



TOGETHER

In the Diocese of *Wagga Wagga*

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Listen humbly and speak courageously

Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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We make the journey into 2019 with faith, hope, and love. May we not allow the darkness of despair and selfishness to cloud our vision of Jesus who leads us with joy.

During last year's Synod on Youth, Pope Francis mentioned several times words of encouragement that we can all take into 2019. He insisted that we are to LISTEN WITH HUMILITY and SPEAK WITH COURAGE.

Let us first consider the wisdom to LISTEN WITH HUMILITY.

Pope Francis wants us to be open to newness. We are to be open to the surprises of God. For this to happen we must be the People of God who listens to the voice of God who whispers deep within the human heart. There is a beautiful expression from our Catholic Tradition whereby St Benedict (480-547) instructs us to "Listen carefully and incline the ear of your heart." It is the opening expression in his famous Rule. To "listen carefully" is an act of profound humility. Our heart becomes docile and receptive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit within us.

Then there is the allied response to SPEAK WITH COURAGE. Pope Francis wants us to cease all gossiping and idle chattering of shared prejudices. "Love never fails" (Cor. 13/8) us! With only love, there is true freedom in truth and charity. We can dialogue in honesty. This is the case even when we have rather challenging things to share. Pope Francis insists that we can speak even then with boldness and frankness. In the love of "only Jesus" (Mark 9/8) in our heart and words, we can be used mightily by the Holy Spirit.

Let us be aware, however, of two deadly traps to dialogue as we enter into 2019.

The first trap is that we LISTEN WITH HUMILITY but we do not SPEAK WITH COURAGE. In other words, we keep to ourselves something that we really

feel needs to be said. This is a form of selfishness. It deprives others of what, indeed, maybe Godly wisdom. A beautiful quote from the 4th-century Archbishop of Milan, St Ambrose, could be extended here, although it was originally applied to sharing generously our money and possessions with the poor. He said, "God does not consider what one gives but what one keeps."

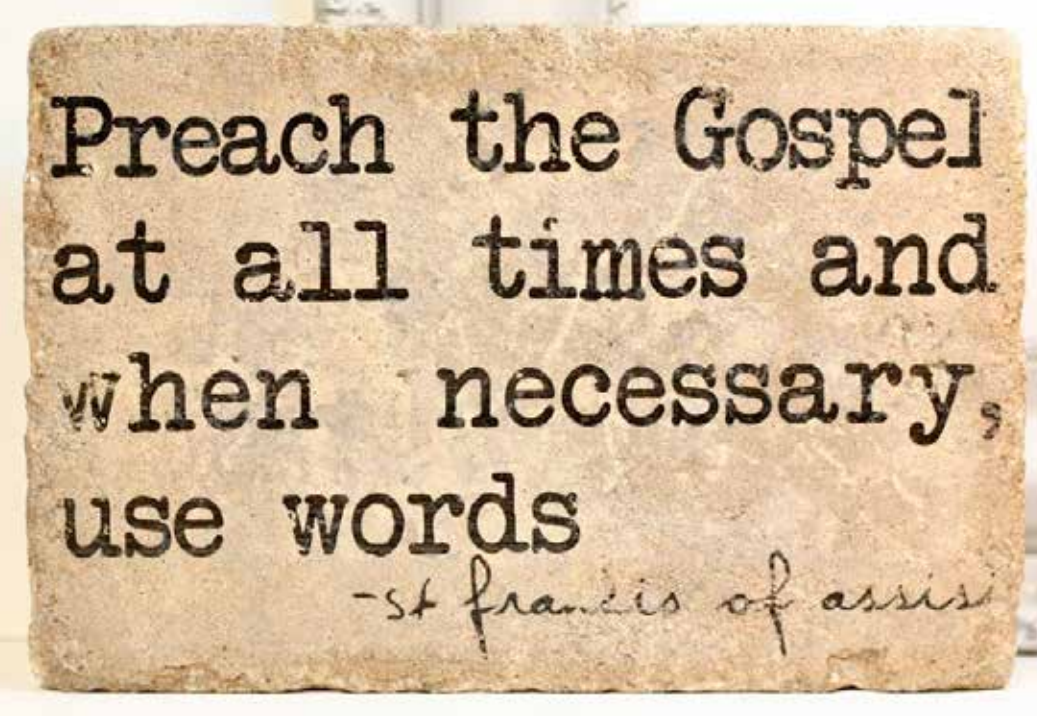
Another trap to real dialogue in 2019 is the other extreme. Namely, this is to SPEAK WITH COURAGE but refusing to LISTEN WITH HUMILITY. Here we likely become victim to our own prejudices and narrow ideologies. Ultimately, we inflict our opinions on others. Dialogue now too becomes a monologue. Surely it is a form of arrogance.

So, as 2019 opens up, let us dialogue with two lungs: Listening humbly and speaking courageously! It is a real Gospel strategy. It reminds me of the saving words of Jesus: "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13/34). Let us imitate Jesus always! May I offer a final observation? To

“We are to be open to the surprises of God. For this to happen we must be the People of God who listens to the voice of God who whispers deep within the human heart.”

SPEAK WITH COURAGE does not always need to be expressed verbally. Non-verbal communication, as we all know, can also be very powerful. Indeed, in regard to evangelisation, it is a superb way of drawing others into conversion to Christ Jesus, the love of our lives. It makes me recall the famous words attributed to St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226), "Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary use words."

May you all be truly blessed by the Holy Spirit in 2019.



Prayer Intention for February - Pray with Pope Francis

Human Trafficking

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

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/>

Which is better: a paper cup that you use once, or a metal mug that you drink from again and again? The decision is clear. Reusable goods are better for the environment and cheaper in the long run.

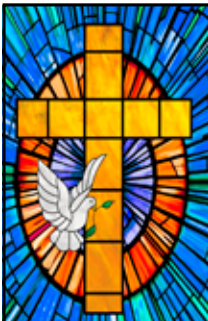
What about people? Is it better to use someone once and then toss them aside, or to use them again and again? What?! Humans should not be treated like objects. We rightly feel confused and horrified by this example. But it happens everyday. There is a name for this modern crime: human trafficking.

People continue to be bought and sold in the world today. Prostitution and pornography are among the chief culprits. Or perhaps a young man is promised a big paycheck and citizenship in a wealthy country; all he must do is work in landscaping for a few months. Years later, he continues his backbreaking work—with

just a few bucks in cash and a steady stream of lies and threats. He is trapped in a cycle of deception and oppression.

Pope Francis uses the term "throw away" culture to describe this dark side of our modern economy. He writes, "Today everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed upon the powerless... Human beings are themselves considered consumer goods to be used and then discarded. We have created a 'throw away' culture which is now spreading" (Evangelii Gaudium, 53).

In stark contrast, we see the example of Jesus. He stands up for the woman trapped in adultery and sets her free. Jesus shows us that we are not objects. We are beloved sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father.



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.

Good politics is at the service of peace

‘Politics is an essential means of building human community and institutions, but when political life is not seen as a form of service to society as a whole, it can become a means of oppression, marginalisation and even destruction.’

by John Ferguson - National Executive Officer, ACBC Office for Social Justice

This is a central point Pope Francis made in his Message for the World Day of Peace on New Year's Day.

He said that charity and all the human virtues – ‘respect for the life, freedom and dignity of persons’ – are ‘the basis of politics at the service of human rights and peace’. Particular virtues he identifies for each politician to ensure their work in representing constituents is for the good of all include: justice, equality, mutual respect, sincerity, honesty and fidelity. The work of the politician must foster mutual obligations ensuring respect for human rights and building bonds of trust now and for future generations. (n.3)

There are times when the failings of politicians or flaws in political institutions undermine democracy and threaten social harmony. Corruption can be seen in the misappropriation of funds, the exploitation of individuals, the justification of power by force or the refusal to relinquish power. The Pope adds to this list the resort to xenophobia and racism, the plundering of the environment and natural resources for profit, and ‘contempt for those forced into exile’. (n.4)

The bottom line for the politics of peace is this: it will be ‘conscious of and deeply concerned for every situation of human vulnerability’. (n.5)

Working for the common good - always comes with a special concern for the vulnerable

Pope Francis repeated this call in his annual address to members of the Diplomatic Corps to the Holy See on 7 January:

‘There is a close relationship between good politics and the peaceful coexistence of peoples and nations. Peace is never a partial good, but one that embraces the entire human race. Hence an essential aspect of good politics is the pursuit of the common good of all, insofar as it is the good of all people and of the whole person and a condition of society that enables all individuals and the community as a whole to achieve their proper material and spiritual well-being’.

Pope Francis warned that without

respect for the transcendent dimension of humanity, which bestows a fundamental dignity, and without the defence and promotion of universal human rights there is always be the risk of ‘new forms of inequality, injustice, discrimination and, in extreme cases, also new forms of violence and oppression’.

And he expressed his particular concern for those fleeing their homelands:

‘Among the vulnerable of our time that the international community is called to defend are not only refugees but also migrants. Once again, I appeal to governments to provide assistance to all those forced to emigrate on account of the scourge of poverty and various forms of violence and persecution, as well as natural catastrophes and climatic disturbances, and to facilitate measures aimed at permitting their social integration in the receiving countries. Efforts also need to be made to prevent individuals from being constrained to abandon their families and countries, and to allow them to return safely and with full respect for their dignity and human rights. All human beings long for a better and more prosperous life, and the challenge of migration cannot be met with a mindset of violence and indifference, nor by offering merely partial solutions’.

So, while recognising the need to pursue the common good, Pope Francis highlights a special demand for ‘good politics at the service of peace’ – for each politician to defend those who are vulnerable.

A concern for the most vulnerable in the coming federal election

The peaceful existence and the great prosperity of our nation are served by our democratic system and participatory parliamentary processes. While it could be said that our elected representatives, the major political parties and policy makers are generally successful in striving for the common good, the political will to tend to the needs of the most vulnerable, both during campaigning and throughout the electoral cycle have remained largely



Pope Francis: Good politics is at the service of peace

an afterthought to the main policy priorities of economic management and national security. Of course, there are some critical issues where our nation's concern for the vulnerable has been undermined.

Pope Francis warns of the rise in a

“All human beings long for a better and more prosperous life, and the challenge of migration cannot be met with a mindset of violence and indifference, nor by offering merely partial solutions.”

‘contempt for those forced into exile’.

It goes without saying – the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers by both of the major political parties when in office has undermined the compassion and concern of our nation for the most vulnerable. Intercepting boats at sea and diverting adults and children to prolonged and indefinite detention in Australian-built and funded immigration centres in the poorer countries of Papua New Guinea and Nauru does not reflect well on Australia and its political leadership.

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council is among many Church and community organisations that have raised concerns for the most vulnerable groups whose circumstances rarely feature as significant political concerns during election campaigning. In the lead up to some of the previous federal

elections, the ACSJC prepared some leaflets that have addressed key social justice issues and posed questions that people can ask all of the candidates in their electorate.

Reviewing these leaflets, it is all too apparent that the issues raised have not been adequately addressed. Many of the questions raised over these past 15 years could and should be asked of candidates during this federal election.

Here is a brief list of the social justice issues raise and some of the questions for candidates:

Justice for the First Australians

- How will you promote constitutional recognition of Australia's first peoples nationally and in this electorate?
- Will you ensure Indigenous people have a national voice in the political life of the community?
- How will you work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to ensure effective consultation and participation in decision-making?
- How will you ensure all Indigenous people have access to basic rights such as healthcare, education and social services comparable to that of other Australians?
- What can be done in the electorate to help close the gap in Indigenous health, housing, education and employment?
- How will you ensure local Indigenous people are involved in the management and delivery of services to their communities?

Justice for asylum seekers

- How will you ensure Australia meets its international obligations to refugees and asylum seekers?
- How will you ensure the rights of asylum seekers are respected?
- What alternatives will you consider to the prolonged mandatory detention of asylum seekers?

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Marian Gathering: Family Living Rosary

A large group of Marian devotees gathered together in prayer for our annual Family Living Rosary towards the end of October, the month of Our Lady.

The project was coordinated by the MACE Sisters in Griffith, with the full support of their parish priest, Father Grace, and the guidance of their superiors and co-sisters. The Family Living Rosary was started about six years ago, and it has become a much-loved gathering in the area, attracting persons of different ages.

the taking of the group photo beside the Balloon Rosary, which symbolizes the unity and bonding created among the people who came to pray the holy rosary together, because of their love and devotion to our Blessed Lady.

May she be honoured once again through the same gathering next year!



Marian devotees gathering for prayer at the annual Family Living Rosary



"Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes" was acted out by the children of the parish



Father Grace led the faithful in procession to the parish grotto

‘The Family Living Rosary was started about six years ago, and it has become a much-loved gathering in the area, attracting persons of different ages.’



A unique feature of this year's gathering was the play entitled "Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes", acted out by the children and youth of the parish. The play depicted Bernadette's encounter with our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, who turned the spring of Lourdes into a source of healing waters. Today, through Our Lady's intercession, many miracles take place in Lourdes, upon contact with the waters of the spring.

The main and most important part of the assembly was when Father Grace led the faithful in procession to the parish grotto, reciting the holy rosary and offering fresh flowers to our Lady. The community prayed for the intentions of the Holy Father, and for the appointment of a good Bishop for the diocese of Wagga Wagga.

The convention included the turn-over ceremony of the Sponsors of the Sacred Heart feast for 2019. Joe and Cath Catanzariti turned over the responsibility to Tiziano and Joan Forlico.

The last segment of the event was



Parishioners gather together to pray



The group photo beside the Balloon Rosary, which symbolizes the unity and bonding created among the people

Calvary Respite Care



Calvary Community Care supports carers via a range of respite options so they can take a break, manage work commitments, handle family responsibilities or enjoy some time away.

by Karene Eggleton - Editor/Designer of Together

Recently, I had the pleasure of being invited to the new Calvary Community Care respite house in Wagga Wagga to view their facilities.

When I arrived the clients and staff were busy making Christmas reindeers from twigs and creating Christmas trees decorated with succulents.

The Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) provides funding for a broad range of entry level support services to assist frail older people aged 65 years and over (50 years and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) and who have functional limitations (including cognitive), to remain living independently at home and in the community. Clients can stay for just a few hours or a few days if needed and the overnight service caters for individuals and couples.

The house feels like a home away from home. As soon as you enter it feels welcoming and a place you definitely want to spend time in. The house is bright and airy with plenty of spaces for clients to relax or engage in activities.

I spoke with Debbie Sleeman, the Senior Service Coordinator and Kristine McPherson, the Leisure and Lifestyle Officer about what the new service offers. Kristine told me “The service is client focused with clients getting to participate in activities that are of

their interest. This can be a drive in the country side, a visit to a museum, shopping or staying in and watching a movie.”

Debbie said “Many clients walk in expecting a nursing home environment and are surprised at how accessible and homely it is. Respite care doesn’t only help carers, it assists clients to gain confidence through socialising with others.” Carers and clients are welcome to visit and review the service or to organise a trial.

The facility is well staffed and secure with many laughs being had as clients and staff played indoor tennis with a balloon. All clients are supported in a safe, stable and enabling environment with a focus on independence and providing extra support whilst clients are adjusting to changes in their abilities or health.

If you’d like to know more information you can call 02 6921 2880 or drop into the Calvary Community Care office at 200 Baylis Street, Wagga Wagga.

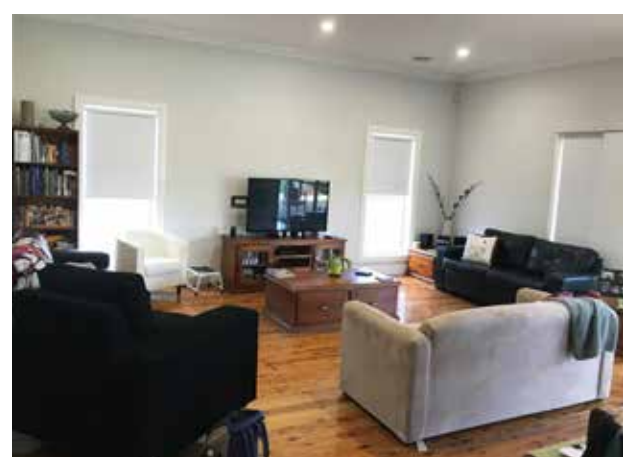


Above: Bonnie and Taylor (Support Worker) enjoying some leisure time
Below left: Kristine McPherson, the Leisure and Lifestyle Officer and Debbie Sleeman, the Senior Service Coordinator
Below right: Cassie (Support Worker) with Joan playing a round of indoor balloon tennis



Above: Laurice and Barry making Christmas succulents with Nicole (Support Worker)

“The service is client focused with clients getting to participate in activities that are of their interest.”



World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking – time to end slavery

Pope Francis has declared the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, which is celebrated each year on 8th February to be the World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking.



Josephine Bakhita

Josephine Bakhita knew the sorrow of losing her freedom and family as a young girl when she was taken as a slave. The UN estimates that one in every three victims of trafficking is a child.

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine was 7 years old when taken by slave traders. She was bought and sold many times in the following decade. Taken to Italy by a family, who 'owned' her, she met the Canossian Daughters of Charity, became a Catholic and joined the Canossian congregation. She died in 1947 and was canonised in 2000.

St Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of victims of slavery and of Sudan. Australians are being urged to work together, through grass roots action and corporate governance, to end slavery around the world.

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH), Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) and Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) are inviting Catholics to mark St Bakhita Day on February 8 2019, and at weekend Masses on February 9 and 10.

ACRATH, CRA and ACBC join the call for a fourfold commitment to: slavery prevention, victim protection, legal prosecution of perpetrators, and partnerships for change. This commitment begins with awareness raising and action to eliminate slavery in all its forms at a diocesan, parish, school, family and personal level.

These organisations have applauded the many people who fought hard for a decade to see gains made in 2018 with the passing in Federal Parliament of the Modern Slavery Act, which came into effect on January 1, 2019. The first modern slavery statements are due on 30 June 2020.

ACRATH's President Sr Noelene Simmons said the Modern Slavery Act requires organisations with a consolidated revenue of A\$100 million,

or more, to report annually on the risks of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains.

"Ten years ago, ACRATH began working with schools and parishes, urging them to buy and eat only slavery-free chocolate at Easter. We still work on that campaign but we know that slavery is part of so many of the goods and services we use and until we slavery-proof all our supply chains people will be forced to live in slavery," Sr Noelene said.

These forms of exploitation flourish because of society's greed for cheap goods and services and because it is easy to forget that those who meet these needs are human beings with their own innate God-given dignity.

CRA President Sr Monica Cavanagh said the Modern Slavery Act was an opportunity for companies to be better global citizens because companies will have to release publicly available reports on their progress in slavery-proofing supply chains. Consumers can then exert some pressure on companies not doing

enough, or support those who are doing well.

"This special day gives us an opportunity to reflect on what we do and what we buy and if necessary, to commit to act differently in order to work towards the elimination of slavery," Sr Monica said.

It is estimated that millions of women, girls, men and boys are trafficked annually into domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, pornography production, forced marriage and forced labour.

"These forms of exploitation flourish because of society's greed for cheap goods and services and because it is easy to forget that those who meet these needs are human beings with their own innate God-given dignity," the Bishop of Parramatta, Vincent Long Van Nguyen, wrote in ACSJC & ACRATH publication No 79. Bishop Long is Chairman of the ACBC's Bishops Commission for Social Justice - Mission and Service.

ACRATH, CARITAS Australia and Talitha Kum, to mark this day, have developed parish, school

and community resources, including prayers, homily notes, school exercises for all age groups and parish bulletin notices. A calendar of events to mark the World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking and the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita can be found, along with resources, at:

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer-against-human-trafficking/>

Actions:

- Learn about human trafficking.
- Pray for victims of trafficking and for an end to slavery.
- Purchase goods that are not tainted by slave labour including those carrying the following logos:



The International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking
A light against Trafficking

Together against
Human Trafficking

It is not too late to have your say: Plenary Council still taking submissions

by Fr Bernie Thomas

With the National Committee for the Plenary Council asking for all submissions for Phase 1 of the Council to be forwarded to it by Ash Wednesday (March 6) it is not too late to be involved and have your say.

It is worth remembering that Pope Francis has encouraged all people to be involved when he sent the following message to the Australian Church:

I extend cordial greetings and prayerful good wishes as the Catholic community in Australia joins in prayerto launch the immediate preparations for the forthcoming 2020 Plenary Council. Upon all taking part in the preparatory process, I invoke the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom, harmony and openness to the Lord's will for the future of his pilgrim church in the country. It is my hope that through patient dialogue and faith-filled discernment the Conciliar journey will confirm the Catholics in Australia in a spirit of fraternal unity and missionary discipleship, thus enabling there to be a leaven of holiness, justice and reconciliation in today's rapidly changing society. As a pledge of the sustaining grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, I willingly impart my apostolic Blessing".

The chair of the Australian Bishop's Conference, and also chair of the Bishop's Commission for the Plenary Council, Archbishop Mark Coleridge

has said, "The Australian Bishops are deeply grateful to Pope Francis for affirming the decision and we ask all people to join in prayer as we embark on this journey together as God's people in Australia. We have to make decisions for the future. We have to make them together and we have to make them under the influence of the Holy Spirit"

He went on, "So we are in a journey of discernment to listen to what the Spirit is saying to us about structures and strategies. Some of which we might have to let go, some new structures and strategies we might have to take on Board. The theme of the Plenary Council is the future of the Catholic Church in Australia at a time when we have to make decisions.

"There are times of preparation, celebration and implementation. The process requires:

1. Open dialogue on each side
2. Mutual criticism made out of love and to build up.
3. It must have reference to the external of the Church – It must keep looking outside the Church to the wider community and the world and to the Holy Spirit - What is the Spirit driving us to.

"So I say to you, join us on the journey so that we can listen to the voice of the Spirit and plan the kind of future that the Spirit wants and that we certainly need," Archbishop Coleridge said.

It is also interesting that Fr Richard

Lennon has reminded us that "We are about passing on a living tradition in living condition....Tradition is a living reality, not a cement block and the desire to bring the gospel up to date is a desire to be faithful to the Gospel – faith is about the creativity of the Spirit of our God".

Plenary Council 2020 Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

Submissions can be made by individuals, groups, parishes or even dioceses. Most parishes in the diocese have had a facilitator appointed and all you need to do is to ask that facilitator for the information you need.


For further information you can Google Plenary Council 2020 and look at the headings for what you need.

You can have your say by:

Emailing your insights to:
The National Co-ordinating Committee at
plenarycouncil@catholic.org.au
or to
The Diocesan Co-ordinating Team at
plenary2020@wagga.catholic.org.au
Or you can send your written

submissions to:
Plenary Council
PO Box 747
North Sydney NSW 2059
or to the
Plenary Council Co-ordinating Team
PO Box 473
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650


If you need further information, contact Fr. Bernie Thomas by phone 02 6045 6886 or bjthomas44@outlook.com



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of the Sacred Heart



Healing the Wounds of Abuse

Is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse.

The retreat will be held May 26th to 31st, 2019

To request an application please contact
Anne Sherston
National Director Grief to Grace Australia by
emailing info@griegtogracesaus.org.au
or phone 0478 599 241
For more information visit
www.griegtograces.org

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

Keeping Kids in Mind (KKIM)

A 5 week program for separated parents who are experiencing ongoing conflict.

Parents love their children and want the best for them. However, after separation, parenting often gets much tougher.

The course aims to help separated parents get along better for the sake of their children.

Major studies have shown that when separated parents continue to fight the risks of poor outcomes increases

for their children (low self-esteem, mental health issues, low academic achievement etc).

These 5 sessions are designed to:

- Assist parents to see through their children's eyes the experience of parental separation.
- Develop greater understanding about how to support children following family separation.



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

www.centacareswsw.org.au

Where: Parish Centre, 7 Johnston Street Wagga Wagga
(Blue Gates, opposite St Michael's Church)

When: Wednesday 13th, 20th, 27th March, 3rd, 10th April 2019

Day Session: 10am - 1pm

Night Session: 6pm - 9pm

Fee: Standard - \$60

Concession - \$35

(Includes workbook)

Facilitator: Lyn

Light Refreshments provided

Completion of registration, intake forms and payment by Wednesday 6th March 2019.

Concession are available on all programs. Please discuss your payment options with staff at the time of registration.

For further information or to register your interest please contact

Centacare South West NSW 1300 619 379

or email info@centacareswsw.org.au



Centacare South West NSW

Wagga Wagga | Albury | Griffith | Finley
Phone 1300 619 379

www.centacareswsw.org.au

continued from page 3...

- How will you protect the dignity of asylum seekers and prevent the outsourcing of Australia's responsibilities to poorer neighbours like Papua New Guinea?
- How will you ensure that unsuccessful asylum seekers are never deported to danger?
- How will you encourage your community to accept and welcome refugees and asylum seekers?
- How will you lift the standard of political debate and encourage a response of compassion and respect?

Justice for those made poor

- How will you build equity into the operation of the market and reduce the wealth divide in Australia?
- What are your strategies for lifting low-paid and unemployed workers out of poverty?
- How will your policies ensure vulnerable workers get a fair deal in workplace negotiations?
- What are your strategies for preventing individuals and families falling through the safety net?
- Will you support an increase to the base rate of the Newstart Allowance by \$50 per week?
- How will you ensure allowance

payments keep pace with costs of living?

- Would you support the establishment of an independent commission to set benchmarks for income support and a standard of living below which no citizen should fall?
- What are the causes of homelessness in this electorate and how will you address it?
- How will you improve community services and provide affordable housing in communities experiencing prolonged disadvantage?
- Would you support a national strategy to address the poverty that persists in Australia?

Care for Creation

- What is Australia's responsibility for lessening human impact on the ecosystem? How will your policies achieve this?
- How will you support the environmentally sustainable use of resources and the development of renewable energy sources?
- How will you ensure that the costs of carbon emissions reduction are spread fairly?
- How will you ensure that costs incurred and wealth generated in the exploitation of natural resources are

shared equitably?

- What obligations should resource industries have to communities they operate in, and to Australian society as a whole?
- The ACSJC has stated in the lead up to previous federal elections:
- 'As Christians, we need to be active and informed participants in our society.
- 'The Catholic Church does not tell us how to cast our vote, nor does it endorse any political party. Often, it can be difficult to judge which policies are the most consistent with Christian

values, and people may legitimately disagree on such matters...

'Some of these issues aren't the ones you will see in headlines or hear about from parties, but they are still crucial in shaping what kind of society we all live in.'



CEREAL, OILSEEDS, PULSES

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Australia must make climate change a major priority

Caritas Australia, the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church, has today urged the Federal Government to make climate change a priority through domestic emissions policies and international leadership.

World leaders have gathered in the Polish city of Katowice for the annual UN Climate Conference where they are expected to finalise the framework of the 2015 Paris climate accord. Delegates from the Caritas Internationalis network are at the UN climate talks in Poland and are urging States to deliver a concrete plan to tackle the devastating impacts of climate change on human life, ecosystems, food and water security.

Caritas warned of the urgent need to curb climate change for the coming decade and stated the cost of increased disasters and hazards was now unbearable for communities already facing poverty.

Countries across Oceania like Tonga are among those most affected, even though they have contributed the least to historical emissions.

Director of Caritas Tonga, Amelia Ma’afu spoke firsthand of the impact of climate change on communities in Tonga and said that we are already seeing the impacts of climate change with unpredictable weather patterns and rising sea levels impacting the lives of millions of men, women and children.

“In the Pacific, climate change is here. It is a question of us losing our home, our values and our lands,” Ms Ma’afu said.

“Today’s Pacific nations are facing very, very serious milestones at the moment, a number of our countries are already facing mass migration due to the islands going underwater”.

Ms Ma’afu said it was crucial that governments should dedicate resources to assist developing nations who are

being impacted by climate change.

“As our islands go underwater, so too do our connections to the land and our practices. All of our identity is in the land and the sea and it’s the sea that actually provides a common home for Oceania, so we really need the assistance of bigger, more industrialised countries.”

Caritas Australia’s call comes a month after it released its fifth state of the environment for Oceania report titled “Waters of Life, Oceans for Mercy”. The report, produced in collaboration with Caritas Australia’s sister agencies in Oceania, Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, Caritas Tonga, Caritas Samoa, and Caritas Papua New Guinea, tracks five key environmental issues affecting the lives of Oceania’s peoples. These issues include coastal erosion/sea level rise, food and water, extreme weather events, offshore mining and drilling and climate finance.

The report also puts a human face on the consequences of climate change by sharing the stories of people across the region whose lives have been impacted by rising global temperatures.

Caritas Australia is encouraging all Australians to speak up in solidarity with our Pacific neighbours. Send a message to your local Member of Parliament by uploading a video on the Caritas Australia website.

For full details visit Speak UP:
www.caritas.org.au/welcome/speak-up

Australians who wish to support Caritas can do so by donating to the Caritas website:
www.caritas.org.au



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National Conference seeks to rally Catholic families

The theme of the conference is *"Families of Courage: Voices for Truth"* and will host prominent Catholic speakers

The National Association of Catholic Families (NACF) invites you to an authentically Catholic family experience in a fun holiday environment at the 4th Annual National Conference on 12th to 14th April 2019, just north of Albury.

The theme of the conference is *"Families of Courage: Voices for Truth"* and will host prominent Catholic speakers who will deliver inspiring talks for adults, catechetical talks for teens and enriching activities for younger children.

"I get to meet new friends, have fun, spend time in prayer and have a break from my usual life - Tom, 13"

Speakers include the Most Rev Richard Umbers (Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Sydney), Sisters of Immaculata, Dr John Poon, Anna Krohn, Charbel and Christine Raish (founder of Parousia Media) and many more.

Daily Mass, candlelight Rosary Processions, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet, morning prayers and confessions will be available.

It won't be all 'work' though, as a family concert, bush dance, sporting and

water activities and plenty of free time will ensure everyone enjoys themselves.

The conference will be held at the Great Aussie Holiday Park, on Lake Hume, about 40 kms north of Albury. The park has cabin and camping accommodation, as well as a variety of recreational activities, including water spray park, flying fox, jumping pillow and more. Facilities are very comfortable and most meals will be fully-catered. Mums (and Dads) can take a break from cooking!

This Conference is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen your faith, make new friends and create life-long memories for your children while enhancing further their sense of belonging to the Catholic Church.

Details:

Conference registration and flyer for program of events: www.trybooking.com/444376

Accommodation booking:

Must be done separately - www.greataussieholidaypark.com.au or email admin@greataussieholidaypark.com.au

Further Information:

Sydney - Mary Clare Meney (0435 496 624), Albury/Wagga Wagga - Jenny and Mark Mannering (0419 411 161), Melbourne - Clare McCumstie (03 9543 5613), NE Victoria - Brigid and Brendan Griffin (0437 219 046).

Comments from Past Attendees:

"It's fun, I meet new friends, there is time in the Chapel, the dining room is all set up very well and I love the food.



National Association of Catholic Families
National Conference 2019
Lake Hume, NSW
12 to 14 April 2019

Families of Courage: Voices for Truth

A chance for Catholic families to come together for mutual spiritual, moral and social support in a fun holiday atmosphere.

Affordable Family & Friendly
The conference is designed to cater for whole families with conference talks for adults and catechetical talks and activities for teens and children of all ages.

Registration
All conference booking is to be done online:
www.trybooking.com/444376
Registrations Close Monday 8 April 2019
Download the online brochure for full conference details or for more info contact...

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Richard Umbers of the Archdiocese of Sydney will be presiding at the opening conference mass on Saturday.

The conference will feature many speakers and presenters from across Australia including: Bishop Richard Umbers, Sisters of the Immaculata, Dr John Poon, Charbel & Christine Raish, Anna Krohn, Helenka Pasztetnik, Tim and Jenni Goulding and Martyn Iles.

Melbourne: Clare McCumstie 03 9543 5613
Sydney: Mary Clare Meney 0435 496 624
Wagga: Mark & Jenny Mannering 0419 411 161
N.E. Victoria: Brigid & Brendan Griffin 0437 219 046

The Bishops and Sisters come so we can learn about God." Genevieve, 7

"You meet new friends from different families. The Sisters always teach you new things in different ways and it's nice just to be with your family in the Chapel." Gabi, 10

"I get to meet new friends, have fun, spend time in prayer and have a break

from my usual life". Tom, 13

"The NACF conference is a good way to meet genuine practicing Catholics who are your age, while you learn about your faith. There is enough free time to make it feel relaxed but there is still a packed schedule." Ben, 16

"Growing up with NACF conferences really assisted in solidifying my faith, family and friendships in a well-grounded atmosphere with like-minded Catholics. I would strongly recommend it to families with children of all ages, especially adolescents." Bernadette, 19

"The NACF Conference is a safe, peaceful environment with opportunities to grow in faith for every family member. Parents can re-connect with each other and spend time with like-minded parents. Your children will beg you to bring them back to the next Conference!" Karen, Mum of 6

"Whatever you do for your family, your children, your husband, your wife, you do for God. All we do, our prayers, our work, our suffering, is for Jesus."
Saint Teresa of Calcutta



Farewell photo from the successful 2016 conference held in Sydney



Pope lights candle for peace in Syria

Pope Francis lit a large candle for peace and reconciliation in Syria - a country torn apart by a war that has now lasted longer than World War II.

“My beloved Syria is being tormented by a war already lasted for eight years” stated Pope Francis and appealed for peace, “at this time, I would like to make mine the hope of the children in Syria.” With these words, immediately following the noon Angelus prayer at St. Peter’s Square in Rome, Pope Francis lit a large candle for peace and reconciliation in Syria - a country torn apart by a war that has now lasted longer than World War II. With this act the Holy Father marked the start of the Candles for Peace in Syria initiative, an Advent campaign of the pontifical charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) aimed at raising awareness

and support for the suffering Christians in this country. “May the flame of hope also reach all those who are suffering in these days from conflicts and tensions in various other parts of the world, near and far”, stated the Pope. “Let us pray and help Christians to remain in Syria and the Middle East as witnesses of mercy, forgiveness, and reconciliation” The Candles for Peace campaign started in Syria when local Christian communities together with ACN, invited schoolchildren throughout the country to draw and write messages for peace on the candle’s cardboard wind shields and then, to gather for processions, theatre,

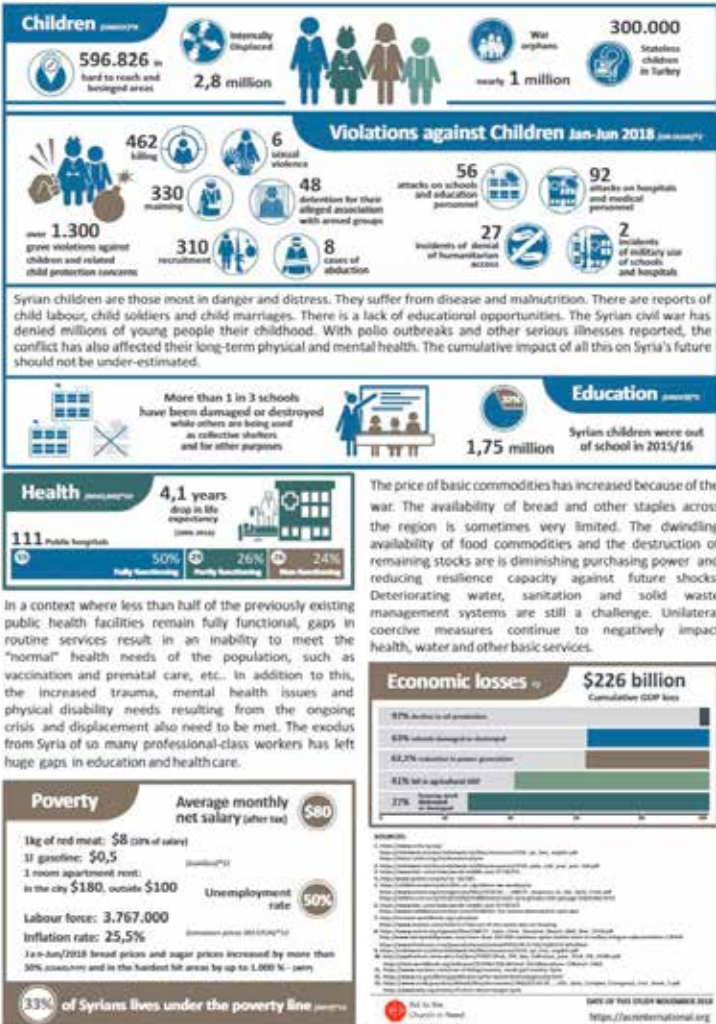
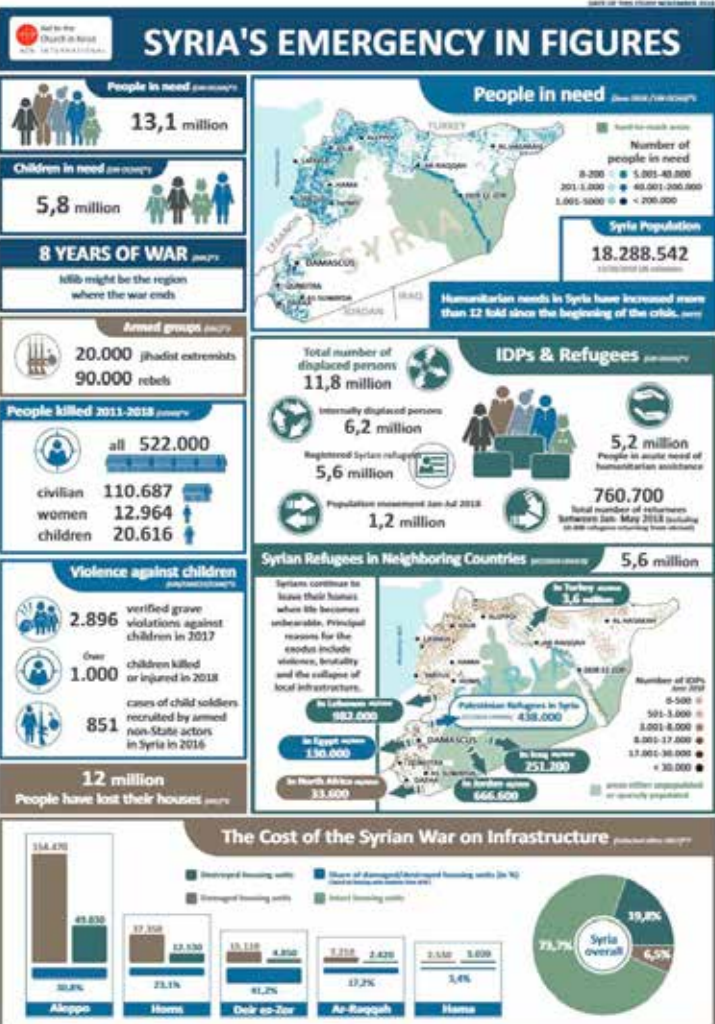


Pope Francis addresses the crowd during the noon Angelus prayer at St. Peter's Square in Rome

songs and dances for peace. The main candle given to the Holy Father was created during these events in Damascus, decorated by photos of Syrian children participating in the candles for peace action. “Advent is a time for hope,” said Pope Francis, “this is why, joining the initiative of the Aid to the Church

in Need, I will light now this candle. In Syria there are so many children who are doing the same.” The Pope called upon the faithful gathered in St. Peter’s Square to pray a “Hail Mary” for peace in Syria and throughout the world. “May this prayer make them feel the closeness of God, who is faithful, and touch every conscience for a sincere commitment in favour of peace. May God, our Lord, forgive those who make war, those who make weapons to destroy one another. We pray for peace in beloved Syria.” To draw policymakers’ attention to the fact that children are the prime victims of war, Aid to the Church in Need together with the Polish embassy at the Holy See, held a conference on Monday, December 3 for the diplomatic corps accredited to Vatican. **The conference featured testimonies from Syria and was crowned by a Skype bridge, in which a representative group of children in Aleppo, Syria, lit candles in union with the ambassadors.**

“May the flame of hope also reach all those who are suffering in these days from conflicts and tensions in various other parts of the world, near and far.”



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Give Lent 100%: Thandolwayo from Zimbabwe

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

“We now drink clean, safe water and diseases are no longer affecting us.”

Life in her village in north-western Zimbabwe wasn't easy for twelve-year-old Thandolwayo.

Her father left several years ago and her mother lives in a town 90 kilometres away where she works as

a casual labourer. Thandolwayo lives with her grandparents and attends the local school which has just 35 students.

Every morning she'd walk seven kilometres and risk being attacked by crocodiles as she collected clean water for her family. She'd then go to school feeling exhausted.

Thandolwayo's grandparents sell pearl millet bran to fishermen and farmers for animal feed. They also sell



Thandolwayo demonstrates how she used to collect dirty water from the Gweyi river before Caritas Hwange installed a solar powered piped water system into her village

chickens - but the income it brings isn't enough to support the family.

Thandolwayo's hope to be a nurse seemed almost impossible to realise, until Caritas Hwange helped the village to install two solar-powered pumps to draw the water up from the river, as well as two 10,000 litre storage tanks.

Thanks to Caritas' support, water is now on tap in the village, benefitting its 500 residents - and Thandolwayo can concentrate on her education.

“Now I can bathe every day, the distance to collect water for the family has been drastically reduced,” Thandolwayo says. “We now drink clean, safe water and diseases are no longer affecting us.”

The plentiful water supply has also triggered new ventures. Water is being used to mould bricks for building houses and to pound maize to sell. Plans are underway to establish a community garden and a fish pond, to generate a better income.

To donate visit:

<https://lent.caritas.org.au/donate/>

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can buy school supplies for a student like Thandolwayo in Zimbabwe, who dreams of becoming a nurse.

Zimbabwe

PROJECT COMPASSION

"The future does have a name ... and its name is hope." - Pope Francis

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Vale Sister Patricia Osborne RSM



Today I feel privileged to speak on behalf of St Patricks School about our beloved Sister Pat.

She has been a friend, a leader, a teacher and a listening ear to all staff and parents in recent years as well as being in charge of praying for us and our families.

Sister Pat has been an inspirational teacher, an educator well before her time. We know of her successful Words in Colour reading programme that alot of adults today would attribute to their ability to read.

Music has also been a great love in Sister Pat’s life. Her knowledge and abilities were amazing. In her time here, in the 1980’s, there was a junior and senior orchestra of woodwind, string and percussion instruments. Each year, along with her sister Audrey, they produced spectacular school concerts.

It was in 1979 that Sister Pat moved from St Anne’s to St Patricks and began teaching in Year 2 with

Sister Patricia Osborne RSM has been an inspirational teacher, an educator well before her time. Our school community is so much richer for having had our Sister Pat amongst us for so long and will be remembered always with love. *by Rob Unsworth - Co-Principal, St Patricks School, Albury*

Bronwyn Craig. It was in an open planned, team teaching environment, again before her time.

Pastoral care has been a wonderful part of life after teaching. Sister Pat was the one to call on, to phone the sick or lonely families, to write welcome cards for new babies and to provide counsel when needed. She always saw what needed to be done and willingly worked alongside others to complete the task.

Each year Sister Pat celebrated her birthday with her school family. We enjoyed great dinners and had lots of fun. Sister Pat loved a party!

Up until the last few years Sister Pat was coaching children who needed extra help, making her still teaching in the 1990’s. She took joy in following the lives and experiences of past students. She was honoured last year at the Sesquicentenary celebrations for her work.

Early in the New Year Sister said to me: ‘Rob, I now know what my new job is, some dears here don’t have visitors. I can walk about and tell them




how lovely they look today, how nice their hair is. This must be my new job.’

Our school community is so much richer for having had our Sister Pat amongst us for so long. We will remember her always with love.



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.

ACU Centre for Liturgy launches Liturgy Nexus for Schools

Australian Catholic University (ACU) has launched a Liturgy Nexus for Schools to help promote excellence in liturgical praxis in Catholic education.

The ACU Liturgy Nexus for Schools is a subscription-based online network that provides a platform for conversations and resource-sharing for Catholic school staff who prepare and celebrate liturgy.

Good liturgical praxis requires a solid knowledge of the rituals and principles contained in the Church’s official liturgical books, as well as the skills to apply those principles well in practice. An initiative of the ACU Centre for Liturgy, the network will provide a forum for Catholic school personnel to ask important questions and raise issues related to liturgy in a welcoming space moderated by liturgical experts. Being a part of the conversation will help increase the confidence and competence of those preparing and

celebrating liturgy. ACU Centre for Liturgy Assistant Director Dr Jason McFarland said that too often, those with the role of preparing liturgies do not have sufficient training for the task. “The ACU Liturgy Nexus for Schools will better equip Catholic school staff for their work. A national network involving personnel from primary and secondary schools can facilitate the sharing of resources and offers an excellent opportunity for professional development,” said Dr McFarland. “The online network will be moderated by a liturgical specialist with extensive experience in the Catholic schools context to create a welcoming space for staff to ask liturgical questions, receive accurate direction and guidance, and be



ACU Centre for Liturgy Assistant Director Dr Jason McFarland

pointed to useful liturgical resources.” Membership is granted to applicants who meet the eligibility criteria. The membership fee is \$30 per year. For more information on the ACU Liturgy Nexus for Schools or to register visit: ACU Liturgy Nexus for Schools online. The ACU Centre for Liturgy aims to facilitate liturgical formation at every level in the life of the Church in Australia and is committed to supporting schools to celebrate liturgy well. **Support is available to schools individually, regionally, at Diocesan levels and to those in remote settings.**

Healing & Growing in the Love of God

St Patrick’s Catholic Church
515 Smollett St, Albury
Invites you to this Seminar at Slattery House

Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th February 2019

Facilitator: Valerie Murphy

International Ministry Faith, Hope, Love
Healing & Intercessory Prayer

Friday 22nd
7pm: Parish Mass (in Church). Valerie Reflection & Prayer—Growing in the Love of God

Saturday 23rd
9:30 am: Registration & Refreshments
10:00 am: Praise and Worship
10:15 am: Talk - The Way God Speaks to Us
11:15 am: Healing Prayer Workshop 1. Listening & Appropriating the Promises of God’s Love for Personal Healing
12:30 pm: LUNCH (bring your own shared lunch)
1:30 pm: Receiving the Contemplative Prayer Gifts
2:30 pm: Healing our Self Esteem—Talk and Healing Liturgy followed by **Afternoon Tea**
4:00 pm: Adoration, Reconciliation followed by 5pm Parish Mass

Sunday 24th
10:00 am: Parish Mass (Valerie Reflection)
11:00 am: Healing Prayer Workshop 2. Praying for Christ’s Promises to become Alive & Active in Our Lives
12.30 -1.30 pm: LUNCH (bring your own shared lunch)
1:30 pm: Bringing the Light of Christ to others (the Prayer Ministry of Intercession)
2:00pm to 4:00pm: Questions and Answers and Prayer Ministry (Healing Workshop 3)
Afternoon tea will be available throughout this session

This weekend is for those who long to experience the 'height, depth, breadth, and width' of God's healing love. Our experience weaves together talks, healing prayer, heart opening questions and answers , scriptures, times of solitude and silence, stories, sharing, laughter, and rest. Together we will explore the vast mystery of God's grace and transforming healing love.

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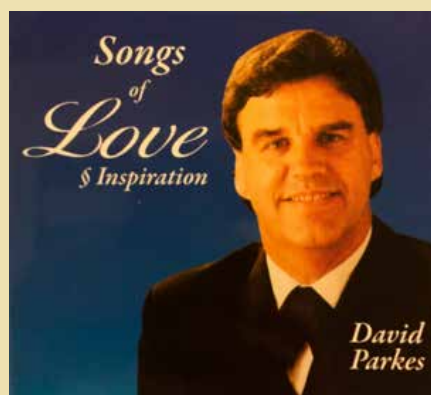
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Divine Mercy and David Parkes' Sacred Concert

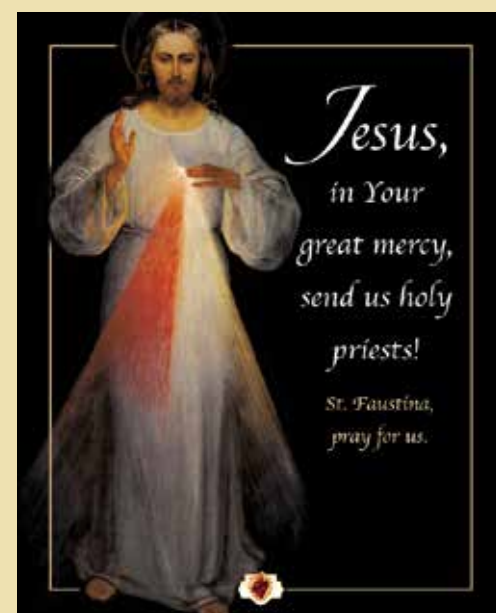


Mr John Canavan of Divine Mercy Publications is presenting a tribute to the Mercy of Jesus. As well as his own brief presentation, he is also hosting a sacred concert with the Irish singer, David Parkes.

It will be held at Trinity Centre, Ashmont Parish on Wednesday, February 20th. The main entertainer is the international singer and entertainer Mr David Parkes, as part

of his tour of Australia and New Zealand. His beautiful singing is accompanied by an inspiring personal testimony of the mercy of God. David will share a selection of his songs during the concert including music from his new CD. He also has an amazing story of his healing from Crohns Disease in 1989. David's concerts are unique, humorous and spiritually inspirational. There will be a selection of songs from his eight international CDs. Come along and be touched by the powerful mercy of God! There is free entry, though a collection will be taken during the evening. The concert is prefaced with Mass at 6.30pm in Holy Trinity Church, and the Sacred Concert in Trinity Centre from 7pm to 9pm. **All are welcome to attend the special evening. Enquiries: 0409 154 830**

David's concerts are unique, humorous and spiritually inspirational.



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Safe on Social Parent Session

Concerned about your children's safety on social media? Looking for the answers but not sure where to turn? The Safe on Social Media face-to-face presentation and Q&A session delivers real life case studies and strategies to help parents support their children.

Topics covered but not limited to:

- Using social media with awareness
- Keeping personal information private
- Online grooming
- Posting photos and sexting
- Safe social networking
- Cyber-bullying
- Privacy settings
- What your posts say about you
- Identity theft
- Legal responsibility
- Gaming dangers
- Learning to read tween/teenager behavior online
- Managing digital footprints
- Strategies to build resistance and resilience

"Your presentation was simply awesome! You not only opened my eyes up to how I can keep my kids safe, you helped keep me safe too. More importantly, your style helped me come home and create a safe conversation with my kids about what we'll do moving forward rather than disconnecting the electricity and beginning to churn our own butter!!!"

Stacey - Bonora Point - NSW

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Office of the
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If you're concerned about your children's safety on social media, *Safe on Social* delivers real life case studies and strategies to help parents support their children.

Safe on Social are presenting two informative sessions for parents, teachers and community leaders in Wagga Wagga this February.

Participants will learn social media safety tips, tricks, strategies and skills to assist parents to support, inform and protect our youth online - of any age.

Other topics covered will be: privacy settings, identity theft, legal responsibility, online grooming, strategies to build resistance and resilience and more.

This is a free presentation, not to be missed, by cyber safety experts from *Safe on Social*.

All are welcome from the Diocese whether or not your child attends these schools.

February 20 at 6pm Henschke Primary School Hall - 103

Fernleigh Road Wagga Wagga

and February 21 at 6pm Mater Dei Primary School Hall - 63

Gregadoo Road Wagga Wagga

For more information

visit the website:

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Position Vacant: Diocesan Director

- Part-time position, two days per week based in Wagga Wagga, NSW.
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- Become an integral part of a global network of Catholic development work.

Catholic Mission is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. It comprises the four Pontifical Mission Societies. Locally and globally, we answer the call to love God and to love our neighbour, and work to establish the Reign of God through building communities of missionary disciples who share their faith by proclaiming the Word, supporting Church communities and people in need, acting for justice and creation, and through the Society of the Holy Childhood, adopting child-focused, community-based development programs.

In Australia our work includes delivering community education and mission engagement programs; forming active partnerships with parishes, community groups, minority and cultural groups and the national schools network; and facilitating a sustainable program of fundraising.

This senior position calls for a highly motivated and experienced leader who has a passion for mission and a comprehensive understanding of the global issues of aid and development.

Your primary responsibility is to carry out the national plan for mission formation and fundraising within the diocese, and in doing so maximise the number of people and organisations within the diocese engaging with Catholic Mission; and to also maximise fundraising income to Catholic Mission. You will manage the activity for Catholic Mission in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

To do well in this role and as part of our team, you will be able to manage your time well, and you will be highly organised and efficient. You will be eligible to work in Australia, have your driver's licence, be able to travel around the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, and work a flexible schedule - sometimes including nights and

weekends. You will adapt to dynamic circumstances quickly and respond with energy. Your written and verbal communication skills will be excellent, and you will be able to present and deliver information confidently to a group. You will have had some experience working with diverse groups of people in the community or in the Church. You may have some international travel experience or have previously lived and worked in a developing country.

Catholic Mission supports their employees with a number of benefits such as time-in-lieu and flexible working arrangements, as well as a salary package commensurate with your experience that includes the ability to arrange salary sacrifice depending on your circumstances. There is an Employee Assistance Program, above-award holiday breaks and an annual appraisal and review program. You can look forward to becoming part of a growing and dynamic team.

If you would like to be involved in the highly meaningful work of Catholic Mission, please explore our website: www.catholicmission.org.au and check out what it's like to work at Catholic Mission www.catholicmission.org.au/about-catholic-mission/about-us#our-people

For the position description, including selection criteria, please refer to www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission

Please send your application (maximum length of résumé accepted is three pages and maximum length of cover letter accepted is two pages) to employment@catholicmission.org.au on or before the closing date.

Please note that the successful applicant is subject to a 'National Criminal History' check and a 'Working with Children' check.

Applications close Sunday, 17 February, 2019.



Save the Date:
MON 13 – WED 15 MAY, 2019

SMC CONFERENCE & FUNCTION CENTRE, 66 GOULBURN ST, SYDNEY

If you strive creatively for justice, peace, reconciliation and God's mission of love and mercy in Australia and globally, please join us for the **Mission: one heart many voices** conference in May 2019. As we journey together towards Plenary Council 2020, it is a unique opportunity to listen, converse and experience the many and diverse voices that are an expression of the one heart of mission.

Above all, the conference purpose is to affirm, inspire, nurture and imagine. It will enable participants to 'go forth boldly' (EG 261) and lead mission with a heart for the future.

mohmv.com.au

Conference Organisers:



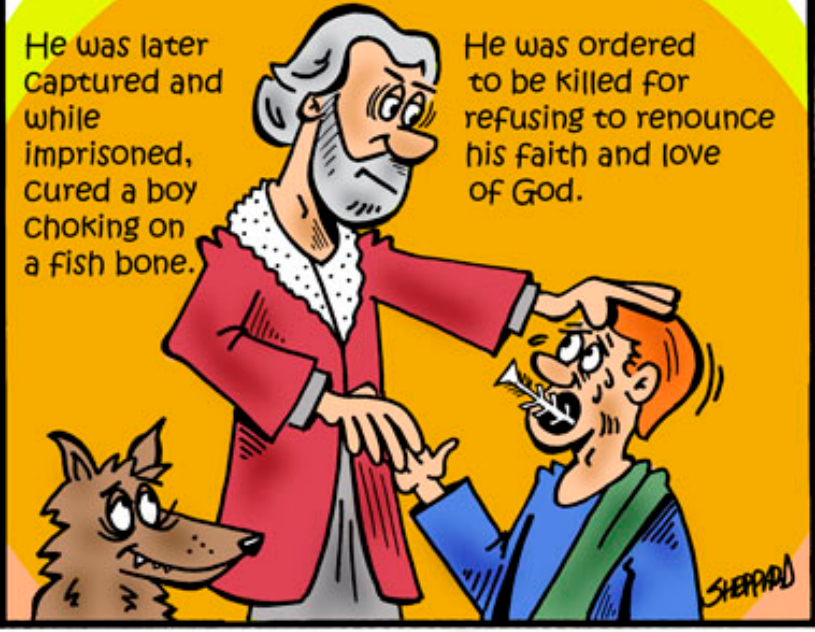
KIDS corner

SAINTS FUN FACTS by John Sheppard

Raised as a Christian in a rich family, he became a bishop. In a vision, God appeared to him and told him to flee. To avoid persecution, he lived in the hills with sick animals and cared for them.

He was later captured and while imprisoned, cured a boy choking on a fish bone.

He was ordered to be killed for refusing to renounce his faith and love of God.



- Saint Blaise -



Recipe... Spaghetti Con Broccoli



Lent is almost here and some people (like us!) follow the "no meat on Friday" rule. This meal is perfect for Friday's during Lent, but also really any time of the year.



- ### Ingredients:
- 500 grams spaghetti noodles
 - 250 grams broccoli florets chopped into 1 inch pieces
 - 1/4 cup butter
 - 500 grams container sliced mushrooms
 - 2 cloves garlic minced
 - 3 cups half-and-half cream
 - 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 3/4 teaspoon black pepper
 - 3/4 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano or parmesan cheese, divided

- ### Method:
- Boil 5 litres water with 1 tablespoon salt. Cook pasta for 7 minutes and then add broccoli and cook another 2-3 minutes until pasta is al dente and broccoli is crisp-tender. Reserve 1 cup pasta water and then drain pasta and broccoli.
 - While pasta cooks, melt butter in a large deep skillet and saute mushrooms over medium heat for 4 minutes. Add garlic and cook another 30 seconds. Add the cream, salt, and pepper and bring to a simmer. Let cream simmer over medium heat for 4 minutes until slightly thickened, stirring occasionally.
 - Add the pasta, broccoli, and 1/4 cup reserved pasta water. Cook 1 minute, stirring to coat all the pasta in the sauce. Stir in 1/2 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese and then remove from heat. Serve immediately topped with remaining cheese. (Sauce thickens as pasta cools. Add a little starchy pasta water as needed to moisten back up. You'll definitely want to add some if reheating leftovers.)

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!



FEBRUARY SAINTS & FEAST DAYS Word Search

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



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



- St. Blaise
- St. Ansgar
- St. Agatha
- St. Paul Miki and Companions
- St. Jerome Emiliani
- St. Josephine Bakhita
- St. Scholastica
- Our Lady of Lourdes
- St. Cyril
- St. Methodius
- St. Peter Damian
- St. Polycarp
- Presentation of the Lord

Spot the Difference

Wow, 14 year old Celine Tetley sent in this exquisitely coloured picture of Saint Lucy. Thank you! Can you find and circle the eight differences?



ANSWERS: Inner robe changed to purple, lips changed to pink, tree changed to pink, tree missing on left hand side, eyes missing on plate, eye colour changed to blue, two extra reeds on shoulder, black detail on top of inner robe missing, her hair is longer on the left hand side

Missing Letters

Can you guess the missing letters?
See page 24 for the answers.

F _ _ H _ R	F _ _ T _
W _ R S _ _ P	M _ _ A _ _ E
T _ _ T _ M _ _ Y	M _ _ _ S _ _ Y
H _ _ V _ N	T _ _ T _
A _ _ _ T _ _ S	B _ E _ D
S _ _ N _	F _ _ G _ _ E _
B _ _ _ S _ D	H _ _ _ Y
P _ _ Y _ R	F _ _ I _ Y
R _ _ A _ Y	_ S _ _ M
C _ _ H _ _ _ C	H _ _ N

Jokes

What did the calculator say to the other calculator?
"You can count on me!"

Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?
Because his class was so bright!

Why did the clock go to the principal's office?
For tocking too much!

Why did the children eat their homework?
Because their teacher said it was a piece of cake.

What did one math book say to the other?
Don't bother me I've got my own problems!

Teacher: What is the shortest month?
Pupil: May, it only has three letters.

What are you going to be when you finish school?
An old man!



Do the unthinkable

I recently read a story about a young guy upset about a local council policy that he ran for council to change things. He wasn't that well-known, so he had to go door to door to ask people to vote for him. Victory seemed unthinkable, but he believed in his mission. He won.

He reminds me of Mary. She was a young woman when she was pregnant with Jesus. Her Jewish religion told her that God had not forgotten God's people, even though they suffered under Roman occupation. She grew up hearing the Hebrew Scriptures proclaim that God liberates God's people. Then Gabriel's message to Mary challenged her to think the unthinkable – that she would bear the child who would bring God's liberating power into the world. She believed.

In this Gospel, Elizabeth, Mary's relative and the mother of John the Baptist, calls Mary blessed, because she believed God's promises to her, as wild as they might seem to some. Blessed is another way to say that Mary was closely connected to God. That connection brought her a sense of confidence, purpose, and serenity. That connection brought us Jesus. Mary and the young

guy who ran for local council believed and acted.

How about you? God's promises still seem unbelievable to many. Peace to all people. Enemies forgiving and reconciling. Justice for the poor. But those promises are fulfilled in our world when people like you and me do what others consider unthinkable. It seems crazy to forgive that person who disrespected you. But if you do it, God's promise is fulfilled. Why waste your time helping those on the margins or being these for someone who is alone in a nursing home? Because if you do it, God's promise is fulfilled.

Be like Mary this Advent. Do the unthinkable, and you'll experience the sense of purpose, confidence, and serenity that comes with being blessed.

What's something you could do this week that would be unthinkable to many but applauded by Mary?



Who's hungry?

CARITAS KITCHEN

Caritas Kitchen

Would you like to share good food with good friends and help people in need to create better lives for themselves?

You are warmly invited to a Caritas Kitchen hosted by the Cathedral Parish, Wagga Wagga.

A Caritas Kitchen is a reminder that what you do in your kitchen can, and does, have an impact on what others can bring to theirs.

Please join us at our Caritas Kitchen event and help us do something to end poverty.

Tuesday 5th March 4:30-7:00pm

St Michael's Parish Centre, rear of 7 Johnston Street, Wagga Wagga

Guest Speaker **from Caritas** will speak at 5:30pm.

Refreshments provided.

RSVP: **Michelle** 0428 212711 or **Ruth** 0413 454215

Online donations accepted at:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/online-donation>

We would love to see you there



Holy Spirit Primary School, Lavington



Wishing the Kinder Class of 2019 the best of luck as they begin their secondary school journey this year.



St Brendan's School, Ganmain



These St Brendan's Primary School students are off to a flying start by receiving Principal and Class Awards already.

St Joseph's School, Culcairn



If you've been passed the school lately you will have noticed some very big fencing separating our learning spaces from the construction site!



St Joseph's Primary School, Leeton



It's great to be back with our friends as we start the 2019 school year.
The smiling faces tell the story!



St Joseph's Primary School, Junee



St Joseph's Primary School now have an amazing new school for 2019.



St Mary's Primary School, Corowa

St Mary's are back and learning begins again for 2019. Welcome to all our families, especially those who are new to our school learning community, we are excited for what is to come this year. **We can't wait!!!**



Mater Dei College, Wagga



First day of Year 7 done!
Check out their smiling faces,
a great day had by all!



St Patrick's Parish School, Albury



On 31st January St Patrick's said farewell to Sister Pat. As a sign of respect their Year 6 students and teaching staff from the school formed a Guard of Honour.

St Mary's Primary School, Yoogali

What a wonderful day Kinder 2019 had on Friday 1 February.



Xavier High School, Albury



Xavier High School warmly welcomes their new Year 7 students and families.



All Saint's Primary, Tumbarumba



Congratulations to Phoenix Richards on receiving an Australia Day Special Achievement Award. **Well done we are very proud of you.**



Australia Day honour for CHA Director

Catholic Health Australia Board Chair Paul Robertson AO has paid tribute to CHA Director Don Neander, saying “Don Neander’s inclusion in the 2019 Australia Day honours list is deserving recognition for his many years of service and leadership in Catholic health and aged care.”

Mr Neander, who lives in Queensland, was honoured with the Medal of the Order of Australia in recognition of his service to aged welfare. That includes two years as a director on the Board of Catholic Health Australia.

“Don has served as a Knight of the Southern Cross for almost 50 years. He is well respected and regarded for his selfless commitment to building the aged care capacity of the Knights. Don is the State Chair of Southern Cross Care Queensland and the National Chair of Southern Cross Care Australia,” said Mr Robertson.

In 1967, the Knights in Queensland founded Southern Cross Care Homes for the Aged Inc, as they saw a need to support the aged and the disabled. In 1978, Queensland opened its first

hostel, Archbishop Duhig Court at Holland Park and in August 2001 changed the name of their aged care wing to Southern Cross Care (Qld) Ltd to reflect how the services had grown.

Southern Cross Care (Qld) now has 5 retirement villages, 11 aged care facilities and operates Community Services across South East Queensland, supporting the aged and the disabled in their own homes. (Source: <http://sccqld.com.au/about-us/>)

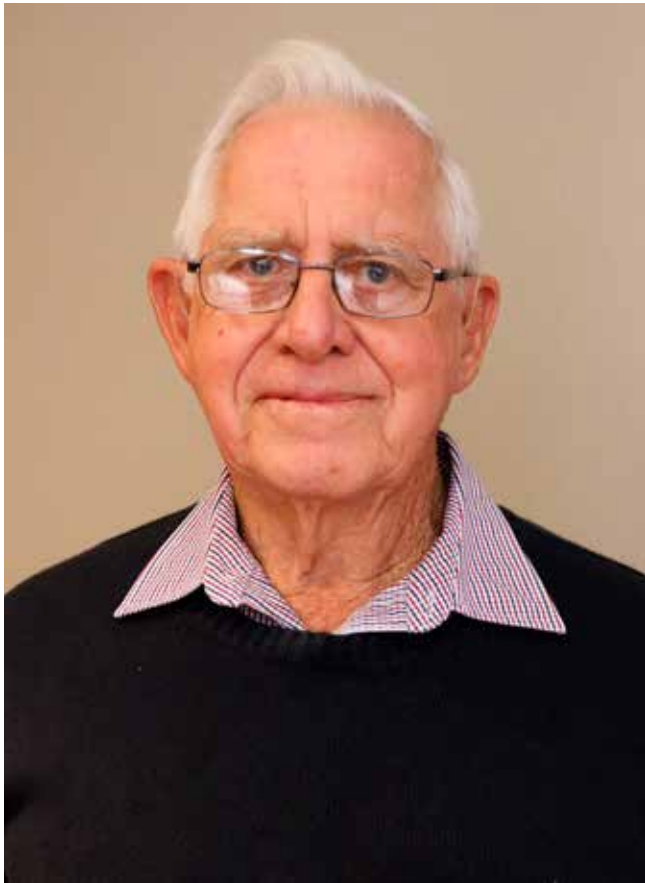
CHA CEO Suzanne Greenwood reflected that, “Don is a very gracious and humble person who contributes so much of his time and effort for others, and so this is richly deserved public recognition that he would never seek for himself.”

“Everyday, older Australians experience tremendous compassionate and innovative

“Don is a very gracious and humble person who contributes so much of his time and effort for others.”

care in their homes and in aged care facilities and it is caring and dedicated people like Don Neander who make that a reality.”

Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia:
Mr Donald Neander for services to aged welfare.
Chair, Southern Cross Care Queensland since 2012
Chair, Southern Cross Care Australia since 2016
Board Director, Catholic Health Australia since 2017



Catholic Health Australia Director, Don Neander





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IN OUR LIVES**

FOR WOMEN

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FACILITATOR: JILL MCCORQUODALE

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TOGETHER - FEBRUARY 2019

It's Not Too Late... An Ecumenical Response..

On Caring for our



Common Home

"The earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor she groans in travail. This is reflected in the symptoms of the sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life."

Pope Francis Laudato Si' 2.

An Australian Ecumenical Response To Pope Francis' Laudato Si'

Sponsored by the Redemptorists

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8 -10 March 2019

Single Ensuite \$ 400 - Twin share with ensuite \$300 - Single room Shared facilities \$300

Program begin with Welcoming Ceremony at 5.30 pm Friday and concludes after lunch Sunday

Saturday Program Only 9am -5pm \$50 includes morning tea lunch and afternoon tea.

It's not too late... but time is running out!

Come, join an ecumenical dialogue with those who make their own the prayer of Pope Francis: Bring healing to our lives so that we may protect the world and not prey on it. Teach us to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature. As we journey towards your infinite light

EVENT PARTNERS



Most Rev. Philip Huggins Anglican Bishop: President National Council of Churches Australia. Newly appointed Director of the Centre for Ecumenism at the ACC&C

Dianne Torrens: Chairperson: Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress

Dr Ross Gregory Garnaut AC Prominent Australian economist.

Anthony Kelly CSsR Doctor of Theology, Member of the International Theological Commission. (2004-14). Author of Integral Ecology and the Fullness of Life (2008)

Dr Bruce Duncan, C.Ss.R Director of the Ecumenical Advocacy Network, Social Policy Connections.

Jacqui Remond: Co-Founder Global Catholic Climate Movement Former Director, Catholic Earthcare Australia.

Rev John Williams, Adjunct Professor in Public Policy and Environmental Management ANU.

Rev Glenn Loughrey Wirudjuri Artist and Priest, St Oswald's Anglican Church, Glen Iris.

R. Quentin Grafton, Professor of Economics, Director of the Centre for Water Economics, Environment and Policy.

Dr Jason John: Uniting Earth Ministry.

Dr Cristina Gomez, Feminist and Asian Systemic Theologian, Campus Pastoral Associate ACU, Research Fellow Charles Sturt University.

David Marsh, Master of Sustainable Agriculture is an award winning farmer, conservationist and change agent from Boorowa in the South West Slopes of NSW.

Email info@stclement.com.au

Phone: 02 6380 5222

St Anne's are heading to the VEX Robotics World Championships!

Over 200 teams from across the globe will come together to represent their countries at the VEX Robotics World Championships.

by Belinda Moran - Teacher, St Anne's Primary School

Following the Scrimmage in Wangaratta, we received an email to say that both of our St Anne's teams had qualified to attend the Vex Australia National Championships in Melbourne from Nov 30 - Dec 3.

We competed in alliance with other teams from as far as Perth, Goulburn, Adelaide, Sydney and our home area of the Riverina.

Over the 2 days we competed in driving skills qualifying rounds and autonomous mode (driverless using pre-coded programs), were interviewed by international judges and attended a Girl Powered workshop sponsored by Ford and Autodesk. We also submitted an online project with a focus on Mathematics skills and our Engineering Notebook which showed our learning throughout the season.

On the final day of competition, both teams had qualified for finals!!!!!!

At the closing ceremony on the last day, our Mentor, Mrs Moran was awarded Mentor of the Year and one of our teams, Team Vex won the Energy Award and Excellence Award! It was a bittersweet moment as both teams had

worked so hard.

Winning the Excellence Award secured Team Vex an invitation to the World Championships in Louisville, Kentucky from April 28-30!

Hamarni, Grace, Patrick and Amalia along with Mrs Moran and their parents will head off to the USA on the trip of a lifetime!

Over 200 teams from across the globe will come together to represent their countries at the VEX Robotics World Championships.

We have been successful in gaining support for our venture, with local businesses and community groups donating money and holding fundraisers. The Rotary Club of Albury North, Ron Finemore Transport, Joss, Albury City Mayor and Middy's have been very generous sponsors.

Our biggest supporter has been Mr Hart, our school principal. Without his endorsement, we would not have had this amazing opportunity!



Monthly Funny



YOU SAID TAKE UP LACROSSE AND FOLLOW YOU ... NOW WHAT?

Fr. Jim Victory - a people's priest



Jim will be fondly remembered in parishes like Finley, Koorungal, North Albury and Thurgoona amongst others in this diocese and beyond. He made the Thurgoona parish his ‘home’ parish where he was made very welcome by Fr John Fowles and the Thurgoona people.

Jim was a ‘man of the bush’, very loyal to his church and its people, unassuming, gentle, caring, nurturing and forgiving (He even forgave the lads who broke into the presbytery, stole and hocked his beloved piano accordion and it took him weeks to find it and buy it back!).

In his Eulogy at the Concelebrated Requiem Mass at Thurgoona, Jim’s nephew, Mark Cunningham, told us: “It seems that Jim was destined to be a priest from an early age. As a teenager he would set up an altar in the old sleep out of their family home and would coax his brother John into being his altar boy. It was then he would mix raspberry cordial with water while john would respond with ‘Et cum spiritu tuo’, which translates to “and with your spirit.’

“Jim was Ordained to the priesthood at the Broken Hill Cathedral in 1965 and from then on was much loved in all parishes he served. All Saints Broken Hill, Forbes, Deniliquin, Balranald, Barham, Wentworth, Hillston, Hay and Moama. He was someone who was always there whether it be someone down on his luck, a family member, a friend or simply just encouraging individuals to be part of the church community.

“After Retiring Jim continued to work as supply priest for the Wilcannia Forbes, Wagga Wagga and Sandhurst Dioceses where he was welcomed with open arms,

Father Jim Victory passed away just before Christmas after a short illness. Jim was a priest of the Wilcannia-Forbes diocese before retiring in Albury in 2013, finding a home and a community at the Lutheran Rest Home in West Albury.

by Fr Bernie Thomas

especially in Thurgoona Parish where he became very involved and fond of Father John and his parishioners, so a big thank you to all. At one stage Jim also went to Norfolk Island so the people there could have Mass during an important festive time.

“Once moving to the Lutheran Retirement Village Albury in 2013 he also became involved in the local community and nearby nursing home where he would supply song sheets, play the piano accordion and have them all singing along in no time.”

Jim played the piano, accordion and

the violin by ear and he dabbled in other instruments like the flute, such was his love of music and helping people have a good time.

Mark tells of occasions he and his brother visited their uncle in his presbytery. On one such visit, “Uncle Jim included in our duties was to drive him to the outlying churches around the parish while he prepared his sermon or read a book. All the way there and back Paul and I would be swapping roles one driving and the other shooting rabbits from the back window of the car. Looking back now I’m sure Uncle Jim had no idea that we were

only 14 and 15 at the time”.

‘Jim was a great mentor to young priests and a support and friend to fellow priests. He is someone who would always put others before himself and was always, such a loved member of our family. He will be dearly missed but his memory will continue to live on through

each and every one of us”.

Jim’s love for his diocese and its people is reflected in his comment, “It came upon us like an assault when +GEORGE and co. decided to shut the diocese down. We all fought like hell to keep it as it was. Eventually, one born in Forbes, Columba Green, was appointed as bishop. According to church records in Forbes I had been his baptizer as a ‘baby’ priest.....the Lord has been good to me and I offer Him my thanks”.

It was good to see so many of the surrounding priests at the Thurgoona Mass and also to see quite a number of his classmates in the priesthood make the trip from Sydney and other parts of the state.

The concelebrated Funeral Mass was held at Broken Hill a couple of days later.

“ Jim was a ‘man of the bush’, very loyal to his church and its people, unassuming, gentle, caring, nurturing and forgiving. ”



Thomasinas

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Answers from page 19...

Missing Letters

FATHER	FAITH
WORSHIP	MIRACLE
TESTIMONY	MINISTRY
HEAVEN	TRUTH
APOSTLES	BREAD
SAINT	FORGIVEN
BLESSED	HAPPY
PRAYER	FAMILY
ROSARY	PSALM
CATHOLIC	HYMN

McAlroy House baby boom




we welcome with love

Charlotte CLAIRES Andrews

BORN 27TH DECEMBER 2018
at 11:08PM
3065 GRAMS & 48 CM

proud parents
BEN AND STEPH

There must be something in the water at McAlroy House as they have had three beautiful babies born recently with a couple more due this year. Please meet two of their newest arrivals...

we welcome with love

Amelia JUDITH Scott

BORN 25TH JANUARY 2019
at 9:08AM
3570 GRAMS & 51 CM

proud parents
LAUREN AND DANIEL






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Sacred Space for Lent 2019

Sacred Space for Lent invites readers to develop a closer relationship with God during this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Lent begins on Wednesday 6th March and finishes on Thursday 18th April. Lent is a holy time of introspection and penance in preparation for the passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ and can be further enriched with Sacred Space for Lent 2019, a daily prayer experience from Sacred Space, the internationally known online prayer guide.

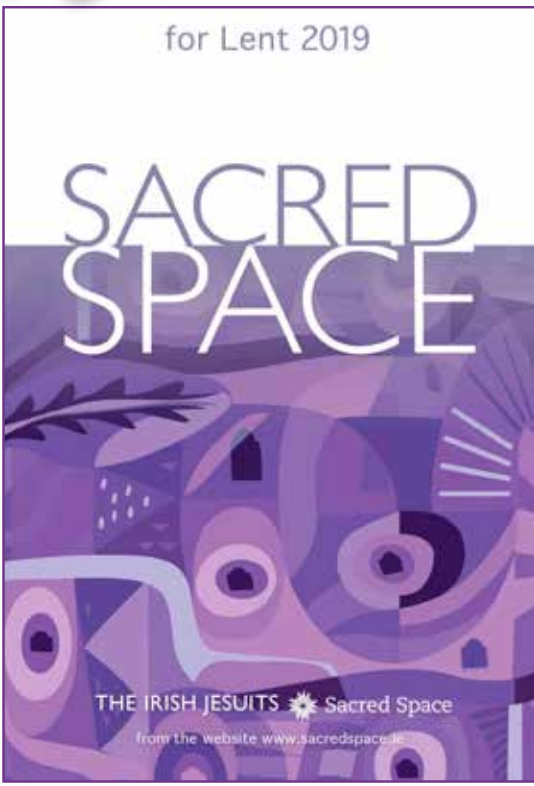
Sacred Space for Lent invites readers to develop a closer relationship with God during this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. What we know and trust about the Sacred Space online prayer experience is now available in a compact print format to heighten our Lent prayer practice in a way that is accessible, engaging, and meaningful to daily life.

Throughout the Lenten season, each day includes a Scripture reading and points of reflection, as well as a weekly topic enhanced by six steps of prayer and meditation. With its small size and meaningful message, Sacred Space for Lent is a simple way to build a richer relationship with God and embrace the Lenten season as a sacred space.

Available online at:



www.garrattpublishing.com.au



9781925073775 - RRP **\$4.95**

March 2019 7

- What motivates me, deepest down? Do I act solely to please God? Jesus gives hypocrites a hard time. They pretend to be what they are not; they are actors, performing behind their masks. When am I most likely to put up a pretense? Do I ever catch myself telling small lies to give others a better impression of myself?
- I must be content to be who I am. My deepest identity is not the one I create for myself but the identity given me by God. I am the beloved of God, and always will be. That is enough. The important person in my life must be not myself, nor others, but only God who sees in secret. God also knows my secret: when everything is said and done, I am infinitely loved!

Thursday 7th March
Luke 9:22-25

[Jesus said to his disciples:] "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?"



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JINDERA


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TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Diocese of Wagga Wagga -

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




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Mass times across our Diocese

Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

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

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

Our Lady of Fatima
Bourke Street, Wagga Wagga
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm
Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am & 5:30pm (Syro-Malabar Rite)
St Patrick’s Uranquinty
Sunday - 8:30am
Weekday Masses - Our Lady of Fatima
Wednesday - 7:00am
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 - 8.00am
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.30am, 5.30pm
Weekday Masses
Monday - 8.00am
Tuesday - 7.00am (10.00am only on 2nd Tuesday of the month)
Wednesday - 7.00am
Thursday - 7.00pm (Mass Novena and Benediction)
Friday - 8.00am
Confessions
Prior to Masses
Saturday after 8.00am Mass, 5.30-6.00pm
Sunday - 5.00-5.30pm
Thursday - 7.00pm following Novena
Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Also by appointment

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 27...

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.



Wagga Wagga Deanery

Chosen Youth Wagga
St Michaels Cathedral
Parish Centre after 5.30pm
Mass on selected Sundays.
Contact: (02) 6921 2164 or

Young Adults Group
Who for: young adults
When: 7-8pm on the second & fourth Tuesday of the month
Contact: Parish 6962 1533

Murray Deanery

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Youth Holy Hour 6.00pm
Where: St Michaels Cathedral

Albury Young Adults Group
Where: St Patrick's Parish Hall, Albury
When: Every Wednesday Night 7-8pm
Who for: Young Adults 18-35
Contact: Daniel Shaw 0402 289 811

Murrumbidgee Deanery

Griffith - Sacred Heart Parish
Where: Sacred Heart Youth Hut (white hut behind Presbytery)

Youth Group
Who for: Yrs 7-12
When: 7-8pm on the first & third Tuesday of the month

Immaculate Heart of Mary Youth Group
Where: Thurgoona Parish Centre
When: Every 2nd Wednesday 5:30pm-7pm. Dinner provided.
Who for: School Years 7 to 12 (high school)
Contact: (02) 6043 2222

Please pray for those priests whose anniversary of death occurs in January and February:

3 January 1933	Fr Patrick Hanrahan
10 January 1938	Fr James Hennebry
23 January 1937	Fr James Power O'Rourke
24 January 1882	Fr Cornelius Twomey
26 January 1941	Fr Martin Vaughan
27 January 1938	Fr Patrick Reidy
29 January 2014	Fr Ralph Fitzgerald
30 January 1946	Fr Patrick Gahan
4 February 1932	Fr John Campbell
4 February 1994	Fr James Michael Clark
12 February 1926	Fr Thomas L Ryan
14 February 1907	Mgr Michael Slattery
14 February 1982	Fr Thomas Aloysius Desmond
19 February 1948	Fr John Kenneth Charles Suna
24 February 1968	Bishop Francis Augustin Henschke

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

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Family reflections for: February

3rd February - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
How many times do we react to what appears to be the situation? A few times of being wrong slows us, especially parents, down and teaches us that 'things are not always as they seem.' It takes time and often forces us to 'eat humble pie' (or at least laugh at ourselves), but very often, by the time we 'get the story' we recognize that we have come to the wrong conclusion, that the evidence is misleading. Parents need to show their children that they trust and have faith in them. If our first impression turns out to be correct, then we can take necessary disciplinary steps, but at least children recognize their parents' faith in them as our first response.
Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19
Psalm 70: 1-6, 15, 17
1 Corinthians 12: 31-13: 13
Luke 4: 21-30

10th February - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Like the fishermen, Jesus calls us to discipleship in the ordinariness of our everyday lives. Rather than complain about the same routine, or the parts of our job (paid or unpaid) that irritate us, we will be happier and with lighter hearts if we search for God in the moment. When we recognize our ordinary lives as a response to God's love, the burdens will be less and our joy will be greater.

Isaiah 6: 1-8
Psalm 137: 1-5, 7-8
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Luke 5: 1-11

17th February - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Children trust their parents to take good care of them and give them direction. That's a lot of responsibility for a parent. Similarly, we all are challenged by these beatitudes to trust completely in God. When we trust and serve God, we know clearly from this reading that God will take care of us in the Kingdom.
Jeremiah 17: 5-8
Psalm 1: 1-4
1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

24th February - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Today is a good day to take a love inventory. Jot down the eight practical directions given in the Gospel Summary regarding honoring the Commandment of love: love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you; stop judging; stop condemning; forgive; and give. On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being "living in love," rate yourself as a



parent, as a spouse, and as a follower of Jesus Christ. Where are you living in love? Where is there room for growth and change?
1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Psalm 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
1 Corinthians 15: 45-49
Luke 6: 27-38



St Vincent de Paul Society *good works*

Samantha's story of survival

A hand up from Vinnies at just the right time has turned Samantha's life around and she and her children now have a bright future ahead of them.



Samantha* started life in Samoa as one of 10 children.

A childhood filled with trauma – emotional, physical and sexual abuse, separation from her parents, constantly moving and never having a home to call her own – set the pattern of vulnerability that has dogged her life.

Aged 25 and pregnant with her first child, Samantha moved to Australia with the man she would later marry. After separating from her husband, fearing for her safety when he tried to pursue her and the death of her mother in Samoa, Samantha found herself in a downward spiral. Struggling to survive, she began binge drinking and smoking.

"I had abandoned myself in a way and was not caring for myself – this was my way of coping," said Samantha.

In amongst this, Samantha fell

pregnant with her second child. Her partner also physically and mentally abused and tormented her on a daily basis. He destroyed her Citizenship Certificate, her children's birth certificates, their school reports and clothes.

At the end of her tether, she fled with her kids to a friend's house, ending up in a shelter for several weeks. Sadly she soon returned to her ex-partner, after he begged forgiveness and insisted he'd changed. But, as Samantha puts it, "with little self-esteem and belief in yourself, it is easy to fall prey to others lies."

The abuse worsened and Samantha fled to another shelter three months later. She'd already sent her eldest child to live with his father to protect him and needed to get her other child and herself to safety. She and her five year old

son travelled overseas but soon returned to Australia.

Upon her return her abusive ex-partner tracked her down and tried to kill her by sitting on her chest with a pillow over her head while her son slept beside her.

Samantha spent the next five and a half years constantly moving. With only sporadic casual work, debt piled up and with no stable income, finding stable housing became impossible. She and her son lived in share accommodation, caravans, private rentals, and motel rooms. Sometimes they wandered the streets with their suitcases, worried where they would sleep for the night.

Samantha lived with paranoia, a locked jaw and faintness. Traumatized, she was hearing voices - all symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Samantha's job agency worker understood Samantha would find it difficult to find stable work without a place of her own, and contacted Vinnies Families Back on Track (FBOT). Samantha was

accepted into the transitional housing program, and soon she and her son moved into a fully furnished two bedroom unit.

The Vinnies Support Worker worked with Samantha to set goals for herself and to guide her through achieving them.

"I was encouraged to see a positive life for myself and my family and provided all the support I could want to help me achieve my goals," said Samantha.

Samantha was provided with support to get out of the cycle of pay-day loans, was referred to a psychiatrist and other health practitioners and participated in education and skills-building workshops. Samantha was beginning to take care of her physical and mental health and build self-confidence.

"My Support Worker encouraged me to believe in my

strengths – my sense of humour, my insightfulness, my ability to provide a better life for my son.

"Families Back on Track is not just a place, it was a home for me and my son. I was given respect and felt that I had dignity for the first time in my life. If it was not for Families Back on Track and their vision for me, I would not have been able to transcend my past and envision a better life for myself," she says.

Samantha has since gained a Counselling Diploma and completed a Diploma in Community Services. She dreams of going to university to study Psychology, wanting to pay the kindness she and her family received forward and help other domestic violence victims.

**Real names have been changed to protect the privacy of the people we support.*

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St Vincent de Paul Society

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