manager, Sisters of Saint Joseph, Sr Jan Barnett, Josephite Justice Co-ordinator, Sisters of Saint Joseph and Sue Kane, Author of *A Daily Cuppa with Mary and Julian*



Women's Life Centre

POSITION/S VACANT

If you are interested in being active in the pro-life apostolate and have hospitality experience then you may consider whether you are suited to volunteer work or if you are in the position to take on the responsibilities of management in the Esencia Cafe in Lavington.

Although up to now the role of the manager has been a full-time position we are open to creating two part-time positions if it is more suitable.

The role of the manager consists of:

Opening and closing of the Cafe (set up of food, til, seating and coffee machine) - 8.30am-3.30pm Tuesday to Friday and Saturday 8.30-2.30pm

- Customer service
- Barista
- Food preparation, and plating up, food service and cleaning up.
- Taking orders, cash and card handling
- Organisation and direction of volunteers
- Cafe supplies - maintenance and ordering
- A desire to work within a pro-life team/apostolate - an understanding of abortion and related issues
- Merchandising of stock/sales of clothing, piety and books

Please feel free pass on this information to anyone you think may be interested in applying for the position.

As we are a charitable organisation we would LOVE anyone with a pro-life heart who is happy to simply be committed Volunteers who we can rely on each week. We understand that a paid position is most likely necessary but it would help the work of the Women's Life Centre if there are generous-hearted people who can give their time and help for free.

We appreciate that we are indebted to many good souls who already volunteer and thank them for the valuable contribution.

Please get in touch if you are interested, my mobile is 0427 254 809



- Cars
- Trucks
- Buses
- Utes

6921 9977

6-10 Edward St, Wagga Wagga www.avis.com.au



plus

LIQUOR

LOCKHART • EAST ALBURY

JINDERA

SPRINGDALE HEIGHTS

Encounter the Mystics of Europe

NEW DATE FOR PILGRIMAGE
Depart 6 MAY 2020



Julian of Norwich

The Life & Spirituality of:

- Julian of Norwich
- The Beguines of Norwich
- Ignatius of Loyola - Manresa, Montserrat,
- Teresa of Avila
- John of the Cross in Segovia
- Hildegard of Bingen, Germany

Pilgrimage: Depart Australia **Wednesday 6 May**

Return from Madrid, Spain on **Sunday 17 May 2020**

Cost: \$7,490.00 per person / twin share -

Optional extension to UK: Flight to UK – Norwich **Sat 16 May 2020**

Return from Heathrow UK **Thursday 21 May 2020**

Cost: \$2,350.00 per person / twin

Co-ordinator: Sr Margaret Walsh pbvm

NB: Contact Margaret Walsh pbvm for further details about the pilgrimage and for the application form and information brochure.

Email: margaretwalsh1915@gmail.com Ph: 02 6971 7140 0429 171 400

13 Marns St, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

The Travel Agent we deal with is Harvest Journeys and they organise the tour.

Harvest Journeys-11th Floor,
Monica Mansour Operations Manager – Private Groups
Pilgrimage: Ref No. PV8220
toll free: 1800 819 156

133 Liverpool St. Sydney NSW 2000
tel: +61 2 9390 5460
www.harvestjourneys.com

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



Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury

An independant school offering traditional Christian education and instruction in the Catholic faith, promoting the virtues and excellence of character in a personal and nurturing environment.

- K to Year 12
- Small classes in a rural setting
- Single-sex classes where numbers permit
- Academic excellence and committed staff

Urana Street, PO Box 310, Jindera NSW 2642
bmmcalbury@gmail.com Phone 02 6045 9422

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 - 8.00am
Confessions
Prior to Masses
Saturday - 5.30pm-6.00pm
Sunday - 5.00pm-5.30pm
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 - 9.00am
Confessions
Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm
Masses
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 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,
Urana Road.
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
Weekend Mass Times
6:00pm (Saturday Vigil); 10:00am
Weekday Masses
Monday to Friday:
December-February 7:30am (Tues., Thurs.) & 5:30pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.)
March-November 5:30pm
Sat.: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).
Confessions
30 min. before every Mass each day & 5:00pm-6:00pm Sat.
St. Patrick's Matong
Sunday - 8:00am
Confessions 30 min before Sunday 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 31...

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.

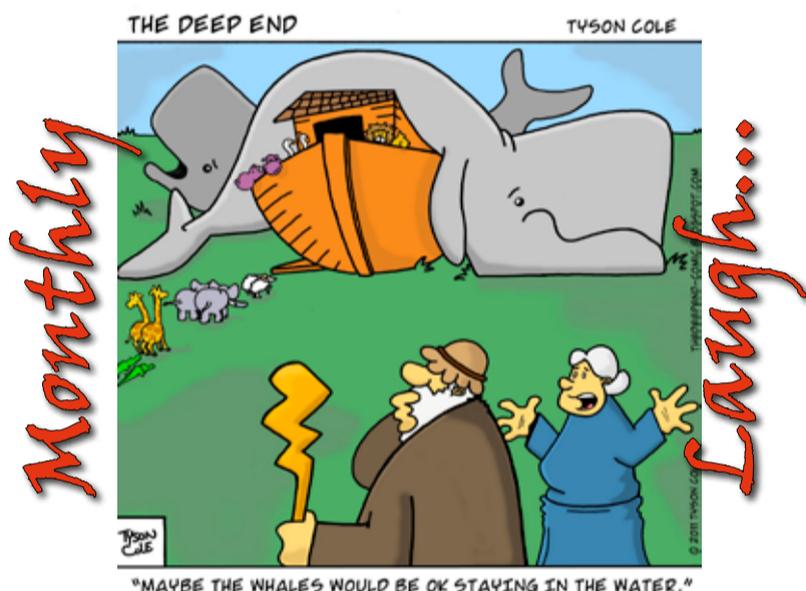
Please note that Mass times were true and correct at the time of printing. For further clarification, please check parish bulletins and noticeboards closer to the date.



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

- 4 December 1991** Mgr Leo Cecil Hatswell
- 10 December 2016** Fr Jan Stankiewicz
- 11 December 1952** Fr Robert O'Dea
- 17 December 1993** Fr Thomas Michael Buckdale
- 19 December 2015** Fr Rafe Beltrame
- 20 December 2009** Fr Robert Leaver
- 21 December 1975** Fr John Leighton Edwell
- 21 December 2017** Fr Kevin Flanagan
- 22 December 1930** Fr John Bonnar
- 23 December 1960** Fr Edmund Bernard Ryan
- 24 December 2002** Fr Maurice James Carse
- 27 December 1952** Mgr Patrick Joseph Hartigan
- 28 December 2015** Fr Warren Thomas Mossfield
- 31 December 1948** Fr John Corbett Glover

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



Now stocking your monthly copy of **TOGETHER**



South City Shopping Centre
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
www.southcitynews.com.au
Call (02) 6971 3944



74 Baylis Street
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
www.cignall.com.au
Call (02) 6931 7994



Family reflections for: December

1st December - First Sunday of Advent

Many of us feel the pressure early in the holiday season to be ready for Christmas. But today's Gospel challenges us to be ready for something other than the gift-giving of Christmas.

Read together today's Gospel reading. As a family, talk about what it means to be ready for the day of the Lord. One of the roles of the family, the domestic church, is to be a school of faith leading one another to salvation. Reflect together as a family on how your family helps one another to be better Christians. Commit to one thing that your family will do this Advent season to help one another be better Christians. You might choose to write this commitment down and post it in a prominent place in your home, perhaps near your family's Advent wreath.

Pray together that God will help you in this Advent commitment. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9
Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44

8th December - Second Sunday of Advent

We do many things to get ourselves ready for our celebration of Christmas: purchase gifts, prepare Christmas cards, decorate our homes. John's call of repentance in preparation for Jesus reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord's coming and our celebration of Christmas. Parish communities often offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent season. Your family might choose to participate in the communal celebration of the sacrament, or you might seek out the sacrament on an individual basis.

Read together today's Gospel. Talk about how John reminds

the people that they prepare for the reign of God by reforming their lives. As a family, prepare a simple reconciliation service in preparation for Christmas such as the following: Gather in a prayerful space, perhaps around your family Advent wreath. Read again today's Gospel: Matthew 3:1-3. Invite each family member to pray silently, asking God to forgive their sins. Pray together an Act of Contrition. Then celebrate God's forgiveness by sharing a Sign of Peace with each other.

Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17
Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12

15th December - Third Sunday of Advent

It is easy to look at our world and become discouraged by the apparent absence of God and signs of God's salvation. Advent, however, is a season of hope, in which we acknowledge that salvation is both mysteriously present, even in our world, and yet to be fulfilled.

Read together today's Gospel. Think about John's question to Jesus: Are you the One? Jesus does not answer directly, but points to the signs of the kingdom present in his midst.

Together as a family, look through the newspaper for signs of hope that God is at work in our world. Pray that the world will know God's salvation by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Isaiah 35:1-6,10 Psalm 146:6-7,8-9,9-10
James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Joseph and Mary are our models for family life and for service of God. Even when the circumstances seemed unclear, Joseph trusted God. Healthy family life is built upon trust, trust in God and trust of one another.

Spend some time talking as a family about the importance of trust in your family life, including the ways in which the

children trust the adults in the family as well as the ways in which the adults trust the children. Then read today's Gospel. Talk about Joseph's trust of God and reflect together on how your family trusts in God.

Pray together that your family life will be built on trust, as was the family life of Joseph and Mary. Pray and sing together an Advent song, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24:1-2,3-4,5-6
Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

29th December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

In the midst of the Christmas season, it is quite appropriate that our liturgy asks us to pause to consider the Holy Family. In today's Gospel, we hear about how Joseph protected Jesus from danger by relocating the family to Egypt in obedience to God. Following the model of the Holy Family, we might use this feast to recall the responsibility that each family member has to contribute to the good of the family and recommit ourselves to one another.

Gather together as a family to work on a common project. You might prepare a meal together, prepare a special dessert, or perhaps do a craft together. When you finish, talk about how each family member contributed to the common project. Remind one another that each member of the family contributes to the good of the whole family. Recall that Jesus was also part of a family and that this Sunday we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23. Pray together that your family will continue to protect and care for one another as Mary and Joseph protected and cared for Jesus.

Sirach 3:2-7,12-14 Psalm 128:1-2,3,4-5
Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15,19-23



St Vincent de Paul Society *good works* Vinnies Christmas Appeal

This Christmas your donation can make wishes come true. Please make a donation today.

For many people, Christmas is a joyful time of year. However, the sad reality is that 13.3% of Australians are living in poverty. Of these, 731,000 are children who may not get their Christmas wish. But your support can make a difference.



Meet Sharon and Ollie

Young mother Sharon has faced many challenges throughout her life, but she is determined to provide a better future for her son, Ollie.

Through no fault of her own, basics like holding down a job or finding long term accommodation left Sharon on the brink of collapse. She eventually turned to Vinnies for help. Volunteer Maria arrived the next day.

Maria helped Sharon and Ollie find a stable home, and ensured that young Ollie had everything he needed for school. But more than that, Maria provided the emotional support that Sharon and Ollie so desperately needed.

Your donation today to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal will help more wishes, just like Ollie's, come true.



Please consider making a donation to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal.



Strength and support

Your support helps dedicated volunteers to work with people living in poverty, and provide assistance when life is tough.



Clothing and essentials

Together we can provide basic essentials such as blankets, clothes and toiletries to resolve dignity in times of need.



Food in tough times

Your donation can provide money for groceries, reducing hunger and removing a major stress for families.



Help when bills are due

You can help us provide financial support with household expenses to families who are struggling to make ends meet.



A place to rest and recoup

Your donation enables us to help people like Jenny and her family find a safe place to sleep when they have nowhere else to go.

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy. I helped mum pack and ~~unpack~~ unpack everytime. Even when she is sad.
All i want this Christmas is to stop moving house so mum can be happy again. I miss my friends to.
Merry christmas
Oliver
I'm sending you a photo so you can find me this year.



HOW YOUR DONATION WILL HELP THIS YEAR

1.3 MILLION PEOPLE ASSISTED

365,164 BED NIGHTS

2 MILLION HOT MEALS

To donate visit:
www.vinnies.org.au/donate
or call **13 18 12**
or visit any local Vinnies Shop

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia, Charity Number ABN 50 748 098 845, is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient and therefore gifts of two dollars or more to the Society in each State or Territory are tax deductible for the donor. For more information please contact your local St Vincent de Paul Society office. The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is exempt from income tax as a not-for-profit organization. Images and names have been changed to protect the privacy of the people we assist. The St Vincent de Paul Society follows the Australian Privacy Principles and keeps donors' information private. To read a copy of our privacy policy please visit www.vinnies.org.au/privacypolicy