



TOGETHER

In the Diocese of

Wagga Wagga

JULY 2019

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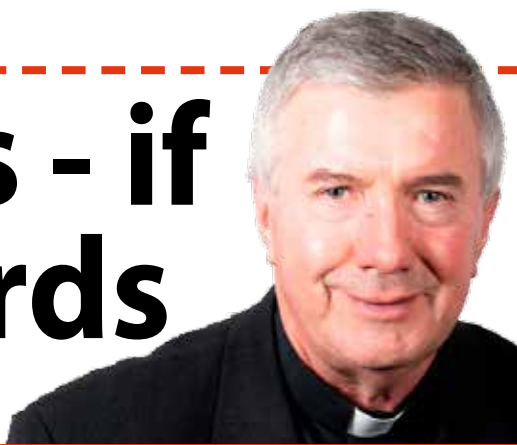
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Evangelise always - if necessary use words

Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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By the time you read this message the bishops of Australia would be soon returning to Australia after our Ad Limina Apostolorum visit to Rome. I wrote to you about this in the last edition of Together (June 2019).

No doubt one of the predominate encouragements we would have received is to evangelise the Good News of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God in Australia no matter what challenging sociocultural situation is presented to us all.

Especially since the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), the Catholic Church has entered a golden age of teaching on evangelisation. Incredibly, there are still many, however, who are suspicious of even this term. It seems to connote for them some form of imposing the Catholic Faith on others (proselytism).

In fact, Catholic evangelisation is the exact opposite of this. It PROPOSES Jesus in season and out of season to the world but never IMPOSES.

Recent Popes teach that evangelisation proposes Christ “by attraction” more than words. In a sense, we “perfume” the world with the fragrance of Jesus. As St Paul proclaims, “To God we are the fragrance of Christ” (2 Cor 2/15). To St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) is attributed the following helpful expression: “Preach Jesus and, if necessary, use words”.

In Rome itself you can observe this wordless evangelisation even by making a pilgrimage to the major basilicas as the Bishops of Australia have so recently done. Here architecture evangelises our eternal Christian mysteries.

For example, there is St Peter’s Basilica built on top of a cemetery on Vatican Hill housing the tomb of St Peter. It is also built on the top of a major entertainment arena of the Roman Empire (the Circus of Nero) where brutal games were played and Christians executed (including St Peter).

The only object still visible from these times till now is the giant Egyptian obelisk in the centre of St Peter’s Square.

Like an “eye” silently observing thousands of years of human activity (built around 2,500 BC), it is placed on a plinth upon which is written that Christ overcomes all and reigns forever! A Cross is placed on its top. What an everlasting message of salvation! An obelisk that evangelises on such an historic site for Christians!

Also, so many of the Churches of Rome are built upon marble taken from the ancient ruins of the Roman Empire. These basilicas too are often actually built upon the ruins of temples to pagan gods. Often pagan temples were not to be destroyed but converted to Christian use (eg. The Pantheon over the Temple of all gods, and Santa Maria Sopra Minerva over the Temple to the Egyptian goddess, Isis).

These are wordless proclamations, not that Christianity has imposed herself and conquered, but that Jesus fulfils all that has gone before Him. It is a timeless message of evangelisation that was consistently showcased in the first millennium of Christianity. With the Spanish colonial evangelisations of the second millennium, this approach was, sadly, often eclipsed.

The challenge for Christians always is not to decide whether or not we ought to evangelise. To evangelise by sharing with everyone our saving encounters with Jesus our Lord and Saviour is our greatest joy and duty.

The challenge is to find the most “fragrant” method of evangelisation for our time and place in Australia during our Plenary Council period and beyond.

Ultimately, it becomes a matter of communal discernment for us all to consider at this time.

In his recent Apostolic Exhortation (March 2019) to young people, Christus Vivit (Christ Lives), Pope Francis offers

“To evangelise by sharing with everyone our saving encounters with Jesus our Lord and Saviour is our greatest joy and duty.”

timely advice on communal discernment (n.291-298). It is directed to young people considering their vocational calling. However, the three kinds of sensitivities that the Jesuit Pope offers to individuals can help us all discern God’s will in a communal manner. It is based, states the Holy Father, on our ability to listen.

Pope Francis writes of the first sensitivity directed to the individual. There must be a willingness to listen. This requires time and giving “space” to whatever is shared. The biblical example of Jesus with the disciples on the way to Emmaus comes to mind (Luke 24/13-35).

The second sensitivity is marked by discernment. “It tries to grasp where grace or temptation is present” (n.293). It tries to discern what the Holy Spirit is saying as distinct from “the traps laid by the evil spirit... it takes courage, warmth and tact.”

The third sensitivity concerns “to perceive what is driving” us (n.294). It is a matter of discerning ultimate intentions. It is deeper than mere thoughts or feelings. It is the challenge to discern “what is most pleasing to the Lord”.

All of this concerns accompanying each other on the journey of faith – the real meaning, surely, of what our Plenary Council is all about.

The Bishops of Australia spent some generous days together in retreat considering what communal discernment is all about in our Catholic/Christian context. **Let us all consider this vital topic together as we discern “what is pleasing to the Lord” for the future evangelisation of Australia.**

Prayer Intention for July - Pray with Pope Francis

The Integrity of Justice

That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word.

Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his monthly prayer:
<http://popesprayerusa.net/category/pope-video/>



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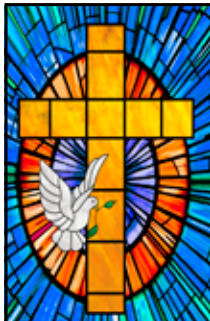
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Lord God, author of justice and peace, give us wisdom to know how to proceed in practical affairs!

Lord God of mercy and power, we recognize you as the source of all authority on this earth, and we beg that you give your grace to those who hold public office. In a special way, they need your wisdom to decide aright in difficult matters, and to defend those who cannot speak for themselves – the unborn, the immigrant, the senile, the despairing.

Lord, God of life and of love, you have chosen to make us stewards of

this world. We beg you to help us use this office in a way that is pleasing to you and respectful of all our sisters and brothers, born and yet unborn. Give us the wisdom daily to be just in our own decisions and prudent in our own choices. Give us the heart to be willing to do the spiritual works of mercy, when convenient and when inconvenient. Make us men and women of integrity, and inspire those who have been entrusted with authority, al-ways to respect the natural moral law and to look for the common good. Amen.



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.



Australian bishops meet Pope Francis, pray at St Peter's tomb

Pope Francis has given his apostolic blessing to the Australian Catholic bishops and encouraged them to explore new ways of being missionary in Australia at this time.

Almost 40 Australian bishops today met with Pope Francis for more than two hours as part of their *Ad Limina Apostolorum* visit, translated as “To the Threshold of the Apostles”.

It was a high point of a memorable first day of the *Ad Limina*, which began with the bishops celebrating Mass at the tomb of St Peter.

“To celebrate the Eucharist at the tomb of Peter and then to engage in pastoral dialogue with his successor was a unique and grace-filled way to start our week in Rome,” Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge said.

The bishops raised with Pope Francis a number of topics that are of deep concern to the Catholic Church in Australia.

Among them were the Church's work to eliminate child sexual abuse and to accompany survivors of abuse, the bishops' desire to support and minister to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the hopes for the Plenary Council and the need to find new ways of witnessing to Jesus Christ in Australian society in a time of change.

“There was an ease and a fraternal warmth in the way Pope Francis spoke and an attentiveness in his listening to the questions the bishops asked,” Archbishop Coleridge said.

“For a man of his years, the Holy Father's energy through a long and complex conversation was amazing.”

Conference vice president Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP said the meeting with Pope Francis was “moving and deeply encouraging”. He said it showed the benefit of the Petrine ministry, “of being our solid ‘rock’ and ‘confirming the brethren’”.

“The Holy Father clearly understood our situation in Australia. It was a real moment of grace,” Archbishop Fisher said.

Bishop Charles Gauci, the most recently ordained of the Australian bishops, having become Bishop of Darwin last September, said he was “deeply impressed” by Pope Francis.

“I was impressed by his humanity, his compassion, his sense of collegiality, his passion for working with all the people of God in a synodal Church and his true commitment to the Gospel,” Bishop Gauci said.

“I felt a deep sense of connection with the Holy Father as a fellow member of the College of Bishops, as bishops in service of the People of God and in partnership with the People of God.”

Melbourne Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli posted on social media that the meeting with the Holy Father was “an extraordinary conversation, brother to brothers”. He said it was “spiritually intense, deeply honest, pastorally astute, free and frank”.

The *Ad Limina* visit continues until Friday, June 28. The Australian bishops will meet in the coming days with

the various departments of the Holy See with responsibilities for different aspects of Church life.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge's homily for Mass at the tomb of St Peter

*On Monday, June 24, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference commenced its *Ad Limina Apostolorum* visit with Mass at the tomb of St Peter. This is Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge's homily:*

In the years when I worked here, I would often walk through St Peter's from Santa Marta where I lived to the Palace yonder where I worked. Now and then I would think of St Peter, the Galilean fisherman lying beneath this grand pile and wonder what he makes of it. I would think of those haunting words at the end of John's Gospel which Jesus speaks to Peter: “When you grow old, someone else will put a belt around you and take you where you would rather not go”.

How true that was: Simon came a long way from the shores of the lake on a journey he could never have dreamt of in those early days. To Rome, to crucifixion upside down not far from here, to a simple tomb over which would rise the greatest church in Christendom once Hagia Sophia had been lost in Constantinople and new St Peter's stood on the hill in old Rome.

It would occur to me at times that all this is simply a monument to the grandeur of the witness of the fisherman who lies beneath it all in the tomb around which we gather. The Basilica shows forth the glory of the grace that led Peter on a journey from the call by the lake through the drama of love and betrayal to the death that

sealed it all. How right that the altar of Christ's own sacrifice was built over his tomb – in recognition that Peter's sacrifice was the Lord's own sacrifice, that he had, in Paul's words, “reproduced the pattern of the Lord's death” (Phil 3:10), had died the death that gives birth to unimagined life.

Here we recognize that we bishops are called to the same witness, the same sacrifice. We are called, like Peter, to show forth the power of the Lord's death and resurrection. The call has come to us in ways we didn't expect; our response to it through the years has been a complex interweaving of love and betrayal; the love that called us commissions us beyond betrayal and promises that when we grow old someone else will put a belt around us and take us where we would rather not go, indicating with these words the kind of death by which we will give glory to God. It's the love that says, “Follow me” without quite indicating where.

This is a time when our noses are being rubbed in our failures and frailties, a time of humiliation. But there is something of God in this – just as there was when Jesus asked Peter three times, “Do you love me?” after Peter had three times denied him. The Lord's questions were rubbing Peter's nose in his own failures and frailties – but also in the commissioning beyond betrayal.

This hill was always a graveyard, since it lay outside the city limits within which no-one could be buried. In a sense, too, our lives are always a graveyard, a place where death is at work. But in this Vatican graveyard the great monument to Easter, this

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Pope Francis poses for a photo with Australian bishops during their *Ad Limina Apostolorum* visit to the Vatican on June 24, 2019. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

Refugee Week celebrations

Refugee Week ran from 16th to the 24th June and was celebrated in Wagga Wagga with several important events.

by Joan Saboisky

A MOVING CONVERSATION

Amnesty International posed the question “What would you do for your new neighbour?” On Wednesday 19th June the Wagga City library was the venue for Amnesty, supported by the City Council, to launch nationwide conversations. These recorded conversations feature a series of stories of our new neighbours and locals who have stood up to welcome them.

The presenter for the evening was Shankar Kasynathan, a former child refugee, who as a 3 year old was forced to flee Sri Lanka with his Tamil family. Shankar now works for Amnesty and facilitated the inspiring conversation with Phong Tiwangee and Wagga’s Eliza Tout. Phong a former refugee from Burma arrived in Wagga aged 12 and met Eliza, a local young volunteer. The conversation revealed how this relationship was mutually enriching and a wonderful ingredient for successful settlement in a community.

CELEBRATING TOGETHER

Saturday 22nd June Henschke Hall and grounds came alive with colour and happiness as families and individuals from diverse backgrounds celebrated together. New and old arrivals, volunteers, local refugee support services, police, fire brigade personnel all mingled and enjoyed a host of fun activities: barbeques, rides, baby animals, a clown, music and drumming, stalls with craft activities. Visitors from Ghana, Bishop Alfred Agenta and Dr Joseph Ayembilla (Human development coordinator of the Bishop’s diocese) soaked up the festive atmosphere and met several local African families.

MULTI FAITH PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE

The refugee week’s events concluded on Sunday 23rd June at the annual Multi faith Prayer service for Peace at San Isidore and the welcoming of new arrivals who have come to our city in the past twelve months.



Mariam Rehman was the guest speaker.



New arrivals being welcomed.

The service was led by Fr Paddy Sykes (Our Lady of Fatima Parish). Peggy Adamson from the West Wagga San Isidore Refugee committee announced the UNHCR’s update on refugee statistics. She spoke of a staggering 70.8 million people forcibly displaced world wide, an historic and sobering high. Peggy invited Belinda Crain (Manager Multicultural

Council) and Jilan Khato (Yazidi Bilingual support worker, Red Cross) to remember all refugees and asylum seekers and to especially remember with gratitude those who have come to Wagga Wagga, the region and made Australia their home. Representatives from faith groups in Wagga Wagga participating in the

continued on page 5...



Yazidi girls musical reflection.

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continued from page 4...

service were: Wasim Umar (Muslim Association Riverina Wagga Australia), Amit Gupta (Indian Hindu community), Colin Wiese (Baha'i), Khalaf Smoki (Yazidi), Geraldine Gradon (Quaker), Fr Anto Francis (Syro-Malabar Indian Community), Dr Geraldine Duncan (Aboriginal Spirituality).

In a touching expression of solidarity for Peace each lit a candle and joined together in leading the gathering in a minute's silence. The silent Prayerful remembrance for those who have died in the past twelve months brought to mind the victims of the New Zealand and Sri Lanka terror attacks, the twelve people who have died in Australian off shore processing centres as well as our own family and friends.

GUEST SPEAKER

This year the guest speaker was Mariam Rehman, a 20 year old local Muslim business woman. Her poise, mature reflections and personal sharing impressed the congregation. Mariam spoke of growing up in Wagga Wagga and of our shared humanity no matter our background. She concluded her talk with a heartfelt plea: "Remember the millions that have been displaced. Let's not be the ones to dull that spark of hope and help them live the peaceful way of life that many of us were lucky enough to be born in."

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION FOR PEACE, OUR NATION AND REFUGEE NEEDS WERE LED BY

- Councillor Dallas Tout (Deputy Mayor Wagga Wagga City Council)
- Bill Anscombe (Anglican church)
- Gabrielle Robinson (Amnesty International),
- Ali Reid (Board Multicultural Council)
- Marie Louise (Bi lingual support worker Red Cross, Burundi)
- Gei Lin Hung (Chin Community Burma),
- Dr Geraldine Duncan (Medical Profession)
- John Moi (formerly South Sudan)
- Augusta Barley (formerly Sierra Leone)
- Patrica Storrier (Wagga TAFE)

MUSICAL REFLECTION

A group of brave young girls from Wagga Wagga's Yazidi community led by Maqboola and Elvein Ibrahim played violin, keyboard and sang. In newly acquired English the words "give us a chance" drifted from their young voices to our ears.

WELCOME TO NEW ARRIVALS

Dr Joe McGirr (local state MP for Wagga Wagga) extended a welcome to our new arrivals. Each were presented with handmade cards with thoughtful messages made by children from Sacred Heart Koorringal, Henschke, and Holy Trinity primary schools and a candle made at San Isidore, a symbol of hope and peace for new friends.

Special acknowledgements:

The gathering was an ideal opportunity to congratulate Dr Geraldine Duncan on her reception of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Honour list. Geraldine is honoured for her services for rural medicine, her work for refugee health and medical education.

Also remembered with affection and gratitude was Noreen Junck, a founding and committed member of the West -Wagga – San Isidore Refugee Committee. Noreen was present at last year's service. She died in May 2019.

THE UNHCR ANNOUNCED ON WORLD REFUGEE DAY THAT THERE ARE 70.8 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE WORLD WIDE. 41.3 MILLION ARE INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. 25.9 MILLION ARE REFUGEES. 20.4 MILION UNDER THE MANDATE OF THE UNHCR AND 5.5 MILLION UNRWA'S MANDATE 3.5 MILLION ARE ASYLUM SEEKERS. 37,000 PEOPLE A DAY ARE FORCED TO FLEE HOMES BECAUSE OF CONFLICT OR PERSECUTION



Above: Eliza Tout (Red Cross) and Peggy Adamson (San isidore Refugee Committee) at afternoon tea.



Left: Gei Lin Hung (Chin Community Burma and OLOF Parish) reading prayer of Intercession.

Below: Warwick Grundy (Koorringal), Zia Haidari (CSU student former Afghanistan refugee) Haji Gundor (Yazidi community)

Bottom Left: David Gilby, Khaleel (Yazidi community), Joan Saboisky, Dr Geraldine Duncan, Dr Joe McGirr and Dr Kerin Fielding

Bottom Right: Congregation at the service Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church San Isidore.



Women's Life Centre receives much needed donations

Peta Evans, the Director of the Women's Life Centre in Albury, has sent the following letter to those who supported the centre recently.

Dear Supporters,
Thank you for your generous donations and prayerful support. Since our appeal letter in April, we have received \$22,000 in donations! This has certainly changed our situation for the financial year and we are no longer running at a loss. We will now be able to continue our life-giving work and also afford to pay rent for the two shop fronts.
This is such wonderful news for the Women's Life Centre, Esencia and the community that we support and help in Albury and surrounding areas.
Over the last few months we have been helping a number of girls in differing situations, some of which I would like to briefly share with you.
Shelly, (not her real name) was considering abortion when she found out she was pregnant with her third child, struggling with homelessness as

a single mother. With our support she welcomed a little baby boy in February this year. We have helped this young mother find stable accommodation, medical, material and emotional support, help with child minding and assistance with home duties and mother craft skills. We have also been assisting her to regain the opportunity to see and bond with her first child who is in a foster care situation, in the hope that the family may one day be reunited.
Kelly, (not her real name) came to us when she discovered she was pregnant, fearful of becoming a mother after experiencing a very difficult life including; drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse, imprisonment and trauma from previous abortion and miscarriage. Kelly was excited to find out she was pregnant but needed our support to believe that she was worthy to continue her pregnancy and become



a mother. She since discovered she is pregnant with twins! She is blossoming with this new opportunity as a mother and has such a caring nature that we believe will help her through the difficulties. She has received from us ongoing counselling and emotional support, grief and loss counselling as well as referral for GP support. We will be providing material support of baby items once the babies arrive!
I hope these stories help you to see

how valuable our life giving centre is. I look forward to your ongoing support and prayers.
Peta Evans
Director - Women's Life Centre



The beauty of womanhood

April 5 saw thirty-four Billings Ovulation Method® teachers and trainees from across the country descend on the Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre in Mulgoa NSW for their bi-annual National Teachers' Weekend.

This year the theme for the weekend was 'The Beauty of Womanhood'. Prof Isabell Naumann ISSM THD/ STD opened the weekend with a wonderful presentation.
As well as inspiring teachers to return to their work with renewed vigour, the weekend is a time for focusing on improving teaching skills and understanding the scientific basis that underpins the Method. Presentations covered all uses of the Billings Method, including post chemical contraceptives and breastfeeding and postpartum situations.
On Sunday evening, teachers were treated to a viewing of the film "The Sexual Revolution – 50 Years Since Humanae Vitae". This recent documentary chronicles the prophetic nature of Pope Paul VI's encyclical and his call to scientists. He implored men and women of science to work to find an answer in nature to the problems faced

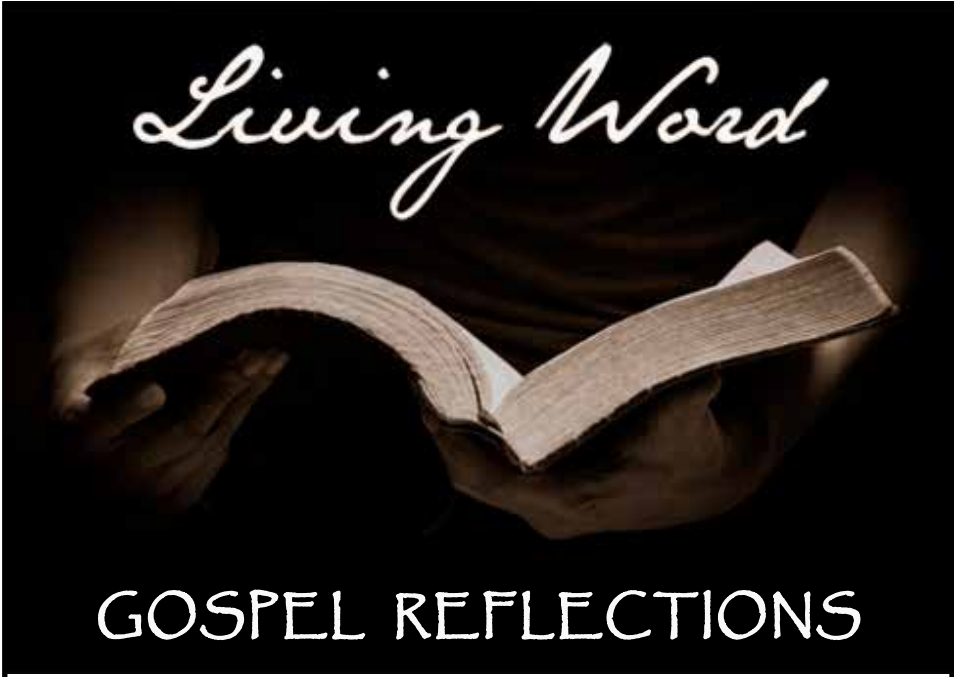
by couples wishing to regulate the size of their families while remaining faithful to the Church's magisterium. Drs John and

Evelyn Billings were two such scientists. People who have seen this film have been amazed that Paul VI's vision of the future has come to fruition so accurately. This is plain to see in society today.
Most of the teachers stayed on after the weekend for a two-day advanced training course titled "The Common Sense Method." This course focused on the changing patterns of hormones made visible through the woman's chart.

The original development of the method was done so rigorously that the 4 simple rules that were developed in the late 1950's still apply today. Developments in science since then have only helped to validate the original findings of Dr John Billings.
To contact your local teacher or for information on the Billings Method and becoming a teacher please call us toll free on 1800 335 860.



Participants at the National Training Weekend Mulgoa 2019



Method and message

Luke is the only evangelist to highlight the call of the twelve in Luke 9 and then the call of the seventy-two in Luke 10.

Pope Francis says we are called to be “missionary disciples.” But what is the method? What is the message?

Luke provides answers, right here in the heart of his Gospel.

The message is peace

The Old and New Testaments are insistent on the matter. *Isaiah 66:*

Thus says the Lord: Now towards her I send flowing peace, like a river.

Luke 10 is just as potent:

Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, “Peace to this house.”

Well, may we ask, “Why this insistence on peace?”

God, in his own, inner life, exists in a state of peace and rest. This was brilliantly pointed out by Blessed John Henry Newman in a sermon entitled, “Peace in Believing.”

Newman argues that God offers us not the *gift* of peace as such. Rather, God desires to *share* the peace of his inner life with us. He wants us to participate intimately in his life – the life of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He does this in his creative activity and his redemptive activity.

Think, for instance, of the absolute insistence of the *Sabbath Rest*. Yes, we need rest, here and now, but it is also a *foretaste* of the life to come. The *Sabbath Rest* is trying to prepare us for what our life with God will be like for all eternity.

But then, the insistence on peace is important, no less, for the human heart. It seems clear that no one can receive the Gospel if he or she is not in a state of peace.

The Gospel is trying to tell us something here, and we best take note. The first words to be proclaimed are “peace to this house.” And then comes this:

Cure those in the house who are sick, and say, “The Kingdom of God is very near to you” (Luke 10).

The human heart needs *healing* in

order to accept the message of salvation. Perhaps we have underestimated or even misunderstood this deep need within body, soul and spirit? Every page of the Gospel is replete with Jesus’ healing power and activity. He did refer to himself as the “divine physician,” did he not? (*Luke 4:23*). Healing is almost a primordial act for Jesus.

The method is community

As you know, “most of life depends on the company we keep.” Good friends are indispensable. *Psalm 1* says as much. And this holds true for Jesus’ disciples.

Jesus gathers the “twelve.” Symbolic of Israel, no doubt, but also – I imagine – symbolic of those ordained. Priests need good company.

Jesus gathers the “seventy-two.” Symbolic of the Gentile nations, no doubt, but also – I imagine – symbolic of the baptised. People need good company.

We are called to spread the Gospel with others *in* and *through* our community life together.

It is striking – don’t you think – to observe Jesus sending out the disciples “two-by-two.” They walk and talk together; they “labour” and “proclaim” together; they eat together; they rejoice together; they grieve together; they rest together. There is strength in numbers.

So, here we are in the *21st Century*, with God *calling* us and *commissioning* us to go out “two-by-two.”

Because we are living, according to Pope Francis, “not in an era of change, but in a change of era,” it is a very exciting time.

Because we are doing this together, it is a very enjoyable time.

Amen.



Worshippers don hard hats for first mass since devastating fire

The Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris hosted its first mass on Saturday exactly two months after a devastating blaze that shocked the world, with priests and worshippers wearing hard hats to protect themselves against possible falling debris.

The service was celebrated by Paris Archbishop Michel Aupetit in a chapel behind the choir, a place confirmed by construction experts as safe.

For security reasons, only about 30 people – mainly priests, canons and church employees – were admitted inside the cathedral for the service, while Aupetit and others wore construction workers' helmets. Some of the workers rebuilding

the church were also invited.

The date was chosen as it is the anniversary of the consecration of the cathedral's altar, which is celebrated every year on June 16.

The date is "highly significant, spiritually", cathedral rector Patrick Chauvet told AFP, adding he was happy to be able to show that "Notre-Dame is truly alive".

Other worshippers could watch the mass live on a Catholic TV station. The video showed some burnt wood still in the church but a famous statue of the Virgin and Child appeared intact behind wooden construction planks.

It is still unclear when the cathedral will reopen to the public.



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Genuine human encounter in our digital world

Social Justice Sunday this year falls on 29 September. The Office for Social Justice and the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council are preparing for the launch in September of the Australia Catholic Bishops’ Social Justice Statement for 2019–2020.

by John Ferguson Director Office for Social Justice, ACBC

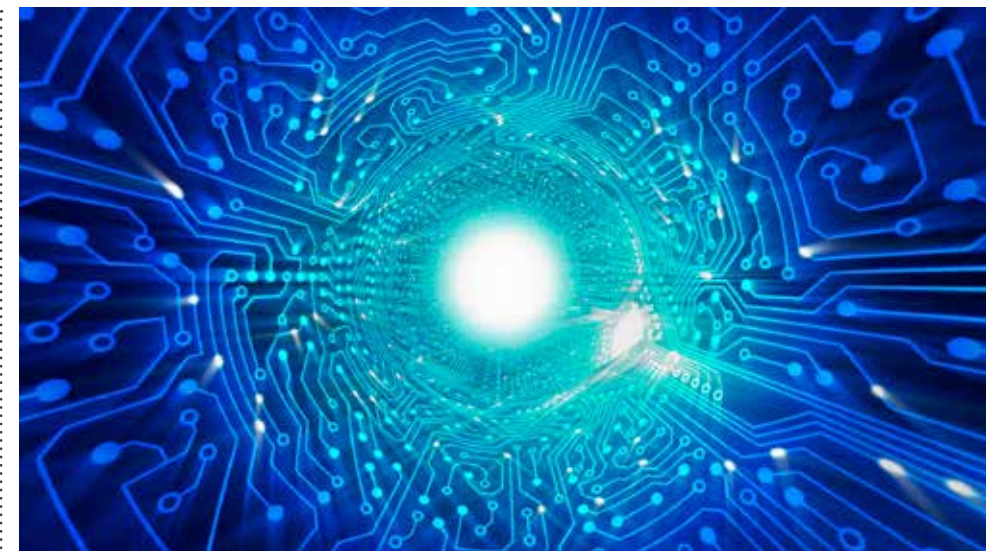
This year’s Statement is titled *Making it Real – Genuine human encounter in our digital world*. It affirms the positive possibilities for encounter and solidarity offered by new digital media, while warning of those elements of our digital world that may be harmful.

Some of the key challenges include information overload; social isolation; the objectification and marginalisation of the vulnerable; consumerism and fake news.

The Statement reminds us that the new digital media cannot be seen as neutral or ‘unaffected by any moral

considerations’. While many users do not realise it, the core business of social media platforms is to sell advertising and maximise profits. People’s personal lives may be reduced to data that is traded for profit or power, and it is used to target and influence us in ways previously unthinkable. Pushing users to more extreme positions and promoting fake news and conspiracy theories sells, but this is at odds with human solidarity.

The Statement amplifies Pope Francis’ call to us to ‘boldly become citizens of the digital world’, with the image of the Good Samaritan as our inspiration.



We are called not only to love our neighbour, but to bring the love of God to the new global neighbourhood. The Statement points out that we are called not just to be inhabitants of this new digital world, but active citizens shaping it.

All of us – whether we are users, communities, industrial or political leaders – have a role to play in rejecting hatred, divisions and falsehoods. We have a duty to foster a neighbourhood that promotes those human attributes and social values that lend themselves to genuine human encounter – love, understanding, beauty, goodness, truth

and trustworthiness, joy and hope.

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Mater Dei College Open Girls AFL team crowned state champions

The inaugural Open Girls School of Excellence Cup was held in Canberra on Tuesday 9th July. Due to the school holidays many of the regular players were unavailable so the juniors stepped up. Coach, Nathan Irvine said "We wouldn't have taken them if we didn't

think they could handle it. We had some training sessions and they didn't give us any reason to believe they wouldn't."

And step up they did, as the team won the state title on Manuka Oval in Canberra. **What an amazing achievement!**





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continued from page 3...

Basilica, rises – calling us to allow Easter to rise from the graveyard of our lives as we witness to him who is “the first-born from the dead” (Col 1:18). “Death is the mother of beauty; hence from her/Alone shall come fulfilment to our dreams/And our desires”: so says the poet Wallace Stevens.

This is certainly true of John the Baptist whose birth we remember today. Like Jesus, like Peter and like us, John was born to die – but in order to give witness to the One who is life, he who is “the dawn from on high”, giving “light to those in darkness and the shadow of death” and who will “guide us into the way of peace”, the way of Easter. John’s birth was a cause of great joy, born as he was against all the odds. But his death, like Peter’s, must have seemed deeply tragic – no less so than the death of Jesus himself. Yet each of these deaths was a triumph, and that’s what this triumphant building proclaims – the second joy beyond the tragic, the deep, quiet joy that is triumphant without ever daring to be triumphalist.

For all the times I walked through St Peter’s on the way to work, I never grew used to this great church with its many layers. Every time it had on me the same effect that Hagia Sophia had on me the one time I entered it. It both awed me and

embraced me. With its grandeur, St Peter’s makes you feel small; yet in a strange way you feel anything but insignificant. You feel both very small and very grand – like the little child of whom Zechariah foretells a great future.

The building leaves you in awe, feeling tiny – evoking as it does the majesty of God. But it also makes you feel very grand, makes your spirit expand – embodying also the divine condescension, the tenderness of God who, for all the divine majesty, stoops down to embrace us and make us his own. Peter and John must often have felt that way: small but grand because swept up into the majesty of God-with-us, the triumph of Easter, the joy beyond the vast sorrow.

In Australia this is a time surely when, beyond all the sorrows, we as bishops have to discover anew how small we are and yet how grand is the design into which we have been drawn by the call of God and his commissioning beyond our betrayals. It is a time for humiliation to give birth to humility. May the Galilean fisherman, the unlikely Princeps apostolorum at whose tomb we pray, be our companion and guide on the journey which for him is now finished but which for us continues still, as we prepare the way of the Lord. Amen.

The Spirit Gives Life
JOHN 6:63

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 31, 2019**

PRESENTERS



SALLY NEAVES is the Eco-Education Coordinator at Rahamim Ecology Centre, Bathurst NSW, an environmental education spirituality and advocacy ministry of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea. Her work involves designing Earth literacy programs and contemplative practices for reconnection with Earth and imaginative action for our times. Her background includes qualifications in ecological theology, philosophy, spirituality and permaculture.



MARGIE ABBOTT RSM is based in Geelong. With experiences in education, spirituality, theology, and counselling, as well as psychodrama, Margie values highly inner independence and capacity development. She integrates action methods, myth, creation centred spirituality and ritual to enhance her work. Through her private practice, “Igniting Sparks” she works extensively with school systems, leadership teams, retreats and eco spirituality.

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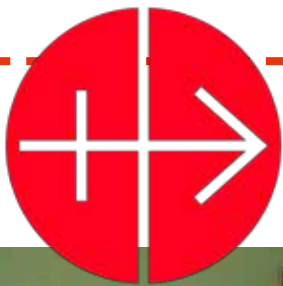
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Featured projects in July

- Ongoing Formation session for Priests in the Diocese of Bouar
- A new church for the Catholics of Camela
- Help for the formation of 13 novices of the congregation of the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara

Central African Republic

Thank you for supporting an ongoing formation session for priests in the diocese of Bouar.

Thanks to the help of our benefactors, we were able to contribute AUD \$4,800 to enable 40 diocesan and religious priests to attend an ongoing formation session in the diocese of Bouar. Given that the country is suffering such violence and extreme problems, it is especially important to support and strengthen the priests, since they are often the only ones who can really help their people not to lose hope.

The formation programme included such important pastoral issues as marriage preparation and how to deal with irregular marriage situations and, more generally, the appropriate formation for the Sacraments, adult baptisms and the role of catechists in the small and remote rural villages. At the same time the priests were able to reflect on their own vocation and the importance of the priesthood, while additionally receiving training in a range of practical matters, such as

bookkeeping, general administration and record-keeping – all matters that are essential and obligatory in every parish and institution but for which many priests are often inadequately prepared when required to take over a ministry which demands such skills.

The priests of the diocese all benefited greatly from these days of exchange and ongoing formation and wish to express their gratitude to all our generous benefactors who made this meeting possible.

Sadly, however, immediately after these beautiful and encouraging days, there was a terrible and tragic incident. 47-year-old Capuchin Father Toussaint Zoumalde, who had so recently given a talk on the priesthood and the vocation of the priest, was murdered on his way home from the meeting. This priest, who himself came originally from the diocese of Bouar, but was currently serving as Provincial Superior of his order in Chad, had been planning to spend the night in Ngaoundere, in Cameroon, on his way home, when he was stabbed to death by unknown



Ongoing formation for diocesan priests of the diocese of Bouar.
Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

assailants. He was a highly learned priest who had studied in Rome and himself been involved in the work of priestly formation. Friends and colleagues described him as a fine and multitalented individual with a profound soul and a great love of the Church and the priesthood in particular. A songwriter and poet, he had a wonderful manner with young people, to whom he brought the Gospel message, and he had previously been responsible for the Catholic radio station in Bouar. In Chad, in addition to his many other activities, he was the head of a cultural museum of the Mboum ethnic group. In their obituary for him the Capuchin Fathers wrote: „In killing him on the night of 19 March, the cowardly hand of his murderer knew nothing of the beauty and elegance of Brother Toussaint, this priest who was so rich in the fine qualities of the Gospel and the beauty of the priestly order.“

So it was, that just a few days after meeting with their fellow priests in Bouar, at which Father Toussaint had given his confreres such inspiring and profound reflections on the priesthood, his mortal remains were carried to their burial by his brother priests, amid great mourning among all the people and the entire Church in the diocese. The words he had spoken at this meeting of the priests have thus become his lasting legacy.

Brazil

A new parish church for the Catholics of Camela

The town of Camela has a population of around 30,000 souls and lies in the midst of the vast sugarcane plantations in the northeast of Brazil. The life of the people here is marked by great poverty and grave social problems, with widespread violence and drug addiction and an invasion by fundamentalist sects. Today there are no fewer than 75 different temples of these sects in the town, while the Catholic Church has just one, far too small parish church and a chapel in the cemetery.

Moreover, the parish church is sandwiched between a store and a supermarket, and there is consequently no possibility of extending or enlarging it. Sunday Mass is now celebrated on the local sports ground instead, since there is not enough space inside the church for all the faithful.

Father Laion Fernando Gonçalves dos Santos Ferreira works very hard among his people, together with three lay missionaries, and is providing an excellent and fruitful pastoral ministry among them.

The parish has now been given a plot of land on which to build a new parish church. And they need our help... ACN is proposing to offer AUD \$57,000 to support the project. Will you help us?

continued on page 11...



Group photo of the priests with Bishop Miroslaw Gucwa.
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Updates from Father Stephen

On Sunday the 30th of June 19 children from the parish of St Mary's Finley made their First Holy Communion. The parish administrator, Fr Stephen Onyekwere presided over the Mass and St Mary's was filled with the communicants, their families and friends. The children have been working towards this goal

all term after making their First Reconciliation on the 4th of June. At the Mass Fr. Stephen urged parents and guardians to be true to their role as the first teachers of their children in the faith; leading by example. After Mass the children, their families and parishioners enjoyed a delicious morning tea in the St Joseph's School library.



St. Peter's parish Tocumwal, celebrated the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, apostles on Saturday June 29th 2019.

It was the first formal celebration of the patronal saint, in what the parish administrator Fr. Stephen Onyekwere and parishioners hope would be an annual event.

The events leading up to the feast day began on Thursday 27th June with Mass of the saint for the parish school children and their families. The sumptuous morning tea that followed was colored by lots of entertainment from the school children, including drama of the apostles in the boat with Jesus, singing reflecting St. Peter's ministry and recitation.

With the unprecedented storm that disrupted power and caused a total

blackout in the town, the Feastday activities were moved to the afternoon of Sunday 30th. In a spirit of love and unity, parishioners and friends came together in numbers to mark the day and share an afternoon of delicious lunch and warm picnic sitting out in the soothing winter sun shine.



Fr. Stephen, who used the occasion to remember his one year in the parish, thanked parishioners for their love of God, their friendship and their support for the parish. Among the guests were Fr. Stephen's family from Wagga Wagga, Dr. Livinus Emebiri and family.



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Australian aid must put climate change at the forefront of development

As the United Kingdom pursues a development policy which puts the climate emergency and environmental protection at the heart of overseas aid, Caritas Australia urges the Australian Government to also reflect the urgent threats as well as the regional opportunities for leadership, which climate change calls for in our own region.

Caritas Australia is the Catholic Church's aid and development agency and part of one of the largest humanitarian networks in the world.

The Catholic bishops of Oceania have joined a call by six presidents of continental bishops' conferences to take urgent action to tackle the climate change crisis. Their voices echo the insistent calls by Pope Francis to overcome global warming, which was highlighted at the recent Caritas Internationalis General Assembly in Rome.

'Every day our people are suffering from the negative — indeed sometimes disastrous — effects of global warming,' the Oceania bishops have said.

Last year, Caritas Australia once again joined with Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, Caritas Papua New Guinea, Caritas Samoa and Caritas Tonga to publish the annual Caritas State of the Environment Report for Oceania. Evidence continues to flow from communities that climate change is here and now in the Pacific — endangering homes, cemeteries and even hospitals.

Caritas Australia's Director of Advocacy, Nic Nelson, expressed his concern that the Australian Government's failure to apportion a more deliberate response to climate change in its foreign aid budget, was also an example of missed economic opportunity.

"In Indonesia for example, our



Kuzviritiria community garden - Photo by Ivy Khoury and Caritas Australia

support of local eco-tourism has revived communities with self-sustaining employment opportunities and preserved local rainforests from being felled for wood. Coral eco-tourism in the Pacific is also a thriving industry as are the communities who benefit from solar power and sustainable farming investment in Kenya and Zimbabwe," Mr Nelson said.

"Australia is looked upon as a leader in its region so it's time that we took the wider view in our relationships with our regional neighbours, by offering a comprehensive aid policy that also puts climate change and environmental protection at the heart of our aid

program."

Caritas Australia is offering its own vision of regional economic leadership, tackling the challenges of climate and environmental change in our region, through its Generation Earth campaign. Find out more at genearth.org.au

If you would like to donate to Caritas Australia call 1800 024 413 or by visiting www.caritas.org.au



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NAIDOC Day at Edel Quinn

Edel Quinn in Wagga Wagga was so lucky to have the support of many local services, the local Police and clients to its NAIDOC Day lunch.

Special thanks to Aunty Fay for giving the beautiful Welcome to Country, and to some of the residents who played the biggest part in

making this day happen.

We are so lucky to have such wonderful support from the community as we acknowledge the traditional owners of this beautiful land.

If you want to find out more about how you can donate to Edel Quinn, please don't hesitate to call the Service on (02) 5942 3555



The Sacred Heart Parish Festa Griffith

Our Parish Priest, Father Grace along with his Parish Festa Team, would like to invite you and your family to come for a truly great day of faith and family fun. Be sure to lock in Sunday, 28 July on your calendar!

We call our parish celebration, commemorating the Feast of Sacred Heart, our Parish Festa. It coincides with the 3rd anniversary of the opening of our Perpetual Adoration Chapel and the anniversary of our parish establishment. We normally try to have our Parish Festa very close to the Feast of Sacred Heart, in early July, but this year our honoured guest isn't available until late July.

Since we are currently waiting for a new bishop, this year we are delighted to have Bishop Michael Kennedy, Armidale Diocese. This will be a very special day for us since Bishop Kennedy was Assistant Priest in our parish from 1999 - 2000. He is the second bishop to come from our parish as Assistant Priest, the first one being Archbishop Francis Carroll.

Father O'Dea, an Irish Missionary Priest, established our parish in 1921. It is our 98th anniversary this year. In 2021, it will be our centenary. With

the calibre of guests of honour to date (Bishop Hanna, Bishop Columba, Archbishop Carroll, Cardinal Mafi), we are putting pressure on ourselves to attain a VIP guest, par excellence, for our 100th Anniversary. Recently, one of our parishioners, Bruno Guidolin, was granted a papal audience due to his passionate promotion of the Italian Saint Pius X, across Australia. On our behalf, he gave a letter of invitation to Pope Francis, along with a picture of our Sacred Heart Church and Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Bruno had a delightful time talking with the Pope, especially inviting him to our Parish 100th Anniversary in 2021.

The Pope took great interest in their conversation and the special centenary invitation. Bruno was interviewed on the ABC and shared his story. We are hoping and praying for a miracle! Given our migrant heritage of Griffith and the Pope's migrant background in Argentina; and being "a pope of



surprises", he might consider taking up our invitation. So, stay tuned and get ready to book tickets for our Festa in 2021!

Sr Maybelle, M.A.C.E. Sister, approached me with the inspiration, given that Pope Francis is a champion for the marginalized, to invite 98 people who couldn't otherwise attend. I thought it was a marvellous idea, so we've asked the Legion of Mary and St Vincent De Paul Conference to help invite our special guests. We want them to feel part of our parish community. In total, we hope to have 350 guests.

We will have a 9 day Novena of Masses prior to our Festa day.

On the Festa day, Sunday 28 July:
10:30am

Pontifical Mass with Bishop Kennedy
11:30am

Eucharistic Street Procession

12:30 pm

Festa Lunch at Father O'Dea Hall
The Parish Festa is our major fundraiser, together with our Fete in November. Major raffle prizes total \$3,750 at \$2. Lunch: \$30: Adults, \$15: 17 under, FREE: 5 under, \$80: Family of 6 or more. 50 continuous raffles prizes. Entertainment by Italian and Children Choirs.

A note of gratitude to our 2019 parish sponsors, Tiziano & Joan Forlico and our major sponsor, Casella Family Brands, whose support over the years, I would like to acknowledge with deep gratitude.

If anyone can't make it to Griffith to buy a ticket prior to the Festa, please contact Anna Rossetto, at our parish office, no later than Tuesday, 23 July on 6962 1533, so you can reserve your tickets. Hope to see you at the Festa!



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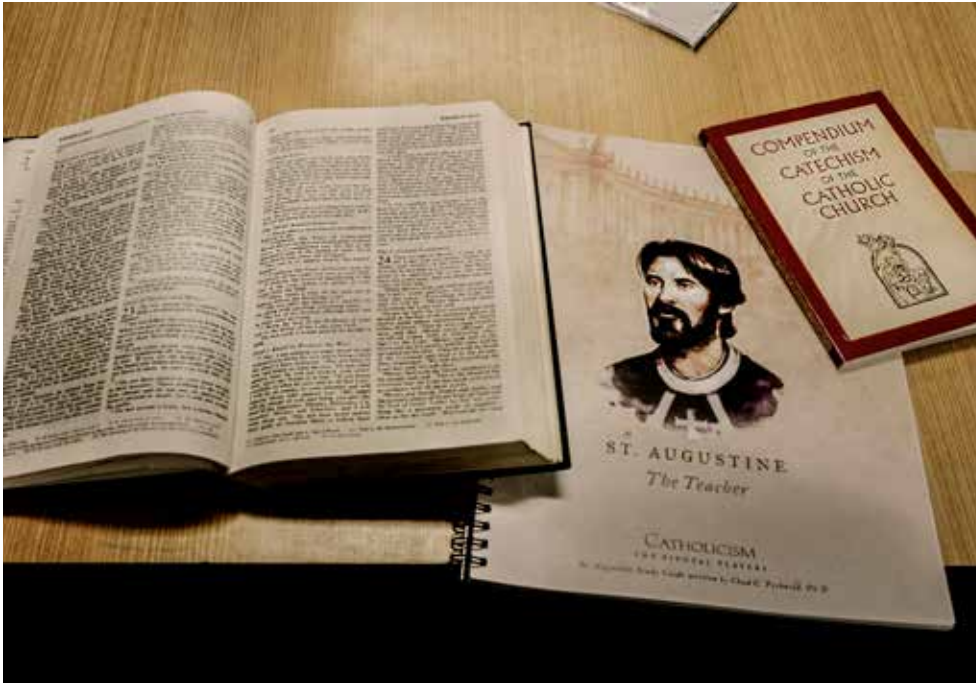
Pivotal Players well attended

For five consecutive Tuesday evenings, over thirty-five people came together to participate in the recent Pivotal Players course facilitated at St Michael’s cathedral parish centre.

by Fr Reece Beltrame

Two “giants” of western civilisation - St Augustine and St Benedict were brought to life as Bishop Barron explained their impact on the world, brought us to the places where they lived and taught us what they taught. The videos were then supplemented by small group studies using the course workbooks that interacted with Sacred Scripture and the catechism of the Catholic church.

The Feedback was overwhelmingly positive with one participant stating: *“It has filled the gaps that I didn’t know about the lives of both saints and how they contributed to the spread of Catholicism. It has made me think more about our faith and how “lucky” one is to be Catholic.”* Seeing as though this series was so well received, I look forward to hosting a similar adult faith formation program in the near future.



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St Mary Mackillop College's Fundraising Gala Dinner

It is with extreme excitement that The Infant of Prague Fundraising Committee announces The Annual St Mary Mackillop College's Fundraising Gala Dinner.

The Gala Dinner is a black tie event raising funds for Saint Mary MacKillop Colleges, an independent Catholic school located in Wagga Wagga NSW. Saint Mary Mackillop Colleges strives for excellence in Christ-centred education and, in addition to a focus on virtue-based formation, features an immersion in classical Western culture. The gala dinner itself features a two course meal and drink on arrival at the picturesque

Magpie's Nest Restaurant, live music during dinner and a silent auction.
On Saturday 14 September 2019 at 6:30pm
Magpies Nest Restaurant
20 Pine Gully Road
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Ticket sales for this year are now open! We look forward to another wonderful event. Our try booking page url is: <https://www.trybooking.com/522715>
Get in early to avoid disappointment!
Any enquiries can come to the committee email: fundraising@stmarymackillop.nsw.edu.au or call Emily Shaw on 0400 524 190



Formation Day at Sacred Heart Church Koorringal

The Passionist Family Group Movement (PFGM), leaders and members, were inspired by Fr Brian Traynor's talk when he visited the Wagga Diocese in mid June. The subject of his talk and presentation was *Belonging*.
When we hear or read the activities recorded in the gospels, it is clear that Jesus was continually surrounded by people. There is mention of over forty meals that Jesus shared with others. Sharing a meal in his culture was the

ultimate sign of belonging.
Fr Brian reminded those gathered where St Paul took the Christian message "many small groups formed to create a sense of belonging."
Belonging - an aim of the PFGM.
The Sacred Heart Parish Koorringal is a parish where the aims of the movement are practised. It is warm and open; people are welcomed and given the opportunity to meet the other parishioners and given a sense of belonging.



Front row: Mary Morris, Betty Pearce, Kay and Brian Walker, John Evans, Maryanne and Barry Loughlin.
Back row: Dennis Morris, Margaret and Ron McAuliffe, Fr Brian Traynor CP.
Absent Janet and Paul Moriarty and Tom and Marian Pitura

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Join the conversation: Faith, Hope and Love: Theological Virtues for Today

The Rev. Prof. Tony Kelly CSsR will join other leading academics and experts to present a Short Course on *‘Faith, Hope and Love: Theological Virtues for Today’* at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) Canberra Campus from 29 July.

ACU’s Short Courses deliver the opportunity to explore Christian faith and theology without committing to a full degree.

Individuals teaching religious education or working in a Catholic school have the opportunity to gain accreditation towards their professional development.

Senior Lecturer in Theology at ACU Dr Joel Hodge said the University had chosen to focus on what it fundamentally means to be Christian with this series of lectures.

“To be Christian means to live with faith, hope and love – to have faith and

hope in God’s love for us in Jesus, and to live that love out in the world. This is an important message at a time of difficulty for the Church in Australia,” said Dr Hodge.

“This short course is meant to re-focus our attention on the fundamentals of Christian faith, especially in the lead-up to the Plenary Council, and encourage us to ask: how can Catholics/Christians live today with faith, hope and love? What does it mean to do so in our context?”

Leading scholars and experts who will present at the Canberra short course will include Dr Ian Elmer (ACU), Dr Damien

Casey (ACU), Dr Jo Laffin (ACU) and Rev. Prof. Tony Kelly (ACU).

Topics that will be explored include biblical foundations of the theological virtues; faith, hope and love as theological virtues; faith, hope and love in church history; and faith, hope and love for Christians today.

This course is approved for eight hours towards maintaining accreditation to teach religious education in Catholic schools (Canberra and Goulburn).

Course details

Event: Faith, Hope and Love: Theological Virtues for Today

Venue: ACU Canberra Campus, Blackfriars Building, 223 Antill Street, Watson

Date: Mondays 29 July and 5, 12, 19 August, 6-8pm

Cost: Cost including a Certificate of Participation is \$100; attendance only is \$50



Position Vacant: Diocesan Director

- This is a re-advertised position
- Part-time position, two days per week (not necessarily based in Wagga)
- Be part of a highly experienced national and diocesan team.
- 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.

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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.

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MOUNT ERIN HERITAGE CENTRE

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

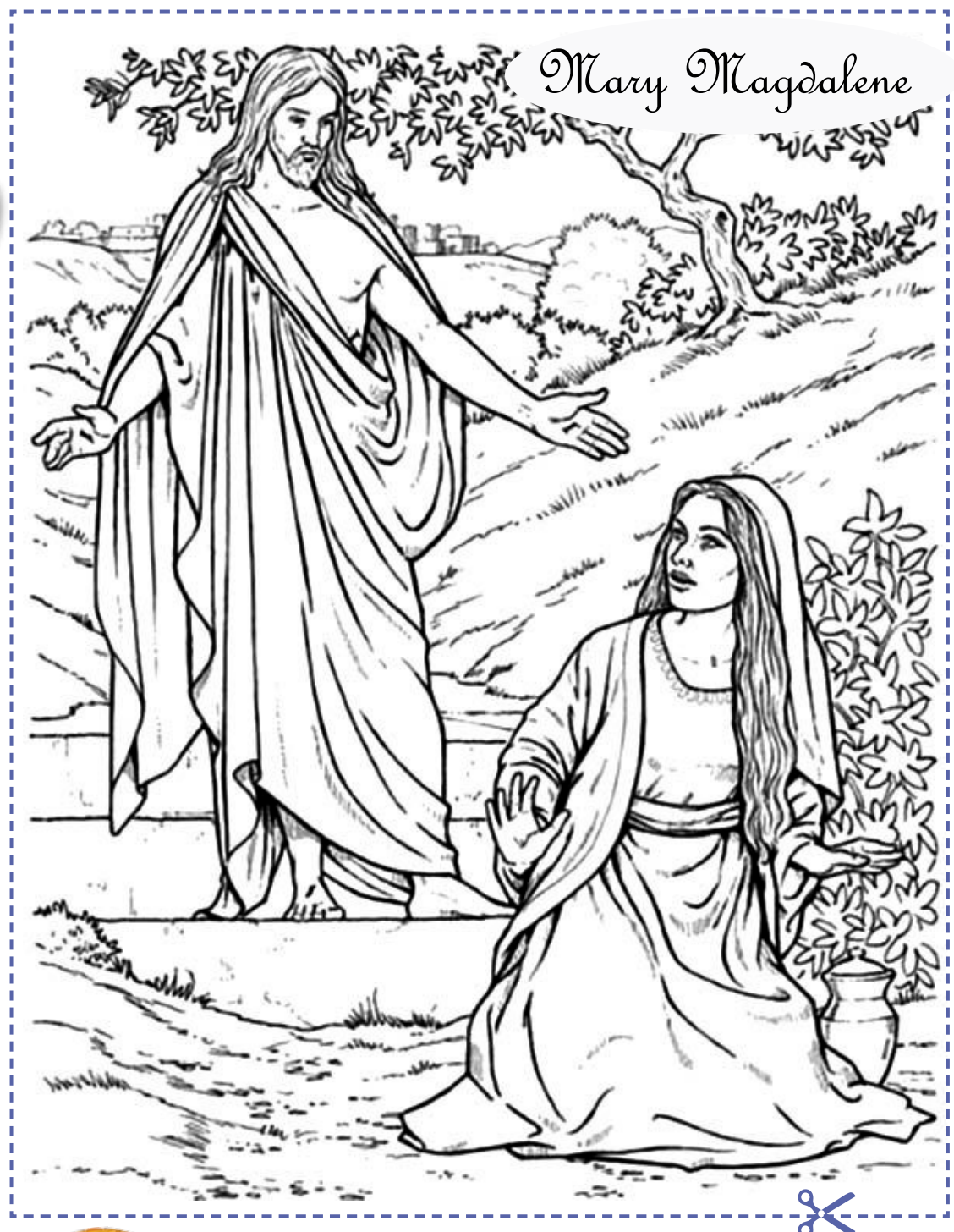
Parking: Please use Mt Erin Boarding School entrance or Kildare Ave entrance.



KIDS corner

SAINTS FUN FACTS by John Sheppard

St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi was born in Florence in 1566. She was taught mental prayer at the request of her mother. She entered the Carmelite Order at the Monastery of St. Mary. She had a personal relationship with Jesus and had many conversations with Him. Her wisdom and love led to her appointment to many important positions, including mistress of novices.



Jokes...



What key do you use to open a banana?
Answer: A monkey.

What vegetables are sailor's enemies?
Answer: Leeks

Knock, knock
Who's there? Lettuce! Lettuce who?
Lettuce in and you'll find out!

What's brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?
Answer: A coconut on vacation!

What school subject is the fruitiest?
Answer: History because it is full of dates!

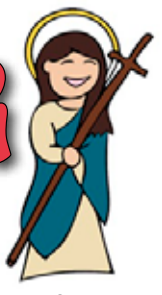
Send your coloured picture, word search or joke ideas with your name, age and school to:

Together Editor
PO Box 473
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

We'd love to hear from you!



JULY SAINTS & FEAST DAYS Word Search



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

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

- Junipero Serra
- Elizabeth of Portugal
- Maria** Goretti
- Augustine **Zhao** Rong
- Benedict**
- Henry**
- Kateri** Tekakwitha
- Bonaventure**
- Our Lady of **Mount Carmel**
- Apollinarius**
- Lawrence** of Brindisi
- Mary **Magdalene**
- Bridget**
- James**
- Joachim** and **Anne**
- Martha**
- Peter** Chrysologus

Creative Kids

Fantastic colouring in effort of Saint Barnabas by Pheobe Egginton in Wagga Wagga. Thank you!



Keep sending in your beautiful creations!

Uniting the Youth of the Diocese

May the 31st on the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, saw the youth of the diocese hit the road for a trip to Griffith for the first Chosen Rally of the year.

by Christopher Gilroy - Youth Worker for the Wagga Wagga Diocese

Buses departed Albury, Wagga, Narrandera and Leeton in the early afternoon transporting 100 enthusiastic teens for a night of Christ centred fellowship, fun and food! Griffith knows how to cook up a storm with many young people going nuts over the homemade doughnuts.

A group of volunteers spent the day preparing the hall at Sacred Heart Parish with cool lighting and sound systems, groovy hang out spaces and plenty of things for the young people to do with our miniature 5 pin bowling lane and giant jenga competition. Albury made the most noise when we roll called for the town shout outs and the opening entertainment games run by our MC's Christopher and Kim had young people leaning on their seats in our guys vs girls competition. The Chosen band had the young people off their seats, having fun and making new friends.

Our opening talk was presented by our Youth Chaplain Fr. Sean Byrnes who spoke on our theme of "Trusting God when it hurts". Fr Sean spoke passionately, drawing on the Gospel message of the Cross, assuring us that Jesus is with us in our suffering. Following Fr. Sean's talk, Mary Santiago-Faustino, a 21 year old wife and mother of one gave a touching testimony on her experience with pain and how Christ has helped her carry her cross. She gave the encouraging message of C.A.R.E to the young people:

- Confession
- Adoration
- Rosary
- Eucharist

Our crowd favourite panel discussion followed, where young people texted in a broad range of questions about the faith, the talks from the night or dropping the odd comment on one of the MC's cool socks. The panel consisted of Fr Sean Byrnes, Mary Santiago-Faustino and Sean Beecher (Sean

is a nurse and coordinator of the Griffith C Group) who shared their experiences and articulated the Church's teachings. The evening concluded with a Eucharistic procession from the hall into the Church with a reverent display of worship. Fr Andrew Grace led the Eucharistic procession under a canopy held high by the servers, with candle bearers and incense. The youth followed Our Lord singing beautiful hymns in English and Latin and observed half an hour of Adoration in the church, followed by benediction. This gave the youth an opportunity to take everything they heard and learnt to prayer, to intercede for each other, their youth groups and for the youth of Griffith, to go to confession and to sing hymns of praise to a God who carries them. It was an extraordinary experience to witness 100 young people looking toward their Saviour, some who experienced healing and council, others who learnt that Our Lord loves them and wants us to be in Communion with Him, some who were experiencing adoration for the first time and young people who were turning back to confession.

At the 9pm conclusion of the Rally, we said our goodbyes and "see you at the next Rally!" The Parish of Griffith and it's Chosen C Group were left feeling encouraged and the young people boarded the buses for a fun road trip back.

The Rally accomplished what it set out to do by pointing people to Jesus and bringing young people of faith together, to be encouraged by each other and form new friendships.

“For where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”
Matthew 18:20

Youth Ministry

WHAT'S ON IN JULY FOR CHOSEN YOUTH C GROUPS

WAGGA (St Michael's Cathedral)
14th July: Topic Night 6:30-8:30pm
28th July: Scripture Night 6:30-8:30pm
ALBURY (St Patrick's Parish)
7th July: Fun Night 6:30-8:30pm
21st July: Series Night 6:30-8:30pm
NARRANDERA (St Mel's Parish)
20th July: Scripture Night
LEETON (St Joseph's Parish)
July 20th: Fun Night
GRIFFITH (Sacred Heart Parish)
July 20th: Q&A Night

DIOCESEN EVENTS

CHOSEN RALLY (ALBURY)
9th August
6-9pm
St Patrick's Catholic Church Hall
For people in highschool and young adults
Free event
Over 100 young people from around the diocese.

CHOSEN RALLY

Albury

"Faith to move mountains"

AUGUST 9
6-9PM
ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HALL

FAITH, FUN, FRIENDS, FOOD, GUEST SPEAKERS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, ADORATION AND MORE

OVER 100 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM SCHOOLS AND PARISHES ACROSS THE DIOCESE AND BEYOND

The event is FREE!
visit us on social media:
Facebook: Chosen Youth **Instagram:** @chosenyouthaus
For more info contact:
Christopher Gilroy: 0429344123 or
youth.murray@wagga.catholic.org.au

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

St Joseph's Primary School, Leeton

Kindergarten Art Deco!
 The individuality of the students artwork at St Joseph's Primary in Leeton made all the pieces very special. The students' artwork was later projected onto Leeton's water towers during the Art Deco Festival and the actual artworks were also displayed.



Holy Spirit School, Lavington



The students at Holy Spirit School in Lavington had loads of fun celebrating NAIDOC Week with music, art, reading and ocre.



Holy Trinity Primary, West Wagga

The staff and students at Holy Trinity Primary School in West Wagga celebrated NAIDOC Week.



St Joseph's Primary, Finley

It's the most wonderful time of the year! In June, St Joseph's Primary in Finley was visited by many creatures great and small as they came to school for a blessing. A huge thank you to the parents, grandparents and friends for the big effort they made to bring their pet to school.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

St Michael's Primary, Coolamon



The Kindergarten students really enjoyed having Axle and Lola in their classroom recently. They made observations, took notes, listened to and read information text to help deepen their knowledge of rabbits. They learnt about a rabbits diet, their behaviours, habitats and interesting facts and have made up-close observations to describe what they look like.



St Joseph's Primary, Wagga Wagga



Congratulations to the members of St Joseph's Concert Band who showcased their talents in a special performance at St Mary's School Corowa. **The audience thoroughly enjoyed the brilliant music!**



Mater Dei Primary, Wagga Wagga

Year 1 students at Mater Dei Primary School in Wagga Wagga recently participated in a dress up History Day.



St Joseph's Primary School, Jerilderie

Come in and see the veggie garden the students at St Joseph's Primary have been growing. The students have also made a great scarecrow. There is heaps of broccoli currently available too.



Sacred Heart Primary, Wagga Wagga

Over \$600 was raised by the Stage 2 Cake Stall at Sacred Heart Primary School. With the money, students were able to buy some woollen quilts for some needy local families. **Well done!**



Call to help combat modern day slavery

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) has launched its national fund-raising appeal in a bid to raise \$400,000 to continue its work fighting human trafficking and modern slavery.

ACRATH now relies entirely on donations after last year losing its \$125,000 a year grant from the Federal Government. ACRATH’s Executive Officer Christine Carolan said the community’s generosity in the past year had ensured ACRATH’s raft of programs to combat modern day slavery and forced marriage had continued.

“In the past year with community donations we have been able to achieve a great deal,” Ms Carolan said. “We have worked closely with the community and government, health, education and civic leaders to bring about systemic change and prevent human trafficking and slavery.”

ACRATH achievements

Donor support has made a huge difference in the past year. Some significant achievements include:

Several young women facing a forced marriage were able to seek support from front-line responders (teachers and health workers) who were trained by ACRATH. These workers were able to follow the referral and support pathway that includes Australian Federal Police. In the past 18 months 956 front-line responders across

“Major health agencies and institutions are better able to respond to the Modern Slavery Act because ACRATH is training key people.”

Australia have received training from an ACRATH presenter at one of 19 sessions.

Schools and Catholic institutions across Australia are transitioning to slavery-free staffrooms with ACRATH support and resources. A resource kit, Slavery proofing your staffroom, developed in partnership with Catholic Education Melbourne and Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, is being developed for use by schools across the country later in 2019.

22 men from Vanuatu, forced into labour in Australia, who returned home penniless five years ago, are closer to receiving compensation because ACRATH volunteers have



advocated for their rights. In April the Fair Work Ombudsman made an application to the Federal Court for an enforcement hearing to be conducted in respect to the exploitative employer/contractor.

Women trafficked into sexual exploitation in Australia have a volunteer companion who supports them as they rebuild their lives. ACRATH set up the Companionship program 11 years ago and there are now seventeen ACRATH volunteers who work as companions, supporting 28 women and their 24 children.

St Vincent’s Health Australia, in partnership with ACRATH, is working to slavery-proof its supply chains across 28 sites. This work promotes the right to a just wage for the people who produce everything from cotton uniforms to rubber gloves.

Major health agencies and institutions are better able to respond to the Modern Slavery Act because ACRATH is training key people. First reports to the Federal Government are due by December 2020.

A Perth ACRATH office was opened this year, expanding the organisation’s capacity to support girls and women at risk of forced marriage.

ACRATH President Sr Noelene Simmons sm said there were great challenges ahead for the organisation as long as any person was enslaved.

“We have ACRATH volunteers working across the country, with almost 8000 hours of volunteer time donated, conservatively costed at \$240,000. Each of these people work because they believe that People are NOT for sale, and that’s been our tagline for more than a decade,” Sr Noelene said.

“While ACRATH works globally to ensure human trafficking is eliminated,

in Australia our focus is on supporting those who have experienced forced labour or who are at risk of, or have experienced, forced marriage, and raising awareness about the possible existence of slavery in the goods we purchase.”

Please make a donation to ACRATH today!

**Cheques payable to:
ACRATH Public Fund and posted to:
ACRATH National Office,
54 Beaconsfield Parade
Albert Park Vic 3206**

**Direct Deposit:
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
ACRATH Public Fund
BSB 063 111
Account number 10802141**

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

To find out more about the work of ACRATH go to www.acrath.org.au



ONE IN THREE VICTIMS ARE CHILDREN

The Lane girls of Lockhart

They are always in the front pews at Mass, they are very visible in the parish community, they are graceful, they are faithful, and there are five of them.

by Fr. Henry Ibe Administrator of St. Mary's Parish, Lockhart

They are the Lane Girls of St Mary's Lockhart: Irene Smyth (88), Pat French (85), Betty Quee (82), Brenda Sullivan (81), and Nola Webster (79). These holy women are siblings - five of the eight children of Daniel and Ina Lane of Lockhart. Their great grandfather arrived Australia from Ireland in the 1860s and settled at Benalla. Their grandfather, Tom Lane lived on a farm in Brookdale, while their father, Daniel Lane eventually moved to Lockhart where he raised his family with his Kiwi wife, Ina in Ferrier Street, Lockhart – across the road from the St Joseph's School/ The Presentation Sisters' Convent/St Mary's Catholic Church. Sometime ago, I decided to sit down with them over lunch to share in their reminiscences of life and faith.

Parents: Dan Lane was a Catholic but not a super-active one. He used to take his children to Church and get them to sit in the front rows while he stayed in the back. His wife, Ina was born in New Zealand and raised in the Church of England, but she so diligently raised up her eight children in the Catholic Church. She would always urge the girls to go across and help the nuns in the convent to clean the brass in the church, etc. She herself used to help wash the sacred linens. Fortunately, the ladies recalled, during their Children of Mary meetings in those days, one of the nuns used to make an intercession of "One Hail Mary for the Conversion of Mrs Lane". This prayer was answered very many years later when Ina was received into the Catholic Church towards the end of her life,

aged 94. On why she chose to become Catholic, she was emphatic that she wanted to be where her children were. At the time of her death Ina had 98 direct descendants.

Growing up: Dan and Ina had eight children in all: In addition to the five women already listed, there is Jim Lane (86) who lives in Wagga Wagga, Monica Edwards (who passed away at the age of 75), and Alan Lane (74) who lives in Canberra. Theirs was a happy childhood although they did not have much to spare. Alan, who joined us for lunch on the day of the interview, recalled how they ate a whole lot of rabbits for sustenance. Their dad used to set traps for rabbits to ensure a steady supply of meat for his family. They would skin the animals and sell the hide for an extra bit of income, while the excess meat was also sold for 6 Pence per rabbit. The family lived in a very small house that had little heating, and the sleeping arrangement meant three girls in one bed.

Faith: The women, who were all taught by the Presentation nuns at St. Joseph's, Lockhart, see the Catholic faith as a very strong influence that has shaped their entire lives and kept them close-knit all these years. Their commitment to the faith means they are still working in the Church. Notwithstanding the burdens of age, the Lane girls have continued to help in gathering the Sunday collections and helping to rearrange the altar and the sacristy after Mass, all with an infectious smile. Over the years, they have been involved with the Children of Mary, playing the guitar and singing in the choir, the Catholic



From left: Irene Smyth, Pat French, Betty Quee, Brenda Sullivan and Nola Webster

Women's League, and the banking of weekly collections.

Joys: There has been so much joy for them in life and so much to be grateful for. One such joys is the incredible fact that there has never been a "falling out" amongst the siblings, not even one. When I first spoke to Brenda about her relationship with her sisters, her response was: "People don't believe it, but we have never had a quarrel." This was corroborated by her husband of 61 "short" years, John Sullivan who considers himself blessed to be married into the Lane family. Having left home at 15 years of age, he felt like an adopted son of the wife's family. "When I met Brenda," he told me, "I was accepted in the family and her dad would always say 'put another leg of lamb on, John has just arrived.'" Confirming this too was Mac Webster, married to Nola for 56 years. He too feels blessed to have been part of the Lane family story. Coincidentally, both John and Mac were life-long bankers and both men met their wives while working in the bank. Ironically, however, bank johnnies, rugby players and Poms were not their dad's favourite choice for future sons-in-law, but he ended up, without regrets, with two bank johnnies, two rugby players, and a Pom as sons-in-law.

Sorrows: The most somber moment of the afternoon was when Brenda broke down in tears as she recounted the tragic death of her son, Steven who was hit by a car in 1983 at the age of 17. The expression of grief on her face and on that of John (her husband) clearly showed the devastation they have had to deal with even after 35 years. Nevertheless, she was very grateful for the role played by faith in their journey with grief. If not for their Catholic faith and the support of her family, she didn't think she would have pulled through the pain the way she did. John himself



Brenda and her husband, John Sullivan

had this to say about the tragedy: "You don't ever get over it, but with the help of the Lord you can find ways of dealing with it. You cannot get over it, but you learn to live with it. Sometimes I wonder whether the Lord is listening to me." Irene too had her own share of grief when her husband, Keith died in a tragic accident at the age of 53 in 1976, leaving her to raise their four children by herself.

All back in Lockhart: On how all five of them ended up back in Lockhart, it happened that Irene never left – she continued living in the family home. Betty returned in 2000 with her husband, Brian, when he had PTSD from an active service in the army and needed a lot of care, and Lockhart provided the best environment for that. Pat returned in 2006 after her husband, Ray's passing in 2003. Brenda and Nola both came back with their husbands to retire in Lockhart. And this has proved a great blessing to each of them – being able to continue their childhood together in the very same neighbourhood

continued on page 25...



The sisters with their brother, Alan Lane

Empowering student military veterans through higher education

It was during his tour of Afghanistan during 2015-2016 that Australian Army veteran Michael Addis decided he wanted to be a nurse.

by Georgina Bible - ACU Communications Officer (Mission)

Though the bases he was stationed at in Kandahar and Kabul were subject to shelling and rocket fire, Michael didn't fight on the front line against the Taliban forces. However, the 20 year-old saw the horror of war first hand in the hospitals and clinics where he worked as part of a security detail tasked with protecting coalition trainers.

It was while observing the trainers that he became inspired to pursue nursing as a profession on his return to Australia. After considering his options, Michael decided to enroll in a Bachelor of Nursing at Australian Catholic University (ACU) Brisbane Campus.

“In war, it’s the civilian population that really suffers. But watching how much the coalition trainers made a difference in the lives of the local population gave me the desire to want to help people,” said Michael.

“After I was discharged from the army, I started to look around at different universities in Brisbane. I finally chose ACU over other institutions because of its welcoming and inclusive culture.”

ACU is part of a network of Australian universities that work to support students who are also Australian

Defence Forces (ADF) veterans. The University has partnered with the Australian Student Veterans’ Association (ASVA) and several other Australian universities on a major national project to increase access to and support of younger military student veterans in higher education. The project builds on findings from previous research by La Trobe University’s Centre for Higher Education Equity and Diversity (CHEEDR) with the ASVA, which found that most student veterans were not identified within higher education institutions, and many felt marginalised and unsupported.

As part of its initiatives to support student veterans, ACU and the ASVA sponsored Michael to attend the 2019 US Student Veteran Association’s National Conference (NatCon) in Orlando, Florida. NatCon is the largest annual gathering of student veterans, advocates, thought-leaders, stakeholders, and supporters in higher education in the world.

Michael said that he planned to implement much of what he had learnt at the conference and that there were common experiences with the US



Australian Army veteran, Michael Addis

Student Veterans that transcended national boundaries.

“They described how they felt under prepared and isolated once commencing higher education. This is an issue I also experienced and seek to overcome for future Student Veterans at ACU,” said Michael.

Michael is now President of ACU’s Student Veterans chapter and ACU’s first Veteran Administration Officer, located within ACU Engagement Brisbane. In an initiative supported by Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement, Vice-President, Chief Operating Officer, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Education and Innovation, Michael is working with Kimberley Fort in the ACU Engagement team to develop and implement a comprehensive program to support student veterans at ACU.

“I hope the program can offer a range of benefits alleviating transitional issues for veterans within higher education,” said Michael.

“The goal is for more veterans to enjoy success at university.”



Australian Bishops visit ACU Rome Campus during their Ad Limina pilgrimage

Australia’s Catholic Bishops were welcomed to the ACU Rome Campus this week during their Ad Limina Apostolorum visit to the Holy See.

The Ad Limina visit usually occurs every five years, however it has been eight years since the Australian Bishops have attended due to the change of Pope in 2013, and the Year of Mercy from late 2015 to 2016.

The visit of Australia’s 38 active Bishops culminated in prayer and Mass at the tombs of Saints Peter and Paul, and included a meeting with Pope Francis to give him an update on the state of their dioceses.

ACU Vice Chancellor and President Professor Greg Craven and Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Pauline Nugent played host to the Bishops at the campus.

The group was invited to join the campus community for lunch before being shown around the facilities.

Professor Craven said that with all the Australian Bishops being in Rome together for the first time since the opening of the new campus, it was a good opportunity to showcase the work of the University in Rome.

“Located in the Janiculum Hill near Vatican City and other major cultural attractions, the Rome Campus brings ACU to the centre of the Catholic Church and plays an important role in driving our identity and Mission as a Catholic university while immersed in a city steeped in the living history and tradition of the Church,” said Professor Craven.

Professor Nugent said the Rome Campus offered unique opportunities

for study and research based on a shared commitment to Catholic teaching, the pursuit of academic excellence and a chance for staff and students to have international experiences.

“This enables ACU to build strategic relationships with Catholic

organisations and universities around the world, to build our teaching, learning, research and student exchange connections, as well as providing a forum for industry partners and to respond and provide value to others with shared values and strategic alignment,” said Professor Nugent



END-OF-LIFE CARE: A MULTI-FAITH CONVERSATION

Want to know more about how to care for the dying?

Join us for Q&A with speakers from various faith groups:
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander, Baha'I, Buddhism, Christianity,
Hinduism, Islam and the Quakers.

Date: 3rd August 2019

in conjunction with the Dying to Know Day 2019

Time: 2pm to 4pm

(registration opens from 1.30pm)

**Venue: Wagga Council Chamber Meeting Room
(next to the Wagga Wagga library)**

Cost: gold coin donation

To register online, please click here:

If you can't register online, please contact us with details below.

For RSVP/Enquires:

Email: potowastudygroup@gmail.com

Phone: 0431 820 663

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and harmony through
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**LOCKHART • EAST ALBURY
JINDERA
SPRINGDALE HEIGHTS**

continued from page 23...

they were raised and being able to serve in the same Church that nurtured them both spiritually and educationally.

No Whispering: On a lighter note, one other thing that three of the Lane girls have in common is their ear problems - each has one hearing difficulty or the other. But that has never been an issue as verified by the two surviving husbands – John and Mac. Nevertheless, they are grateful to God for the gift of each other and for all the other blessings he had bestowed on them.

Regrets: Their biggest ongoing regret is that their own children, like most post-Vatican children in the Western world, have not kept up the practice of the Catholic faith. Another regret is the fact that their beloved sister, Monica is not with them anymore. They miss her sorely.

One thing that struck me when I first arrived Lockhart was that as soon as you met any of the ladies in the church, she was enthusiastic to let you know that “there are five of us.” I had never met five adult sisters living in one parish before now, much less elderly ones like these. Therefore, it was a no-brainer that I had to do a bit of a story on this, in gratitude to God for the blessings that they have been



Nola and her husband, Mac Webster

to my parish community – a combined 415 years of love and Christian commitment. I always look out for them at every Sunday Mass – doing a silent headcount to be sure that all five are there. And whenever, that is not the case, I usually get a bit worried until I make sure that they all OK. **My prayer is that we may still have them all around here in Lockhart for a little bit longer. It's all in God's hands!**

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Diocese of Wagga Wagga -

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

Enquiries to the Tribunal Office at McAlroy House

PO Box 473 Wagga Wagga 2650

Phone: 6937 0017 Email: tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.au



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Mass times across our Diocese

Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

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

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

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

Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

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

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

Albury

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

Albury - North Albury

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

Albury - Lavington

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

Albury - Thurgoona

Immaculate Heart of Mary
Weekend Masses
Saturday - 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

Tumbarumba

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

Urana

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

Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

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

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



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

3 July 1991	Fr Owen Cosgriff
5 July 1963	Mgr William John O'Neill
14 July 1880	Fr Michael McAlroy
14 July 1964	Fr Arthur Hugh Percy
16 July 1900	Fr William Birmingham
17 July 1930	Fr Francis O'Looney
20 July 1979	Mgr Brian Boru Gallagher
21 July 1900	Fr Patrick Dunne
22 July 1998	Fr Albert Morgan Stanley
24 July 1932	Fr Daniel Griffin
24 July 2006	Fr John Francis McGee
31 July 2000	Fr Peter Quinn

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: July

7th July - Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Families teach a sense of togetherness and community.
It is in the family that we learn that we are dependent on one another and where we learn to work together and live together. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus sends out the 72 disciples in pairs, a sign that we are to work together to serve the mission of the Kingdom of God.
Talk about all the ways that your family works together. Talk about the various chores and tasks that family members work on together to accomplish in order to keep the household running smoothly.
Read aloud Luke 10:1-12,17-20. Talk about why it was important that Jesus sent his disciples out in pairs. Discuss ways that your family can work more closely together to support one another and to make the household run more smoothly. Pray for the strength to overcome the temptation to be too individualistic and to recognize the need for working together as a family.
Isaiah 66:10-14c Psalm 123:1-4
Galatians 6:14-18 Luke 10:1-12,17-20

14th July - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Families rely on selfless love. Parents show love for their children not just when it's convenient, but whenever their children's needs must be met. Imagine if the members of a family were concerned only with their own needs. How quickly things would fall apart!
In the story of the Good Samaritan, we learn about someone who went out of his way to care for the needs of another. He recognized the victim as his brother and accepted responsibility for him. As a family, talk about the responsibilities of each member of the family. Share how you, as parents, care for the needs of everyone in the family even when it's inconvenient. Ask your children to share times when they did chores and helped the family even when it was not convenient.
Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Luke 10:25-37. Talk about

how the Samaritan went out of his way to care for the needs of the victim. Make a commitment as a family to follow the example of the Good Samaritan. Explain that the more you learn to accept responsibility for each other's needs at home, the more you'll be able to accept responsibility for the needs of others in the world.
Deuteronomy 30:10-14 Psalm 69:14,17,30-31,36-37
Colossians 1:15-20 Luke 10:25-37

21st July - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
In our families and homes, we have boundaries. Some are geographical; we may have our own room or part of a room that we want others to stay out of. Parents may have home offices that are off-limits to children. Some boundaries are behavioral; children may speak one way to their friends, but they are not allowed to speak the same way to their parents or other adults. A Curfew is another type of boundary, whose purpose is to protect children's safety.
Talk about examples of boundaries in your family. For the most part, these boundaries are good. Talk about how sometimes we set up boundaries for the wrong reasons. For example, if we are angry with a sibling, we may draw a line and tell him or her to stay on his or her side. Explain that when we use boundaries to exclude others, we are being hurtful. Point out how in Jesus' time, some boundaries were used to unfairly exclude people. One example was from last week's Gospel: Samaritans. This Sunday's Gospel has another example: women. Talk about how the role of women has changed in your lifetime. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus breaks down a barrier that kept women from being disciples.
Read aloud Luke 10:38-42. Talk about how Martha is conditioned by the existing boundaries of her society, but how her sister, Mary, breaks through that boundary and becomes a disciple of Jesus. Talk about how you can work as a family to break down boundaries that separate people. Point out that

when we pray the Lord's Prayer, we call God "Our Father," meaning that we are all his children; no boundaries should separate us. Conclude this time together by praying the Lord's Prayer.
Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15:2-5
Colossians 1:24-28 Luke 10:38-42

28th July - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
When someone in our family is going through a hard time, we can't just sit by and watch. We try to do everything we can to let him or her know that he or she is not alone. Sometimes we even try to find a special gift for him or her—something that will help that person to understand how important he or she is to us. Talk about times in your family when this has happened.
Like a good father, God saw that his children needed help. He decided to offer his beloved children a special gift to reveal his love. What did God give us? Not a thing, but a person—the Father's beloved Son, Jesus. Jesus, in turn, taught us to approach God as we would approach a loving father. He gave us the words of a prayer that we call the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer.
Read aloud Luke 11:1-13. Talk about how Jesus teaches us to be persistent in prayer. Think of times when family members were persistent about something until they were able to achieve a goal or receive what they sought. Talk about what it means to be persistent in prayer. Help your children understand that prayer is not like sitting on Santa Claus's lap, asking for what we want until we get it. Emphasize that prayer is a way of striving to recognize how God is reaching out to us in love and responding by presenting him with our needs.
Conclude this time together by joining hands and praying the Lord's Prayer.
Genesis 18:20-32 Psalm 138:1-3,6-8
Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13



St Vincent de Paul Society *good works* Vinnies Community Sleepout



There are more than 116,000 Australians experiencing homelessness. Alarming, approximately 60,000 of these are under the age of 35, and more than 17,000 children under the age of 12 don't have a stable place to call home.



The face of homelessness in Australia has changed. Across New South Wales, the high cost of living, stagnant wages and unsteady jobs can push anyone into crisis. Many families living on the edge are only a few pay packets away from homelessness, and the majority of people experiencing homelessness are in the prime of their lives.

Your support is vital in helping us provide essential care and programs to those in our community who need it the

most.

Register or sponsor a participant to help us change lives.

Why we need your support

The human reality of homelessness is told through the personal stories of the many people the St Vincent de Paul Society assists every day. Every night there are in excess of three hundred and fifty people across the Riverina who are experiencing homelessness with many of them being the youth of our community.

Young people experiencing homelessness find it more difficult to maintain support, connect with their community and participate in education, training and employment. Our youth who experience homelessness are at increased risk of experiencing ongoing homelessness as adults.

It is critical that we provide people experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness with the support to rebuild their

lives and reconnect with the community. It is also more important than ever that we prevent homelessness from occurring in the first place.

How can you help

You can help us reach our goal of seeing 100 sleepers raise \$100,000. Register today as a team or individual and start fundraising.

The funds raised will help realise a new youth initiative program. This project aims to support young people who are experiencing homelessness

who have the desire to connect with education, employment and training, through personal development, skill development and work related activities.

Participants will be assisted in activities to boost their confidence and motivation to more proactively seek to obtain competencies to advance training or employment opportunities and engage work related activities including work tasters.

Please consider participating or making a donation to the Vinnies Community Sleepout

Event details:

Where: Charles Sturt University, Wagga
Wagga Main Campus

When: Friday, 30 August 2019

Contact: Jacqui, Maree or Renee

Phone: 69 231 904

Email: svdpwagga@vinnies.org.au

Bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, a water bottle, wear warm clothing, and a blanket if you feel the cold!

*Sleep out.
Change lives.*

