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In the Diocese of

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JULY 2020

*Good things
come to those
who wait...*

Bishop Mark's Liturgical Reception

See full story on page 2...

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Bishop Mark Edwards OMI - Homily - 22 July 2020

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI gave the following homily at the Liturgical Reception and Solemn Mass held on 22 July 2020 – Feast day of Saint Mary Magdalene.

Mary Magdalene, grief stricken, was looking for the body of Jesus and she comes to the gardener, as she thinks, to ask him for the body.

The first reading puts this in the context of a lover looking for her beloved, searching everywhere. Jesus promises that she who seeks finds and Mary, the seeker, encounters the Risen Christ. It is an experience of deep and tender personal recognition. Mary knows and is known. "Mary" "Rabunni". And the next line after the text of the first reading we are given is the bride holds her groom and won't let him go. She wants to take him to her house, a clinging that Mary echoes in the Gospel. And, as much as Mary wants to meet Jesus, we know in faith that he much more wants true relationship with her. Chiara Lubich must have had some similar encounter: "I would like to bear witness to the whole world that Jesus forsaken has filled every void, illumined all darkness, annulled every pain and wiped out every sin."

How do we have this personal meeting with our Lord which we so deeply desire? Perhaps, sometimes we have to be pushed down onto our knees and almost forced to be open to this encounter. To know our own need and have the hunger of Mary Magdalene that searches and will not let go.

St Theresa of Avila is one of my favourite saints. For many years she was not a bad religious but not a great religious either and she wanted to be more, to be better. One day she came across a new statue of the scourging of our Lord and, moved to her depths, fell on her knees and said to our Lord "I am not leaving until you give

me what I need." And Our Lord was just waiting for this strength of desire; she became within perhaps 8 years a spiritual giant and for her sharing of this journey and experience, she is a doctor of the Church.

One of my friends is praying for me that I have the clarity of she who was the first to recognise the Risen Christ. I pray for me and for you that we also hunger and thirst as she did, a renewed passion for the Lord Jesus.

I think of the many in our world, in our diocese, in our families who are searching and perhaps are mourning. The Gospel promises a fullness. How do we share and preach that fullness in a way that speaks to the hunger of our people for transcendence and fullness? We can have courage as we worship and share our encounter because the Lord has arrived before us and is hard at work.

Mary Magdalene, the apostle to the apostles, be with us as we navigate this mission and cling resolutely to Christ our Master. With you, we pray: "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God."

***Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI
Bishop of Wagga Wagga - 22 July 2020***



Bishop Edwards preaching the homily.



Sr Milada Nejman MC and Bishop Mark Edwards OMI.

Letter of Appointment from Pope Francis



His Excellency Most Rev Adolfo Tito C. Yllana, Apostolic Nuncio, read the Letter of Appointment from Pope Francis, in both Latin and English, at the Liturgical Reception. The English translation is included below:

Francis, Bishop, Servant of the Servants of God to Our Venerable Brother Mark Stuart Edwards O.M.I., until now titular Bishop of Garba and Auxiliary of the metropolitan archdiocese of Melbourne nominated Bishop of Wagga Wagga, greetings and Our Apostolic Blessing.

God has loved us so much that he

sent his Son for the forgiveness of our sins. We also live to love one another (cf I Jn 4, 1011), and with joy, according to his commandment, rejoicing in the hope of eternity, wherever and whenever we may be. Because with God always near, nothing further need concern us (cf St Augustine, Sermon 171, 1.3). In reflection, guided by an attitude of



The Apostolic Nuncio presents the Letter of Appointment to the Diocesan Consultors.



His Excellency Most Rev Adolfo Tito C. Yllana reads the Letter of Appointment from Pope Francis.

faith and pastoral reason with fatherly love, we have turned Our mind to the spiritual needs of the flock of Wagga Wagga Diocese which is now vacant after the resignation of Our Venerable Brother Gerard Joseph Hanna as we discern the provision of a new Pastor and moderator of diocesan life. We have considered, Venerable

Brother, your clear spiritual and human gifts as auxiliary Bishop, together with your skill in your work, which have shown us your suitability to fulfil greater responsibilities. Therefore, having received the advice of the Congregation for Bishops, by virtue of the fullness of Our Apostolic Office, releasing you from the bond of leadership of the Titular Church and from the office of Auxiliary, we appoint you Bishop of Wagga Wagga, giving you the appropriate rights and obligations.

You are to inform the clergy and people of this ecclesial community of Our decree. We exhort them to welcome you as a loved father, a teacher to whom they will listen, a respected guardian.

Venerable Brother, feed this ecclesial community with joy, speaking of the Lord God of love, as a Crow prepares food for its young who cry out because they have none (cf Job 38:41). Led by your example may the community grow and become perfect, be united, live in peace (cf 2 Cor 13:11) and learn to become great in the sight of God.

Given at Rome, at St Peter's, on the twenty-sixth day of May, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty, the eighth of our pontificate.

FRANCIS, Pope

FRANCISCUS EPISCOPUS Servus Servorum Dei

Venerabili Fratelli **Marco Stuart Edwards**, hactenus Episcopo titulo Garbensi et Auxiliari archidieccesis metropolitanae Melbournensis, sacrosancti Antistiti Coevropolitano nominato, salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem. Si sic Deus dilexit nos, ut mitteret Filium suum propitiationem pro peccatis nostris, et nobis est alterutrum diligendum ~ cfr 1 Jo 4, 10-11 ~ et gaudendum secundum praeceptum gaudentes in spe aeternitatis, ubicumque et quandiu cumque fuerimus, quia, cum Dominus in proximo nostrum sit, nihil nos solliciti sinus oportet ~ cfr s. Augustinus, Sermo 171, 1.3 ~. Quem fidei habitum et pastoralis rationis cardinem dum meditamur, paternae dilectione ad spirituales necessitates flectimus mentem gregis Coevropolitani, quem, vacantem in praesens post renuntiationem postremi sacrosancti Antistitis sui Ven. Fratris Gerardii Josephi Hanna, expectare compescimus novum Pastorem ac vitae dioecesanae moderatorem. Vete ergo, Venerabilis Frater, cogitavimus, qui in officiis tuis Auxiliaris adimpletis spirituales humanasque dotes una et eorum agendum pecuniam tibi compastasti, quatum decore gratia aptus Nobis videaris nunc ad pleniora haec munera explenda. Proinde, audito consilio Congregationis pro Episcopis, Apostolicae Notitiae auctoritatis plenitudine, te, superiorem titulum Ecclesiae vinculo atque Auxiliaris munere resolutis, Episcopum **Coevopolitanum** constituimus, debitis datis iuribus congruisque impositis obligationibus. Hoc de Notito decreto edoceas volumus electum et populum huius ecclesialis communis, quos exhortamur, ut te patrem diligendum, magistrum audiendum custodemque colendum accipiant. Pascas, Venerabilis Frater, cum gaudio hanc ecclesiam communitatem enutriendo Dominum Deum dilectionis, qui praeparat coevo escam, quando pulli eius clamant, eo quod non habent cibos ~ cfr Job 38, 41 ~, ut, moderationis tuae ducta exemplo, perfecta sit, exhortetur, idem sapiat, pacem habeat ~ cfr 2 Cor 13, 11 ~ ac discat quanti sit oculis Dei. Datum Romae, Laterani, die vicesimo sexto mensis Maii, anno Domini bis millesimo vicesimo, Pontificatus Nostri octavo.

Adolfo Tito C. Yllana, Pro-Nuncio Apostolico

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI – Sixth Bishop of Wagga Wagga

The Most Reverend Mark Edwards OMI was received as the sixth Bishop of Wagga Wagga during a Liturgical Reception and Solemn Mass at St Michael’s Cathedral, Wagga Wagga on Wednesday 22 July 2020.

by Matt Humphrey

The Liturgical Reception was held on the Feast day of St Mary Magdalene with limited numbers in attendance due to current COVID19 restrictions.

The solemn Mass was concelebrated with the archbishops and bishops who were able to travel, priests of the diocese of Wagga Wagga and of other religious congregations.

Arriving at the Cathedral, Bishop Edwards was greeted by a traditional Wiradjuri smoking ceremony and was then welcomed by the Metropolitan Archbishop, the Most Reverend Anthony Fisher who presented him to the Apostolic Administrator the Most Reverend Christopher Prowse and his Delegate Reverend Father Kevin O’Reilly.

Following a Welcome to Country by Wiradjuri Elder, Aunty Kath Withers, Archbishop Fisher welcomed the intimate congregation declaring “Good things come to those who wait. Clearly Pope Francis thinks Bishop Mark Edwards is a very good thing and so you’ve waited nearly four years for him as well as a COVID19 lockdown to make this, not only one of the most welcome installation ceremonies but also one of the strangest in the

history of the Church in Australia.”

The Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito C. Yllana, read out the Apostolic Letter appointing the Most Reverend Mark Edwards OMI Bishop of Wagga Wagga, first in Latin, then in English.

Archbishop Francis Carroll, Emeritus Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn, and Third Bishop of Wagga Wagga, handed the Dwyer Crozier to Bishop Mark. Bishop Mark was escorted to the Cathedra (Bishop’s Chair) by Archbishop Fisher and Archbishop Prowse, where he took his place as Sixth Bishop of Wagga Wagga.

Amongst those able to attend the Mass were a number of Civic Dignitaries including Deputy Prime Minister and Member for Riverina, Michael McCormack, Member for Wagga Wagga, Dr Joe McGirr PM, Mayor of Wagga Wagga, Greg Conkey OAM, and representatives of other churches, agencies and community groups.

A virtual choir of students from Catholic schools across the diocese performed “Insieme (Together)” via video as representatives of the clergy, religious and laity of the diocese and its agencies, civic and



Archbishop Francis Carroll hands the Dwyer Crozier to Bishop Mark.
All photos taken by Matt Humphrey.



The liturigcal reception began with a traditional smoking ceremony.



Apostolic Nuncio Adolfo Tito Yllana holding the Letter of Appointment.

religious leaders, welcomed the Bishop to his new role as shepherd of the people of Wagga Wagga.

Bishop Edwards thanked the diocese for their patience over the years without a bishop and praised the efforts of Archbishop Prowse in overseeing the diocese.

"I'm grateful to the people and clergy of the diocese who have made me so welcome and who have prayed for a bishop of the diocese," he said.

"To be bishop of this diocese is a call from God through the church."

After Communion, the Bishop thanked his family, friends, brother priests and all those who weren't able to attend today's ceremony.

The Bishop's Coat of Arms features the motto 'Learn who you are in the eyes of God' in both



English and Wiradjuri. **This is an appeal from St Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates to experience that we are beloved children of God and that He delights in us.**



Top left: Archbishop Prowse, Bishop Edwards and Archbishop Fisher.

Top right: Bishop Edwards holds aloft the Book of the Gospels.

Left: Soil from parishes across the Diocese.

Right: Students from across the Diocese came together in a virtual choir.



Bishop Mark celebrates his first Mass as Bishop of Wagga Wagga.



Archbishops and Bishops gather after Mass.



The con-celebrants and altar servers process to the Cathedral.



The new Bishop is welcomed by the Diocesan Consultors.

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI visits Parishes across the Diocese

In the weeks leading up to his Liturgical Reception, Bishop Mark toured the Diocese and visited most of our parishes. The aim of the tour was to familiarise himself with our parishes and schools, meet the priests and parishioners and pray with them. Some photos from these visits are included here.



Above: Bishop Mark visited St Patrick's Church in Marrar on 16th July.



Above: Bishop Mark speaks with parishioners at St Patrick's Church in Marrar on 16th July.

Top right: Bishop Mark visited Holy Trinity Church in Ashmont where he gave First Communion to Christopher on Christopher's birthday. The day was also the anniversary of Bishop Mark's baptism and Confirmation.

Right: Front - John Franklin, Mark Mulvaney. Back - Noel Munro, Bishop Mark and Fr Doug at St Michael's Church, Coolamon.



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TOGETHER IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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

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

Editor/Designer
Karene Eggleton

Printer
The Riverina Media Group
Peter Street Wagga Wagga 2650

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

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Copy deadline
15th of the month prior to publication

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\$33 Australia
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Prayer Intention for July - Pray with Pope Francis

Our Families

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

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



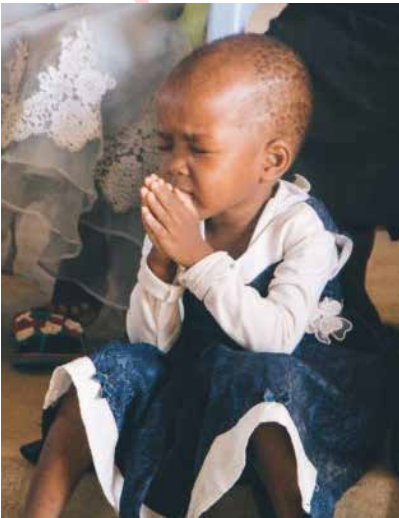
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Almighty and all Loving God, in the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph you give us a model and example of family life. In return we commend our families and our households to your holy guidance. We commit all to your love and keeping. Fill our homes with your blessings even as you filled the holy House of Nazareth with your presence.

Shine your light upon our families today. Give us strength to overcome the difficulties that we face. Protect us against any and all problems we may

encounter in future days. Lord, please bring us together in love and peace as we are meant to be. May the love that binds us only grow stronger as we fulfill the path and desires You have laid out before each of us.

Lord, protect and watch over all families so that in the strength of your grace they may enjoy prosperity, possess the gift of your peace, and bear witness to your goodness, care and guidance. So may each Christian family really become a "little Church" in which love, respect and the guidance of the Holy Spirit abounds.



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Celebrating Mass with parishioners at Sacred Heart Church in Koorungal.



Visiting with teachers at Sacred Heart School in Koorungal.



Bishop Mark collected soil from the grounds at Our Lady of Fatima in Wagga Wagga.



Bishop Mark visiting Henschke Primary School staff in Wagga.Wagga.



Meeting with parishioners at Sacred Heart Church, Koorungal.



Bishop Mark gathers soil from the grounds at Sacred Heart Church in Koorungal.



Above left, above and left photos: Bishop Mark celebrated both morning Masses on July 12 at Holy Trinity in Ashmont.



Clergy Day Homily

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI met with many of the Priests of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga the day before his Liturgical Reception. The clergy gathering included Praying the Office at St Michael’s Cathedral where Monsignor Doug George gave the homily included below.

Some time ago, in fact in the year of Henry Ibe’s ordination, I had the good fortune to represent the Diocese of Wagga Wagga at that great occasion. You know that Bishop Hanna was not keen on travel. Even Sydney and Melbourne were too far away for him. So he suggested that I represent him and the Diocese at the Ordination.

And as one does on the way to Nigeria, I visited the German city of Cologne. I was impressed by the Cathedral. Its imposing size set among the buildings of the city. Set on the skyline like a mountain that cannot be hidden The Spires, directing our minds ,our prayer and our whole lives to God. The flying buttresses, giving strength and support to the structure of the building (“and you are that building”), the stone work of the facade which tells the story of the richness of our Faith with its angels and saints and the great mystery of God coming and living amongst us and sending the Holy Spirit to be with us

always.

It also tells of the work of architects and artisans, the people who are continually building the Church of God. And the beauty of God’s creation in the materials from which the cathedral was fashioned.

But that façade also tells the story of centuries of wear and tear. In fact the facade was partially obscured be scaffolding needed for the work of restoration. That spoke to me that the beauty of the Church ie., its teaching etc., that has to be taken care of so that it is presented to the people of today in all its freshness.

What also impressed me was a wall in the crypt which contained the names of all the Bishops of Cologne from the establishment of the Diocese in 1288. There have been 94 bishops. I presume some good and some not so good. But men who proclaimed and lived the Word of God, celebrated the mysteries and governed in the name of God.

Tomorrow, will be an historical day as

we write the name of the 6th Bishop of Wagga Wagga into the records. Whether it be the long history of 800 years of Cologne Cathedral or 100 years of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga is the same church established by Christ for His people.

Each diocese has its challenges. We have our own; they are not insurmountable if we use the talents God has given us and the grace of God. We need to invoke the Holy Spirit as our friend and counsellor.

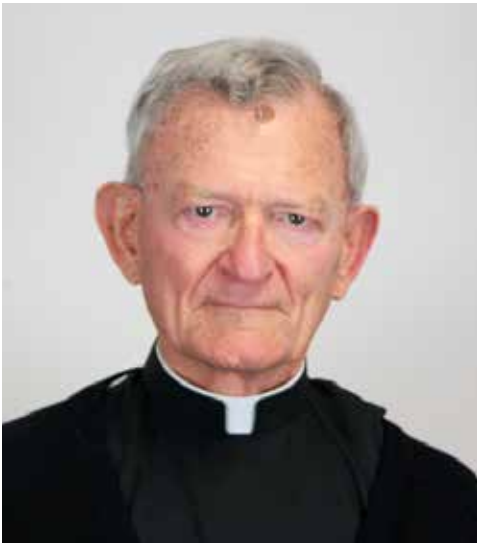
We, as priests, need to do what we promised at our ordination when we placed our hands between those of the ordaining Bishop and said in a loud, clear voice: I promise to obey and respect the bishop and his successors.

The experience of being without a bishop for so long has been trying and rewarding. What a sense of relief and gratitude all felt when the appointment of Bishop Mark was made by the Pope.

The relief and joy has been expressed over and over by the faithful and they have received the visit of the Bishop Elect to each of our parishes as a sign that he has come to be with us and be there for us.

The faithful want to help Bishop Mark in every way and especially by asking the Holy Spirit to guide his episcopate.

I want to finish with the beautiful advice of St. Ignatius of Antioch that we read in the second reading of the office of Readings on Monday. (Monday of 16th week of ordinary time.)



Monsignor Doug George

“ Everyone should observe the closest conformity with God; you must show every consideration for one another, never letting your attitude to a neighbour be affected by your human feelings, but simply loving each other consistently in the spirit of Jesus Christ. Allow nothing whatever to exist between you that could give rise to any divisions; maintain absolute unity with your bishop and leaders as an example to others and a lesson in the avoidance of corruption.”

On behalf of all the priests I welcome you Bishop Mark and, I at least, will pray for you every day.

I also, on behalf of the priests thank Archbishop Christopher Prowse for the time and wisdom given to administration of the Diocese whilst we waited on the Holy Spirit.

And lastly, our thanks to Fr. Kevin O’Reilly for carrying the burden of running the Diocese day to day.

Welcome, Bishop Mark Edwards OMI, to be the 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.



Monsignor Doug George delivering the Homily on Clergy Day 21st July 2020.

Vale Peg (Margaret) Hanrahan

Peg (Margaret) Hanrahan passed away on Anzac Day this year at age 97. She lived a life of service and dedication to others.

Peg was the eldest child of Teresa and Steven Filliponi, farmers of North Buraja and was involved in farm work and care of her four siblings. At the age of 20 Peg joined the army and trained as a dental nurse in Melbourne. She was then sent to the island of Morotai in the Pacific until the Japanese took over and they fled to Darwin.

After the war Peg returned to Corowa and continued her nursing where she met and married Norm Scott. They were the proud parents of two daughters and three sons. Norm passed away when the children were young and Peg became the sole carer and provider of the family.



Peg in 2014 when she received her confirmation of the Order of Australia Medal. Photo by The Free Press

In 1983 Peg married Kevin Hanrahan. They had many happy years together and she was able to turn her time and energy to her many charitable organisations. She was tireless in her commitment to the Red Cross, RSL Auxiliary, Southern Cross Care Karinya, and the Corowa Branch of Catholic Womens League.

For her service to the community Peg received the Citizen of the Year award and was later awarded the Order of Australia Medal. Over the years she served many times as President and Secretary of the Catholic Womens League Corowa Branch, Diocesan Committee and the Melbourne Governing Body for many years. She received her Life Membership in 1991.

At a Mass for the conferring of Papal Awards in April 1994 Peg received the "*Leonine Cross Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice*". This award recognised Peg for her many years of service and dedication to the chruch through the Catholic Womens League and Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

Peg died on Anzac Day at age 97. Her long and fruitful life was one of service and dedication to others,

She will be remembered always and may she rest in peace.



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- Wednesday 12 August

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



- Wednesday 19 August

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

- Wednesday 26 August

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



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Mother Angelita's 50th anniversary of religious profession

On 6 June 2020, Mother Angelita G. Marave, MACE celebrated her 50th anniversary of religious life.

by Sister Asuncion Lorenzo, MACE

Just a month after finishing her degree at the University of St Thomas in Manila, and having just turned 20 years of age, she entered the Pastorelle Sisters, an Italian Congregation which her eldest sister had joined earlier. She stayed there until she had her perpetual profession. But God had a different calling for her. She was inspired to form an association of lay people fully devoted to Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary, Mother of the Church. Eager to promote adoration of Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament and to develop the spiritual life of the members, she started the Missionary Apostles of Christ in the Eucharist (MACE) on 15 August 1987, in Manila, Philippines. This eventually led to the founding of the first MACE Religious Community in Canberra, ACT, on 2 February, 1990, consisting of her as formator, one applicant and a lay associate teenager. She was then the Archdiocesan Coordinator of Catechetics in the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn, with Most Rev. Francis Carroll, as Archbishop. As the years passed by, and with the help of her blood sister, Mother Lydia Marave, the number of religious members increased. Gradually, they were able to open communities in the Philippines, in Australia and in other countries. The MACE Community obtained their decree of approval as a public association of Christ's Faithful from Most Rev. Gerard Hanna on 18 February 2016, after ten years of presence in the

Wagga Wagga diocese. Their ministry consists of pastoral care of Filipino migrants in some parts of the diocese, and in Griffith, they are pastoral workers, assisting Fr Andrew Grace, parish priest, in various apostolates in the parish such as taking communion to the sick, visiting and assisting families, organizing perpetual adoration and family rosaries, and assisting in pastoral ministry in the hospital and aged care facilities. Mother Angelita intended to celebrate her 50th anniversary in the Philippines in May 2020, but because of the COVID 19 pandemic, all plans were cancelled. She decided to just have a simple celebration. Because this special event only happens once in a lifetime, the sisters in Australia thought of giving Mother Angel a bigger celebration. They thought of having the festivities in Griffith, where they have a good number of lay associates. A special thanksgiving Mass, concelebrated by the parish priest and two other priests, highlighted the occasion. Mother Angelita renewed the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, which she has lived for the last fifty years of her life. Prayers were offered that she may remain faithful to Christ forever. All the sisters in Australia came together to mark the memorable day, together with their close friends and lay associates. In spite of the visitors being limited in number, there were guests from Sydney, Melbourne, Wagga Wagga, Goulburn, Albury and



(L to R) MACE Sisters: Sr Letty, Mother Angelita and Sr Siony during the cutting of the Anniversary Cake



FR GRACE, the main celebrant, together with the priests and MACE Sisters, their family, friends and benefactors, after the 50th Anniversary celebration in Sacred Heart Church Griffith.

Lavington. The event was successful in terms of the friendly, joyful and fraternal atmosphere that prevailed, and the food was a-plenty, with a combined prevalence of Filipino and Italian food, and highlighted by a whole roasted pig. Thanks to the generosity of their lay associates, benefactors and friends from Griffith. The agape meal was followed by a

brief program, and everybody was given the chance to express his or her best wishes and greetings to Mother Angelita. All were unanimous in thanking God for the gift of Mother Angelita to the MACE Community, and in saying how she has always been an inspiration to them. **Congratulations and may God continue to bless Mother Angelita abundantly!**



Mother Angelita's Renewal of Vows received by Father Grace and is witnessed by Sr Siony, MACE



At the head table: (L-R) Father Grace, Mother Angelita and Fr Casanova
2nd Row: (L-R) Sr Letty, Sr Maybelle, Sr Siony ~ MACE Sisters with Fr Jomer, Fr Paul, Sr Cecil MACE and Frankie Marave

Here to help: meet Ola Samuel

The team at The Haven in Wagga Wagga would like to reassure the local community that they are available to help. If you, a neighbour or loved one are needing any support at this time, please reach out.

The Haven provides services designed to help seniors age well including companionship visits or calls from volunteers, health and wellness programs, home care services, retirement living, respite care and residential aged care, all here in Wagga Wagga.

Ola Samuel, Pastoral Care Coordinator at The Haven, loves working with residents, staff, families and members of the Wagga community.

“My wife and I have been warmly welcomed to the region since moving here two years ago. I’m passionate about being able to give back by providing spiritual and

emotional care to those in need,” says Ola.

“My vocation is Pastoral Care Ministry, Aged Care and Counselling having begun my career studying Agriculture and Rural Development. I’m passionate about helping build thriving regional communities and enjoying the many benefits of living in Wagga Wagga including healthier living, loyal friendship, peace and quiet.

“We have an amazing, values-driven team. Being able to care for the spiritual and emotional needs of our residents and families who have given so much to our community is an incredible privilege.

“Although restrictions have begun to ease, there’s still a lot of uncertainty. Keeping a positive mindset at the moment is crucial. My role focuses on taking time to listen and comfort others with compassion and empathy. Sharing a deep sense of gratitude regarding the good things around us can assist in shifting thoughts from anxiety to a feeling of peace, calm and hope.”

Please give Catholic Healthcare a call if we can be of any assistance on 1800 225 474, The Haven Residential Aged Care Home on 02 6933 0502 or visit our website - catholichealthcare.com.au.



Ola Samuel, Pastoral Care Coordinator at The Haven

Celebrating 26 years of Catholic Healthcare

On 21st July, Catholic Healthcare was delighted to celebrate 26 years of providing health and aged care services to residents, clients and patients.

This year’s theme for Foundation Day is living ‘life to the full’, which lies at the heart of our Mission.

Catholic Healthcare’s Managing Director, David Maher said, “We celebrate the care and service we have provided across the year, and we celebrate our colleagues, who have displayed so much dedication, resilience and agility to support the wellbeing of our clients.”

“This year has been an unusual and dramatic year of responding to challenge and change.

“The aged care Royal Commission, new aged care standards and other Government reforms have impacted right across Catholic Healthcare. We responded by developing and launching our Enrich Model of Care, describing ‘how we care’ for our residents and clients.

“The summer came with bushfire ferocity, and we acknowledged our people who ‘shined’ during this disaster. We were then faced with a global pandemic. We acknowledged the challenges faced with Covid-19 and the incredible way our people responded to ensure our clients continue to ‘live life

to the full’ in our Homes and within the community. Over the past few months, we have had to adapt the way we work without visitors to our Homes. We have been delighted by innovative and creative activities added to the residents’ Lifestyle Program, and the introduction of video calls and other digital communication initiatives for residents to stay connected to loved ones.

“Our organisation is very special, and the work we do is very important. A shared focus on ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all in our care, and for each other, in this year of relentless challenge, has been inspirational,” added Maher.

Some of Catholic Healthcare’s highlights and achievements over the past year included:

- St Hedwig Village became the latest member of the Catholic Healthcare family, starting an exciting partnership of care in Western Sydney.
- 25th anniversary ‘Win A Wish’ gifts to residents and clients continued to be rolled out. These included a private tour of the Archibald at the Art Gallery of NSW; a visit to Floriade; a Sydney



Harbour cruise; a night out to enjoy the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo in Sydney and a trip to see the Swans play!

- The first-ever art exhibition and auction of resident art was held at Gertrude Abbott and The Sister Anne Court in Surry Hills.
- Client satisfaction surveys in both Residential and Home Care continued to reach new heights, with satisfaction levels above 90%.
- Catholic Healthcare was runner up in the Provider of the Year category for the ACSA Awards and finalist in a sector award for Excellence in Urban Development for the McQuoin Park Redevelopment.
- Liz Zachulski, Residential Manager for St Catherine’s Bathurst, was recognised in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List with an OAM.
- New service enhancements continued

strongly, with completion of new Homes in Villa Maria Brisbane; Charles O’Neill Hostel Newcastle; and Forbes Jemalong Retirement Living residences.

- McQuoin Park retirement is also nearing completion, and Casula aged care will open before Christmas.
- Two successful conferences were initiated for the sector during the year, including a Hoarding and Squalor Symposium at Parliament House; and a biennial Pastoral Care Conference, with the theme Dignity in the Final Journey.
- Finally, we bid farewell to two services near and dear to Catholic Healthcare’s heart – the NSW Elder Abuse Resource service transferred back to the Government after seven years; and the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre in Dubbo after 21 years.



Featured projects in July

- Success Story: Mass Books in the Chiluba language
- Mass Offerings for 30 Rosarian Fathers
- Support for the life and ministry of 63 Religious sisters in Rourkela
- Support for 27 religious sisters in Oruro, in the Andes

Democratic Republic of the Congo Success Story: Mass Books in the Chiluba language

The Chiluba (Ciluba) language is spoken by around 6 million people in the Kasai Region in the southeast of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is one of the four national languages of this huge country in the heart of Africa. Some years ago the bishops of the eight Catholic dioceses within this region recognised the urgent need for new editions of the liturgical books in this language to be gradually introduced. For one thing, the books were already largely worn out; for another they needed to be extensively revised and corrected linguistically.

The Kasai Region is a vast and neglected region, with widespread deep poverty. During 2016 and 2017 there was a series of veritable orgies of violence across the region, during which several thousand people were killed. Dozens of mass graves were subsequently found there. Many church buildings were also attacked, looted and burned down, among them the cathedral and Bishop's residence in Luebo.

The government is to all intents

absent here, and it is left to the Church to take care of all the needs of the people and provide help, to the extent of its possibilities. But man does not live on bread alone, and for the Church it has always been the health of the human soul that is its first concern. The Eucharist is the "source and summit of the life and mission of the Church" as it says in the Vatican II document *Lumen Gentium*. Hence, for the bishops of the region, the republication of these liturgical books has been a top priority.

Now, thanks to the generous help of our benefactors, ACN was able to provide a subsidy of AUD \$32,500 to enable the first edition of the new Lectionary to be printed. It has been welcomed with great joy, and the bishops, priests and all the Catholic faithful of the eight dioceses of the Kasai Region are profoundly grateful to all our generous benefactors!

Sri Lanka Mass Offerings for 30 Rosarian Fathers

The Rosarians, an Institute of Consecrated Life, are the first contemplative male religious



Printing of liturgical books *Daily Lectionary I and II* in Ciluba language for the Church in the Kasayi region. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

congregation to be founded in Asia. It was established in 1928 by Father Bastiampillai Anthonipillai Thomas, who was born in a village near Jaffna, Sri Lanka. The congregation also has a female branch, since 1950.

Today, the male branch of the Rosarians has 25 monasteries, above all in Sri Lanka and India. Since this is a poor, native congregation it lacks the resources of an international religious family and consequently

ACN has regularly supported the Institute, both in Sri Lanka and in India, with a range of different projects, including as in this case with Mass stipends and help for the formation of its novices.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic this help is needed more than ever. In Sri Lanka too a lockdown has been imposed since the middle of March. Public religious worship has been forbidden. Father Anil, of the monastery in Kochchikade, tells us what he and his confreres have experienced in the last few months. This is a densely populated region and among those worst affected in the country by the Covid-19 outbreak. "Within our convent we have been able to maintain our regular prayer times, Eucharistic Adoration and the celebration of Holy Mass. We have prayed and made sacrifices for the people. I have the feeling that we have been permitted to experience many blessings during this time."

He continues, "At present we have no income, but we rejoice to share what little we have with our neighbours and with the poor." During the lockdown, the Rosarians have continued to visit the poor and, while observing the required safety precautions, brought Holy Communion those who requested it, prayed for them and also brought them



180 Missae Ordinariae + 60 Gregorian Masses for 30 priests of the Congregation of the Rosarians, Sri Lanka. Copyright Aid to the Church in Need.

continued on page 13...

continued from page 12...

material help. “We shared with them whatever generous people had brought and helped everyone who requested our help. And we are continuing to help them as much as we can.”

We are proposing to pass on to the 30 Rosarian priests of the congregation in Sri Lanka your kind Mass Offerings, to a total value of AUD \$31,600. These Masses will be celebrated for the intentions of the benefactors who have given them, and at the same time your offerings will be a vital contribution not only to their own support, but also to the works of charity to which they are devoted.

India
Support for the life and ministry of 63 Religious sisters in Rourkela

In the diocese of Rourkela, in the north of the Indian state of Odisha (formerly Orissa) there are 63 sisters of the congregation of the Daughters of the Cross. Normally, most of them work in the schools or parishes of the diocese. However, during the coronavirus pandemic they are now all occupied in helping those who are suffering most from the situation. They care for the sick, the elderly and handicapped and in particular they are supporting the migrant labourers, who have suddenly found themselves with no work and nothing to live on. Meanwhile, India is now in fourth highest place in the world in terms of the number of Covid-19 infections. And at the same time many millions of the poorest people, above all the migrant workers and day labourers, have lost their sole source of income.

The sisters are doing all they can to help. They write, “We cannot save the whole world, but at least we can help those people here among whom we live and work.” Some of the sisters

are sowing hundreds of metres of material into protective face masks, which they are then handing out to the needy. But the material is not cheap, and they also need disinfectants and gloves in order to prevent the spread of the virus as far as possible.

But since the schools are also closed on account of the pandemic, those sisters who were working as teachers have received no pay for months now. And yet their salaries are the principal source of income for their congregation. ACN is proposing to help with AUD \$16,200.

Bolivia
Support for 27 religious sisters in Oruro, in the Andes

High up in the Andes, at an altitude of around 13,000 feet (4000 m) above sea level, lies the diocese of Oruro. Covering an area of nearly 21,000 square miles (53,600 km²) it is larger than some of the smaller European countries, such as the Netherlands for example. Yet it is sparsely populated, with just around half a million people, at least half of whom live in the town of Oruro itself.

The 43 parishes of the diocese, needless to say, cover vast and often inaccessible regions. Consequently, the work of the religious sisters in ministering to the Catholic faithful is of the greatest importance, engaged as they are in proclaiming the faith, catechesis, the youth apostolate and spiritual accompaniment of the people. Not only this, but at the same time they are often the only ones who are helping the people in their concrete, day-to-day needs. Especially in the area of healthcare and education, these religious sisters make a huge contribution. And in addition they run soup kitchens for the poor and other similar establishments.



The Daughters of the Cross helping migrant workers, who come back from the big cities to their villages during the COVID-19 pandemic. The sisters help 34 migrant workers in quarantine in the convent school at Phalsa, providing them with sanitizers, musk, soap, toothpaste, brush and biscuit packets for their tea. Copyright Aid to the Church in Need.

But this selfless work of service comes at a heavy price for the sisters. The cold, the rigours of the high altitude, the difficult and often dangerous roads and the deserted landscape, and the difficult social environment – all this is hard to endure. But the sisters know well that their help and support are urgently needed. And so they continue their work, for the sheer love of God –

since they receive no payment of any kind.

Bishop Krzysztof Bialasik cannot speak too highly of the wonderful work the sisters are doing in his diocese. But since his diocese is also very poor, he has asked us for help for the support of 27 religious sisters belonging to 9 different congregations. We have promised him AUD \$23,900.

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

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

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



Bolivia. Teresianas Sisters working during coronavirus times distributing food. Copyright Aid to the Church in Need.

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:

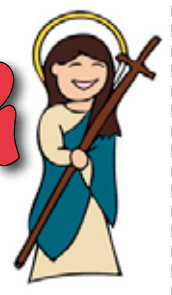
Together Editor
PO Box 473
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

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:

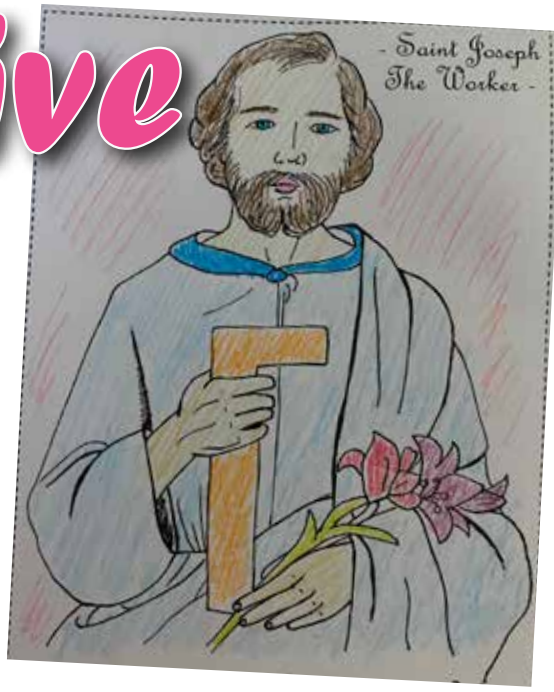
E	P	E	T	E	R	X	Z	M	H	E	N	R	Y
Z	H	A	O	M	J	O	A	M	A	L	O	V	E
A	B	O	N	A	V	E	N	T	U	R	E	J	A
B	E	W	C	G	A	P	O	M	A	R	T	X	Y
R	N	M	J	D	E	L	I	Z	A	Z	H	H	K
I	E	J	O	A	C	H	I	M	B	O	N	A	A
D	D	A	V	L	N	X	N	O	A	H	R	L	T
G	I	M	X	E	L	N	C	J	K	R	A	H	E
E	C	E	J	N	A	Y	E	W	I	D	I	G	R
T	T	S	E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	A	I
C	U	A	P	O	L	L	I	N	A	R	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**
- Apollinaris**
- Lawrence** of Brindisi
- Mary **Magdalene**
- Bridget**
- James**
- Joachim** and **Anne**
- Martha**
- Peter** Chrysologus

Creative Kids

Fantastic colouring in effort of Saint Joseph by Alex in Griffith. Thank you!

Keep sending in your beautiful creations!



New audio prayer resource for children and families

Would you like to teach your children to pray, but are not sure how to go about it?

Would you like them to get to know Jesus, but don't know how to guide them?

Does the busyness of life make family prayer difficult?

An exciting new audio resource called 'Time With Jesus' (TWJ) may be just what you are looking for.

TWJ is a collection of short five minute meditations that take children (and adults) on an adventure through 13 popular New Testament bible stories to meet Jesus and speak with Him.

Children are guided to use their imagination to climb trees, steer a boat, ride a donkey and climb a mountain with Jesus and much more. TWJ is an engaging and exciting way to pray in which the meditations are brought to life by the use of different voices, sound effects and music.

“Children have wonderful imaginations,” says Creator of TWJ Cate Kensey, “so it’s easy for them to imagine themselves in a bible scene with Jesus and hear and watch what He does.”

“They get to learn who Jesus is and they experience personally Jesus talking and sharing with them. They encounter the love and care that Jesus has for them.”

Given the current uncertain time we

live in, with Masses, schools and other forms of religious practice suspended, it is more important than ever to find new and engaging ways for our children to remain connected to Jesus and grow in their faith. TWJ can help with this. This way of praying helps children imagine Jesus with them in their daily life.

“When I listened to it, it made me feel that Jesus was my friend. It made me feel like He loved me.”

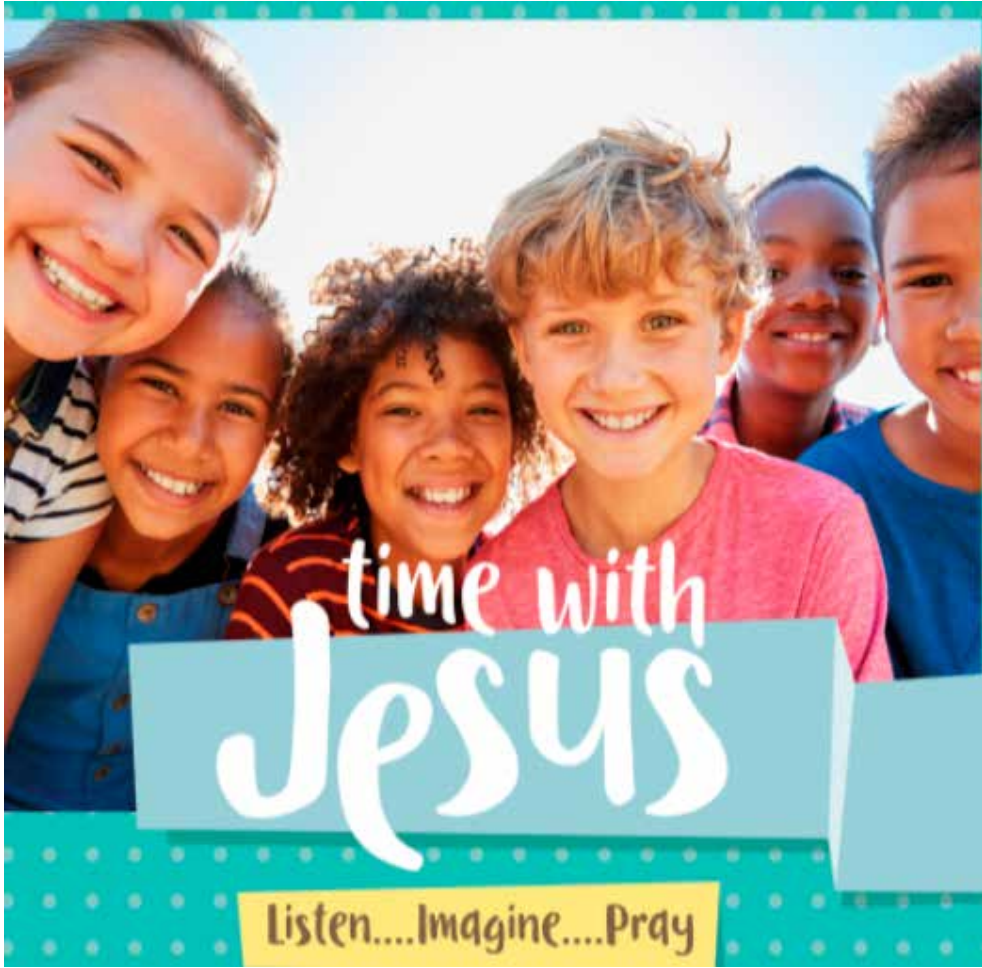
Bethany, aged 10

“When I listened to it, it made me feel like I was with Him (Jesus) and I would be thinking about it all the time. It made me feel like He would help me whenever I needed help!”

Anna, aged 8

“It really helped me to think of Him (Jesus) instead of someone who is up there in Heaven... He is here with us now, and we don't need to be scared to talk to Him. He is not like the Queen of England where we have to speak in a special way either, we can just be ourselves.”

Joseph, aged 12



“TWJ can be listened to it anywhere, anytime - in the car, while the kids go to sleep or as part of family prayer time - it's a ready to use prayer resource for families! And it's easy to have family discussions after each meditation, which gives you as a parent precious insight into the spiritual life of your child/ren,” said Cate Kensey.

For a free sample meditation, tips on how to use the TWJ resource in

families and children’s ministries, and to make a purchase visit:

www.beheldmedia.com

www.parousiamedia.com

TWJ is available on CD or mp3 format and is a joint production of Beheld Media and Parousia.

For more information:

Cate Kensey – 0407 704 052

beheldmedia@gmail.com



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PARENTING CHILDREN WITH ADHD

This 3 day course developed specifically for parents/carers managing children with ADHD.

Topics in the course include:

- What is ADHD?
- How does ADHD affect family life?
- Using rewards & consequences
- Managing difficult behaviour
- Creating better routines & relationships
- Working with schools
- Building self-esteem
- Family problem-solving



- Family Counselling Services
- School Wellbeing Program
- Personal Helpers and Mentors Program
- Employee Assistance Program
- Family Education Services
- Complex Case Services
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- Settlement Grants Program
- Recovery Approaches to Dementia
- Pre Marriage Education
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www.centacareswsw.org.au

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

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

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

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

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

Where: Online Microsoft Teams

When: Tuesday 28th July and 11th, 25th August 2020 (fortnightly)

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

Fees: \$30 standard \$15 concession

Facilitator: Maree and Tammy

Bookings Essential

For further information or to register your interest please contact Centacare South West NSW on 1300 619 379 or email

nfo@centacareswsw.org.au



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VOLUNTEER TODAY



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

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

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

Teenagers deliver groceries to seniors in lockdown

A volunteer squad of teenagers and young adults have been delivering groceries to elderly Wagga residents stuck in lockdown.

by **Kenji Sato** - The Daily Advertiser

The newly formed Vinnies Youth Conference has been picking up food, toilet paper, and other essentials from the Micah Hub and delivering it to seniors in need.

One of the volunteers is 18-year-old Jack Walsh, from Kildare Catholic College, who started delivering groceries back in May when the lockdown was nearing its peak and shelves were looking bare.

"The feeling you get when you help someone who desperately needs it is really fulfilling," Jack said.

"Just knowing you're a valuable part of the community makes it worthwhile."

The HSC student has returned to school and is cramming to catch up for lost time, but he has still found time in his packed calendar to dedicate towards those less fortunate.

"It's been pretty stressful because we've missed a lot of time to study, so we've been trying to catch up and make progress where we didn't before," Jack said.

"There's a lot of things to balance in the student life, but you've got to make it work."



Kildare Catholic College students, Zachary Scoble and Jack Walsh. Picture: Emma Hillier

17-year-old Zachary Scoble has volunteered around town in the past, and he was inspired to put up his hand again when he met some other volunteers at a classic Vinnies barbecue.

"I found myself at a barbecue Vinnies was holding down near the river, and that just piqued my interest and made me want to come and see what it was like," Zachary said.

The group had also been planning a buddy program, which would involve taking disadvantaged children out for social events such as bowling or laser tag.

Those plans were put on hold because of the coronavirus lockdown, but the team will be ready to go the moment restrictions ease.

Youth Conference president Shannan Carey said lockdown had been especially hard on disadvantaged families, who could often not afford to take their children out even at the best of times.

"A lot of families are not going to be in a position to go for laser tag or a one-night camp at Borambola, so we want to give the families a bit of a break and let the kids let loose," Ms Carey said.

"A lot of people have been lonely and isolated and haven't had contact with people, so it's good to make those connections."

To find out more visit:
www.facebook.com/VinniesYouthNSW

St Francis DeSales Regional College, Leeton



Congratulations to Bishop Mark Edwards whose Liturgical Reception saw him installed as the 6th Bishop of the Wagga Wagga Diocese. With COVID-19 attendance limitations, St Francis DeSales was represented by Mr Pat Handsaker. Jock Lander of Year 11 and Bella Fairman of Year 9, joined the choir of Diocesan students via zoom.

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Mark to the College as soon as possible.



St Patrick's Primary School, Holbrook



On 22 July St Patricks School were able to participate via live streaming in the Liturgical Reception of the 6th Bishop of the Wagga Wagga Diocese. The K/1/2 students were excitedly sharing their observations of the symbols and icons they could identify in the Church, whilst the Primary students watched reverently. We are looking forward to a gifted candle (which we saw on TV) to arrive at school as a token of this important day.



St Anne's Primary, North Albury



There was much fun at St Anne's Primary for the Feast of Saints Anne and Joachim and celebrating Grandparent's Day! Sadly our Grandparents were unable to join us but they were represented well by their grandchildren!



Kildare Catholic College, Wagga Wagga

Year 12 Visual Design have been working on product branding and logos. They have achieved some outstanding results with their fabulous designs. They have also had the chance to develop their skills by engaging in different mediums such as printmaking, vinyl application and the use of the laser cutter.



St Joseph's Primary, Narrandera

School beanies have arrived and they look fantastic!!! They are available from the school office for \$15. If you would like one for your child please send in the money in a clearly marked envelope or contact office staff to arrange direct deposit.



St Peter's Primary, Coleambally



Obstacle course fun on the playground at St Peter's Primary in Coleambally.



St Patrick's Primary, Griffith



Having fun with Spheros in Coding Club at St Patrick's Primary in Griffith.



Marian Catholic College, Griffith

MCC student representative Julia Forner with Bishop Mark Edwards at the Bishop's Installation Ceremony in Wagga Wagga.



Henschke Primary, Wagga Wagga



Miss Quinlivan and Augustine from Year 6 attended the Liturgical Ceremony for the Sixth Bishop of Wagga Wagga, The Most Reverend Mark Edwards.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

Divorce could be a thing of the past, say marriage experts

A Catholic marriage counsellor and family expert believes divorce could be consigned to the history books for those couples who really want to stay together.

Derek Boylen, the Director of the Centre for Life, Marriage and Family in the Archdiocese of Perth, says, “[Some Researches say] we actually know enough about marriage and family life to end divorce for those people that wanted it.”

Speaking on Majellan Media’s latest podcast series, Mr Boylen discusses how self- isolation, lockdowns and social distancing, have added to the pressures many families are facing. Mr Boylen is also a lecturer for the University of Notre Dame in the Discipline of Counselling.

Majellan Media is producing the important podcast series aimed at helping families with relationship issues during these difficult times. The new series is part of the current Figuring out Families podcasts and covers many aspects of family life and offers practical advice.

The series is a must for all who want to strengthen relationships. The sessions will cover key topics such as Communication, Problem Solving and Relationship Repair, Love Maps, Keeping Fun and Romance Alive and Love Languages.

Mr Boylen said he’s thrilled to be participating in the new series. “I know from my own work and having eight

children, the various stresses families can be under at times; whether it be communication breakdown or financial problems. I’m very pleased to be involved in the new series and to be able to assist families where I can,” Mr Boylen said.

For over 70 years, Majellan has provided practical advice with a Christian focus to thousands of people, shared stories of family life, and helped families deal with their problems.

Tony Biviano, CEO of Majellan Media, said Majellan has always been about helping wounded families.

“At Majellan, we believe that families are one of the most important foundations of society and for over 70 years we have been helping families be the best they can be,” said Mr Biviano.

“We are very happy to be working with Derek Boylen on this new series of podcasts and hope they are a real help to people with their relationships and family life.”

Figuring out Families podcast series is available from most podcast services and on Spotify. **Go to anchor.fm/figuring-out-families or Majellan Media at: majellan.media/figuring-out-families/**





ErinEarth opening times

Come and relax, unwind and appreciate nature.

ErinEarth is open Wednesdays 9am - 4pm and every Friday night during Daylight Savings from 5pm - 7pm.

The Garden is looking particularly good at the moment so come on in for a look.

ErinEarth - 1 Kildare St, Wagga Wagga

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Consider The Crows launched

In general terms, this book is a chronicle of the six bishops who have served the Catholic Diocese of Wagga. Each chapter sums up a view of the contributions of the individual bishop to the Diocese.

by Dr Nancy Blacklow
Local historian and former history staff member at Charles Sturt University

In 2017, the Catholic Diocese of Wagga Wagga celebrated its centenary – a major event in the church and the catalyst for a book on the history of the diocese.

This book, *Consider the Crows, Centenary of the Catholic Diocese Wagga*, by Father Justin Darlow, has now been published by Triple D Books, Wagga Wagga, and provides a valuable documentation of the diocese and its spiritual and historical leaders, plus milestones in its growth over the past century.

As the Emeritus Archbishop of Canberra-Goulburn and Emeritus Bishop of Wagga, the Reverend Francis Carroll, notes in the foreword it is “a long-awaited story, providing an understanding of the church’s identity, strength and vitality.”

Author, Father Justin Darlow, carried out detailed research, drawing on summaries and photographs of the parishes of the diocese to base his work on strong primary source material. He suggests *Consider the Crows* may be of relevance to a readership beyond the church such as students and

others generally interested in history. The book’s style gives the reader chapters on each of the five bishops who have served the Catholic Diocese of Wagga through its first century and foreshadows a second volume with a focus on the diocese’s 32 parishes. At the same time, it includes milestones such as the building of St Michael’s Cathedral through to the founding of the Vianney College seminary. While it is of particular interest to the clergy and parishioners of the diocese as well as students, the book’s approach and writing style would appeal to a wider audience.

Based on extensive research and attention to detail, *Consider the Crows* provides valuable historical documentation of the Catholic Diocese of Wagga and its spiritual leaders.

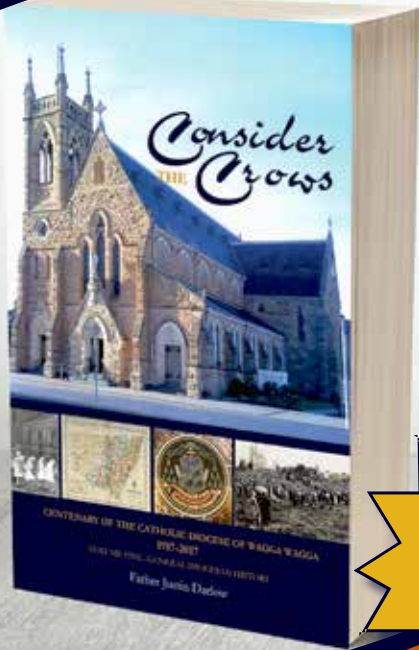
The book can be purchased in person from your local parish or from McAlroy House. For those preferring to order online or over the phone, please contact Parousia Media at orders@parousiamedia.com or call +61 2 9651 0375



A gathering of prelates and priests in Albury on August 15, 1918. Bishop-elect, J.W Dwyer, is seated front right and 8 weeks later became the first bishop of the Wagga Diocese.

Consider the Crows

by *Father Justin Darlow*



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Father Justin Darlow in 2017 holding the brief that established the Diocese.

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Upholding community dignity together in Cambodia

Caritas Australia and its partners are carrying out health promotion activities in 130 villages and 19 health centres in four provinces in Cambodia.

They are principally focused on raising health awareness, distributing hygiene products and delivering WASH programs.

In Pursat province, local villagers and committees have collectively distributed banners and posters, and circulated critical information to communities on COVID-19 by loudspeaker. Targeted and timely education measures about COVID-19 transmission and prevention is helping stop the spread of the infectious disease and negative impacts on livelihoods of the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalised people. Preferential care for vulnerable women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities has been provided to

promote good hygiene practice at home. This exceptional support is empowering communities to manage their well-being and uphold their dignity when access to health resources is traditionally very limited. Caritas Australia and its partners have resourced health centres, commune officers and schools with a range of medical supplies including face masks, gloves, soap, hand washing facilities and water tanks. Approximately 8,000 community people have been supplied soap for hand washing and 600 with access to hand washing facilities. Caritas Australia is the international aid and development organisation of the Catholic Church and a member



Proud family posted with COVID-19 prevention of transmission banner in Siem Reap province
Credit: Srer Khmer/Caritas Australia

of Caritas Internationalis, one of the world’s largest humanitarian networks, with 169 agencies operating in over 200 countries and territories. Caritas Australia stands with communities, before, during and after emergencies.

**To donate to Caritas please visit www.caritas.org.au/donate
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A COVID-19 transmission prevention banner with specific focus on children posted in front of Commune office in Pursat province. Credit:EPDO/Caritas Australia



Hand washing in practice in Pursat province
Credit: EPDO/Caritas Australia



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COVID-19 Diocesan Protocols

Effective
Friday 24 July 2020

1. Covid-Safe Business

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

2. Maximum Attendance

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

3. Hygiene practices

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

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

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

5. Eucharist

- Holy Communion in the hand only.

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

6. Communion to Sick and Elderly Persons

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

7. Anointing of the Sick

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

8. First Penance & First Holy Communion

Normal Pastoral Practice continues, respecting liturgical and pastoral protocols.

9. Confirmation

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

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI
Bishop of Wagga Wagga

Vinnies Winter Appeal success at Mater Dei Catholic College in Wagga

In the last 2 weeks of June, the Mater Dei community responded so generously to the call for support of the Vinnies Winter Appeal. The College SRC and Student Leaders were visiting Homegroups each day to pick up donations from staff, students and families. They are proud to report that collections have been amazing and recently they took the opportunity to gather their leaders with the many donations for a photo. All donations were then delivered to the Peter St Vinnies store in Wagga Wagga. Well done MDCC!!!



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Mass times across our Diocese

Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

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

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

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

Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

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

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

Albury

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

Albury - North Albury

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

Albury - Lavington

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

Albury - Thurgoona

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

Berrigan

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

Coolamon

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

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

Corowa

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

Culcairn

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

Darlington Point

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

Finley

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

Ganmain

St. Brendan’s Ganmain
Weekend Mass Times
6:00pm (Saturday Vigil); 10:00am
Weekday Masses
Monday to Friday:
December-February 7:30am (Tues., Thurs.) & 5:30pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.)
March-November 5:30pm
Sat.: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).
Confessions
30 min. before every Mass each day & 5:00pm-6:00pm Sat.
St. Patrick’s Matong
Sunday - 8:00am
Confessions 30 min before Sunday Mass

Griffith

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

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

Holbrook

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

Howlong

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

Jerilderie

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

Junee

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

Khancoban

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

Leeton

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

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

Lockhart

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

Mulwala

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

Narrandera

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

Tarcutta

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

The Rock

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

Tocumwal

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

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 Bermingham |
| 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

12th July - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Today's Gospel reminds us that in order for God's Word to take root in us and produce abundant fruit, we must endeavor to be like good soil. Families, in particular, hold the responsibility for "preparing the soil" so that the seeds of God's Word can grow strong. There are many ways in which families do this—family traditions in which faith is celebrated, prayer and reading of Scripture, and instruction on the faith. In these ways, parents fulfill the promises they made at their child's Baptism.
Gather together as a family and reflect together on the Sacrament of Baptism. Tell the story of the Baptism of each child, showing any pictures that were taken. If you have your child's Baptism candle or gown, share these as well. Recall together that one of the promises that parents make at their child's Baptism is to bring them up in the practice of our faith. Talk together about the importance of this promise to your family. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 13:1-23. Reflect together on the ways in which your family practices your faith (daily prayer, Mass attendance, religious instruction, etc.). Remind one another that we do these things as a family so that God's Word can take root in our lives and produce abundant fruit. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm, Psalm 65.
Isaiah 55:10-11 Psalm 65:10-14
Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23

19th July - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Taken together, the parables found in today's Gospel offer both a sobering reminder about the Kingdom of God and words of encouragement.
As the wheat and the weeds must grow together until the harvest, so we may not know whether our actions contribute to God's Kingdom until God's final judgment. With this word of caution in mind, we act always in prayer that our actions will be consistent with God's plans. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we hear words of encouragement. God can bring the Kingdom of Heaven from even the smallest of beginnings. Thus, we ask God to work through us for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.
Set aside some time this week to make bread with your family. Show the amount of yeast that is required to raise an entire batch of bread. Observe that little things can go a long way. After the bread has been baked, gather together as a family. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 13:24-43. Reflect together on what Jesus means when he teaches that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed and like yeast. In these parables, Jesus is teaching us that God can work wonders from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of God. This means that even the little things that we do can make a big difference in the lives of others. What are some of the little things that we can do in our family that help to make things better for others? Decide on one action to take together. Pray that God will use your action to make a difference in the world. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Wisdom 12:13,16-19 Psalm 86:5-6,9-10,15-16
Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43
26th July - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time,
Like the person who found the buried treasure and the merchant who acquired the pearl of great price, we seek to find the signs of the kingdom of heaven in our lives. In fact, we even work to bring about God's kingdom in our actions and in our words. We pray that our family values reflect our pursuit of the kingdom of heaven. As Jesus' disciples, we place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.
As you gather as a family, talk about what your family values. Make a list together of those things that your family considers most important, such as family, friends, faith, trust, and love. Place this list before you as you read today's Gospel in its shorter form, Matthew 13:44-46. In these parables, Jesus teaches us that it is worth giving up even valuable things in order to possess the kingdom of heaven. Look at the list your family made and talk about how these things are important to the kingdom of heaven. What has your family given up to make these values important in your life? As Jesus' disciples, we place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God. Pray together for God's kingdom by praying the Lord's Prayer.
1 Kings 3:5,7-12 Psalm 119:57,72,76-77,127-130
Romans 8:28-30 Matthew 13:44-52

Successful teen faith group discussion

St Joseph's Family Catechetical School held another successful Faith holiday event this time at their home due to COVID 19 restrictions.

After a *Faith and Fun* event at Holy Trinity Parish in January (see March 2020 edition of *Together*) Matthew and Rose Greenrod held a teenager faith discussion group based on the questions: *Why God, Why Jesus and Why Catholic?*

It was a big task handling such subjects with young people coming back and asking, *Why the Bible?* But that would be another question, for another occasion!

The teenagers were really engaged and while hesitant at the start, got into the group discussion by the end.

The youth were also amazed when Sr. Milada of the Missionary Sisters of Charity (MC) shared why she believed in God. Sister also suggested that next time, she will explore her calling to be a religious.

So with a Bible in one hand and the Catechism of the Catholic Church in the other we discussed the beauty of the world and how there needs to be the most beautiful One whom we call God, the discussion continued. One of the teenagers also knew the bible verse where it says Peter (as Pope) is head of the Catholic Church on earth. For any Catholic teenager, this is a most worthy bible verse to remember. (See Matt 16:18)

For the future Matthew and Rose would be open to holding more discussion groups with teenagers. These are the years when many youths question their faith. So having an open and frank discussion

on such topics is really valuable for all. Thank you to all the parents who entrusted their dear children to our care. For further information call 0438 871 523



YOUTH
FAITH
DISCUSSION

JULY 16, 2020

MATTHEW
AND
ROSE
GREENROD
WITH
MISSIONARIES
OF CHARITY

WORDS OF THE HOLY FATHER

What is the attitude that the Lord asks us to have, so that the kingdom of God may grow and be bread for everyone and shelter for all?.

The answer is clear: “docility”. In fact, the kingdom of God grows, with docility to the strength of the Holy Spirit. The flour ceases to be flour and becomes bread, because it is docile to the strength of the yeast; and again: the yeast is left to mix with the flour. And even though flour does not have sentiments, we know that in allowing it to be “knead”, there is “some pain”, as there is later when you allow it to cook. The same dynamic is found, regarding the kingdom of God, which grows in this way, and then eventually becomes food for everyone.

(Santa Marta, 25 October 2016)

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A second chance at Jeevanie

Some come from broken families, others are orphaned. The girls at the Jeevanie boarding house in Colombo have one thing in common; they have no option to return home, and the Jeevanie family has become their own.

The support of our Children's Mission Partners ensures the girls continue to live in a safe, happy and educational environment.

There are 35 children living at the Jeevanie home in Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital city of 750,000 people. They have come from all over the country, all from untenable family situations or abandonment. 'Many of the children come from broken families,' says Sister Shathini Fernando F.M.M, who runs the home. 'For some, their mothers have had to go overseas to earn any money.'

The Jeevanie home welcomes these children with the aim of fulfilling their rights to shelter, education, and food, and doing so with loving care. 'Our primary aim is to give a sound Christian formation to all our children who are under our care,' says Sr Shathini. 'From

the beginning, we take every step to develop in them Christian values through their experience in the home, parish and school.'

A sound formal education for each of the girls at the home, who are aged between eight and 18 years, is the priority for the sisters. 'The children are provided with all the facilities to get a formal education,' Sr Shathini says. 'Nineteen of the girls are attending our private school, run by the sisters, while others attend a nearby government school.'

'We also provide private tuition for the girls in important subjects such as mathematics, English, Sinhala (the predominant language in Sri Lanka), history, science and music,' Sr Shathini says. 'The children are also trained in dance and computer studies, and many



The girls at Jeevanie take part in a wide range of cultural activities to complement their studies.

of them are very interested in sports, so we provide the opportunities to help them develop their skills.'

Achini Fernando is one of the girls living at Jeevanie. Aged 16, Achini has been at the home since she was a very young girl, as her parents are no longer around to care for her. 'Her grandmother is the only one who took care of Achini and her sister, but she is very old and frail, and unable to these days,' says Sr Shathini.

Achini is a quiet girl, but a

conscientious student who loves music and sports. 'She wants to study well and become a teacher,' Sr Shathini reports. 'She will have a very bright future if she continues to study well. As a teacher, she will serve many more children like her. I hope she will have a happy life.'

The care, love and support provided by the sisters has had a life-changing influence on Achini and the other girls at Jeevanie. Catholic Mission's Children's Mission Partners program covers essentials such as daily meals for the girls, clothing, medication, education costs and supplies, and other important ongoing costs associated with their accommodation.

The girls are very happy and grateful for your support, and Sr Shathini says their future is looking bright. 'These girls are very clever, and they will serve the society with their gifts and talents.'

For more information and to support the appeal, visit

catholicmission.org.au

or contact our local Diocesan

Director, Jane Plum:

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Unexpected privilege and blessing

When Fr Wilfred 'Plunky' Plunkett passed away peacefully on the 7th June 2020, Presentation Sister Carmel Clancy was with him and she shares this reflection on being with him in his final days.

by Sister Carmel Clancy

A month ago who would have imagined that I would be sitting alone alongside Fr Wilf Plunkett when he breathed his last breath and went to his God so peacefully.

When Wilf arrived at the Forrest Centre less than a month ago, I invited him to have lunch and dinner in the dining room and he was out like a flash. Soon he was asking where I was at breakfast time however I didn't forfeit my breakfast in bed as easily as that. It was obvious Wilf wasn't well and eating meals was a torture ... he soldiered on.

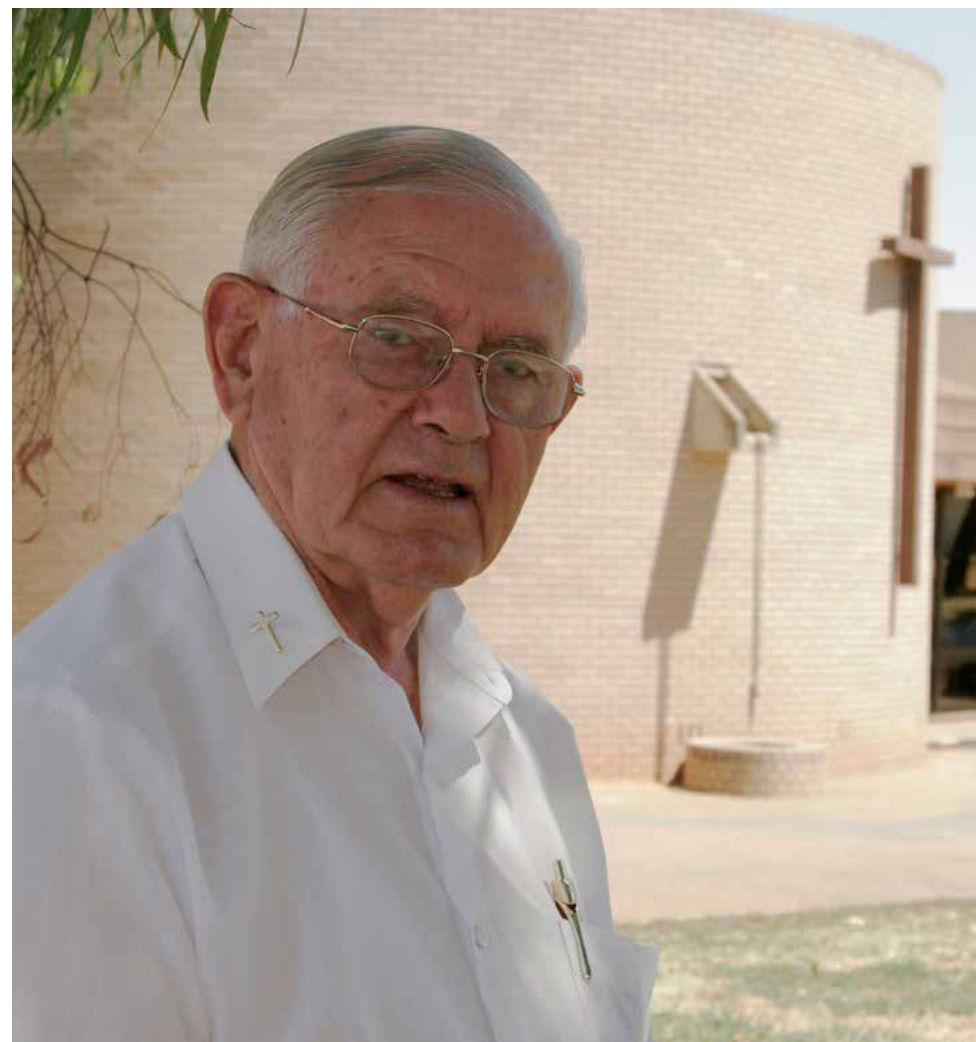
After bouts of serious pain, he had a night in the Base and came home with a bowl of satin roses given to him by the nurses ... they gave him much comfort. Gradually Wilf went downhill but kept up with his SBS programs on rail travel with Michael Portillo.

His sister, Patricia, aged 86, and her daughter Jane, came from Canberra twice in the last fortnight and stayed

overnight. The contrast in Wilf's attention to them during the space of a week was overwhelming for them. On their first visit he was able to instruct them as to what he wanted from Settlers and in came the two prize paintings to be hung in his room. They did remarkably well getting his treasures. On the second visit Wilf was immobile in bed with no response to the hand rubs or face strokes.

Wilf's nephew, Joan's son from Mossvale, came to visit and that helped greatly. On Saturday, after a further visit to Settlers, Patricia and Jane packed Wilf's treasures and said their good byes and left me to sit with Wilf whom they called Bede. There was no knowing that it would be just over 24 hours before the final call.

I was a bit slow off the mark on Sunday morning however I was pleased to find Wilf was still with us. After lunch I just sat with him and prayed all the underlined verses in my bible thinking we would



have similar favourites. I then just continued to moisten his lips, stroke his brow and pray God take him and he did just that at 4:45pm with no fuss, just two puffs and he slipped away peacefully into the embrace of his God.

After a couple of minutes I went out and informed the staff that I

thought Wilf had died. Just as they were rushing in to see, Fr Kevin O'Reilly arrived so we prayed for Wilf, had a talk and then Fr Kevin left to notify the clergy. **I had my tea and went to bed grateful that I had had the privilege of being with such a beautiful priest at such a sacred time.**

Fr Plunkett's funeral was held on 19th June 2020. Due to Covid restrictions a funeral cortege was created to ensure all those that wanted to attend could in a very unique way.

Right: The cortege went down a lined Baylis Street to the sound of bag pipes and the St Michael's Cathedral bells ringing.



Above: Fr Plunkett took his final journey down Plunkett Drive with students from Mater Dei Primary and Mater Dei College lining the road.

Below: Fr Paddy conducted the Requiem Mass at Sacred Heart Church.



Residents and staff from Settlers Village formed a guard of honour.

