ST PATRICK'S REPORT ON UGANDA KIDS

MOTHER'S DAY
CELEBRATED
IN SCHOOLS
32

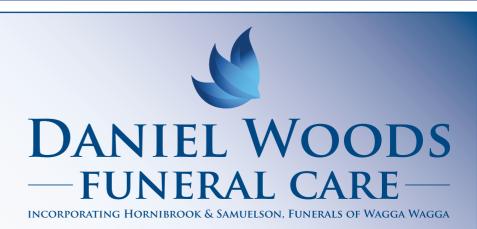
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On the journey to the Plenary Council 2020/21

Dear Friends in Christ,

This will be my fourth final reflection Plenary Council (2020/2021). **Australia** For my other theological/ pastoral Reflections refer to Together (March, April and May 2018).

May I encourage you to access the Plenary Council website (plenarycouncil.catholic. org.au) to access resources and vital information on this exciting journey of faith for all

We are to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to us in these challenging times. The Plenary Council official prayer asks the Holy Spirit to:

"Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying".

Archbishop Christopher Prowse Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese

Yet, "to listen Christians. humbly" without speaking out boldly, your observation is a missed opportunity to contribute on our journey of faith together. Let us reflect on these responses carefully in the years up until 2021.

As we gather in the times ahead in all different types of coming together, we are to reflect deeply on this seminal question: "WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME?" It is what "God is asking of us" **not** what "we are asking of God." This is crucial. It enables the whole journey to be a time of deep conversion leading to pastoral

My desire is that all of our Deaneries are to become

Yet, "to listen humbly" without speaking out boldly, your observation is a missed opportunity to contribute on our journey of faith together. Let us reflect on these responses carefully in the years up until 2021.

These petitions "to speak boldly...to listen humbly" are close to the pastoral heart of Pope Francis in his wisdom for the Catholic Church in this "change of era." Both responses are necessary simultaneously. "To speak boldly" ("apostolic courage") without listening humbly is unworthy of mature

LISTENING POSTS to what the Holy Spirit is truly saying to us in these times.

We need to follow carefully the 4 step template given to the entire Catholic Church of Australia on how to engage and respond as we gather in small or larger groups on several occasions in the times

ahead. (See the website)

The reflections of each gathering are submitted online to the National Plenary Council team (plenarycouncil. catholic.org.au). These will be examined and will develop the agenda for the Plenary Council in 2020/21.

Soon I will gather my Together theological/pastoral reflections over the last four months and present them to you both electronically and hard copies for your prayerful consideration. I hope you

can reflect on these to help shape our listening and sharing

other.

Let us pray for each

Pray for me sometimes.



Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



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Prayer Intention for June

Pray with Pope Francis

Universal: Social Networks

That social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.



esprayerusa.net/popes-intentions

Points for Meditation

How do I use social networking to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Am I respectful in thought, word and action in my postings on social media? How might I personally use social media to promote the Popes Worldwide Prayer Network?

Scripture

2 John 1:12 "Although I have much to write to you, I do not intend to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and to speak face to face so that our joy may be complete."

Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his June prayer: http://popesprayerusa.net/2018/05/29/prayer-month-june-2018/



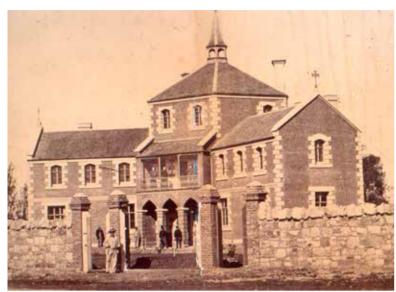
Prayer for the election of a **Bishop**

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

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.

boundless fatherly love a Bishop for

Sesquicentenary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy in Albury 1868 ~ 2012



The convent opened, free of debt on 6th February 1870.

Bishop of the Diocese, laid the

Foundation Stone of the Convent.

This building was opened, free of

From the first days of their

arrival the sisters devoted their

work to the needs of the people.

They conducted classes for adults

anxious to grow in the knowledge

of their faith and visited the homes

of parishioners and the prisoners

in the gaol and very quickly

established educational facilities

The Foundation Stone of the

chapel, dedicated to the Sacred

within Albury.

debt on 6th February 1870.

This year we celebrate the Sesquicentenary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy In **Albury.** It was at the request of Father Michael McAlroy, that a group of Sisters from Goulburn were asked to volunteer to make a foundation at Albury. On 17th July 1868 the Sisters set out for Albury. They included Mother Ignatius Murphy, Sisters de Sales Meyler, Camillus O'Donnell, Xavier McDonnell, Brigid Carroll and a postulant named Fanny McGrath. Elizabeth Enright, from Birkenhead, England also accompanied them. In addition to the four Sisters and the postulant and Elizabeth, Misses Anne Kelly and Lucinda Hogan made the transition from Goulburn to Albury in order to help with the domestic work.

On arrival in Albury, Dr McAlroy and his curate, until such time as a convent could be built, most generously vacated the presbytery for the use of the Sisters.

On the Sunday, following the sisters' arrival Dr Lanigan, the

Heart was laid on 13th November 1878 another of Dr McAlroy's achievements.

While the Sisters were very much part of the local scene they also extended further afield by founding St John's Orphanage Thurgoona in 1882, Corowa in 1887, Deniliquin in 1887, Wodonga in 1890, Tocumwal in 1906, Griffith in 1921, Henty 1924 and Howlong 1927. Presently we still have Sisters spread throughout the Albury area as well as in Corowa, along the Murray and Griffith.

By the 1940's the parishioners perceived a need for a Catholic Hospital and so on 29th April 1945 four sisters led by Mother General, Mother Columbiere arrived in Albury to commence their work of caring for the sick of the city and district. To start, the Sisters rented a small private hospital in Olive Street known as Chelvey. The site for the new Mercy Hospital was chosen as early as 1945 on Poole's Hill where a five storey structure was opened by Cardinal Gilroy on 1st

December 1957. Over these 150

educational facilities within Albury. years the Sisters have served in the fields of education, health care, aged care, child care and

social outreach.

To recognise this significant event of 150 years of Mercy Presence within our region and beyond celebrations have been planned for the weekend 21st to 22nd July 2018.

Mass is to be celebrated on Sunday 22nd July 2018 at 10am. The Mass is to be celebrated in St Patrick's Church Albury as Dr McAlroy is buried

behind the altar and as he was responsible for bringing the Sisters to Albury as well as the building of the Convent and St Patrick's Church it is appropriate that we acknowledge and give thanks for the part he played.

From the first days of their arrival the sisters

devoted their work to the needs of the people.

They conducted classes for adults anxious to

grow in the knowledge of their faith and visited

the homes of parishioners and the prisoners

in the gaol and very quickly established

This will be followed by a Celebratory Luncheon at the Commercial Club (\$40 - Drinks at bar prices). Names, money and dietary requirements need to be in by 27th June 2018.

Further details can be obtained by contacting: Sr Anne Hagan email: hagana@ww.catholic.edu.au or post to: Sr Anne Hagan **PO Box 829 Lavington NSW 2641**



Street known as Chelvey.



The site for the new Mercy Hospital was chosen in 1945 on Poole's Hill where a five storey structure was opened by Cardinal Gilroy on 1st December 1957.

The Catholic Schools Office undergoes a transformation

Education

Diocese of Wagga Wagga

The Catholic Schools Office undergone a significant transformation and on June 1st was relaunched as Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga. This includes a new name, logo, colours and much more.

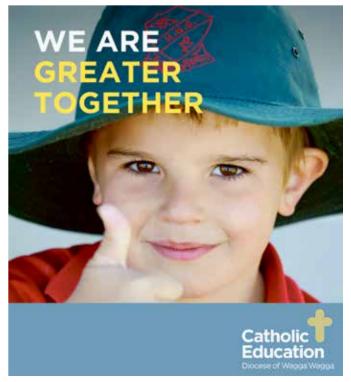
As the support organisation for 31 schools across the diocese, we felt that belongs. The aim was to create a fresh, professional look which compliments our school identities, appeals to both families and prospective staff and helps us to celebrate everything we have to offer as a community of faith and learning.

Our new logo is very simple and states what we are all about. The cross is inspired by traditional Aboriginal line drawings and represents the light of Christ, whose words and actions are at the heart of everything we do. The central cross radiates our

our name should better reflect our core mission out into our schools, parishes purpose and put the focus back where it and community beyond. The earthy colours were drawn from the land around us and reflect our rural setting and heritage.

> We have also built and inclusive language system of 'We Are' statements that speaks to who we are, what we do, and what we believe in.

> We are immensely proud of the amazing work that takes place in our community of schools every day. The rebranding is a small but important part of our ongoing effort to better support and promote this across our diocese and beyond.



Father Joel Wallace set to make history!



Halle Hicks and Isla
Wiseman, members
of St Pat's Albury
Parish School Gazette,
interview Father Joel
Wallace for *Together*

This month we have a very special report written by the Year 6 students at St Patrick's Primary School in Albury. They sat down with Father Joel Wallace to discuss updates in St Patrick's Church and his upcoming, history making, marathon in Uganda...



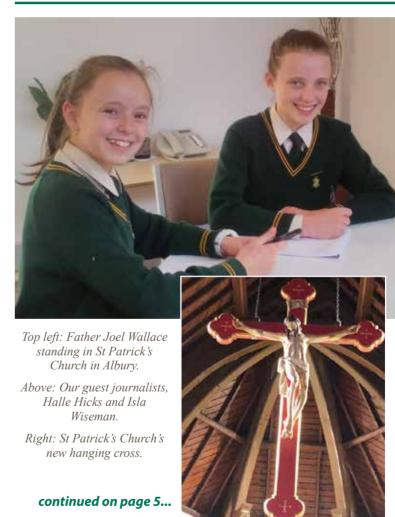
On Monday the 28th of March, Father Joel from St Patrick's Parish, Albury spoke to The St Pat's Gazette committee about the exciting events that are taking place in the Parish.

Father Joel commented on the Year Three Eucharist celebration being a special time to gather in communion and is excited about the Year Six sacrament of Confirmation later in the year. In relation to the updates in the Church itself, the St Patrick's Church has recently added a hanging cross which was displayed on Holy Thursday, a new sanctuary lamp was donated to highlight the presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle, and the Church will be undergoing some renovations.

On Saturday the 2nd of June, Father Joel is going to make HISTORY, as he will be the first non-Ugandan clergyman to compete in the endurance event of the Uganda Marathon. He has accepted this challenge to raise funds for the kids in Maska as it is a very poor area and one which we can support. What an incredible experience this will be and we cannot wait for Fr Joel to return to hear the stories.

Uganda Kids is a charity group based in Uganda. This organisation helps children with difficulties in their world. Uganda Kids has already donated more chairs and desks for new classrooms, they've funded the renovation for the new kitchen, set up a farm, they've also built a well to help sustain the farm and give water to the students, they have funded recently a new boarding area for girls because it's dangerous for young girls to walk the distance from home to school and the marathon is raising money for a Catholic secondary school.

If you would like to donate money to the charity please donate at http:// www.ugandakids.org.au/. All donations would be greatly appreciated.





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

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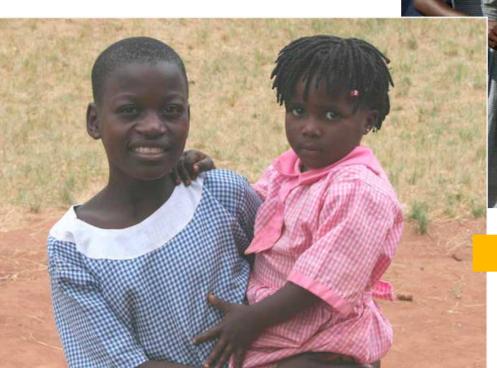
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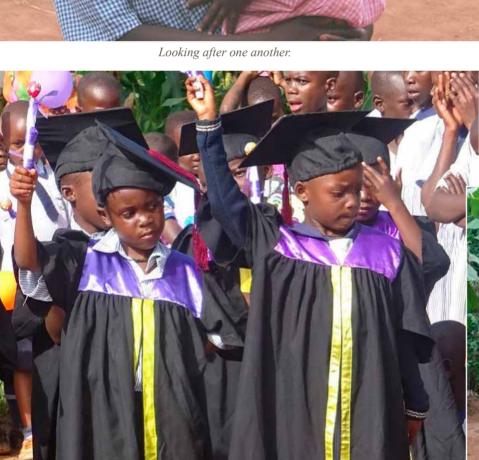




continued from page 4...

Uganda Kids is a charity group based in Uganda. This organisation helps children with difficulties in their world.





Graduating from kindergarten.



Ugandan school girls doing the Welcome Dance!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE?

All donations made to Uganda Kids are tax deductible. The Australian Taxation Office has granted them Deductible Gift Recipient status. They are currently in the process of implementing a donations platform which will be quick and easy to use. In the meantime donations can be made to the account shown. Please drop them an email identifying your donation to ugandakids@optusnet.com.au and they will send you a receipt.



Account Name: Ugandakids
Bank: NAB
BSB: 084 150
Acc: 19 479 5752
THANK YOU!



A local house.



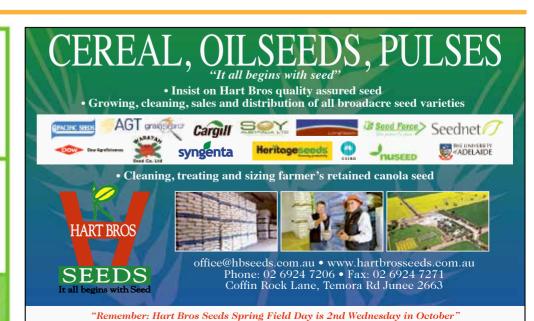
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In a Rio favela, 12 year old girl has bullet proof faith



Lais Maria Pereira da Silva, 12, was born and raised in a part of Rio de Janeiro called Complexo da Maré, which comprises one of the biggest set of favelas or shanty towns—in this Brazilian mega-city. Despite her youth, this girl is already well acquainted with violence, despair, and death. Her part of town is home to 17 separate communities with a total of 130,000 inhabitants. In addition to horrible living conditions where a piece of bread often makes up a meal—the people live under the constant threat of violence. The favelas of Rio are controlled by various criminal factions that each run drugs through the alleys that make up the neighborhood infrastructures that serve as closely-guarded transportation networks. Complexo da Maré is among the most dangerous areas in the city because it is run by two major criminal groups, Comando Vermelho Command") ("Red Terceiro Comando Puro ("Pure Third Command"), with each dominating opposite sides of

the area. They are engaged



Brazil, Rio LAÍS MARIA PEREIRA da Silva, 12, was born and raised in a part of Rio de Janeiro called Complexo da Maré, which comprises one of the biggest set of favelas—or shanty towns—in this Brazilian mega-city: Lais in front of home ©Aid to the Church in Need

make Laís' daily life difficult—it also clouds the outlook for her future. The schools in the area often need to cancel classes for security reasons. When there are no gun fights close to school but there is shooting going on near her house, her mother, says the girl, "has to call the teachers to warn us that we

cannot leave the school; we're

often asked to study for tests

another day." The girl dreams

of studying to be a doctor so

she can help people—and so

that she can make it possible

for her family to move to a

The facades of the houses

show the evidence of the state

of war residents of Complexo

de Maré have to contend with.

Bullet marks of different sizes

are evidence of the gangs'

firepower. In an effort to protect

themselves, some people board

up their windows with bricks

to guard against stray bullets;

underground

build

others

safer neighborhood.

rooms to shelter their families during shoot-outs. But no one is really safe. "When the shooting suddenly erupts, we run to the first house we see. Everyone around here knows everyone and understand the fear of these moments," says Laís, who adds: "I'm afraid to get shot."

It was precisely at home that Laís' family lived through one of the most harrowing moments of their lives. It was a typical afternoon; her cousin Ian, who was 12 at the time, was playing on the home's small patio, as children are rarely allowed to play outside the confines of the home. Lals remembers: "Suddenly, a shooting started. Before Ian could run inside, he got shot. My aunt, Ian's mother, ran downstairs and found her son on the ground, with a puddle of blood around his head." The bullet reached the right side of his brain. Family members had to wait for the shootout to end before they were able to take him to the hospital. He survived. But his injury required many surgeries, one of them included removing part of Ian's brain. As a result, some of his motor skills were impaired; the surgery also affected his ability to talk. "I was very sad, very touched when everything happened to

my cousin," says Laís, adding:

"today, seven years later, he plays with us, but he cannot

Ian is confined to a wheelchair and remembers very little about what happened that day. But his family will never forget it. Laís, along with all her friends, live under a shadow of fear of getting hurt themselves, with even a worse outcome. "I like to play... run with my friends," Laís continues, although, she adds: "when we are in the streets or alleys near here, I'm afraid of getting hit, or that a shot hurts one of my friends." In these almost unbearable circumstances, it's faith in God that keeps Laís and her family going. It would be easy to lose hope and give way to despair under the constant threat of

However, speaking with the purity of a child, Laís teaches those who would hear an important lesson: even amidst the shootings, she says, "it's possible to keep a bullet-proof faith and to be a sign of hope to the others. I always pray to God to support Ian's parents, my uncle and aunt, and that nothing bad will happen to my friends."

The Pontifical Foundation ACN supports with different projects the formation of diverse missionary communities, many of which work in the peripheries of Brazil's big cities. One of them is the community "Mercy alliance" ("Alianza de la Misericordia") which, with more than 2,000 volunteers and 337 social workers, brings the mercy of God's Love to the poorest. They work in the favelas of Brazil and the most abandoned areas of the poor neighbourhoods where the situation reported by Laís Maria Pereira da Silva is lived daily. In the last ten years ACN has helped with more than one million euros to 47 projects so that newly born missionary communities can dedicate themselves to evangelization of the peripheries and help the youth in those neighbourhoods and all those who live on the margins of society.

For more information
or to make a
donation to help
Aid to the Church in Need,
please phone
(02) 9679-1929, e-mail:
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Or write to:
Aid to the Church in Need
PO Box 7246
Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
Online donations can be
made:
www.aidtochurch.org/
together

In these almost unbearable circumstances, it's faith in God that keeps Laís and her family going. It would be easy to lose hope and give way to despair under the constant threat of violence.

in a constant battle in efforts to expand their respective territory. Lals lives in a favela called Baixa do Sapateiro, on a street called Divisa Street, which means border and the street got its name precisely because it marks the border between the territories controlled by the two criminal organizations. "They stay in the alleys, exchanging gun fire. We have to lay down on the floor in our homes because no room is secure. The shots come from the front and from behind," says Viviane Pereira, another resident of Complexo da Maré.

The violence does not only

TOGETHER JUNE 2018



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The Yenda Autism school offering sponsorships

A brand new opportunity for families exists to help autistic students integrate into the community.



of the sponsorship opportunities to help integrate kids with autism into mainstream schooling life.

"We have started what we call sponsorships with four divisions for our Yenda site, thanks the the Griffith Autism Support Group, who are in partnership with us for these sponsorships," Ms Gillespie said.

"We certainly recognise the benefit to people in the community to be able to access this sort of

"We certainly recognise the benefit to people in the community to be able to access this sort of program that we run, but who may struggle with the financial side of things."

Aspect Riverina has teamed up with Griffith's Autism Support Group to offer sponsorship to families, providing financial support to help enable them access programs offered by the new school in Yenda.

Aspect president Jo Gillespie said families were able to take advantage program that we run, but who may struggle with the financial side of

Aspect Riverina, which provides educational programs for children on the autism spectrum, opened a primary school in Yenda at the start of the year at the site of the former St Therese's school, which closed

"We certainly don't share people's personal information, it's not what we do. We are here for the young people in particular, we want to see them do the absolute best they can with the type of programs we offer, which is autism specific and heavily researched based," Ms Gillespie said.

As a transitional setting, Aspect Riverina doesn't take full-time enrollments, instead has young people come in to teach them skills to take back to school and the wider community.

"We provide them with the skills they need to transition back to their mainstream school settings so they are able to engage with that community in a positive way," Ms Gillespie said.

If you would like more information on the sponsorships available or would like to know more about Aspect Riverina and programs on offer, contact Ms Gillespie on 0427 275 787.





Above: Dynamic duo, Griffith's Danielle Favero with head teacher Jane Sinclair.

Left: Aspect Riverina's President, Jo Gillespie at the St Therese school site in Yenda. Photo: Anthony Stipo

The artist: Daniel De Valentin

by John McLaurin Editor - Catholic Voice

Canberra's Daniel De Valentin is not about to give up his day job as an engineer, but if he did he reckons he would be an artist.

The 25 year-old Canberran is more than handy when it comes to a paint brush.

Recently the South Tuggeranong parishioner completed a mural commission for the Australian National University.

He has had work exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery and held in

several private collections.

In September last year De Valentin was commissioned to paint an image of 'Our Lady Queen of Families' for the 'Hillview' farm-stay chapel near Adelong and Tarcutta.

Mr De Valentin says he was grateful for the opportunity, noting the correspondence with well-known Sydney-based artist, Paul Newton, as being one of the highlights.

"I got in touch with Paul for some advice on reference material for the painting," he said.

"Paul painted 'Our Lady of the

Southern Cross' World Youth Day in Sydney, 2008.

> "He has a wealth of experience and took time to share with me some of the methods he uses in his portraits."

The project took three months to complete.

Mr De Valentin's wife, Ruth, modelled for the artwork and was a huge support during the

"My wife is very patient that's for sure," he said.

"A tight deadline, late nights and a one-year old daughter certainly makes for an interesting few months."

In terms of materials, the work is oil paint on hand-stretched, Belgian

He uses a slow drying paint medium to extend the drying time of the oils, allowing him to work around a busy schedule.

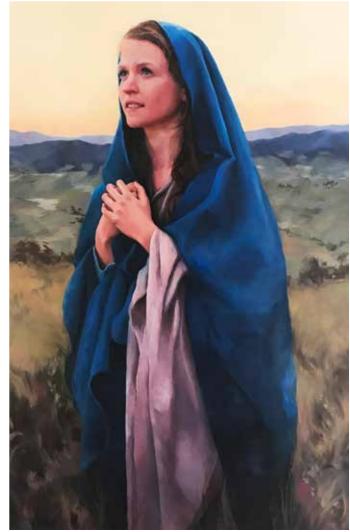
Originally from Griffith in the Riverina region of New South Wales, he began drawing and painting at the age of eight.

Mr De Valentin considers his Grandfather's woodturning as a main inspiration.

"Nonno's work on the lathe was impressive," he said.

"I think we grew up taking it for granted a bit.

"I have fond memories of hours spent playing around in the bush near Darlington Point on the Murrumbidgee while he looked for burls for turning."





TOGETHER JUNE 2018

Teacher accreditation in our diocese in 2018 School Service Officer Accreditation, Induction and Mentoring

teaching profession may not realise that 2018 is a significant years for the teaching profession in NSW.

From January 1 this year, all teachers in NSW schools and early childhood settings must be accredited with the NSW **Education Standards Authority** (NESA).

The quality of education has never been so important. In an increasingly globally competitive and technologically dynamic world, parents, employers teachers, and governments are recognising the necessity of preparing

Many outside of the young Australians for a future reaching accreditation status at characterised by both change and opportunity.

> With this awareness comes a commitment from education governments and to providing a high quality education for young people across the country; that is, an education provided by highcalibre teachers who are wellprepared, highly skilled and trusted to keep learners safe.

> In 2018 all pre-2004 teachers were newly accredited within our diocese under the new requirements. Further this, we have 67 early career teachers working

the proficient level.

"Teacher accreditation enhances and protects the quality and reputation of the profession, and provides teachers with a framework for ongoing professional development." (NESA, 2018)

The approach of teacher registration is an important mechanism to ensure the quality of the teacher workforce. In 2011 the national framework for teacher registration in Australia, underpinned by the Australian Professional Standards Teachers (Teaching Standards), was agreed by all State and Territory Education Ministers.

These Teaching Standards provide a foundation to support teachers and school leaders, school systems, regulators, education authorities governments alike. They are designed to guide and strengthen the quality of teaching, while also providing framework for career progression and ongoing high quality professional learning.



Above: Early career teacher Sophie King with her mentor from Mater Dei Catholic College Shaun Ellis.

Right: Mentor Bianca *Fonte with early* career teacher Bridget Lutze from Mater Dei Catholic College.

Left and below: Early Career teachers from the Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga in action at the 'Teachers Seeking Proficiency Workshop held in April this year.





Everyone is welcome
There is so much to see and do in the Burdekin



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"Australian teachers want to be part of a high status profession that values excellence and has the confidence of the community. They also want to be valued for their commitment to growing their expertise and increasing their impact on the learning of the young people in their care" (AITSL, 2018).

Within the Wagga Wagga diocese we continue to work hard to provide professional learning opportunities that meet the needs of our teachers and the students they teach. A variety of opportunities are also provided to support teachers at each stage of their career.

Catholic Education Diocese

of Wagga Wagga aim be at the forefront of education through leading outstanding teaching and learning, to provide high quality education that focuses on the development of the whole person and is underpinned by our Catholic faith.





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The Friends For Life Programs are the only social skills and resilience building programs endorsed by the World Health Organisation as best practice for the prevention and treatment of anxiety and depression.

The Friends for Life Programs

4 to 7 years:

The Friends For Life Programs are a suite of evidence-based, social and emotional skills programs aimed at building resilience of individuals and families across the lifespan.

The Friends For Life only **Programs** the are programs endorsed by the World Health Organisation as best practice for the prevention and treatment of anxiety and depression.

The Fun Friends Program helps guide the social and emotional development of children aged 4 to 7 by using fun, play-based group activities. Developed by Dr Paula Barrett, Fun Friends teaches skills that will nurture a child's development during these crucial early years, giving them the ability to excel and smoothly transition into school life. After undertaking Fun Friends parents and teachers

notice the following changes in a child:

- Increased confidence
- More able to cope with stress
- More able to cope with fear
- Enhanced social skills
- Able to communicate better with adults
- Boosted selfesteem
- enthusiastic

8 to 11 years:

Friends for Life is a social skills and resilience building program that is recognised by the World Heath Organization for over 12 years of comprehensive research as an effective means to prevent anxiety for children aged 8-11. Anxiety is a common disorder, affecting over 20% of children in this age group. If left unattended anxiety can severely impact a child's development which then created problems later in life.

Anxiety can cause constant worry about things close to a child such as homework, attending school camp and even non-local events that appear on the news such as natural disasters or pandemics. This anxiety can detract from learning and have a severe impact on development. • Generally happier and more Developed by Dr Paula Barrett,

Friends for Life is proven to reduce anxiety and give participants the tools they need to cope in these stressful and challenging situations. Friends for Life teaches participants to cope with their feelings and the feelings of other by training them to think more positively and to relax and regulate their bodies. Friends for life also

teaches confidence and ways to tackle problems which helps build self esteem as participants start to solve problems they would have previously shied away from. More importantly, Friends for Life enables participants to be happy, smile and be brave which helps them easily transition to their teenage years.





wellbeing for all

- Family Counselling Services
- School Wellbeing Program
- Personal Helpers and Mentors Program
- Employee Assistance Program
- Family Education Services
- Complex Case Services

- Natural Fertility Awareness
- Settlement Grants Program
- Recovery Approaches to Dementia
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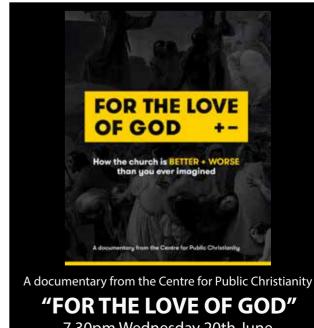
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The world needs GOOD men

"There's never been a more important time than now for men to step up, lead their families and communities, and live an authentic masculinity rooted in understanding their identity as sons of God," said Stefanick, co-author and video presenter.

"RISE is all about stepping up and claiming your true identity as a son of God, embracing your natural and profound gifts as a man. That changes everything," said Stefanick. "Imagine if a million men in the Church were living intentionally as disciples of Christ. Families, parishes

Being a man today can be confusing. We are shamed for our 'toxic masculinity' and told we should be less masculine if we want to get ahead in life. Yet, added to this, are the pressures on men to perform, to succeed and never show weakness and vulnerability. It is no wonder men are struggling to live up to their full potential.

videos and challenges that walks men through a battle plan for life. It's simple, but the results are extraordinary. Whether they're faithful or just seeking, RISE will profoundly impact their lives for the better," said Stefanick.

RISE is an individual journey for each man with practical challenges based on their life situation. Men are encouraged to walk with a "brother," and to hold each other accountable through the 30 days, and there are resources provided for parish and group settings.

"RISE is a unique 30-day series of and communities would be transformed. That's our goal."

> Men can choose to begin RISE at different start-dates throughout the year. Parishes may review RISE at no cost.

"This isn't just a program, it's a "RISE meets men where they are, and gives them practical tools to live their faith out every day. With men all around the world stepping up, RISE will be revolutionary."

To learn more about RISE visit https://www.menriseup.org/





Chris Stefanick, co-author

Chris is the founder of Real Life Catholic, movement," said Donaghy, co-author. a nonprofit organization dedicated to reengaging a generation. He speaks to over 50,000 people a year and is the author of many books and resources, including *Chosen:* Your Journey Toward Confirmation. Chris is also the host of EWTN's Real Life Catholic. Most importantly, Chris is a proud husband to Natalie, and father of six beautiful children.



Bill Donaghy, co-author

Bill is a curriculum specialist at the Theology of the Body Institute. He is an author, instructor, and international speaker with over 25 years of experience in mission, evangelization, and education. He has a background in visual arts, philosophy, and Masters in systematic theology. Most importantly, he's the husband of Rebecca and father of four beautiful children.

West Wagga-San Isidore Refugee Committee

INVITES YOU TO

The Multifaith Refugee Week

Prayer Service for Peace

Representatives of Wagga Wagga`s faith communities coming together in solidarity for Peace.

2:00pm Sunday 24th June 2018 San Isidore Church

Guest Speaker: Ron Lawler

25 years as senior manager in government agencies for Aboriginal and community services; Current Treasurer for Initiatives of Change, a global organisation dedicated to building trust across world divides, with which he has been involved for many years as a volunteer.

Special welcome to new arrivals: our new friends who have come in the past twelve months



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PROJECT COMPASSION FOR A JUST FUTURE

Supporting marginalised communities three years after Nepal earthquake

by Daniel NourContent Specialist - Caritas

Three years after the Nepal earthquake, which killed 9,000 people and injured more than 22,000, Caritas Australia continues to restore infrastructure, livelihoods and community wellbeing in the earthquake prone country.

Through our International Network, Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal to build earthquake and disaster resistant houses to equip communities against future risks.

Through empowerment campaign, called, in Nepalese, "Surakshit Awas Afain Banau Aviyaan!" "Let's Build Earthquake Resistant Houses ourselves!" Caritas has built over 4000 new homes and re-built 13 village communities across Nepal with earthquake resistant buildings. Melville Fernandez, Manager Humanitarian Emergencies

at Caritas Australia, described the ways that Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal to improve entire communities following the disaster.

"Caritas Nepal continues to focus on effectively reaching the most vulnerable community members with shelter and livelihoods support. We recognise that households face many challenges to rebuild their homes and improve their lives and so are working with local communities to create employment



Caritas staff on a recent monitoring visit to Nepal Caritas Nepal April 2018

opportunities," Mr Fernandez said.
"Caritas Nepal's active engagement with the government at the central and local levels has created opportunities which help these ongoing recovery efforts."

For Mr. Chankhey Tamang, a Caritas constructed home has created a sense of hope for the future. Chankhey, aged 48, is disabled with a family of six to look after, and was worried by the huge challenge of home construction.

"I can't carry anything on my back, and I can't walk long distances. Some people of other caste groups look down upon me because of my disability," Chankhey said.

"Yet I was among the first ones in the village to reconstruct shelter,

and I am extremely thankful to Caritas Nepal for all the support they provided me to accomplish this task".

Immediately following the earthquake, the global Caritas network was able to reach over 59,000 households in some of the hardest hit areas with emergency aid, including temporary shelters, blankets, water and hygiene kits, and non-food items.

Your support of Caritas Australia ensures that essential aid and development opportunities can be created across Nepal as it moves forward into a brighter future. Find out more or donate now at www. caritas.org.au/asia

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

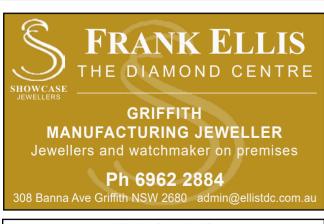




In Nepal the Caritas network is providing training in disaster resistant building techniques.

Photo Jennifer Hardy CRS 2016

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Seek and find the grace of God in your life

What is a person likely to experience when beginning to give up him or herself conscientiously to the spiritual journey?

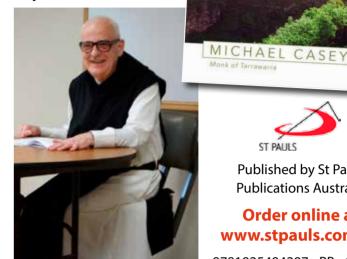
The benevolence of God expresses itself in many different ways as the journey unfolds, and this beautiful book is a guide. Gradually, we come to realize that everything that happens in our lives is somehow the gift of our loving Father. This is sometimes apparent in the present moment, but most often it happens in retrospect when the elements of wisdom are beginning to find a place in our hearts. This is why the word "grace" is both the book's title and appears in each of the chapter titles.

Every journey is ultimately individual. As Casey explains, what you hear within your own spirit is more significant than what he can say. But his aim is to help

"I find Michael Casey to be our present day Merton. Grace reveals why Fr Michael is such a beloved spiritual mentor for so many. He weaves diverse sources into his own pondering, with wisdom gained from decades of living monastic life. He has much to offer anyone who yearns for a down to earth relationship with God. A gentle, spiritual master journey with him!" - Laura Swan, Author

you listen to the voice of God in your heart. Sometimes what we feel surpasses our powers to describe it, and this is where we are obliged to extend the scope of our spiritual vocabulary, to find words that can adumbrate what we are experiencing. Grace aims to help you do that. It is also an invitation to look back on past years and to wonder at what God has done in your life.

"Grace is so common that we rarely notice." says Michael Casey. This soon to be classic of the spiritual life shows how there is grace in discontinuity, in desire, even in temptation. Also, with grace comes faith, prayer, silence, and revelation to realise that everything happening in our lives is somehow the gift of our loving



Michael Casey

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About the author:

Michael Casey, OCSO, is a Cistercian monk of Tarrawarra Abbey in Australia and has been a popular retreat leader, a lecturer on monastic spirituality and author of spiritual books for over half a century. He completed a degree in

Scripture at Leuven and received his doctorate from Melbourne College of Divinity for a study of desire for God in the writings of Bernard of Clairvaux. His books include Strangers to the City and The Road to Eternal Life.

Wagga Diocese Cursillistas meet to discuss 'how can we be prophets of hope'



by George Simon President - WWDCCM

The Wagga Wagga Diocese **Catholic Cursillo Movement held** a weekend for Cursillistas at St Michaels Parish Centre, Wagga Wagga on June 2 and 3.

The theme was "How can we be prophets of Hope." This follows on from the theme of our National Encounter in October 2017 which started with "Lord, show us the Way - A New Beginning" and which evolved into the final theme – "We are Prophets of Hope."

On Saturday morning, Kate Dunn, President of the National Secretariat, informed us of what was happening at a national level, especially the review of the Charisms of Cursillo (a small group led by Fr John Armstrong) who are

meeting regularly electronically and who will present a report to National Secretariat later this year.

Kate also mentioned the Asia Pacific Group Cursillo which is going well. Our Spiritual Leaders were Fr Paul Hart and Sr Clare Gaynor PBVM. Meditations were 3 Glances of Christ by Bern Milne and Bear Fruit by Joe Jambor.

Our talks were Obstacles by George Simon, Choices by Garry Van Emerik, a presentation on a proposed 1st Ecumenical Anglican & Catholic Mens Cursillo given jointly by Bert Adams and George Simon and Christianity in Action given by Joe Jambor.

There was music and sharing and deep fellowship in Jesus. Peter Jansen led a symbolic and beautiful ceremony of pebbles, glass and Cross where each of us was given a

pebble (no two were alike as no two of us were alike) which represented our sins, obstacles and failings and our needs. After a short quiet reflection each of us put our pebble in the glass jar placed in front of a Cross and each of us quietly said our prayer. After that we all stood and joined hands and sang "Bind us Together Lord." In my view the atmosphere was electric.

On Saturday afternoon Sr Bernadette Pattison PBVM joined us and gave a presentation on Basic Principles of Discernment and then gave us 11 reflection questions specific to our Cursillo which provide a framework in addition to our Tripod of Piety, Study and Action for us to work on.

These questions will be circulated to our Cursillo members for prayer, thought and action in days to come.

Sr Bernadette's attendance and presentation was providential and in conjunction with the other activities, and with a real inkling of the hard work to come, led us to determine that we will all make an effort not to let Cursillo fail in our Diocese.

Fr Paul said mass in the room on Saturday afternoon very ably assisted by Lorraine Amarant and it was simply uplifting, warm and loving where our weaknesses, fears and anxieties were set aside in love

of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and in each other.

The Holy Spirit was definitely with us and our celebration of Corpus Christi is one I will long cherish.

Our attending Cursillistas came from Albury, Canberra, Ganmain, Holbrook, Howlong, Leeton, Wagga Wagga, Woomargama and Wymah.

Some of the items or awarenesses agreed on to help us move forward

- We will join with the Anglicans in the 1st Ecumenical Cursillo (Mens) to be held in September 2018 in Ganmain. We will provide some team members and hopefully, candidates.
- We will hold a traditional Diocesan Womens' Cursillo with a Rectora still to be found around late October to mid November 2018.
- We will try to dialogue with our more Clerical clergy, brothers and sisters in an effort to find the middle ground with a realisation and belief that we all understand Jesus' instruction that we must love each other and respect each other without worry about the few excessively driven on both sides.
- The harvest is great and the labourers are few said Jesus...but He never said we have to use the same tools! But I suspect He preferred we share them!

- We pray and hope that several younger Cursillistas will come onto the Executive Committee in February 2019. Fresh knowledge and experience is needed.
- Cursillo is not a Conversion exercise... it is always a short course in Christianity where Cursillistas receive the method and tools to go and change the Environments for
- We will, as a movement, try to contribute positively to the 2020 Plenary Council.

We thank Karen Williams and Fr Kevin O'Reilly for the use of the centre facilities both days. And we thank our caterer, Marc Collins of Lime Leaf Catering, Wagga Wagga, for his delightful sandwiches, wraps and slices. No one went hungry! And to our Bern Milne for a lovely fruit platter on Saturday - kept us healthy. Additional to those present already mentioned the following attended: Bruce and Irene Arnold, Julie Adams, Maria Doyle, Liz Lawton, Vicki Morris, Liz Simon, Margaret Sutherland, Freda Turner and Georgie Wood.

I am pleased to give this report and can be contacted on 0427 254 493 if readers are interested in finding out more about this wonderful Cursillo movement.

Working hard only part of the equation by Emily Sh Virtue Ministry graphic designer and w by Emily Shaw Virtue Ministry graphic designer and writer

Hard work is a necessary part of life. How many times have we been counselled to work hard in order to achieve our goals?

concerted effort to progress in anything whether it is sport, music, academics or our career.

When you set a goal, whether it's to become fitter or get better grades, working hard alone will not achieve the measure of success you're looking for. Certainly, it does take a Instead, suggest the VM team making a plan that will help you reach your goal is a much better use of your time and energy.

"As a Christian, prioritising our relationship with God is a must. Only then can we effectively recognise our other priorities, and where our efforts they need to be."

Even more so when we don't feel like it. But, argue the team as Virtue Ministry (VM) this plan of 'working hard' is incomplete.

"Working hard is not in and of itself a bad thing," explains Stina Constantine, Founder and Managing Director of Virtue Ministry, "but working hard isn't necessarily going to get you where you want to be."

"Working hard is meant to be coupled with working smart. That's where you get success."

For those striving to become fitter a balanced approach to diet and exercise is going to be much more fruitful than eating whatever you want and then heading to the gym occasionally.

Likewise, the student in search of better grades will benefit more from setting a study plan and addressing the areas in which they need to improve, and sticking to it rather than just doing more study that does not take into consideration the areas for improvement.

VIRTUE TAKES GUTS, GRIT **GUMPTION**



Once you have drafted your plan of attack, that's when hard work and perseverance are required.

"This is where discipline decisions into play," Constantine, "our motivations initially take us to the gym, or to our desk, but they don't last."

"We have to learn to plan, set goals and THEN stick to them." Discipline, however, is not about setting a rigid rule, it is about living a smart lifestyle. It involves knowing your priorities are and making regularly reinforce these priorities.

And, the VM team insist, this discipline works across the board for health, relationships, study and work. It is, additionally, the same discipline we should use in our spiritual life.

"We just need to ask ourselves, what do I prioritise? and how do I serve that priority's best interests?" says Constantine.

"As a Christian, prioritising our relationship with God is a must. Only then can we effectively recognise our other priorities, and where our efforts they need to be."

Work hard, yes, but work smart.



GOALS

WRITE DOWN:

3 practical and realistic ways in which you can grow in this virtue as well as

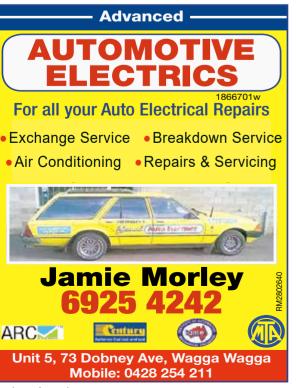
3 obstacles you can forsee to growing in this virtue

EVALUATE:

Check your progress every night and see how you went and where you can improve.

SHARE:

Your progress with an accountability partner or with us on our Facebook page - we're doing this challenge too!





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Young people's missionary hearts are Pope's focus for World Mission Day message

Catholic Mission echoes the youth focused sentiment in it's 2018 Church Appeal, focused on education of children in Myanmar.



Cardinal Charles Maung Bo S.D.B.

For several years, Catholic Mission's collaboration with the Church in this growing Asian country has been specifically directed toward the growth and fostering of the educational gifts of young people.

Led by Cardinal Charles Maung Bo S.D.B., the Catholic Church in Myanmar has prioritised education as the key stepping stone to peace, and the 2018 Catholic Mission Church Appeal highlights the important work of Catholic Mission in Myanmar through teacher formation and the construction of schools.

A decade ago, Cardinal Bo founded a teacher-training centre called the Pyinya Sanyae Institute of Education (PSIE) to support education across the country, and through teacher training and the implementation of alternative,

child-centred education, the Church is contributing in a positive way to development.

Pope Francis writes of the history of the Pontifical Mission Societies (known as Catholic Mission in Australia) in his message and addresses it to young people as they prepare for October's Synod on Young

'This coming October ... we will hold the Synod devoted to you. It will prove to be one more occasion to help us become missionary disciples, ever more passionately devoted to Jesus and his mission, to the ends of the earth,' the Pope

'No one is so poor as to be unable to give what they have, but first and foremost what they are. Let me repeat the words of encouragement that I addressed to the young people of Chile: "Never think that you have nothing to offer, or that nobody needs you. Many people need you. Think about it! Each of you, think in your heart: many people need me".' Students from the Wagga

Wagga Diocese's secondary colleges recently had their own Youth Festival at the Borambola Centre. Catholic Mission was one of the social justice agencies of the Catholic Church that had a display and conducted some of the sessions at the festival. The other agencies included



Students getting ready to immerse themselves in the 360 virtual reality headsets at Borambola.

Vinnies and Caritas.

Catholic Mission's innovative Mission in 360 virtual reality headsets were on display at the festival, allowing students to put themselves virtually into some of the situations and countries around the world where Catholic Mission provides support, including Myanmar, Uganda Ethiopia.

The 2018 Church Appeal, focussing on the Church in Myanmar and its efforts to improve the quality of education in the country, will be conducted in each of the parishes throughout the Wagga Diocese during the remainder of the year.

To donate to the Catholic Mission please contact **John Goonan Wagga Wagga Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission** on 0428 970 445 or email waggawaggadirector@ catholicmission.org.au







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& A with Archbishop Coleridge 🕒

month, Archbishop Mark Coleridge was elected president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Currently the Archbishop of Brisbane, he previously served as an Auxiliary Bishop in Melbourne and as Archbishop of Canberra-Goulburn. In this conversation with the ACBC Communications Office, he speaks about his appointment at a critical time for the Catholic Church in Australia.

What strengths do you think your brother bishops saw in you that gave them the confidence to choose you to lead them at this critical time?

I guess a certain range of experience was a factor. As a bishop, I've been a rolling stone for quite a long time; I've seen the Church in Australia from south to north, from city to country. Other factors may have been an ability to put words together in the public forum and a certain vision of the way forward for the Church here, focusing on the Plenary Council. But, in the end, these things are a bit mysterious.

As you are entrusted with the role of leading the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, what great challenges do you

The great challenge is to do what I can to help the whole Church move from the Royal Commission to the Plenary Council and all that lies beyond it. This will mean helping the Church find a

distinctively Gospel voice in the great social debates – not fighting ideology with ideology, but engaging issues with the power of the Gospel.

That will mean working to make sure Jesus is at the heart of everything. In the end, He's all we've got. And He's the only one who'll enable us to meet all the challenges.

decision of the bishops, but I'm so starkly during the Royal convinced it is the work of the Holy Spirit, who alone can renew us. If it's not the Spirit's work, then it will be merely administrative or political, and there's no renewal there. The Spirit is asking us to listen in deeper ways – to God and to each other. Then we'll have to decide and act

The Plenary Council isn't a

"For me, Pope Francis has been fundamental in helping us hear the call of the Gospel anew. He's been a gift of the Holy Spirit. That's why he's intimately part of our Spirit journey, even if he's far away."

You've said that despite those challenges, great opportunities also exist. What are some of those opportunities?

Throughout history, the great surges of Gospel energy have come when things looked grim. That's where we are now.

The great opportunity we have is to open ourselves to the power of God in our weakness and allow God to build a new and unexpected future for us. That will mean a humbler, simpler and more joyful Church. It will also mean a more missionary Church.

You mentioned the Plenary Council 2020, of which you have been a great supporter. How can it be the process of renewal and revitalisation that so many are hoping for?

The Plenary Council was a

talkfest; it's a time to discern, decide and act. If we do that under the influence of the Holy Spirit, things will change in unexpected and hope-filled ways.

How can the Church be the face of Christ in Australia – not just in our pews, but in our homes, our streets, our schools, hospitals and prisons?

We may be diminished in some ways, but we can't allow ourselves to be pushed into a corner of private religion. The Catholic instinct is to engage the wider culture and we've done that powerfully in Australia.

But it won't be as a political or economic force, nor as some large lobby group promoting its own interests. Our engagement will be driven by the Gospel, which means we'll be a servant Church out in the streets wherever human need is found.

The Church has been deeply scarred by the tragedy of child sexual abuse, laid bare Commission. How can the Church recover from such a profound loss of trust?

The first thing we need to do is to see through the eyes of those who've been abused and see them not as the other but as our own. In a sense, they will have to lead the Church beyond the horrors of abuse. Then we need to repent, which is not just saying sorry, but working to ensure that the Church is genuinely safe and caring, so that trust is rebuilt.

We also need to ask what it was in Church culture that allowed abuse to happen and to be so grossly mishandled by Church leaders and to change the culture wherever necessary. Much has already been done, but there's a long journey ahead of us. The bishops know that and are determined to do whatever the Gospel requires.

There is something of a tension that exists between the desire for strong episcopal leadership and the desire for an increased involvement from the laity. Who must shape the way forward for the Church?

Everyone in the Church – lay people, consecrated religious, the ordained. The work belongs to the whole communion of the baptised. Each has received gifts of the Spirit and we'll need all those gifts as we move forward. We'll also need to hear all the voices, because each has heard the Word of God and has something

But the wider society also has a part to play. Society receives from the Church, and the

Church receives from society. Therefore, we have to be alert to the promptings of God in the secular world, which can be less irreligious than it seems. The Church serves God; we don't own

The Church in Australia is - and can often seem - far removed from Rome and the Pope. What lessons can Pope Francis offer you and the **Australian Church?**

For me, Pope Francis has been fundamental in helping us hear the call of the Gospel anew. He's been a gift of the Holy Spirit. That's why he's intimately part of our Spirit journey, even if he's far away. He models the episcopal ministry in new ways, speaking a language that people get - even people outside the Church.

He's also calling the whole Church to be more Christ-like. That's why his letter Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel, is I think a providential charter into the future. I'll have it close at hand for as long as I'm president of the Conference.

Renewal Day 'Christ be the Centre' Reflection and Meditation Day Presented by Br Massimo & Fr Doroteo Saturday June - 30th - 2018 St Brendan's Parish, Shepparton Monsignor Peter Jeffrey Centre: 10.00 am to 4::00 pm Hosted by Diocesan Catholic Chanismatic Renewal Faith building, Fellowship & Prayer Ministry All Welcome Contact Brigita Hore: 0412-042-196 E. brigitajh@bigpond.com

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Catholic Church confirms entry into the national redress scheme

Catholic Australian Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia confirmed that the Church will enter the national redress scheme for survivors of child sexual abuse when that becomes possible under national legislation.

"Since as early as 2013, the Catholic Church has called for a national redress scheme for survivors of child sexual abuse," ACBC president Archbishop Mark Coleridge said.

support the Royal Commission's recommendation national redress scheme, administered by the Commonwealth, and we are keen to participate in it.

"Survivors deserve justice and healing and many have bravely come forward to tell their

CRA president Sr Ruth Durick OSU said: "We recognise that redress will not take away a survivor's pain, but hope that it can provide some practical assistance in the journey towards recovery from abuse.

"We are committed to providing redress to survivors who were within the Catholic

Church." Various Catholic leaders told the Royal Commission into

Institutional Responses to Child

Sexual Abuse that they supported a national redress scheme to limit future trauma for survivors of abuse in obtaining redress from

Given the diverse structure of the Catholic Church, Catholic officials have been working with the Commonwealth Government to enable the Church to work effectively with the independent National Redress Operator.

"To that end, we are establishing an agency to allow dioceses and religious congregations to interact with the Scheme Operator," Archbishop Coleridge

Budget does not address Catholic Schools'concerns

Catholic school communities significant expecting initiatives addressing the raised with concerns **Federal Minister for Education** Simon Birmingham and Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull would be disappointed with the budget.

Whilst Senator Birmingham has promised the government will respond to the Independent Report of the Review into the Socio-economic Status Score methodology from the National Resourcing Board School later this year, there is little in the budget that details how the government will address this, and the other "landmark" reviews the government has received this year.

The acting executive director National Catholic

Education Commission, Ray Collins said the key issue for the Catholic sector is the inequity in the current funding model for non-government schools and the negative impact it is particularly having on Catholic schools.

"Whilst Minister Birmingham has indicated that he is awaiting the report from the National School Resourcing Board on the SES there needs to be a significant boost to school funding across the board for all sectors if the vision for quality schools across Australia is to be achieved," Mr Collins said.

"Our continued efforts in communicating our concerns to the Minister certainly haven't been reflected in this budget," he said. "Parents seeking an affordable Catholic education for their children will have little

certainty from this budget."

Mr Collins said he was surprised at how little funding was allocated to the recommendations from Halsey Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education.

"All the recommendations this report made in relation to school education, including the provision of experienced teachers and principals to rural and remote schools, have not attracted any funding in this budget," Mr Collins said.

"The focus has been on post school opportunities for students, but nothing to support the important school years that enable the young people of these areas to access tertiary education."

In a similar vein, the Gonski

report into the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence Australian Schools is mentioned in a few brief statements that the government has accepted each of the recommendations with no indication as to the costs that acceptance will create over the coming financial year.

Mr Collins said one aspect of the budget that will please principals and school communities is the continuation of the National School Chaplaincy Program.

"Principals and parents have valued this program highly over the years since it was introduced by the Howard Government and the \$61.4 million dollars for each of the next four years provides some certainty to schools that have chaplains/ pastoral care workers supporting their schools," said Mr Collins.

"The focus on addressing bullying in schools is a valued component of the program and it is good to see the government recognising the importance of the school chaplaincy program in

"However, with no indexation over the last three years of the program and the likelihood of more and more schools wanting to access this program, the funds allocated will probably prove to be inadequate."

The NCEC also appreciates continuation of National **Partnership** access to universal childhood education.







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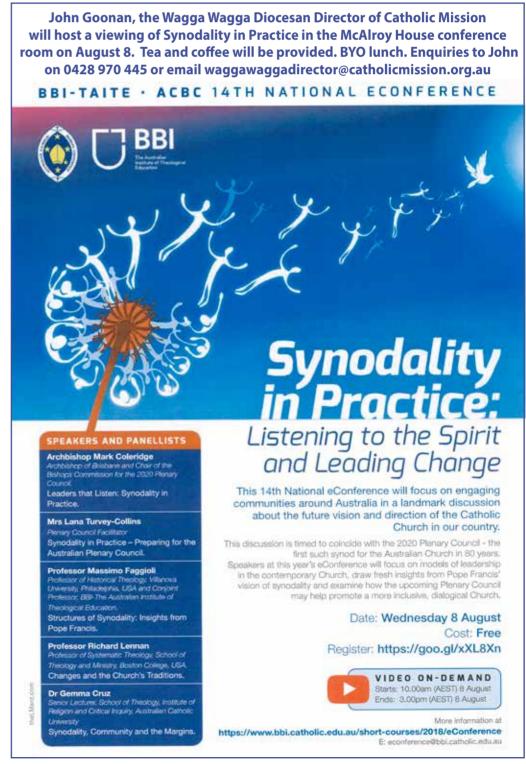
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2nd to 16th/19th March 2019 / Journey to Jordan & Israel

Dear Friends,



In 2017, I had opportunity to visit the Holy Land with group of fellow pilgrims. It was one of the most amazing overseas trips I have ever made. Besides the

incredible landscapes and the rich history of this land, you are visiting not only the land where Jesus lived and worked but where our Father in Faith, Abraham, also was present.

This special pilgrimage will give you a new perspective on the bible and the stories you listen to when you come to mass each week. The places of the bible will come alive in your mind because you have visited there.

I invite you to join me on this pilgrimage to enrich your spirituality through your knowledge of the scriptures. Enjoy a 3 night stopover on the way home in Dubai where you will marvel at the souks (markets), Arabic culture and the incredible modern buildings.

Fr Paddy Sykes

TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE TO JORDAN & ISRAEL:

AUD \$6,490*

per person (twin sharing) Single supplement: AUD\$1,450 Wagga to Sydney return airfare supplement: AUD\$500

* Conditions apply. Subject to change. Price is based on minimum of 25 paying participants.

OPTIONAL 3 NIGHT DUBAI STOPOVER PACKAGE:

AUD \$899*

per person (twin sharing) Single supplement: AUD\$350

* Price is based on minimum of 10 participants.

Price includes:

- Return economy class airfares from Sydney - Dubai - Amman with Emirates (Wagga to Sydney return supplement available)
- 12 nights' hotel accommodation including daily buffet breakfasts & dinners throughout
- 9 lunches in Israel and 4 lunches in Jordan at local restaurants.
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours

as outlined in the itinerary with the services of local professional English speaking guide throughout the tour

- meet and assistance Airport and transfers and transportation throughout in a luxury airconditioned coach
- · Entrance fees to museums and all sights as mentioned in the itinerary
- · Border crossing fees and Jordan Visa for those that arrive and depart in the group.
- Tips, gratuities and porterage throughout
- Airport & departure taxes
- Whisperer Headsets in Israel

What to do next:

- 1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Chris Cotter at the Catholic Schools Office or from Fr Paddy Sykes or the team at Olive Tree Travel
- 2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$350 per person is required by 25th June 2018 (unless sold out prior)
- 3. Full payment will be required by 19th December 2018

Attend an information evening:

Join us for an informative, entertaining and interesting evening, have your questions answered and meet your fellow pilgrims.

WHEN:

Saturday, 16th June 2018 at 6:30pm after Mass

WHERE:

Marian Foyer, Henschke School Hall **RSVP:**

Katrina at Olive Tree Travel Ph: 1300 550 830 or katrina@olivetreetravel.com.au

Christopher Cotter

Assistant Director of Schools Catholic Schools Office Ph: 02 6937 0000

Fr Paddy Sykes

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Ph: 02 6925 2111 patrickgsykes@gmail.com











September is Fruit & Veg Month



Diocese Year of Youth Art Competition

Congratulations to Megan Visagie, one of the runner-up winners for the Diocese Year of Youth Art Competition. What a beautiful image Megan!



Fruit & Veg Month is a health promotion program for NSW primary schools that puts a positive focus on fruit and vegetables. The program is supported by NSW Health.

Fruit & Veg Month 2018 will be held from Monday 3 September to Friday 28 September.

The theme for this year is 'Happy Fruit & Veg'tember!'

Aussie kids don't eat enough fruit and vegetables. If we want kids to eat more fruit and veg we need to market them better. That's why this year's theme is all about getting happy with fruit and vegetables!

ALAN HARRIS McDONALD





76 Copland Street, Wagga Wagga 6921 4913

www.alanharrismcdonald.com.au

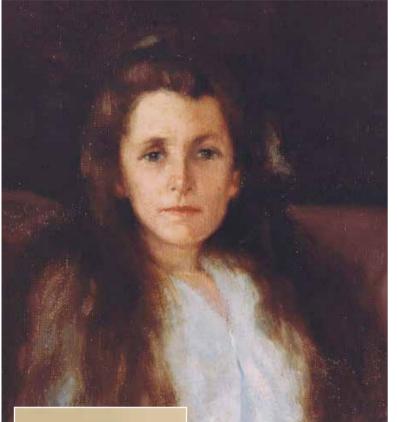






TOGETHER JUNE 2018

A saint in waiting?



Eileen O'Connor lived a life largely confined to bed after she fell from her pram and severely damaged her spine when she was just three years old.

life she could not stand or walk. It is now known Eileen suffered from Pott's Disease (tuberculous osteomyelitis).

With limited education and no formal theological formation, she embodied a distinctive spirituality marked by an unwavering devotion to Our Lady and her willingness to devote her suffering to Our Lady's work.

Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor – fondly known as the Brown Nurses – has performed a unique ministry of healthcare, advocacy and friendship for the sick poor and disadvantaged.

Eileen's beautiful spirit inspired many people to seek her guidance and prayers. She listened to them, understood their problems and gave wise advice. There are numerous anecdotal and documented accounts of Eileen's intercession in answering the prayers of the faithful.

Eileen died on 10 January 1921, aged just 28 years. Her body was found to be incorrupt when it was exhumed from Randwick Cemetery for reinterment in the chapel at Our Lady's Home, Coogee, 15 years later.

Eileen's legacy – the mission of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor over the past 100 years – ranks among the great and enduring social works of Caroline Chisholm and Saint Mary MacKillop.

In 2017, Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney, approved the following two prayers for the beatification of Eileen O'Connor:

Great and Merciful God, through the maternal love of the Blessed Virgin Mary, you inspired your servant Eileen O'Connor, to care for the sick and dying poor and to serve your Church through spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Listen graciously to our prayers, and grant that Eileen may be raised to the glory of your altar. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Holy and loving God, we give you thanks for your faithful servant Eileen O'Connor. By your



A severely crippled nun, Eileen O'Connor (pictured), who devoted her life to helping the poor and needy is on track to become Australia's second ever Catholic saint.

Eileen's beautiful spirit inspired many people to seek her guidance and prayers. She listened to them, understood their problems and gave wise advice.

grace she united her sufferings to Christ and her prayers to Mary. With great patience she inspired and called other women to be devoted to the care of the sick and dying poor, both in body and in spirit. We humbly ask that the Little Mother, Eileen, who by her ceaseless prayer and suffering inspired others to live

the Gospel, may be lifted up and counted among your saints in heaven. Graciously hear our prayers through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Please contact
Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor
if you would like copies
of these prayer cards.
www.ourladysnurses.org.au



Eileen O'Connor - dubbed

Mother' by

congregation – is considered

by many to be a saint-in-

waiting. Born in Melbourne

1892, Eileen suffered from a

severe curvature of the spine and

was – at best – 115 cm (3'9")

'Little





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Anniversary

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Australian's welcoming spirit



On 16 January 2016, Jessica Hackett set out on a walk from Melbourne to Canberra.

In Canberra, she hand delivered a petition to Mr Russell Broadbent MP to present to the House of Representatives. The petition, signed by well-wishers and supporters along the way, asked Parliament to do whatever was necessary to ensure asylum seekers and refugees be treated with dignity and respect.

The message of the project was a positive one. It was about the welcoming spirit of the Australian people. It took Jessica 35 days to walk the 710kms. While walking, she documented through film the ways people helped her (food, shelter, etc.).

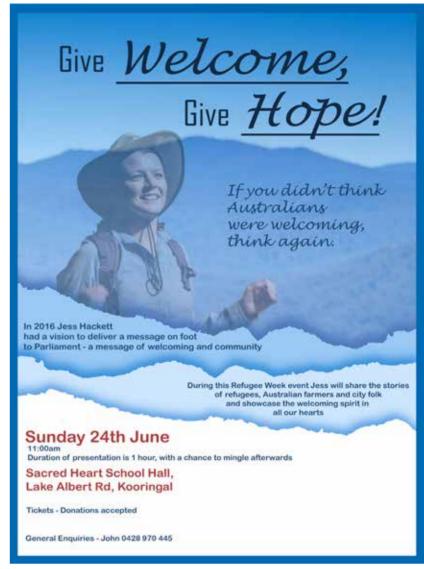
Jessica also visited organisations and individuals who help and support asylum seekers and refugees. She visited people and documented stories from those who have settled here in Australia and asked about their experiences and the hospitality they receive.

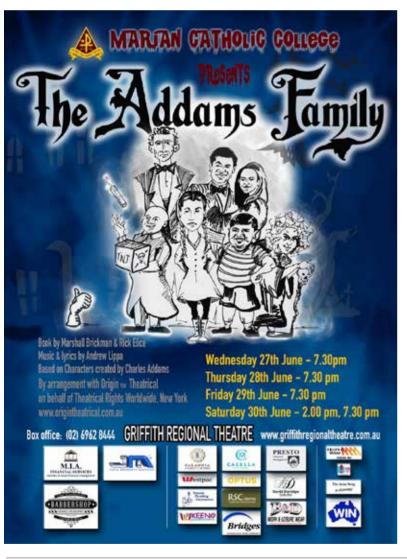
Different families from around the Wagga Diocese provided Jessica with food and

accommodation as she walked through the Diocese on her way to Canberra. She was also given a civic reception by the Wagga City Council while she was here, and Active Foot Podiatry gave her feet the loving attention they craved

As part of Refugee Week, Jessica is returning to Wagga on Sunday 24 June and will be at the Sacred Heart Primary School, Kooringal for a one-hour presentation entitled *GIVE WELCOME*, *GIVE HOPE!* During which she will showcase the welcoming spirit she found in the hearts of people during her journey.

All are welcome to attend. More information can be given by calling John Goonan on 0428 970 445.





100th Legion meeting



On June 5, Our Lady Gate of Heaven Presidium of the Legion of Mary in the Leeton Parish had their 100th meeting. The event was held in the Parish hall with a beautiful cuppa afterwards.

Since they started over 2 years ago the number has

Since they started over 2 years ago the number has increased tremendously and the active evangelisation through service is going strong in their community. Thanks to their 2 Praetorians, 5 active members, 3 probationaries and 6 Auxiliaries.

Fr Tony Oboshi, the Assistant Priest of Leeton invites you to come join them on Tuesdays at 5pm in the Parish meeting room.

Have you recently married, had a child baptised or had another significant event?

If so, then we would love to publish a photo in Together.

Please email: together@wagga.catholic.org.au





Marymead officially launches it's 'Buy-A-Brick Appeal'

Providing hope and change for kids in need and at times of crisis from the ACT and regional NSW.

Marymead's 'Buy-A-Brick Appeal' in which they hope to raise \$1.3 million to build two of three 'Care Cottages' at their original site in Canberra has been officially launched.

These all new Care Cottages will provide much needed short-term accommodation for vulnerable children, young people with disabilities, those who have recently left hospital as well as families who have travelled from regional areas of NSW to access services in the ACT.

The launch of the appeal, the organisation's biggest ever, was attended by Marymead's Patron, Lady Helen Deane, together with her husband Sir William Deane, and was timed to coincide with the UN International Day of Families and the commencement of National Families Week.

Marymead's CEO, Camilla Rowland, has stated her delight with over \$108,000 raised at the launch event. "What a great start to the Appeal with naming rights to one of the three Care Cottages already sold" Mrs Rowland stated. "So with the campaign now off and running, we encourage individuals, families and organisations from both the ACT and regional areas of NSW to show their support by buying a brick, or two or more. And all donations are of course tax deductible" she added.

Marymead continues to provide a vast range of high quality, innovative support services to children, young people and their families throughout the ACT and regional NSW, with offices in Canberra, Goulburn, Moruya, Wagga Wagga and Young.

Marymead's array of programs and services now include an Autism Centre, Child and Family Counselling, Disability Support, Early Intervention and Family Support Programs, Respite Care, a Grandparent's



Marymead's CEO, Camilla Rowland with Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Support Network, Mental Health Family Support, Parent Education Groups, Post Separation Support, Residential Care and Supervised Contact and Changeover. Marymead also delivers its Permanency Program within the southern and western NSW regional areas which includes foster care, restoration support, adoption and guardianship.



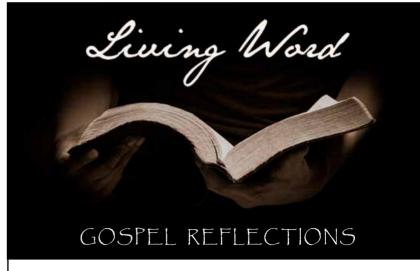
Biggest Morning Tea



Australia Biggest Morning Tea The staff at McAlroy House in Wagga Wagga put on a Biggest Morning Tea on 17 May to raise funds for the Cancer Council.

Thank you to everyone who donated and brought food. A total of \$295.35 was raised.





Yes, a thousand times yes!

Have you ever wondered why Jesus asks the Apostle Peter "Do you love me" three times in the Gospel of John?

Jesus doesn't ask the same question over and over again because he's hard of hearing or slow to comprehend Peter's answers. The fact is that Jesus asks Peter three times is significant.

If you recall, right before Jesus crucifixion, Peter denied even knowing Jesus let alone being one of his closest disciples. However, when Jesus appears to the disciples after his resurrection, He brings forgiveness, not retribution.

The triple interrogation to which Jesus submits Peter matches – and heals – the threefold denial.

It may be hard to forgive, but sometimes it can be harder to accept forgiveness. The ability to believe we are forgiven is crucial to our spiritual growth. This was the defining difference between Peter and Judas. Vacillating Peter went from the shame of his threefold denial of Christ to become the rock on which Christ's church was founded.

Three times Peter responds that he loves Jesus, and in doing so, Peter experiences Jesus' love, forgiveness, healing, and mercy. Jesus makes all things new, and at that moment, he makes Peter new too.

Judas could not contemplate the possibility of forgiveness. He, who had heard Christ say that one must forgive seventy times seven, could not bring himself to ask Christ to forgive him. Instead, he died in despair.

When we sin, we need to admit it and ask for the Lord's forgiveness. As Pope Francis likes to say, "The Lord never tires of forgiving." But once our sins are forgiven, we have to remember them precisely as that – as sins forgiven.

Lord, grant that we may never cease asking for forgiveness.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN



The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship
Trust offer scholarships to enable lay
people to further their understanding
and skills in leadership/ministry or a
specialised activity, such as promoting
faith enhancement, social justice and
pastoral care.

- Applications close 23rd July 2018 -

Details and application:

http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html

Would you like to advertise or submit an article in Together?

We'd love to hear from you - please email us at: together@wagga.catholic.org.au

biggestmorningtea.com.au

Tax time: A time to support the world's poor



As the end of the financial year approaches, Caritas Australia is urging people to consider a charitable donation that can boost their tax return, while providing life-saving work in some of the world's poorest communities.

Caritas Australia, part of one of the largest humanitarian networks in the world, works in 27 countries. Last year Caritas Australia, through its partners and thanks to supporters, reached 2 million people directly through its emergency and development programs.

When Bangladesh flooded in 2017, two-thirds of the country was underwater and many vulnerable communities were left with almost nothing.

which floods, were caused by monsoonal rains across South Asia, wreaked destruction washing homes in Bangladesh, Nepal and India. At its peak the disaster affected more than 40 million and claimed many lives," said Eleanor Trinchera, Caritas Australia's Program Coordinator, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Caritas stepped in to provide support for those most vulnerable. In the aftermath of the floods, water supplies were contaminated, access to sanitation limited and many crops had been washed away. Nine months on, Caritas Australia continues to work with affected communities delivering programs to improve food supplies and teaching participants how to build stronger, weather-resistant homes

"In Nepal, one of the people we helped was a young mother, Bimala," Eleanor said.

"She was heavily pregnant at the time of the floods, and because her home was destroyed she had to give birth to twins in a community hall. Caritas helped Bimala and her babies make it through this difficult time by providing milk, food and warm clothes."

Ms Trinchera said your donation will make a difference, helping women, children and men lift themselves out of

overty.

"It's already been nine months since the flooding in these countries and many communities are struggling to get back to day to day life," Eleanor said.

"By standing together with those in poverty, we can help them to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope."

You can donate to
Caritas Australia's End of
Financial Year appeal by
visiting https://www.caritas.
org.au/give or by calling
1800 024 413



Catholicism 101; How to pray the rosary?



We have been asked by so many interested people about the beliefs and traditions of the Catholic faith so each month we will bring you an article on how and why certain things are practiced in our faith. If you'd like to learn something in particular please let us know.

Rosary beads help Catholics count their prayers. More importantly, Catholics pray the rosary as a means of entreaty to ask God for a special favor, such as helping a loved one recover from an illness, or to thank God for blessings received — a new baby, a new job, a new moon.

1: On the crucifix, make the sign of the cross and then pray

the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

2: On the next large bead, say the Our Father.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

3: On the following three small beads, pray three Hail Marys.

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

4: On the chain, pray the Glory Be.

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

5: On the large bead, meditate on the first mystery and pray the Our Father.

You pray mysteries for each of the five sections (decades) of the rosary according to the day of the week:

Mondays and Saturdays:

The Joyful Mysteries remind the faithful of Christ's birth: The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38); The Visitation (Luke 1:39–56); The Nativity (Luke 2:1–21); The Presentation (Luke 2:22–38);

The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

Tuesdays and Fridays:

The Sorrowful Mysteries recall Jesus' passion and death: The Agony of Jesus in the Garden (Matthew 26:36–56); The Scourging at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26); The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31); The Carrying of the Cross (Matthew 27:32); The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:33–56).

Wednesdays and Sundays:

The Glorious Mysteries focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the glories of heaven: The Resurrection (John 20:1–29); The Ascension (Luke 24:36–53); The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–41); The Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God, into heaven; The Coronation of Mary in heaven.

Thursdays:

Pope John Paul II added The Mysteries of Light, also known as the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002: The Baptism in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13–16); The Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1–11); The Preaching of the coming of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14–15); The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8); The Institution of the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26).

6: Skip the centerpiece medallion, and on the ten beads after that, pray a Hail Mary on each bead; on the chain, pray a Glory Be.

Although a decade is 10, these 12 prayers form a decade of the rosary.

Many Catholics add the Fatima Prayer after the Glory Be and before the next Our Father: O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy. Amen.

7: Repeat Steps 5 and 6 four more times to finish the next four decades.

8: At the end of your Rosary, say the Hail Holy Queen.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation; grant we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

First anniversary of opening of the Mary Glowrey Museum

one year anniverary of the opening of a new museum in Melbourne to honour extraordinary Victorian Mary Glowrey.

The museum celebrates the life and legacy of Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ, one of Victoria's early women doctors, who gave up her family and career in Australia to become a pioneering medical missionary in Guntur,

Mary Glowrey is only the second Australian to be considered for official recognition as a saint by the Catholic Church and her cause for canonisation is currently under consideration in Rome.

The museum is located in historic Cathedral Hall, now part of the Australian Catholic University's Melbourne campus. It features displays of images from the Mary Glowrey Collection, an extensive archive of letters and photographs about Mary's life, as well as interactive and audiovisual experiences.

Mary was born in Birregurra in 1887 in regional Victoria. She was described as a "shy, quiet and humble" child. She won scholarships to secondary school and the University of Melbourne and graduated in medicine in

In 1916 Mary became the first

president of the Catholic Women's Social Guild (now the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga).

In 1920 Mary gave up her career as a doctor in Australia to go to India to care for the poorest women and children. She became a religious Sister with the Society of Jesus Mary Joseph in Guntur and for many years ministered to thousands of patients who could not otherwise have received care.

A humanitarian, advocate for women's rights and a systems

Her profound faith, compassion for others and brilliant intellect, juxtaposed with a humble and shy nature, led her to push the boundaries of the roles that women could play in society.

Mary was also deeply respectful of India, its people and their systems, and this set her apart from the prevailing attitudes demonstrated by many of her Western contemporaries. She aimed to build on existing systems and approaches to health rather than to merely replace them.

In 1916 Mary became the first president of the Catholic Women's Social Guild (now the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga).

thinker, Mary devoted her life to improving healthcare in India, where she expanded a small mission into a full hospital that cared for 637,000 patients between 1927 and 1936. She went on to establish health care systems and institutions and founded the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI), that now look after more than 21 million people annually.

Inspired by the church's teachings on social justice, Mary sought to change society not just through prayer but action.

Day will commence

at 9.30am and

conclude at 2.30pm

Meet the Principal,

Assistant Principal

2019 Year Leader,

College Captains, Students &

Teachers

Maths and much more!

If you wish your child

to attend SFC for a Day please RSVP by

02 6953 3622 or

ST FRANCIS DE SALES

REGIONAL COLLEGE

June 2018 by

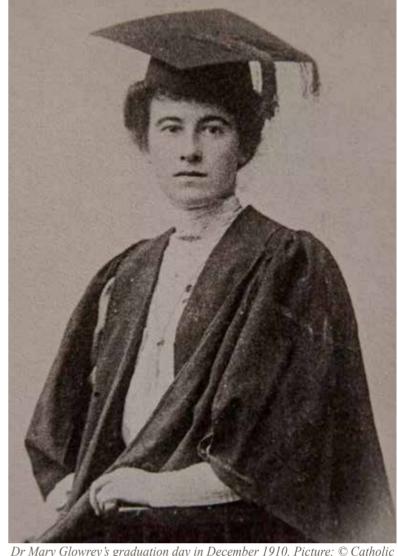
Mary is only the second Australian to be considered for official recognition as a saint.

We can learn from her passion and approach to global health. She should be an inspiration to many of us who want to use our skills to make a true and lasting difference in this world.

She was declared a Servant of God in 2013, the first of four official approvals towards

The museum, at 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, draws on the Mary Glowrey Collection owned by the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga and is sponsored by ACU, the Melbourne Archbishop's Charitable Trust and Catholic

opening times, see: info/



Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga.



Sr Dr Mary Glowrey reading to her pupils. Picture: © Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga

Education Melbourne. For information and http:/maryglowreymuseum.





Current Year 6 and prospective Years 7-11 students are invited to

come along and

TRY SFC FOR A DAY on Thursday 28 June

Parents may bring their child/children to the College Library (building nearest the Oval) at 9.30am and return at 2.30pm to collect them from the College Library at the conclusion of the day.

Students will experience what it's like to be a St Francis Student for

Students are to wear their current School's Sports Uniform and to bring a water bottle and their recess. A Free Sausage Sizzle for lunch will be provided.



24 CONSON Fun tongue twisters to try!

Try and say 5 times quickly:

Irish Wrist Watches

I saw a saw that could out saw any other saw I ever saw.

Does your sport shop stock short socks with spots?

Shave a single shingle thin.

Crisp crusts crackle and crunch.

Growing gray goats graze great green grassy groves.

Six slippery snails, slid slowly seaward.

If two witches were watching two watches: which witch would watch which watch?

No need to light a night-light on a light night like tonight.



Pepper & water science experiment

You will need:

- pepper
- · small bowl of water
- toothpick
- · dishwashing liquid

Learning about surface tension and other cool science-y things is more fun when you can do it hands on. Grab your supplies and get ready for some great science fun in the kitchen.

Instructions:

- · Half fill a small bowl with water.
- Sprinkle pepper on the surface of the water, forming a small layer.
- With your cocktail stick, firstly dip this in the washing-up liquid.
- Then dip the tip of the stick in the middle of the water.
- As the washing-up liquid touches the water, what is happening to the pepper?
- The pepper should spread out and merge together forming patterns.

Why?

Because the washing-up liquid reduces surface tension and allows the particles of water at the surface to spread out more.



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!

JUNE SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS

Segretaria de la fetta que a la para de la para de la fetta de la

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

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

St. Justin

Sacred Heart of Jesus Immaculate Heart of Mary

St. Norbert

St. **Ephrem**

St. Barnabas

St. **Anthony** of Padua

St. Aloysius **Gonzaga**

Nativity of St. John the **Baptist**

St. **Cyril** of Alexandria

St. **Peter**

St. **Paul**

First **Martyrs** of the Church of **Rome**

Food, games, music, fun and faith

A combination of these things can often be hard for young people to find, but not in the Wagga Diocese. Over the last 2 years, Chosen Youth has been growing throughout our diocese to provide young Catholics with the opportunity to meet, deepen their faith and find new encouragement to go out and share it with others.

John Embracing 15:16, teenagers and young adults at Chosen Youth are encouraged by the message that God has chosen us all to go out into the world and evangelise our communities by the way we live our own lives.

Archbishop Christopher recently made comment in his video message to the youth in our Diocese, saying he is "really delighted with the name you've given Chosen as it is one word that summarises

so much of the New Testament - that in Christ we are Chosen people. We are Chosen, we're never frozen! So I want young adults and young people to be

Under the guidance of parish priests, leaders in Wagga, Narrandera, Leeton and Griffith have been helping youth find new ways to proudly live and grow in their faith through Chosen. Meeting twice a month, there's always something new for young people to take away from the group.

When Chosen Youth aren't spending the night discovering the deeper meaning of scripture, they are finding the answers to many questions asked about our faith today during topic nights. Questions and topics include why we go to mass, the importance of Mary and

the ways in which youth can evangelise in their schools and friendship groups.

Accompanying this is always plenty of food, music and games, allowing people 13 years and older to meet and develop new friends in a fun and faith-filled environment.

Last year, Chosen held their first retreat at Borambola the three days of activities, opportunity including adoration and confession, were incredibly fruitful for the youth who attended. This year, with Chosen's numbers increasing, the youth group's September retreat is looking likely to be an even bigger opportunity for the Holy Spirit to inspire our young people in their mission of faith.

Chosen Youth are also providing current and prospective members the chance to attend their June

Rally in Leeton on the 29th. With the theme of "No Greater Love", the Rally will be a night for newcomers to get a taste of Chosen's faith-filled purpose, enjoy live entertainment, hear testimonies from other youth and find out how they can become involved.

Youth in the Diocese are warmly welcome and encouraged to board the bus leaving Wagga on June 29th to the Rally and join in the opportunity to experience a night of faith and fun.

information, For more contact the Chosen Team through their Facebook page.





YouTube convert shares the faith

by Fr Reece Beltrame Assistant Priest St Michael's Cathedral

Every year **Easter** thousands of people are welcomed into the Catholic **Church.** Most converts are just ordinary people like you or me, but every now and then God gives His church someone quite extraordinary, be it a wellknown politician, athlete or Hollywood actor.

This year God has blessed His church with a well-known 'youtuber' Lizzie Reezay.

Lizzie, a 23 year old youtuber living in Los Angeles who

has been 'youtubing' for over 8 years shares a lot on her YouTube channel, from being a vegan to her own struggles with bi-polar disorder to her views on philosophy and theology.

Although a fervent protestant actively engaged missionary work in Thailand she started doubting key protestant beliefs such as "faith alone" and "bible alone". These doubts led her on a theological journey to discover the truth which was the topic of many of her own YouTube videos.

A Catholic who was watching these videos suggested to her to read "Upon This Rock" by Steve Ray which explains the role of St Peter and the primacy of Rome. Upon finishing the book, she could not longer remain protestant and knew



she had to follow where the evidence led her.

Against the wishes of her parents and many of her friends she entered the Catholic Church at Easter this year and while doing so has continued to share her journey with over 200 thousand people through her

YouTube channel.

Initially Lizzie thought that she would lose many 'followers' on YouTube, to her great surprise her 'followers' grew in number.

She still continues to share her faith with thousands every week on her YouTube channel "lizzies Answers".



St Francis Xavier's School, Urana



On Tuesday 15th May 2018, St Francis Xavier's School (SFX) received a visit from author Oliver Phommavanh.

Oliver's unbridled enthusiasm and energy had the students, and teachers, hooked from the very beginning. He told of his journey into writing, SFX explored some of his books and he also gave them some excellent tips for their own writing. SFX thanks the Federation Shire Council for their support of the initiative.



Kildare Catholic College, Wagga



showcased some of the highlights of the Wagga Youth Festival, with awesome input from international special guest Mr John Angotti, a musician from the USA. John and students shared the importance of their Catholic faith and the highlights from their festival experience. The concert's focus was to "Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy!" Even Mr Whelan got in on the act.



With NAIDOC week approaching at the end of the term, Years 5 and 6 have been invited to enter a poetry competition entitled 'Spirit Dreaming'. The students are creating some exciting pieces of writing.



St Michael's Primary School, Coolamon

Charlie Masterson represented at MacKillop level in the PSSA AFL trials in Batemans Bay in late May. This was a great achievement and St Michael's Primary are very proud of him.

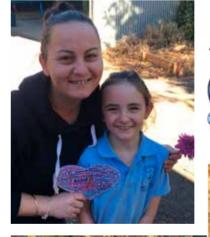




St Joseph's Primary School, Narrandera

Congratulations to St Joseph's Primary School Week award winners!

St Columba's School, Berrigan





On Monday, 14th May St Columba's School in Berrigan held a Mother's Day morning tea for all of the students wonderful mothers. It was a fantastic turn out for such a small school. Well done!





TOGETHER JUNE 2018

St Joseph's Primary School, Lockhart





On Tuesday 8th of May the 5/6 class attended an excursion to Galore Hill hosted by Landcare.

The students participated in 3 activities. Firstly, Indigenous Artist David Dunn taught the students how to sketch some of the local flora and showed them some of his own artwork.

Next they learned about some of the local wildlife and were shown some of the lizards which can be found in the area. To finish off a great day the students enjoyed exploring the bush in a 'Bush Treasure Hunt".

It was a wonderful day and St Joseph's are very thankful to Landcare for organising the day.





Neutze represented MacKillop at the NSW PSSA AFL Carnival at Batemans Bay. We are sure you did a great job!!

St Peter's Primary School, Coleambally

On May 17, St Peter's held the High Jump section of their school athletics carnival. The students did a fantastic job with this difficult event. The sportsmanship encouragement by all was fantastic. Here are some photos to show this!



WE ARE GREATER OGETHER

e: info@ww.catholic.edu.au **t:** 02 6937 0000



Holy Trinity Primary, West Wagga



On Friday 25 May, the school celebrated the feast of The Holy Trinity with a whole school mass followed by tabloids. As well their aboriginal dance group attended the official National Sorry Day rock unveiling with local elders.



Mater Dei Primary School, Wagga



A beautiful Mass was celebrated on May 24 in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians. Thank you Fr John for leading the Liturgy.



St Joseph's Primary, Finley



Congratulations to the age group athletics champions and Francis house, who won the athletics carnival for 2018.

Opening New Horizons for Spreading Joy

The Australian Catholic Bishops have identified the liturgical year of 2018 as a national Year of Youth with the theme 'Open new horizons for spreading joy'.

To celebrate this initiative in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, a 2-day youth festival at the Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre was held on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 May 2018.

Some of the desired outcomes of the festival was to provide participants with:

an experience of "joy and opening new horizons" for young people

an authentic and personal engagement with young people from other schools, teachers, leaders and clergy

an experience of dialogue - free to voice concerns, worries and/or questions, feel validated and supported through hopeful and encouraging conversations.

a joyful experience of church and the Catholic faith

an immersive experience of learning in and for faith, social justice, wellbeing and music

Over 120 students from the Riverina's 5 Catholic High Schools and Colleges took part in the 2-day event to give students and teachers the opportunity to immerse themselves in workshops, talks from guest speakers and clergy, musical performances, physical activities and art installations.

Special guests included Mr John Angotti, music missionary from Nashville, Tennessee, who kicked off the festival with one of the many inspirational musical performances and based activities during the event. This included workshops on African Drumming, Guitar and Ukulele Magic and Group Singing.

During the opening plenary, Sister Margaret Walsh lead a discussion panel to find out what it is that students 'truly desire' during her Mocha with Margaret session. This was the first of many indepth and honest conversations that set the tone for the workshops and activities to come.

Hosting the workshops across the 2



Dharmik Mangrolia, a Year 10 student from Marian Catholic College in Griffith created the image above to celebrate the Year of Youth in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

days were representatives from Catholic Mission, Smiling Mind, St Vincent De Paul NSW, Caritas, RealTalk Australia, ErinEarth and, members of our local Aboriginal community and a number of Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga musicians and artists.

The workshops focussed on many contentious issues facing youth today with streams around faith, social justice, mental health and wellbeing. Nothing was off the table for discussion with dialogue ranging from the topic of refugees and asylum seekers to the effects of pornography and living in a hypersexual digital world.

To mix things up, there were a host of outdoor activities aimed at fostering collaboration, teamwork and building confidence. This included Art in Action and Graffiti workshops which both produced large-scale group artworks that students were able to take back and display at their schools.

Students were also encouraged to take time out at the Cultural Centre to learn traditional skills, histories, bushcraft and music from Aboriginal school staff and local community members.

The festival didn't end once the students hopped on the buses to travel back home. Over the following weeks, a number of students travelled to schools in the diocese with John Angotti sharing their

experience at Borambola and performing uplifting and interactive music numbers for their fellow students.

Wagga would like to thank the many staff, clergy, community organisations, performers. artists and presenters for making this festival such a huge success and of course the students for their enthusiasm, participation and engagement.



Group art projects produced colourful pieces to take back to schools.



Where art and the street meet introduced students to the world of graffiti art.

Gear of OUT 2018 FESTIVAL | BORAMBOLA



Sr Margaret Walsh leads a discussion panel with students.



Mr Paul Ninnes from RealTalk Australia had an open and engaging dialogue with students on the dangers of pornography.



Musical performances were a highlight and an integral part of the festival, with students enjoying many opportunities to shine.



Students and staff were welcomed with a traditional smoking ceremony



Creating both beats and smiles at the African drumming workshop.



Mr John Angotti leading one of the many stand out performances by talented students from around the diocese during the festival tour.

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 - Kooringal

Sacred Heart

Lake Albert Road, Kooringal 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

Wednesday - 7:00am

Thursday - 11:00am (Ethel Forrest Centre) Friday - 5:45pm

Anointing Mass

Marian Foyer, Henschke Hall 4th Tuesday of the month - 10:30am Weekday Masses - Calvary Hospital Monday-Friday - 8:00am (except public holidays)

Aged Care Facility Masses

Forrest Centre

Every Thursday - 11:00am Nan Roberts Nursing Home

- The Haven

3rd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am RSL Rememberance Village

2nd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am

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

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

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9.30 am Confessisons

Saturday - 5.00 - 5.40 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

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 7.30am

Thursday - 10.15am Saturday - 9.00am

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)

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 conexcept 1st Sat. in the church).

30 min. before every Mass each day & 5:00pm-6:00pm Sat. St. Patrick's Matong

Confessions

Sunday - 8:00am

Confessions 30 min before Sunday Mass

Sacred Heart

Warrambool Street, Griffith Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm

Saturday - 8.00am Sunday - 7.30am, 9.00am, (Italian), 10.30am, 6.00pm

Griffith

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

Our Lady of Sorrows 125 Albury Street, Holbrook 1st & 3rd Sunday - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm 2nd Sunday - 8.00 am

Holbrook

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

Sunday - 9:00am Masses

Walbundrie

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.

Walbundrie

Reconciliation

Howlong Saturdays 9:30am (after 9:00am Mass) 5:30pm - 5:55pm

Sundays 8:30am - 8:55am **Jerilderie**

St Joseph's Coreen Street, Jerilderie 1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm 2nd, 4th Sunday - 10:30am

Are announced in the Sunday bulletin

Junee

Weekday Masses

St Joseph's 15 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

St Joseph's Leeton

Wade Avenue, Leeton Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm Sunday - 10:00am (First Sunday of the month is Italian)

Leeton

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 Saturday (Vigil) - 7:00pm

Confessions

Up to 5 minutes 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

Weekend Masses 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 10:00am 2nd, 4th Sunday - 8:30am

Weekday Masses Refer to parish notices

Narrandera

Narrandera

Sunday - 9:30am

Weekday Masses Tuesday - 5:30pm Wednesday, Thursday - 7:30am

Sunday bulletin)

Saturday - 9.30-10:00am and 5:00-5:45 pm

Galore

2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am

Tarcutta

Sunday - 8:30am Ladysmith

Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm

St Mary's

Weekend Masses

Sunday - 10:00am Weekday Masses Monday - 7:00am

Tuesday - 6:00pm Wednesday - 7:00am (Extraordinary Form) Thursday - 7:00am

Tocumwal

Confessions

Charlotte Street, Tocumwal Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm

Thursday - 9.30am

Confessions

continued on page 31...

2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm Saturday Vigil Weekday Masses Refer to parish notices St Joseph's Barooga

Confessions Before weekend Masses

St Mel's Church, Audley Street Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm

Friday - 5:30pm (subject to changes announced in the

Confessions Friday - 4:30-5:20pm;

Grong Grong 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8.00am

St Kevin's Church

St Francis Xavier Sydney Street, Tarcutta

Confessions Before all Masses

The Rock

102 Urana Street The Rock Sunday - 8:00am (Extraordinary Form)

Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

St Peter's

Sunday - 8.30am Weekday Masses

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

Satuday - 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 Saturday (Vigil) - 5:30pm Confessions Up to 5 minutes before Mass. Oaklands Currently no Masses.

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.

OUTH.

Nagga Wagga Deanery

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

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY **MONTH**

Youth Holy Hour 6.00pm Where: St Michaels Cathedral

Murrumbidgee Deanery

Griffith - Sacred Heart Where: Sacred Heart Youth Hut (white hut

behind Presbytery)

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

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

Murray Deanery

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

Immaculate Heart of Mary Youth Group Where: Thurgoona Parish Centre

When: Every 2nd Wednesday 5:30pm-7pm. Dinner provided. Who for: School Years 7 to 12 (high school) Contact: (02) 6043 2222

Please 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.





Further reflection on the role of Serrans in the Church today

by Steven Vella President - Wagga Serra Club

Serran Handbook credits much of Serra's success to members who volunteer their time and talents for the organisation, and who help in their Church locally. So, a Serra Club within the mission of a universal Church could be compared to a genre in a musical

To explain the likeness, consider the word, universal. Some say that music is a universal language. They and others might also say that the Catholic faith has something for everyone.

Different musical genres coexist under the broader term, music. Yet, each style, like Classical, Rock-and-Roll, Hip-Hop, Jazz and more consist of a unique combination of rhythms, words, notes, movement and

music.

In terms of the Catholic faith, our words and actions, like praying, living in the sacraments, and being helpful at home, work and in the community could be considered common elements when we volunteer in the Church in various ways.

Locally, much work in the Church is done by the laity in groups like the Serra Club. Parish Councils, the Legion of Mary, St Vincent de Paul, Cursillo and tertiary orders of religious communities, to name

In a way these communities are like musical genres with both unique and common elements.

If groups have both unique and similar gifts, it is not surprising that, these communities sometimes seem to overlap in what they do, because, they use their many talents where needed

other common elements of in different situations, at different times and in different ways.

> The charism of the Serra Club to foster vocations, to assist clergy and religious, and to encourage members in the faith, is a way to participate in the mission of a living Church. It is ok that all activities do not interest all people, always, but, built on a foundation of nurturing vocations, it is an

effective channel helping put the faith of some into action.

Those in the Wagga diocese who resonate with the Serra charism might like to pray with us for vocations. If you would also like to know more about the Wagga Serra Club and what we do, we would be happy to hear from you. Please contact Letitia Hackett, VP Membership on 0439 868 461.

Our Lady of Vocations pray for us.

Correction: The article in the April issue of Together indicated that the brunch following Fr Lu's First Mass was hosted by the Wagga Serra Club. This was not correct. The brunch, which was well-attended and positive, was hosted by St Michael's Cathedral parish.



Part of the community celebrating after Fr Lu's ordination at a reception hosted by Serrans



Henschke Primary School, Wagga Wagga

Holy Trinity Primary School, Wagga Wagga



St Joseph's Primary School, Junee



St Mary's Primary School, Yoogali



St Joseph's Primary School, Jerilderie

St Joseph's Primary School, Leeton

St Columba's Primary School, Berrigan

St Joseph's Primary School, Wagga Wagga



St Patrick's Primary School, Griffith



St Peter's Primary School, Coleambally

Spacious Chapel

Fully serviced function room

Pre-arranged funeral plans

John Hossack

Always Caring for the Catholic Community

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435 Wilson St Albury

www.hossackfunerals.com.au