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In the Diocese of

Wagga Wagga

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FREE JUNE 2019

Recently Ordained Fr Jomer Calma

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"Ad Limina Apostolorum"

Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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Council of Australia and the issues arising from the sex abuse crisis will be discussed thoroughly.

Our meeting with Pope Francis will be a key moment in the Ad Limina visit. It will serve to consolidate our unity with the successor of St Peter, "the primary guardian of the deposit of truth handed down from the Apostles". It will also enable us all to better know and appreciate our unity in the "immense heritage of spiritual and moral values" of the universal Church.

I know that you will join all the bishops of Australia in prayer intercession during these special days in Rome.

It will enable me as your bishop to reflect seriously upon my servant ministry

amongst you. I will be an opportunity to ask forgiveness for my human frailties. But also to give thanks to the Lord Jesus for all the Holy Spirit is doing amongst us here in the diocese.

Also, liturgically, in this month of June, so much of our Catholic identity is celebrated in the major Solemnities of The Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost Sunday, the Most Holy Trinity and the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

Therefore, both in the Ad Limina visit and the June Solemnities our united gaze once again focuses on Christ among us, "our hope of glory" (Col.1/27).

Thank you so much in anticipation for your prayers for the Ad Limina visit.



At the end of June this year all the bishops of Australia will make a significant visit to Rome.

The formal name of this visit is – AD LIMINA APOSTOLORUM. This literally means "to the threshold of the Apostles." This refers to the point of reference of the visit – a visit to the tombs of St Peter and St Paul.

This visit happens periodically to all the bishops of the world, country by country. Perhaps after five or six years or more, the bishops of a particular country will spend a period of time in Rome to fulfil two principal responsibilities. First, to strengthen their own responsibility as successors of the apostles. Secondly, to deepen their solidarity with the successor of St Peter, Pope Francis.

Both these aims are fulfilled practically by a programme containing theological, spiritual and pastoral aspects.

The time together would include:

- Special Masses at the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul.
- Special Masses at the principal basilicas in Rome.
- An audience with the Holy Father, Pope Francis.
- Visits to the offices (dicasteries) of the Holy See.
- A retreat with all the bishops of Australia.

In preparation for this Ad Limina visit, a report of each diocese in Australia has been prepared and already submitted to the Holy See. It offers a "snapshot" of all the apostolic, missionary and pastoral aspects of each diocese. This is a help to the dialogue that will happen between the Holy Father and his advisors with the bishops of Australia.

Clearly, we will also be discussing at length current pastoral challenges and opportunities in Australia at present that impact on the faith of Catholics here. For example, topics such as the Plenary

Prayer Intention for June - Pray with Pope Francis

The Mode of Life of Priests

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.

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

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



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<http://popesprayerusa.net/pop-es-intentions/>

Lord Jesus, our one true Priest before God the Father on behalf of us all, look with love on your disciples and ministers of your Sacraments, our priests. Help them to feel and recognize the sustaining strength of your love, a love which sends them to every person to proclaim the Good News of your victory over sin and death – especially to those who most resemble You, Jesus – the poor, the suffering, the discarded.

Jesus, crucified high priest, grant your priests on earth such a

share in your priesthood, that they may make your words resound not only in their celebration of the Sacraments and in their preaching, but by the witness of their lives. May they work toward that perfect integrity of words and deeds which was yours, Jesus, so that with each day, they may ever more truly say with You, "This is my Body, which is given up for you."

Help them, Lord, to accept no other standard but that of your self-emptying Eucharistic love – modest, humble, and poor. Amen



Prayer for the election of a Bishop

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

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

Announcement of National Themes for Discernment opens next phase for Plenary Council

The Plenary Council 2020 moves into its next phase of preparation today with the announcement of the National Themes for Discernment that emerged from a historic process of listening to the voices of more than 222,000 people.

Between May 2018 and March 2019, almost 17,500 submissions, from individuals and groups of all sizes, addressed the Plenary Council's central question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"

Over several days of listening to what the people of God said, with intense moments of prayer and discernment, the Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council and its Executive Committee, joined by the Facilitation Team, considered what people were longing for. Six National Themes for Discernment emerged.

"The National Centre for Pastoral Research was able to pinpoint more than 100 recurring subject areas from those 17,500 submissions," said Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, president of the Plenary Council.

"In some ways, those subject areas described what one might call 'the messy reality' of Catholic life in Australia today. The voices of the faithful help all of us to understand something of the historical experience and the current reality of the Catholic Church in Australia.

"We worked to discern what people were yearning for as we move into this next stage of preparing for the Plenary Council."

Archbishop Costelloe said there was a clear desire expressed for the Church to renew herself and focus on the person of Jesus Christ.

"Accordingly, the six National Themes for Discernment flow from that primary goal of being a Christ-centred community of people," he explained.

The six National Themes for Discernment invite people to reflect, to pray and to consider how God is calling the People of God to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is:

- Missionary and Evangelising
- Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal
- Prayerful and Eucharistic
- Humble, Healing and Merciful
- A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community
- Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform.

Plenary Council facilitator Lana Turvey-Collins said many topics relate to one or more of the National Themes for Discernment and this next stage of preparation – "Listening and

Discernment" – is a time of prayerful consideration of the "big" questions that have been raised by the faithful.

"The emergence of the National Themes for Discernment is an important moment in our journey towards the Plenary Council. It is an expression of the sense of the faith from the faithful and, from this, we can proceed in our discernment of what the Spirit is saying to us in Australia," Ms Turvey-Collins said.

Part of that progression will take place later this month, when the Australian bishops gather for a retreat prior to their Ad Limina Apostolorum visit in Rome.

Archbishop Costelloe said: "We will take the opportunity to reflect carefully on the National Themes for Discernment and share our reflections and conclusions with the Plenary Council's Facilitation Team and the Executive Committee, based on our own prayerful discernment and pastoral experience."

Ms Turvey-Collins said those reflections and conclusions will be supplemented by a period of several months, beginning in August, when people across the country will again be

asked to engage locally with the Plenary Council process.

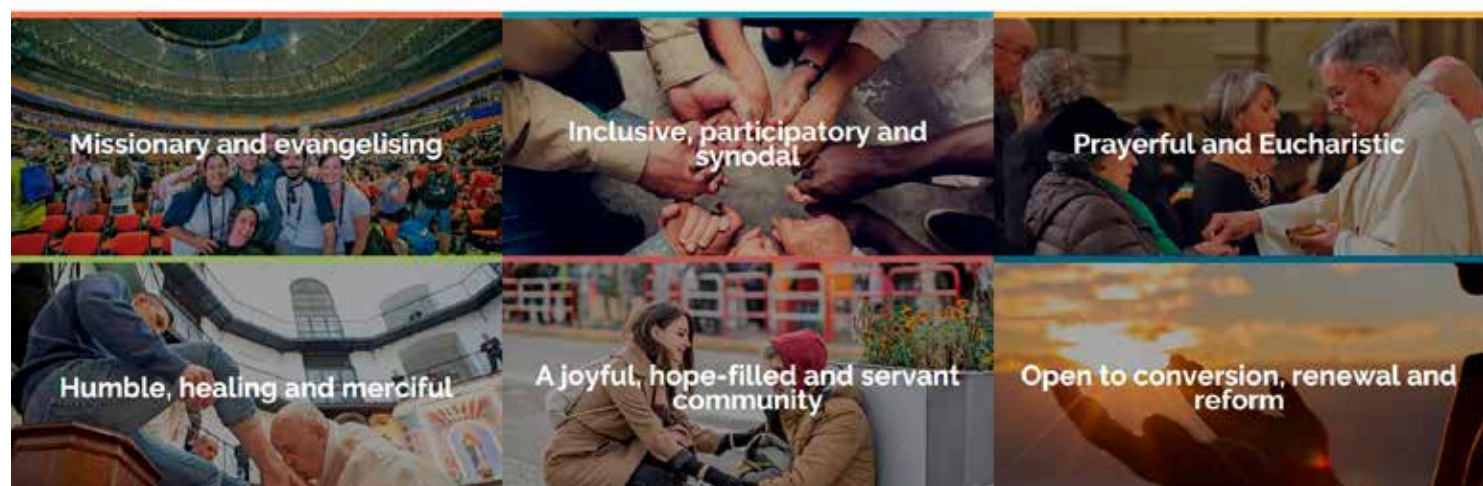
"This discernment process will involve establishing working groups for each National Theme for Discernment. People in faith communities across Australia will also be called to participate locally in their own communal Listening and Discernment encounters," she said.

"The fruits of what is discerned during this time will shape the agenda for the first session of Plenary Council in October 2020."

More information on the National Themes for Discernment can be found on the re-launched Plenary Council website: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au



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Ordination of Fr Jomer Calma

On Tuesday 7th May, Jomer Calma was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana, Apostolic Nuncio to Australia.

by Fr Peter Thompson - Rector, Vianney College

Father Jomer hails from Masinloc, in the Zambales province of the Philippines, being the eldest of six children of the late Oscar Calma and of Mrs Merlina Calma. He came to Wagga in 2011 where he lived for some months with the Confraternity of Christ the Priest in San Isidore.

Father Jomer was accepted as a seminarian for the Wagga Diocese in 2012 and began his formation at Vianney College. During his years at Vianney College he did short placements in the parishes of Thurgoona, Leeton, Koorringal and

a longer (6 months) placement at St Patrick’s Albury. He also served as assistant to the Secretary General of the Australian Catholic Bishops’ Conference for a period of about one year. Jomer’s diaconal placement during the first part of 2019 was at the Cathedral parish. Some of Jomer’s family travelled from the Philippines to be present at his ordination. They were joined by many friends and well-wishers from within and outside the diocese. Particularly evident was the large number from the

continued on page 5...

Left: Senior priest Father Plunkett imposes hands on Wagga’s newest priest.
Top Right: The Archbishop incenses the altar.
Right: The Nuncio imposes hands.
Below: Archbishop Yllana, flanked by the priests present, prays the prayer of consecration over Jomer.



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continued from page 4...

Filipino community who came to share the joy of their fellow countryman.

Father Jomer's first Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated in the Cathedral on the following day, and many people turned up to receive an individual blessing from the newly ordained priest.

Many thanks to the Serrans, the Cathedral parish and the Filipino community who generously provided food and service for the refreshments on both occasions.

Father Jomer Calma will take up an appointment as assistant priest at Sacred Heart Parish, Griffith, in July.

Right: Speaking at the end of the ceremony.

Below: The Apostolic Nuncio blessing the newly ordained priest.

Far right below: Father Jomer greets Margaret Corbett.

Far right middle: The Apostolic Nuncio processes out of the Cathedral.

Far right bottom: Father Jomer's relatives, Elsa and Mike Ejaus (uncle and aunt), Father Jomer and his sister, Jennifer and brother, Oscar.



Ordination of Deacon Cyprian Onuorah

On Friday 7th June, Cyprian Onuorah was ordained a deacon at St Michael's Cathedral.

by Fr Peter Thompson - Rector, Vianney College

Cyprian Onuorah was born in Onitsha, Nigeria, the second youngest of the five children of Cyprian and Mary Onuorah. Cyprian came to Australia in 2010 and made contact with the Wagga diocese in 2012. He spent some months at St Patrick's Parish, Albury, discerning a call to the diocesan priesthood and was accepted at Vianney College at the beginning of 2013, where he has undergone his formation for the priesthood of the Wagga diocese. He has been placed in the parishes of Thurgoona, Lavington, Griffith and Narrandera and in 2015-

2016 completed a CPE programme at Canberra Hospital. Many friends, including many Nigerians and other Africans, were present at Cyprian's Ordination. Thanks to John Sloan and the Vianney Choir and the generous support of the Wagga Serrans for the refreshments following the ordination. Deacon Cyprian will complete his academic studies at Vianney College at the end of 2019 and then be posted as a deacon in one of the parishes of the diocese as part of his preparation for priestly ordination.



Above: Cyprian Onuorah makes his solemn promises before the Archbishop.
Below: Archbishop Prowse lays hands on Cyprian.



Far left: Preparing to process out with Archbishop Prowse.
Above: Preparing to receive the Book of the Gospels.
Left: Father Bradley Rafter clothes Cyprian in the deacon's dalmatic.

Living Word



GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Is there anyone alive in there?

Dr. Ella Stack is the author of the above-named book. It is a pithy work – fascinating really – just forty-eight pages. It received the sub-title: *Our Cyclone Tracy, Darwin, Christmas 1974.*

The book has a *Dedication* and runs like this:

This book is dedicated to the resilience of the people of Darwin – to all those who survived the unbearable horror of Cyclone Tracy at Christmas 1974 and to those who did not.

Ella then quotes from Patrick White's, *The Eye of the Storm*:

If only you could describe your storm, but you could not. You can never convey in words the utmost in experience. Whatever is given you to live, you alone can live, and re-live, till it is gasped out of you.

Who among us has not entered, undergone, lived and relived a "storm"? It is part and parcel of human experience. And when it is finally "gasped out of us" by the flow of time, by nature, by an event or by God himself, we are changed and transformed.

What is equally remarkable is "peace" in the midst of the "storm." In the "storm" of his passion, Jesus pronounces:

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you (John 14).

These words come from the Last Supper and Jesus repeats them again to us in his glorious resurrection. "Peace be with you," he says to us as he rises to new life.

In human thinking, "peace is the fruit of justice." Justice is that cardinal virtue that directs right relationships. What do I owe my wife, my husband, my children, my parents, my employee, my employer, my community, my country? The fruit of trying to be just is peace.

But there comes a time when we need the gift of peace. And the gift we are offered is the peace that resides in the heart of Christ.

May we so position our lives that we can receive such a gift – in the midst of our personal and collective "storms."

Amen.



Along The Road Toward Plenary Council 2020

Please join us at

Sacred Heart Parish Centre

to hear updates on the journey toward

Plenary 2020

2.00pm Saturday 29 June

Guest Speakers:

1. **Representatives of Council for Australian Catholic Women**, reporting on their Adelaide conference entitled 'Stirring The Waters: Catholic Women Responding to the Spirit'.
2. **Fr Noel Connolly**, one of the three National **Plenary Council 2020 Facilitators** who will give an update on the themes distilled from the Listening and Dialogue stage.
3. **Fr Bernie Thomas**, Wagga Wagga Diocese Coordinator for the Plenary 2020 process will talk about the next steps in our Diocese.



COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN



Plenary Council 2020
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Report from the Council for Australian Catholic Women

The triennial national colloquium organised by the Council for Australian Catholic Women (CAWC) was held on 22-23 February in Adelaide.

Prepared by Catherine Cutler, Anne Brown, Pat Sheridan, Katherine Klapdor

Entitled *Stirring the Waters* Catholic Women Responding to the Spirit, it created the opportunity for theological reflection on the Plenary Council question What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

Five women from the Wagga Diocese attended, sponsored by the Diocese and the Presentation Sisters: Catherine Cutler from Albury, Katherine Klapdor from Wagga as co-chairs of the CACW on the Wagga Diocese; Pat Sheridan and Anne Brown, as Presentation Associates; and Margaret Houen, who attended independently.

Over 160 delegates attended from across Australia. There was a very full program with:

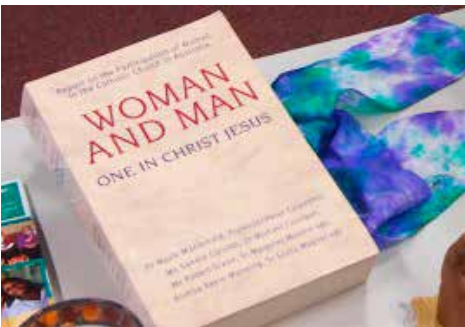
- keynote speakers drawn from a variety of disciplines;
- workshops that addressed a variety of issues;
- liturgies that were prayerful and reflective; and
- times for interacting with other delegates.

The weekend began on the Friday afternoon with a meeting of Diocesan contacts chaired by Andrea Dean, Director, National Office for the Participation of Women (OPW), which undertakes projects as determined by the Council for Australian Catholic Women and as approved by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry in implementing the recommendations of the Annual Social Justice Statement on the participation of women in the Church; and provides administrative support to the Council for Australian Catholic Women and acts as a focal point for ongoing dialogue and the integration of ideas pertaining to the participation of women in the Catholic Church in Australia. Katherine attended as the nominated Wagga Wagga Diocesan contact.

Andrea had prepared a number of documents for information/discussion: a brief history of CACW, the members of the national CACW and its role, a draft Mandate, the role of Diocesan

contacts, emphasising communication, education and support, and a list of useful resources. These will be discussed at the next Diocesan CACW meeting in June and the resource listing distributed. Like the Wagga Wagga Diocese, the Maitland/Newcastle CACW contact group has a long and continuous history, but very few other Dioceses were formally affiliated with CACW. There was an exchange of ideas and the variety of work that women are actively involved in in their Diocese.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse opened the Colloquium, reminding us of the words of Pope Francis: a call to listen with humility and to speak with courage. He acknowledged the 20th anniversary of the publication of *Woman and Man: One in Christ Jesus*.



This was followed by an interactive conversation with Dr Sandie Cornish, Director, Quality and Community Engagement – Sydney College of Divinity, and Geraldine Hawkes, Ecumenical Facilitator of the SA Council of Churches. Both had key roles to play in the seven year collection and analysis of data, writing and publication of *Woman and Man: One in Christ Jesus*. From this book, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference produced a social justice statement with nine recommendations. Even though only two have been implemented, there was still a positive look to the future.

The first keynote speaker, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ, inspired us with her short exegesis on Mark's gospel, drawing out inclusive and synodal aspects, and reflecting on what it is for women in the church today to walk the path of faith.



Diocesan attendees at CACW Colloquium:
Left to right - Pat Sheridan, Katherine Klapdor, Catherine Cutler, Anne Brown and Margaret Houen

There followed four workshops sessions on women and leadership in Australia. As there were five attendees for the Wagga diocese we shared the workshops between us and covered:

- a brief historical perspective;
- the variety of data and reports available from the National Centre for Pastoral Research(NCPR) ;
- educating women and girls for leadership; and
- women and church as multicultural, looking at the potential and possibilities of being a truly multicultural Church at both local and nation level, examining the isolation women in particular experienced and how international priests needed to be validated by the people.

The second keynote speaker, Ms Debra Zanella, CEO of Ruah Community Services in Perth, spoke on *Mission and Mercy in the Papacy of Pope Francis*. Drawing on her experience in working with people who fall through the cracks of our complex service systems, Debra reflected on what Pope Francis offers us as a framework for how we are called to respond, using five headings: Changing rhetoric: You, me and us; Leadership; Going together; Hope. Debra used *Evangelii Gaudium* as a template to inspire leadership and recommended that we view Pope Francis recent TED talk: *Why the only future worth building includes everyone*.

The second series of workshops were entitled *Mission, Mercy and the*

Margins and were presented by local people sharing their experience of being

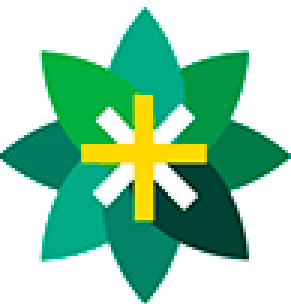
- homeless,
- LGBTQI,
- a refugee, and
- Aboriginal.

These were all truly uplifting workshops with inspiring presentations which raised awareness of the issues facing women in such situations today and the assistance and acceptance offered to them, enabling them to grow and be true leaders themselves.

The final sessions: *A Prayerful and Discerning Church* and a listening and dialogue session was presented by Lana Turvey-Collins, Teresa Simon, from the Maronite church, Sara Moffat and Debra Sayce, all members of the Plenary Council Executive Committee. The panel shared their own experience of the day's theme as Catholic women. They spoke of a prayerful, discerning and transformational journey; of the need to listen to and understand the spirituality of other churches, especially finding God in nature and all creatures; and the need to go forward in joy, embracing laughter, remembering to *speak boldly and listen humbly*.

There was a generous and powerful sharing session in small groups followed by the final liturgy. Here we acknowledged the many beautiful images invoked by water, inspired by the Spirit, praising God, all assisting us to discern *what is the Spirit asking of me in this place, at this time*.

A summary of the event will be *continued on page 9.*



COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN

continued from page 8...

published in booklet form and should be available in June.

Attending the Colloquium was a wonderful experience, personally and more broadly, providing ideas to be shared in small groups, our parishes and across the Diocese. We are grateful for the support provided to attend such an important event.

Ideas and activities already underway and planned include:

- presenting this report to our parish councils and the CACW mailing list;
- presenting a report and the opening liturgy to the Presentation Associates;
- sharing the report with our prayer groups to discuss and reflect on the content;
- to use some of the liturgies with prayer groups and possibly use some of the liturgies and lecture content in a prayer day in a parish where we will invite other local parishes in to attend;
- expanding interest in and membership of the CACW, including at the Diocesan Spirituality Day in August this year; and
- encouraging continued interest in the next steps in the Plenary Council process.

The wider question of what we bring back to the Diocese opened up a number

- of areas for further discussion, including:
- we are blessed in our country, an ancient land with an ancient people and now embracing many other cultures. What can we learn from these non-Irish catholic spiritualities? As Pope Francis advocates, how do we embrace God in all?
 - How can we adopt liturgies to be more inclusive of various cultures, particularly our indigenous culture?
 - How do we reach out to and work with those of other faiths?
 - How do we welcome and accept those on the margins – ‘go to the edge’ and walk with them?
 - How better to confirm and empower women in their work in our Diocese?
 - How better to support young women to be active leaders in the Diocese?



THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE
JOHN 6:63

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 31, 2019**

PRESENTERS

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

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

FOR WOMEN

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TO SHARE INSIGHTS AND
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ABOUT THE CONGREGATION:
This is the only house of the congregation in Ukraine. In 2014 we became an Abbey.

There are 18 sisters here at the moment. The average age is 39. The oldest sister is 68 and the youngest 24. The names of our sisters are: S. Benedicta, Bernadetta, Jadwiga, Agnieszka, Scholastyka, Augustyna, Immaculata, Agata, Łucja, Maria, Estera, Ernesta, Brigid, Katarzyna, Franciszka, Rita, and me (S. Klara). Almost everyone is Ukrainian; two sisters are from Belarus and one sister is from Russia.

MY VOCATION:
 I myself was born into a family with a strong faith. I have two brothers, one is a Franciscan and the other has his own family. I was born in Żytomierz and I have lived here in the monastery for 21 years. I finished medical school.
 I was a regular girl, happy and fun-loving. I was helping at the church and going to some retreats with young people. My aunt was telling me about St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. My mother was a doctor and I wanted to be a doctor too. I always wanted to help people. During my studies I was a nurse for children.
 At one Holy Mass they were talking about Beretta Molla. She was always

asking for a good husband and she got one. I also wanted the same, so I was asking for one every day. I ran every day to church to be at Mass. I adored Jesus in the Holy Sacrament. I started to feel that Jesus is supposed to be my fiancé. It took me a lot of time and thinking to make this decision because I still wanted to have a husband and children. Two years, it took me two years. I wanted to have children; many and now I have a good husband and 18 children (laughing).
 When I came finally to the sisters I asked "Lord of this house do you accept me?". I didn't want to live in a closed monastery but after the Holy Mass I understood that I need to give Jesus what he gives me and not what I wish to do.
 My family wasn't very happy about my choice of a closed monastery. Even though my family is a very religious one I was a special child in the eyes of my parents. They wanted to have grandchildren so they didn't want me to go there. In "active" monasteries you can visit home but here I cannot, so my family was worried that they would not see me ever again. They tried to convince me by all means but after some time they agreed. When they finally saw my happiness they were okay.



Why did you choose this congregation?
 Jesus knows what is in my soul and that is why he chose it for me. I am kind of a workaholic. The order of St. Benedict saves me from falling into this because our days are divided evenly to work, pray and rest. It is not that we are completely cut off from the world. We keep praying for the people in the world. We stay in the house to help the world with our prayers. My message to the people is to read the Bible more, to listen to God more, to be in love with Him. Listen to the voice of God and we can find the answers. Our poverty is that we don't listen to God, that we choose what our nature tells us. The word of God is like a light in a way, showing us where to go. It is like a little seed. When we accept it in us it grows. When we start

“ It is all about the vocation, the inside voice of Jesus telling you that this is the place where he wants you to be. ”

listening to God's word the light starts to grow inside.
FIVE VOWELS:
 It is very important to be able to live in a community every day with a permanent place to stay (stabilitas locis). We have five vows: Three regular and two special ones, which are a permanent place to stay and the moral conversion (to change our ways of living so that it is as God advises us). It is very crucial to know how to live with oneself, and this sacrificial generosity that everything must be in service to Jesus. It is all about the vocation, the inside voice of Jesus telling you that this is the place where he wants you to be. Some girls come with the purpose of living life in enclosure to devote themselves completely to God. Some others come to spend time with us and after that time they discover that this is the life they wish to lead. This is very important. Our vocation is not a choice but a response to the calling. Normally no one can choose to live a

continued on page 11...





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continued from page 10...

life in poverty, chastity and obedience. It has to come from God and has to be an effect of an answer to that call. Normally God created man to live in marriage. But when we choose Jesus it has to be his invitation. Man always feels not worthy to have Christ as his own. It is a kind of folly to choose such a life and that is why it takes so long before the vows.

The time needed to take the vows is a bit longer now than it was before: One year of aspirate, one year of postulate, two years of novitiate. We still have an old tradition of welcoming a sister to novitiate: a candidate dresses up in white with flowers on her head just like a bride. She has roses placed on her head and she throws them before the altar as a sign of rejecting the wealth of this world. Also her hair is cut as a sign of giving away her beauty for Christ and his service. Then she is dressed in a habit. It is an old custom because normally it is done in private in the chapel of the monastery but we do it the old fashioned way: in public during Holy Mass.

VOCATIONS:

I can say that we don't have many vocations but as one priest told us recently: "children are also not born in every family every year". Vocation is a gift from God to a congregation just like a child to his parents. We cannot do much about it by ourselves but we can pray for them. And so we

“ We pray that this girl will follow her vocation so that she becomes holy, eager and open to serve because life in enclosure is not something light and easy. ”

keep praying for vocations and each time someone comes it is a great happiness and joy. We pray that this girl will follow her vocation so that she becomes holy, eager and open to serve because life in enclosure is not something light and easy.

THEIR LIFE AND WORK:

Our first duty is prayer. We don't leave the monastery to go and preach or do any kind of catechism but we are open for groups to come to us to do religious retreats. Small groups. We run our own retreats in the spirit of St. Hildegard and the Lectio Divina.

We also bake the Eucharistic Bread, embroider tablecloths and all liturgical clothing we also paint icons. We work around the house in our small garden and with hens. And we have a place for children where they come and they can learn some things from the sisters. At the moment they are preparing some theatrical sketch for Pascha.



DIFFICULTIES:

As a person responsible for 18 people and the building, I worry about everything. The building requires some repairs, the heating and things need fixing. There are always things to do around the building. Heating is the biggest challenge. When we came here for the first time there was no heating at all. Now we have also some troubles with plumbing. I give everything to Jesus and He takes care of it. As an example, when the pipes broke and it

was very cold in the house I listened to the words "Do not be afraid, trust in me". One priest came and I was telling him the story. He told me don't worry I know some people. They came the next day and fixed the problem. So it is for me very important to follow the Word. **Always trust completely in the Lord. There are many situations like this. And with the sisters it works fine. I need to take care of their formation. I am thankful to ACN for your help.**



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JUNE 2019 - TOGETHER

Church signs and symbols

The signs and symbols used in the Church’s liturgy provide us with a great opportunity for reflection. These simple elements of everyday life invite us to reflect on the mystery of our faith.

Most of them are also found in our own homes: oil, bread, light, water, wine, and white clothing. They are simple, basic and very accessible to us. These simple elements of everyday life invite us to reflect on the mystery of our faith.

We need symbols that speak to us of the sacred.

In our present age we are confronted with so many flashing images and shrill sounds competing for our attention that we can end up feeling fragmented, because we have no time to reflect or to be still. We sometimes long for peace and a sense of calm.

One way to promote inner peace is to contemplate the meaning of a symbol, such as a flame or a simple bowl of clear water. A symbol is a little like a ‘window’ to God. It gives a glimpse into the mystery of the divine at the heart of life.

In the liturgy and in all sacraments simple elements from life are brought forward and made sacred. Light, water, clothing, oil, hands, bread and wine are transformed from ordinary objects into the gift of God’s grace and presence with us, and we too are transformed into images of Christ.

THE ‘LANGUAGE’ OF SYMBOLS

As a Church we have a ‘language’ that helps us put expression to the moments of grace that mark our lives. This language is expressed in symbols and rituals (which are beyond words) and also, of course, in words that help us communicate the mystery of our relationship with the Divine. This is the language of the liturgy. Let’s look at a few of these symbols:

LAYING ON OF HANDS

One of the primary symbols in the liturgy is the ‘laying on of hands’. From ancient times, to impose hands on someone or to extend one’s hand

over the person’s head was the sign of calling down the Holy Spirit. All seven sacraments employ this symbol. We call the prayer which accompanies the imposition of hands an epiclesis, which is an invocation. In the Eucharist, the priest stretches his hands over the bread and wine to call upon the Holy Spirit to consecrate these gifts into the body and blood of Christ.

BREAD AND WINE

Wheat is grown and ground, transformed by human work to make bread. Grapes are grown and crushed, transformed by human work to make wine. It is traditionally the work of human hands.

Bread is life. Wine is joy. The sharing of food and drink is often linked with peace-making and the resolution of differences. From the earliest times, human beings have shared meals together. The very act of eating and drinking together is a symbol of fellowship, common life, common love.

In biblical times, people ate everything from the same plate. People ate using flat bread which served as a ‘spoon’ dipped into the communal dish. Sharing food in this way increased the sense of solidarity and fellowship among those eating it. They became, in a sense, one body.

The breaking of the bread was the ritual gesture that established communion among those at table in a Jewish ritual meal.

The Last Supper was such a meal. Jesus identified the broken bread and poured wine with his own Body and Blood, broken and poured out in his suffering and Death. After his Resurrection, Jesus’ disciples spoke of recognising him in the ‘breaking of the bread’. The ‘breaking of the bread’ eventually came to describe the whole action of the Eucharist after the time of Jesus.

FIRE/LIGHT

In the Old Testament, fire is a symbol of God’s purifying presence. In the biblical narratives we read of Moses before the burning bush, intensely aware of the presence of God. We read of the Hebrew people journeying through the desert, led by a pillar of fire by night. In the Bible, transformation is nearly always manifested by light. In the Old Testament, Moses is transfigured. In the New Testament, Jesus is transfigured, shining brighter than the sun. This ‘shining’ signifies the radiance of God’s presence. In the New Testament also, the flames of Pentecost are a symbol of the presence of God transforming the lives of Jesus’ disciples.

We too will be transformed. At Baptism we are given a lighted candle

to symbolise the light of Christ. This is the transforming light of faith that drives out the darkness of despair. And we are commissioned to keep this light burning brightly throughout our lives.

OIL

For the Jewish people, our ancestors in faith, anointing with oil meant setting the person apart for a particular mission. Just as royalty and Priests are anointed for a particular mission, so are we as Christians given a particular mission to be Christ in the world today.

The word Christ means the Anointed. We call ourselves Christians because we are anointed in Baptism. We are the community anointed to continue the work of Christ, the anointed one.

WHITE GARMENT

The newly baptised are clothed in white as a symbol of ‘putting on’ Christ, and the pure new life of grace. White is the colour of Christian baptism. It symbolises the cleansing of the person from all sin. The earliest Christians wore white to signify their union with Christ and their commitment to living a virtuous life. At Mass, the Priest wears a white alb which represents his baptismal garment.

LAYING ON OF HANDS



From ancient times, the laying on of hands was the sign of calling down the Holy Spirit

OIL



For the Jewish people, our ancestors in faith, anointing with oil meant setting the person apart for a particular mission

FIRE / LIGHT



In the Old Testament, fire is a symbol of God's purifying presence

WINE



Wine is Joy. Grapes are grown and crushed, transformed by human hands to make wine

WATER



The early Christians were baptised in rivers or large fonts of water. This symbolised a kind of drowning to one's old life

WHITE GARMENT



White is the colour of Christian baptism. It symbolises the cleansing of the person from all sin

BREAD



Bread is Life. Wheat is grown and ground, transformed by human work to make bread

SIGNS & SYMBOLS



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Catholic Mission Appeal: Do not fear, for I am with you

This year's Catholic Mission Church Appeal highlights the important work of Catholic Mission in Ghana, through programs designed to rescue babies and children who are vulnerable and foster their personal development for a brighter future.

The theme of the appeal comes from Isaiah 41:10, 'Do not fear, for I am with you'.

The theme reflects the uncertainty that children who are vulnerable face and confirms God's love and presence in their lives even during difficult or desperate times.

Under traditional customary beliefs in some communities in Ghana, behaviour considered to be abnormal can be linked to the spiritual world and children may be accused of witchcraft if they exhibit such behaviour. Children born with a disability or where the mother dies during their birth are also at risk under these beliefs.

Distressingly, these children are often rejected by members of their family and community; some are killed as they are seen as a bad omen. The Church and the Ghanaian government are making great strides in educational programs in an attempt to change these beliefs; however, as Bishop of Yendi Vincent Sowah Boi-Nai says, "old habits die hard."

The Nazareth Home for God's Children in the Diocese of Yendi in Ghana is a haven where children of all ages are loved and cared for unconditionally. Sister Stan Therese Mumuni has dedicated the last decade to running this home, which currently cares for 78 boys and girls, giving them safety, nutritious meals, healthcare and education.

Sister Stan ensures the children receive quality education so that they may one

day gain employment and provide for themselves. Her dream is that they will return to their home community and show how the love and support of the Church has empowered them to develop and reach their goals.

The Nazareth Home for God's Children is one of the many critical initiatives established by the Catholic Church in Ghana to save and nourish the lives of the country's most vulnerable young people. Without the tireless efforts of Sister Stan and other religious and lay missionaries around the country, many children will lose out on all that life has to offer.

However, the survival of these programs, and the children and young people who benefit so greatly from them, relies so much on the support you can provide today.

Appeals for support of the Nazareth Home for God's Children and other projects of the Catholic Church in Ghana will be held in all parish churches throughout the Diocese during the year.

Please give generously when the appeal is in your parish.

NAZARETH HOME FOR GOD'S CHILDREN

When Sarah was four years old, she was wrongly implicated in the deaths of fifteen people in her community, simply because she had a speech impediment.

In accordance with local customs in parts of northern Ghana, some people



in Sarah's community believed the little girl to be a "spirit child". Under these customs, any child born with a disability or whose mother dies during their birth may be considered a bad omen, and their lives placed at risk. Many in Sarah's community, including her own family, became furious at her inability or unwillingness to speak and defend herself against the allegations, casting her out and threatening to kill her.

Thankfully, Sister Stan Therese Mumuni and the local Church was made aware of the imminent danger Sarah was in. Sister Stan recalls fighting—almost physically—to save Sarah from the most terrible fate and give her a new chance at life.

Without the tireless efforts of Sister Stan and other religious and lay missionaries around the country, many children will lose out on all that life has to offer. Sarah says of Sister Stan, "I like her because she saved my life". If not for Sister Stan's intervention and lifelong care, Sarah may not be here today.



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Reach out. Give life.



90th birthday celebrations for Joan Travis

The members of St. Vincent de Paul Central Albury Conference gathered together at the home of Peter and Helen Sandral, to celebrate the long service, 43 years, and 90th birthday of Joan Travis (pictured in the blue jumper).

Joan joined Leeton in 1975 she continued with service at Deniliquin, until joining St Patrick's Conference where she is a current member. She is our Secretary and although her health has not been the best in a little while, she still interviews clients on a Friday.

Joan has spent these years as a volunteer dedicating her time to people in need, requiring assistance for accommodation, food, clothing and other essentials of life.

We wish her well.



Would you like to hear a firsthand account of some of the life-giving projects Catholic Mission is supporting? **Bishop Alfred Agyenta** (Navrongo-Bolgatanga Diocese in Ghana) and **Dr Joseph Ayembilla** will be visiting the Wagga Wagga Diocese toward the end of June.

You are invited to come and hear about the life changing projects Bishop Agyenta is providing with support from Catholic Mission Australia.



The Most Reverend Alfred Agyenta, Bishop of the Diocese of Navrongo-Bolgatanga
Works with his team in the diocesan offices and focuses largely on development and establishing programs to break the cycle of poverty in Navrongo-Bolgatanga Diocese in Ghana. Among the most important work he oversees is a suite of diocesan programs targeted toward poverty alleviation, education, shelter and development of children and youth.

Dr Joseph Ayembilla, Human Development Coordinator, Diocesan Development Office, Diocese of Navrongo-Bolgatanga
Has the role of Human Development Coordinator in the Navrongo-Bolgatanga Diocesan Development Office. He oversees projects supporting economic, educational and environmental sustainability and the coordination and lead-ership of several units, including Catholic Education; Diocesan Health Service; Livelihood, Advocacy and Good Governance; and the Justice and Peace Sectors.

PLEASE JOIN US

Griffith: Majellan Room, June 21st 3.00-4.30pm
Wagga: St Michael's Parish Centre, June 22nd 2.00-3.30pm
Albury: Sacred Heart Parish Hall June 23rd 2.00-3.30pm

Tea / Coffee provided at all venues

RSVP

John Goonan
Phone: 0269 370 013
Email: waggawaggadirector@catholicmission.org.au



News from Wagga's Serra Club

Welcome to all our members, supporters and friends

by **Andrew Kennedy** - Serra Club, Wagga Wagga

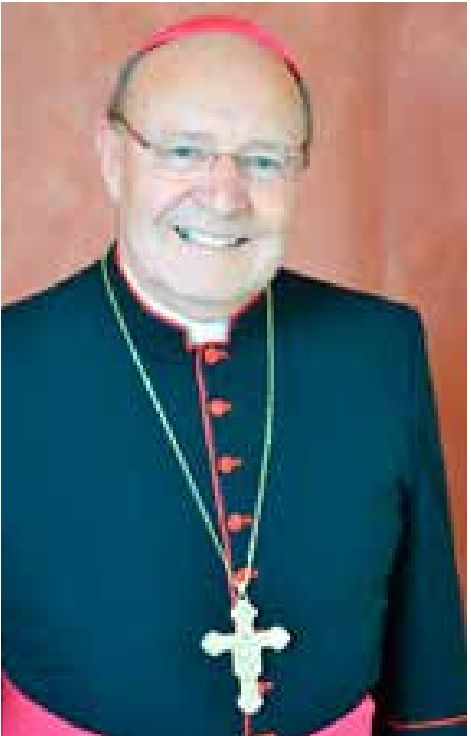
We can confirm the special guest speaker for our Dinner Evening is the Most Reverend Julian Porteous, Archbishop of Hobart.

Archbishop Julian has given his valuable time to travel to Wagga Wagga to speak to those present. The speaking topic will be on his personal vocation story, form early beginnings being baptised in the Rose Bay Parish, Sydney. He is the eldest of 5 children with 2 brothers and 2 sisters. Ironically his ancestors arrived in Tasmania way back in 1853.

A good night to look forward to. Our venue is the Wagga Commercial club on Friday 6th September with a two course meal. You may organise your own table of 8 people or Di can sit you with someone. \$60 a ticket and ring or text Di Kennedy 0428217769.

If any person out there is interested in joining Serra, we meet the second

Tuesday of each month for Mass, meeting and dinner. **You can contact Andrew Kennedy on 0428 475 869.**



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Local stars attend Mission 2019



Left: Lauren Watson (St Joseph’s Primary, Leeton) and Heath Neville (Marian Catholic College Leeton) – both in the centre – helped provide entertainment during the lunch break of the last day of the Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference in Sydney recently.

Right: Sr Carol Zinn ssj (Executive Director of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious in America) and Mr Phil Glendenning (Director of Edmund Rice Centre Sydney) were joined by Charlene Robson (centre) from Catholic Education Wagga Wagga for the final session of the Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference in Sydney last Month. The topic was ‘*Becoming a Church Beyond 2020*’.



Marian Catholic College has Annual Feast Day



Marian Catholic College in Griffith welcomed many visitors on May 24 to their Annual Feast Day.

Representatives of the Sisters of Mercy, NSW Director of Marist Schools Australia, Mr John Robinson, ex-teachers and students, parents and friends of Marian. The day is a time to remember connections with College Founders, honour their heritage and also celebrate their achievements and ask for God to bless their ongoing

work in fulfilling God’s Mission. All this and have some fun along the way! Many thanks to the staff and students who participated strongly in making the day so enjoyable. The representatives of the Mercy Sisters and Marist Brothers presented certificates of service to staff who have served the College for a significant time.



Plea from Albury Helpers of God's Precious Infants

Many of you will be familiar with the plight of Salome and Raymond Uda, the refugee family we have been helping since we first offered them our support outside the Albury abortion clinic in 2013.

By God's grace they accepted our offer of help and their third child Peter, a healthy boy, was born in 2014.

The family has, sadly, lost their fight to be able to stay in Australia and were deported to the Solomon Islands in March this year. Their three children, all born in Australia, are now aged 8, 6 and 5 years.

There are very few employment opportunities in the Solomon Islands, and it is even more difficult for Raymond as he is from Papua New Guinea. The best the family can hope to do is generate income from making/ growing/selling things. At present the family of five are camping on the lounge

Now they need some help to build a future for their 'Australian' boys in an underdeveloped country.

floor of a relative's small apartment whilst trying to avoid detection by Salome's father who may demand an exorbitant bride price from Raymond.

The Solomon Islands is still a very patriarchal society where women are commodities and rates of alcoholism and domestic abuse are very high. So our little family find themselves in



Here are the family on Mar 11th, 2019, the day before deportation. We went to Griffith with Anna von Marburg to farewell them and Phillip transported them and all their worldly goods to Sydney for their flight out. Peter Augustine, centre, (a very big boy for 5yrs old!) is the result of so many Helpers' prayers.



Peter, Raymond Jr and Jackson in the Solomon Islands - they just want to come home! Jr (centre) just home from hospital.

a new and hostile environment. On arrival one child immediately got very sick and was hospitalised with gastro. Access to clean water and sewerage are limited. There is no free education for children. A few benefactors have already helped the family put the boys in school and buy a small, undeveloped block of land and a second hand car. Now they are wanting to buy timber to begin the huge task of building their own shack to provide some shelter.

Nearly five years ago I stood outside the abortion clinic here begging this couple not go into that place and promising them, on behalf of all my pro-life friends, that we would do whatever we could to help them raise the child. Soon after that they had their marriage

regularised in the Catholic Church (she is a Catholic) and had the three boys baptised with "Helpers" as godparents.

Over the years we have asked for help to aid their financial situation and fight their deportation. Now they need some more help to build a future for these "Australian" boys in an underdeveloped country. If you are in a position to contribute please donate through this fundraising committee account and we will transfer it through to Salome.

Spiritus Sancti Ball
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Acc 10328283

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**God's Blessings on you all,
Donalee and Phil Murphy**

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Prayers to stay at council meetings

Wagga Wagga City Council recently raised the idea of removing prayer from the start of their fortnightly meetings.

This was met with much debate and many members of the public attended the meeting last week to show their support in keeping the prayer.

There was a 98% favour of keeping the prayer from 270 written submissions.

Former Wagga deputy mayor, Mary Kidson argued "it was inappropriate to involve God in what is essentially a political existence".

Deputy mayor, Dallas Tout suggested the introduction of an 'affirmation' in addition to the prayer, along with another motion to remove the phrase

"almighty God" from the current prayer.

Cr Paul Funnell said the alteration would have been "sacrilegious heresy" and that "nobody would ask other religions to change their prayers".

Thankfully the majority of councillors ruled in favour and the prayer at the beginning of the fortnightly meetings will remain.





Position Vacant: Diocesan Director

- This is a re-advertised position
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- Be part of a highly experienced national and diocesan team.
- Become an integral part of a global network of Catholic development work.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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'My dignity is unchangeable with God'

Marie van Rensburg, a third year student, shared her testimony at the Campion Women's Lunch. She spoke about the ethos and community of Campion and the inherent dignity that comes from being a woman.

I decided to come to Campion because I was just so attracted to the wholesomeness of the Liberal Arts degree. I wanted an education that would serve me for my entire life, something that would be relevant in whatever field or vocation I decided. And I can happily say that Campion has elevated my mind and broadened my perspective more than I'd ever anticipated, and I'm genuinely really excited to see where myself and my peers decide to affect change in the years to come.

Now ladies, today's awesome because we get to celebrate women. But to be honest, I haven't always understood just how special it is to be one. Thankfully, however, my time at Campion has shown me just how precious it is that we are who we are, and its unlocked within me an eagerness to embrace my femininity in its entirety. So, today I'd like to share with you how Campion's holistic approach to education, in forming not only students, but people, has empowered me as a woman of today's world.

‘Campion has given me the confidence to separate myself from the culture of today, to fight against injustice and to challenge modern trends.’

One of the best things Campion has done for me as a woman, has been filling me with a confidence to effectively engage and participate in society, because of the education I've received. Campion's emphasis on critical thinking and logical argumentation enables young adults to voice their opinions in a socio-political environment that is making it hard for anyone to do so. Campion has given me the confidence to separate myself from the culture of today, to fight against injustice and to challenge modern trends. This education frees us to do so, because we have the truth. And the world is in dire need of it.

The second thing Campion has taught me



is that our passions and desires are healthy, they are good, and they can be of service to others. My time at Campion has shown me that I can take my passions more seriously, and not shut them down as mere 'dreams' because I've been supported and encouraged here. I've truly been given the space and opportunity to develop my interests. I've learnt that the things that move and inspire us are worthy of our investment, and when we can combine these desires with a liberating education – we can bring our goals to fruition, and that is something that is so epic for a modern woman.

The third and final thing is something my spiritual journey at Campion has enabled me to realise. And that is, that my worth comes from God alone. My identity is in He who created me. And it hasn't been easy coming to this realisation. It's taken many years of battling against myself and my perfectionism, my pride, my vanity and my selfishness to finally give up - to give up the pursuit of worldly gratification, and to give over to He who knows my heart. This is again something that frees me. Regardless of where I stand in the eyes of the world, or the eyes of my family, my friends, my workplace, regardless of my mistakes, my

shortcomings and my failure - my dignity is unchangeable with God.

Now ladies, growing in our understanding of where we fit in the world as women is a journey, and in many ways, I'm just at the beginning of mine. I'd like to thank Campion for its formation of me, and for the wonderful people who have both directly, and indirectly supported me throughout my time. I'd also like to humbly request that you support Campion's women through your prayers and encouragement so that every girl can flourish into the woman she was born to become.

Do you know a Year 11 or 12 student with an interest in the liberal arts?

Campion College's immersive, three-day Winter Program provides the opportunity to reside on campus, experience college life and interact with like-minded peers. We have a fun-filled program including a bonfire night, movies, trivia, dancing and sports, as well as sample lectures from our history, literature, philosophy and theology professors. If you know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to register today. Sponsorships available to cover up to 100% of the program cost. Find out more and register at www.campion.edu.au/winter



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St Francis DeSales Regional College, Leeton



The 14s Cochrane Cup Rugby League team competed well on June 11 but went down to Mater Dei Catholic College and Kildare Catholic College.

Congratulations to Mater Dei Catholic College on winning the day. Each game was played in good spirit. Well done.



St Patrick's Primary School, Griffith



Kindergarten has been busy this term. They have been learning to tie their shoelaces, a little tricky at first but all succeeded in the end.



The students had their very own dance teacher, Mrs Vitucci show them some moves for the dance floor.

St Peter's Primary, Coleambally

Year 5/6 students enjoyed playing with the residents at Cypress View Lodge recently. It is always lovely seeing how respectful the students are and how much fun everyone had.



Henschke Primary, Wagga

Congratulations to Henschke Primary's two Year 6 teams who competed in the Mortimer Shield finals day.



They came home muddy and wet, but had a great time slipping and sliding at Paramore Park.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

St Joseph's Primary, Narrandera



Mrs Flynn and Year 6 students prepared a delicious lunch wishing their mothers and grandmothers a Happy Mother's Day.



St Patrick's Primary School, Holbrook

The students at St Patrick's Holbrook recently participated in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea delivering delicious treats to the local community. Well done.



St Anne's Primary, North Albury

Here's a few snaps of St Anne's Year 2 'Olden Days' excursion to Jindera. Everyone had so much fun exploring the past at the Jindera Pioneer Museum.



Kildare Catholic College, Wagga Wagga

Kildare Catholic College Year 7 Technology students have been constructing model catapults for their engineering systems unit.



Marian Catholic College, Griffith

Marian Catholic College's Duke of Edinburgh students getting ready to start their hike into the Bugonia National Forest.



Bangladesh's Cardinal calls for international community to show action not words for Rohingyas

The Archbishop of Dhaka, Bangladesh’s bustling capital city, Cardinal Patrick D’Rozario, recently visited Sydney, calling on the international community to take action and not mere words, in support of Rohingyas who have escaped Myanmar for Bangladesh.



Cardinal Patrick D'Rozario

His Eminence spoke not just of the essential emergency efforts which the Caritas network has undertaken, which includes food kits, emergency supplies and construction equipment, but the great hardship and indignity which has come to define the Rohingya experience.

According to the UN the spate of ethnic tension, which began in Myanmar in 2015, and culminated in 2017, has driven almost one million people, most of whom identify as Rohingya, to cross into Bangladesh to flee violence in Myanmar’s Rakhine State. Many like Barsha, a father of five, have been traumatised, after escaping with little more than the clothes on their back and witnessing extreme violence including; abductions, rapes, and murders.

Since September 2017 Barsha found help including food and shelter in Caritas-supported emergency programs at a camp on the Cox Peninsula. So far, the Caritas international network, led by Caritas Bangladesh has helped over 120,000 individuals, including over 15,000 families. Caritas has also established child-friendly spaces in the camps, where children can draw and learn lessons in their native tongue.

But according to Cardinal D’Rozario, who’s visited the Cox Peninsula four times, said with plans to move the Rohingyas to an island prone to

‘When I went there for the first time, I really felt the cries of these poor Rohingyas and I felt these were the cries of humanity.’

natural disasters, he remains concerned at the lack of international action on the issue, leaving the Bangladeshi government with no real choice.

“I really see the difference in the way they are taking care and especially the role of Caritas Internationalis, including Caritas Australia and the way they have contributed to take care of the humanitarian needs of the people, but when I went there for the first time, I really felt the cries of these poor Rohingyas and I felt these were the cries of humanity,” Cardinal D’Rozario said.

“I thought to myself ‘why are all these poor people having to suffer like that? Why do they have no address, why have they been kept in one area without providing education?’”

“The thing is they cannot live on the way they are living, without education, without formation, the government is not allowing it, because that would keep the permanency. But in Bangladesh we are such a densely populated country, and the whole area has doubled in population. This has created so many environmental, social problems.

“But what will Bangladesh do with all these people, if the international community do not come forward to find solutions? We already see the frustration and conflict coming with the local people on this issue.”

The Cardinal, who operates in a Muslim majority country, accompanied Pope Francis during his visit to Bangladesh where he met with interfaith communities and 60 Rohingyas, calling for “action not words.”



Rohingya girls are accessing an education in Bangladesh's Cox's Peninsula. Christopher Riechert for Caritas Bangladesh Catholic Relief Services



To donate, visit: www.abc.net.au/appeals/ or Caritas Australia’s Asia Emergency Appeal webpage: www.caritas.org.au/rohingya or call 1800 024 413.

RefugeeWeek

2019

Refugee Week 2019 Ambassador Rnita Dacho and her mum Khochibo Warda. Photo credit: Camille Nuttall

A world of stories

Refugee Week 16 – 22 June 2019
 World Refugee Day 20 June 2019

Vale to Father Cornelius 'Con' Croese

Fr Con Croese was a dedicated and devoted priest for over 50 years and died on 9th May 2019 in Wagga Wagga aged 90 years.

Born on 7th January 1929 in Newcastle, NSW, he spent his childhood years at Moss Vale, NSW.

He was educated at the Robertson Public School, the Dominican Convent Moss Vale, and the Marist Brothers in Campbelltown, NSW.

Before joining the Priesthood, Con completed an apprenticeship as a 'Fitter & Turner' at Southern Portland Cement Works at Berrima. The Croese name has



been affiliated with Berrima Cement Works for many generations and at one stage all the immediate Croese family members, including Con, his brother Robert, their sisters Shirley & Claire, along with their father William Croese, all worked at the cement works at the same time.

Con maintained the friendships he made during his childhood and his years at the cement works, and often met up with those friends on his visits back to Moss Vale over the years.

Con also worked for an engineering firm in Wagga Wagga before entering St Columba's Springwood and St Patrick's Manly to train for the priesthood in 1954.

Cornelius Croese was Ordained a priest on 17th July 1961 at the Dominican Convent in Moss Vale by Most Rev T McCabe of Wollongong. The Chalice used by Father Con during all his years as a priest was a treasured possession, presented to him by his family on the occasion of his Ordination.

Fr Croese achieved things in a quiet manner and was regarded highly within the Diocese where he worked. He served in the Parishes of South Wagga, Leeton, Albury, Tocomwal, Tarcutta,



Urana, Howlong, and Lockhart. He spent some time in the Diocese of Port Pirie in 1997. He was appointed Rector of Vianney College Seminary from 2001 until 2004, and also served as a Diocesan Consultor. He retired to Lockhart in December 2006.

Con was also a loving brother and uncle who was strongly connected to his family, often travelling back to his

home town of Moss Vale to celebrate weddings, baptisms and funerals for his family members, nieces and nephews.


Fr Con Croese died on 9th May 2019 in Wagga Wagga aged 90 years. A Requiem Mass was held at St Paul's Catholic Church Moss Vale on 20th May 2019. He is buried at St Patrick's Catholic Cemetery, Sutton Forest.

May he rest in peace.

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Parishes urgently needing SRE volunteers:

- Henty
- Darlington Point and Colleambally
- Berrigan and Mulwala

Lay ministers in rural NSW trained by ACU Centre for Liturgy

The Australian Catholic University (ACU) Centre for Liturgy travelled to Hay in western New South Wales where it successfully held a lay liturgical ministry formation program in the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese on 1-2 June.

by Georgina Bible - ACU Communications Officer (Mission)

The two-day program was made possible thanks to a generous grant from one of the Centre’s donors.

Liturgy is the official public worship of the Church. Accessing specialists in liturgy education and training can be difficult for Catholics in Australia’s rural and regional areas.

To meet the need for formation, the ACU Centre for Liturgy’s expert trainers Dr Jason McFarland and Ms Sharon Boyd organised the formation program to provide much needed training to lay liturgical ministers in the Diocese, who often have no access to such training and infrequent access to a priest.

The program focused on the underlying need to develop the skills required for effective lay liturgical ministry and leadership for those forms of liturgy that may be led by a layperson.

Specific topics included baptismal foundations for ministry, preparing and celebrating funerals, Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest, lay presiding at Morning and Evening Prayer, liturgical music with few resources, communion of the sick, and the ministry of Lector.



Dr McFarland and Ms Boyd worked collaboratively with local pastoral leaders to discern the most useful topics for the two-day program. A local funeral company provided resources for some of the training sessions.

“This formation allows leaders and facilitators from the lay faithful to exercise their baptismal call to ministry in a new way.”

“Reaching out to less well-supported parishes and dioceses is a key part of the Centre’s work as it seeks to deliver practical professional training, development and formation in liturgy and the sacraments to liturgical practitioners in parishes, schools and dioceses across Australia,” said ACU Centre for Liturgy Assistant Director Dr Jason McFarland.

“While the Centre’s staff are located at ACU in Strathfield and Melbourne, its reach is national, and its staff are always willing to offer support and education to the Church in rural locations.”

Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese Pastoral Worker Sister Elizabeth Young RSM said the program provided the rare opportunity for parishioners to receive formation from experts without leaving the Diocese.

“There are a number of small worshipping communities in this area that are unable to have a priest every



Sunday. This formation allows leaders and facilitators from the lay faithful to exercise their baptismal call to ministry in a new way,” said Sister Elizabeth.

“This workshop will build relationships and solidarity among lay leaders, giving refreshment to those who have had previous training, and inspiration and confidence for those who are new.”

“Some lay leaders received training a while ago, and this program is an opportunity to update and consolidate their skills, so there is a stronger diocesan identity and sense of mutual support.”

The ACU Centre for Liturgy is now seeking additional grants for future work in places like Wilcannia-Forbes where the need is great but resources are few.

One-hundred percent of such gifts will be applied directly to the Centre’s essential formative education work in areas of need. The Centre also accepts endowments, pledges, bequests, and gifts in kind.

The ACU Centre for Liturgy operates within ACU’s Office of the Vice



President and works collaboratively with the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy to provide high-quality academic programs and research in liturgical studies, sacramental theology and the sacred arts. The Centre aims to facilitate liturgical formation at every level in the life of the Church in Australia.

Tax deductible donations can be made via the Give Now portal on the ACU Centre for Liturgy website.



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.

2:30pm Sunday 23rd June 2019

Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church, San Isidore

Guest Speaker: Mariam Rehman

Mariam is an impressive 20-year-old local Muslim business woman who works for peace. Through her work and community sport and volunteer activities she endeavours to promote progressive change, *one smile at a time*. In 2014 she won the Wagga Film Fest Best Young Film maker award which launched her photography career. She operates a marketing agency: The Cre8tive Co.

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



#WithRefugees

Afternoon Tea provided. All welcome.

CONTACTS: Joan 02 69313048 Peggy 02 69866198

Hidden in the Shadow of Love

The Story of Mother Theresa McLaughlin and Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor

Author: Jocelyn Hedley

Sydney, 1913: two young Catholics, Eileen O'Connor and Father Edward McGrath MSC, answer the call of Our Lady to establish a society of nursing sisters to care for the sick and dying poor in the city's slums. But the fledgling society struggles from its earliest days: Fr McGrath is sent abroad; and Eileen dies just a few years later. The little band of foundation nurses finds itself adrift.

Into the helm steps Nurse Theresa McLaughlin. Grieving the loss of her beloved foundress, she continues the work begun in Our Lady's name, and guides the Nurses through the ensuing difficult years. Her life, hidden and small, teaches us about being faithful in the little things, and about finding the extraordinary in the everyday.

Eileen O'Connor's cause for beatification is now officially open. This is the story of her closest companion, and the first Superior of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, Mother Theresa McLaughlin.



HIDDEN IN THE SHADOW OF LOVE

The Story of Mother Theresa McLaughlin and Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor

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Mass times across our Diocese

Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

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

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

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

Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

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

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

Albury

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

Albury - North Albury

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

Albury - Lavington

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

Albury - Thurgoona

Immaculate Heart of Mary
Weekend Masses
Saturday - 8.00am
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.30am, 5.30pm
Weekday Masses
Monday - 8.00am
Tuesday - 7.00am (10.00am only on 2nd Tuesday of the month)
Wednesday - 7.00am
Thursday - 7.00pm (Mass Novena and Benediction)
Friday - 8.00am
Confessions
Prior to Masses
Saturday after 8.00am Mass, 5.30-6.00pm
Sunday - 5.00-5.30pm
Thursday - 7.00pm following Novena
Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Also by appointment

Berrigan

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

Coolamon

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

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

Corowa

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

Culcairn

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

Darlington Point

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

Finley

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

Ganmain

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

Griffith

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

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

Holbrook

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

Howlong

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

Jerilderie

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

Junee

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

Khancoban

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

Leeton

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

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

Lockhart

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

Mulwala

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

Narrandera

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

Tarcutta

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

The Rock

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

Tocumwal

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

Tumbarumba

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

Urana

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

Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

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

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



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

2 June 1934	Fr Peter McAlroy
6 June 1912	Fr Edward J Fallon
6 June 1926	Fr John Fleming
7 June 1967	Mgr Bryan William Hayden
9 June 1920	Mgr Michael Buckley
10 June 1981	Mgr John Joseph Harper
12 June 1928	Fr Patrick Hickey
18 June 1933	Fr Terence O'Shaughnessy
19 June 1966	Fr Albert Colletta OFM Cap.
24 June 1961	Fr Joseph Sammon
27 June 1985	Fr Henry Theodore Josko

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

Monthly Funny



"How do we know Jesus owned a Honda and never spoke about it? Because in John 12:49 Jesus says 'For I did not speak of my own accord'."

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Family reflections for: June

9th June - Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and we learn to accept forgiveness. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit that enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting all to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting upon the concern and how your family might address it. Read together today's Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today's psalm, or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another the sign of peace.

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
Psalms 104:1,24,29-31,34
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13
John 20:19-23

16th June - The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
Think of the last time you witnessed an act of selfless love in your family. Parents and caregivers of all kinds are called upon to act selflessly every day. Family life calls us to share selfless love with one another.

God is the model for us of selfless love. There was no need for God to create our planet or the creatures that inhabit it; it was an act of selfless love. There was also no

need for God to send his only Son to save us. That too was an act of selfless love.

As we draw closer to God and the mystery of the Trinity, we learn about God's love. God has lavished us with love in the persons of the Son and the Spirit, who in turn nurture in us the desire to do the same. When we open ourselves to be filled with an awareness of the divine life within us, we participate in the endless spiral of love that leads to eternal life. Whenever we share selfless love in the family, we are sharing in the life of the Trinity.

Proverbs 8:22-31
Psalms 8:4-9
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

23rd June - The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

In our age of fast food and eating on the go, families often find that they are not eating meals together at a dinner table. As a family, look back over the past week and recall how many meals were eaten together and how many meals were eaten alone or on the run.

In the Bible, meals are seen as much more than a means to satisfy a physical need. The Hebrew people viewed eating a meal as a way of expressing and strengthening their relationship to one another under God's covenant. It is no coincidence that meals are often the setting of Jesus' teaching and miracles in the Gospels. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear the story of Jesus feeding the crowd of 5,000 people.

Read this Sunday's Gospel, Luke 9:11b-17. Talk about the kinds of hungers that people have in addition to physical

hunger. Describe the hungers that a family nourishes (love, compassion, forgiveness, laughter, and so on). Together give thanks for the food that Jesus gives us that we celebrate on this Sunday's feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus. Make a commitment to share in this Eucharistic meal together as a family.

Genesis 14:18-20
Psalms 110:1-4
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Luke 9:11b-17

30th June - Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Parents are always striving to help their children to set priorities. Children need to learn to finish homework before watching TV or going out to play. They need to know that they have to finish their chores before they can go out with their friends. They need to know that paying attention to curfews for their safety is more important than being popular.

As a family, talk about these examples of setting priorities. Share examples of how you learned to prioritize as you were maturing. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus talks about the importance of making him the number-one priority in our lives.

Read aloud Luke 9:51-62. Talk about how going to Sunday Mass as a family is an important way of keeping God at the center of our lives. Talk about other ways that the family can make Jesus a priority

1 Kings 19:16b,19-21
Psalms 16:1-2,5,7-11
Galatians 5:1,13-18
Luke 9:51-62



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



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



The face of homelessness in Australia has changed. Across New South Wales, the high cost of living, stagnant wages and unsteady jobs can push anyone into crisis. Many families living on the edge are only a few pay packets away from homelessness, and the majority of people experiencing homelessness are in the prime of their lives. Your support is vital in helping us provide essential care and programs to those in our community who need it the

most. Register or sponsor a participant to help us change lives. **Why we need your support** The human reality of homelessness is told through the personal stories of the many people the St Vincent de Paul Society assists every day. Every night there are in excess of three hundred and fifty people across the Riverina who are experiencing homelessness with many of them being the youth of our community.

Young people experiencing homelessness find it more difficult to maintain support, connect with their community and participate in education, training and employment. Our youth who experience homelessness are at increased risk of experiencing ongoing homelessness as adults. It is critical that we provide people experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness with the support to rebuild their

lives and reconnect with the community. It is also more important than ever that we prevent homelessness from occurring in the first place. **How can you help** You can help us reach our goal of seeing 100 sleepers raise \$100,000. Register today as a team or individual and start fundraising. The funds raised will help realise a new youth initiative program. This project aims to support young people who are experiencing homelessness

who have the desire to connect with education, employment and training, through personal development, skill development and work related activities. Participants will be assisted in activities to boost their confidence and motivation to more proactively seek to obtain competencies to advance training or employment opportunities and engage work related activities including work tasters.

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

Event details:

Where: Charles Sturt University, Wagga
Wagga Main Campus
When: Friday, 30 August 2019
Contact: Jacqui, Maree or Renee
Phone: 69 231 904
Email: svdpwagga@vinnies.org.au
Bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, a water bottle, wear warm clothing, and a blanket if you feel the cold!

Sleep out.
Change lives.

