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Marian style of evangelisation

Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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Pope Francis makes an important point about evangelisation in his Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel) – 2013. At the end of this important document, largely on evangelisation in the world today, he states “There is a Marian ‘style’ to the Church’s work of evangelisation.”(# 288)

Let us ponder on this thought for a moment.

The Pope goes on to say, “Whenever we look to Mary, we come to believe once again in the revolutionary nature of love and tenderness.”(# 288)

As 2020 now marches forward for us, let us think about what it means to have a Marian “style” of evangelisation.

Three points come to my mind.
First of all it is an evangelisation of few words.

When we examine carefully the New Testament and the role of Mary, we notice that she says very little. Certainly, in the first chapters of Luke’s Gospel, we hear of her incredible “Yes” response to the Annunciation and her dialogue with her cousin Elizabeth to whom she sets out “with haste.” (Luke1:39)

Mary is always physically present but doesn’t say an enormous amount in the Gospels. However, she is there at all the prime moments of our faith. The Annunciation, Visitation, Birth of our Lord, Wedding at Cana, Suffering and Death of her Son on the Calvary Cross and clearly she was present with the Apostles at the birth of the Church at Pentecost.

In all this, her evangelisation is a “wordless” evangelisation of tenderness and compassion.

Let us imitate her great example.
Sometimes we think that evangelisation is all about speaking, all about talking. In Mary’s view nothing could be further from the truth. There is no doubt there is a moment for talking but there is also a moment for simply being present to people. Truly listening is a beautiful way of

bringing forth the joy of the Gospel and evangelising. Indeed St Francis of Assisi is attributed to having said the following famous expression, “Preach the Gospel at all times, use words if necessary.” That is a very Marian “style” of evangelisation.

Let us think deeply about this as 2020 dawns upon us as missionary disciples of the Lord.

Secondly, Mary is very comfortable in silence.

There are different types of silences but this is the silence of the presence of the Lord. It’s the evangelisation of “presence” rather than “performance”. There is the beautiful expression in the Scriptures of Mary’s prayerful silences. At the birth of Jesus in the humble Manger at Bethlehem, St Luke records the profound prayerful silence of Mary by saying, “Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.”(Luke 2:19)

Again, as 2020 arrives, let us think deeply about evangelising through prayerful silence.

Sometimes our gatherings can be quite noisy. This is hardly a Marian “style” of evangelising. Let us be comfortable either as individuals or in our communal prayer to welcome silences as being thick with the

presence of God. St Benedict tells us in his teaching to those who want to follow Christ deeply, “Listen with the ear of your heart.”

Thirdly, a Marian “style” of evangelising means that we have particular sensitivity to the needs of others, especially those that we know are undergoing difficulties.

This is a sure sign that our prayer is of the Lord. It always looks for those on the periphery, those who struggle, those who have challenges in their lives. We do all that we can to stand alongside them in solidarity and compassion.

We see this with Mary in the Visitation. Although there was no great need for her to do this, as soon as she hears that her cousin Elizabeth is pregnant with John the Baptist, she rushes to Jerusalem to affirm her cousin in the faith. The encounter of Mary with Elizabeth in Luke’s Gospel could well be seen as the first Gospel example of shared prayer. (Luke 1) These wonderful women praise God and give glory to Him. They magnify the Lord and see all as grace.

Let us keep the Marian “style” of evangelising in our hearts during 2020, especially as we enter into the Lenten Liturgical Season towards the joys and hopes of Easter.



Prayer Intention for March - Pray with Pope Francis

Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

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



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

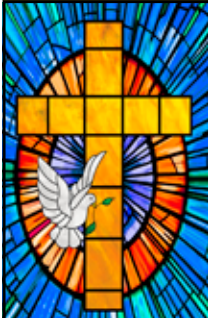
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China is the largest country by population in the world with 1.4 billion people. The percentage of Catholics is less than 0.1%. Living under strict restriction with little religious freedom, however, the Catholic community has shown incredible perseverance and vitality, who tried their best to keep communion with the universal Church by suffering all difficulties and persecutions. During the Easter of 2018, there were about 48,00 baptized. Young Catholics in China seek all means to deepen their faith and are actively present in the Church.

Just by reading news (which is often imbalanced), outsiders hardly understand the real situation of the Church in China.

The often dualistic description of the Chinese church as “underground” and “official” is not only too simplistic but also very harmful. As Pope Benedict XVI clearly emphasized, there is only one Church in China, though it may exist in two ways due to certain very complicated reasons. The majority of both are living under persecution and yet remain faithful. The conflicts within the Church have created great confusion for believers and caused severe obstacles for evangelization. Pope Francis passionately invites the universal Church to pray for the church in China, that it may be more Catholic (united) and more Chinese at the same time.



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.

Holy Spirit Lavington Parish turns 50

This milestone was heartily celebrated over three days from 21st to 23rd February 2020 commencing with a joyful Mass organised by the school.

**"This is our school let peace be found here
May the rooms be full of happiness.
Let love abide - love for one another
The love of life itself ...Oooh the love of God."**

Sang the children as they processed into their beautiful church carrying their school banners.

The altar was splendid with red and white flowers - everything gleaming!

Fr Brendan Lee said Mass, two of our long term teachers Marie Brosolo and Mark Moore did the readings and Brooke Collins at the organ led the students singing. At the offertory Matt Kean, principal took up the gifts along with two ex-principals of the school, Malcolm Scott and Mary Fletcher who are still parishioners at the parish.

After Mass, some proud young students took the visitors to have morning tea and a tour of their magnificent classrooms. The school hall was decked out with displays from each present day class plus lots of photos and albums from the past 50 years.

At 7pm this hall became the venue for an amazing "Wine and Cheese" evening with platters of tasty finger food and different wines to be enjoyed. Tony Quinn arranged it all, along with the school staff and St Vincent de Paul workers.

Tony spoke of the old days here when the parish began and how so many people worked together

happily to make the vision of our first priest, Fr Patrick O'Connell come to fruition. "We began with just a bare paddock and now our parish centre has a church, presbytery, school, hall and a Retirement village for all to enjoy."

John Sandral, who has just retired, told us about how education has changed over his forty years teaching here and of being proud to be part of things.

The next day of our Triduum of celebration saw the school again open, a jumping castle in the oval and Scavenger hunt in progress while people continued to look at "memories" in the hall. A white magnolia was planted in honour of Fr O'Connell and the Time Capsule opened.

Over 200 people came to the formal dinner held that night and they enjoyed a delicious meal.

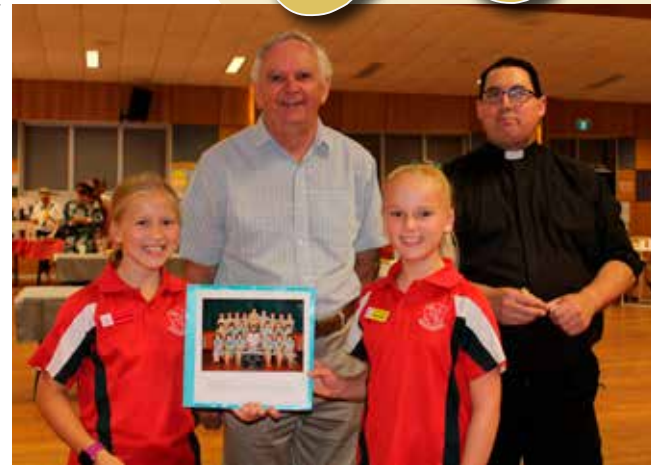
Fr Murphy, our parish priest, welcomed everybody and called upon Greg Frazer, Genevieve Black and Bert Fletcher to tell a little of Holy Spirit history, both here and at Jindera, where there is a beautiful little church and the St Mary MacKillop school as well as a cemetery.

There were actually two birthday cakes for the dinner, one of which was cut by Joan Pryor who along with Tricia Dean made the beautiful mosaic in the church foyer and the other kept for the BBQ on Sunday.

Yes it really was a "Triduum" and the 10 am Mass was a grand occasion! It began with a procession of flags carried by people representing various nationalities who have come together here. The church was absolutely full.

It was concelebrated by Frs Murphy, Lee and Heffernan and once again we were reminded of Fr O'Connell and workers who have now passed on having helped build Holy Spirit. We look forward to a wonderful future with the participation of the many young families who are now active in the church today.

A BIG BBQ followed that Mass and it was big with over 400 sausages being served. That second cake, which glowed with stained glass windows (digitally uploaded, no doubt!) was cut by elderly parishioner, Florence Murphy - the past and the future merging together - **symbolic no doubt of our parish today.**



Mark Moriarty (former teacher and current parishioner) shows his class photo to current Yr 6 leaders Amelia Brigden, Amelia Hunt and Fr Lee.



Some past and present staff and students with Time Capsule memorabilia.



Holy Spirit School leaders and parishioners processing from the School to the church to celebrate mass on Sunday morning.



Current Holy Spirit students Rowen Davies and Amelia Church help Fr. Murphy dig up the Time Capsule from 25yrs ago.



Celebration cakes.



Mary Fletcher, Malcom Scott (past principals) and Matt Kean (current Principal) take up the offertory at the School Mass.

Continuing God’s Mission in Wagga Wagga

Jane Plum may be new to the role of Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga but she is no stranger to the work of mission.

Jane has worked extensively in Catholic Education from classroom teacher in primary schools to director of mission in a secondary school to education officer at system level.

During that time, she prepared and presented, in collaboration with Catholic Mission's Formation Services, the annual justice camp for Years 10 and 11 students from five secondary schools of the Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga (CEDWW).
As a member of the CEDWW Faith and Care team, Jane again partnered with Catholic Mission to create formation experiences designed for CEDWW schools’ staff members supporting them to come to a greater understanding of themselves as a mission on this earth (EG 273).
Father Brian Lucas, National Director of Catholic Mission, says Jane’s appointment will ensure the partnership is strengthened. ‘We’re excited for Jane to continue the work of missionary formation in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga of which she has been an integral part for many years,’ he said. ‘We have great confidence that Jane will build on the solid foundations laid by John Goonan, who served our organisation and

the Diocese extremely well during his time in the role.’
Jane acknowledges Henri Nouwen and Pope Francis as inspired and inspiring people who demonstrate a deep commitment to the dignity of each human person made in the image and likeness of God. “They recognise their own humility and vulnerability and can therefore be truly present to others, which is what I strive to do,” she says.
This is clear in Henri’s explanation:
When we have nothing to cling to as our own and cease thinking of ourselves as people who must defend privileges, we can open ourselves freely to others with the faithful expectation that our strength will manifest itself in our shared weakness. Henri J. M. Nouwen
And exemplified in Pope Francis’ declaration that ...
The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty!
Jane takes up the role of Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission two days a week whilst continuing to work for CEDWW two days a week. She also hopes to expand on her spiritual direction ministry and employ her growth coaching expertise.



Jane Plum is the new Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga



St Joseph's Family Catechetical school returns



After a break of some 15 years, St Joseph's Family Catechetical School returned to West Wagga parish with the support of Fr. Thomas Casanova CCS PP, the Confraternity of Christ the Priest seminarians, the Missionaries of Charity sisters and many wonderful parents. Over 30 primary aged students came to Holy Trinity to enjoy many normal classroom learning activities with a twist, the holiday school being centred around imparting the Catholic faith. The primary aged students from various Wagga Wagga schools participated in activities like: set prayers, Bible bingo, saint memorisation techniques and catechetical running races. We have an exciting variety of ways that we teach the faith from singing to art and craft activities but the most important way is to engage the children and give a positive witness to the faith. After all, religion is caught and not just taught. The conclusion of the 3 days displayed the success it was, with everyone agreeing we should hold the holiday school each year..

by Matthew Greenrod B.A., BThSt, B.Ed.

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Liturgical implications of coronavirus

With a relatively small number of confirmed cases of coronavirus or COVID-19 in Australia, the risk to the general public remains low.

However, given the regular assembly of large groups for liturgical celebrations and a number of enquiries The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have the following advice to consider.

This advice is prepared in collaboration with the National Office for Liturgy and Catholic Health Australia and should be considered alongside local and national health guidance, including from the Commonwealth Department of Health (<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>).

A number of dioceses and parishes have already issued guidelines relevant to their local context. This national advice, drafted in light of those guidelines, should be read in conjunction with those local documents.

The following recommendations are believed to be proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities. They are consistent with the Catholic Church's prerogative to protect those who are most vulnerable.

- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect

others with a contagious disease, before attending a public liturgical celebration.

- Holy Water should be temporarily removed from stoups at the doors of churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus. Holy Water should continue to be available for people to take home.

- Parishes and other settings where liturgies are celebrated should make alcohol-based gels or rubs (or like products) available near entrances. Similar provisions should be considered for settings used for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- When exchanging the Sign of Peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.

- All Ministers of Holy Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing. Appropriate means should be made available.

- Parishes should cease distributing Holy Communion from the Chalice until further notice. The faithful should be reminded that Christ is fully present under either species.

- The coronavirus is easily spread through saliva. In celebrations of the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite, it is therefore recommended that the Body of Christ only be administered in the hand because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue. Ministers should seek to avoid contact with the communicant's hands.

- The faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass – whether due to coronavirus or some other condition – or are at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus can honour their Sunday obligation by participating in a time of prayer within the home, reading the Scriptures or watching Mass on television or online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>).

Catholics may be reassured that, should they contract COVID-19 and become seriously ill, priests will continue to ensure they receive the sacraments and other appropriate pastoral care.

Pastors and other Church leaders are encouraged to communicate their relevant advice with the faithful clearly and appropriately.

Individuals should follow the advice of local health authorities when conducting services in hospitals and aged care facilities, as well as those who conduct pastoral visits to other settings, including people's homes, prisons and detention centres.

Other Catholic ministries, including schools and hospitals, will communicate with their own communities based on the advice they receive and their local circumstances.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will continue to monitor advice from health authorities and other episcopal conferences. This advice will be updated as and when appropriate.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse has instructed communities, parishes, schools, and hospitals throughout the Diocese of Wagga Wagga to observe the following protocols until further notice:

- **Remove Holy Water from fonts.**
- **Ask the faithful to acknowledge each other at the sign of peace, but refrain from touching.**
- **Priests, Deacons, Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to use hand sanitiser before distributing Holy Communion and after distributing Holy Communion at Mass, Liturgy of the Word's with Holy Communion, Visits to the sick in Hospital and Home.**
- **Instruct the faithful that Holy Communion should be received only in the hand, not on the tongue.**
- **Distribute the Sacred Host only and not the Precious Blood.**



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Betty

Interview with Catholic Composer

We interview a Canadian composer, Tate Pumfrey, who specializes in English hymns in the grand old style, with newly-written hymn texts of strong diction, rhyme, and meter. The texts are contributed by an Australian, Christian Catsanos.

by Peter Kwasniewski

Tell us about your musical background.

I've had a wandering road to get to where I am today. I played several instruments in my youth, but few of them really stuck with me. That said, I have been a singer for a long time and still sing quite regularly in a choral capacity. I started playing the pipe organ sporadically in high school before I began serious organ lessons in my first year of university (albeit outside of school) with Gilles Maurice Leclerc, of Ottawa, Ontario. Gilles is still a good friend, and he had a large impact on me. Not only is he an excellent organist and improviser, he's also a talented composer. He has been so kind as to look at my pieces and offer feedback, and I still send him my music.

How was your interest in composing sacred music enkindled?

I started to become interested in writing sacred music around the same time I became interested in the Traditional Latin Mass, although I'm not sure if there's a direct correlation. One day in October 2017, I spontaneously wrote a little hymn, both text and music, but was largely dissatisfied with my poetry. When a second hymn seemed to fall out of my head in February 2018, I wanted to see if I could find someone to write texts for my music. I sent out a call for a text writer in a Facebook group for church musicians, and a young organist from Australia, named Christian Catsanos, got in touch with me. Before I'd even sent him the music for this second hymn, I told him that the lines were 8.7.8.7. He sent me a text that was appropriately penitential for the mood of the music, and all seven verses fit like a glove! It has been an awesome and fruitful experience working with Christian. He writes beautiful texts, and my hymns would not be possible without his wonderful words.

Is there a sacred music composer - or are there several composers - whose work you find most captivating, either as a source of delight (however different in style from your own compositions), or as direct inspirations and models for your own work?

I have a few composers who I greatly admire in the area of sacred music, but Anton Bruckner is certainly near the top. I find his ability to write in a complex harmonic language while still respecting the traditions that came before him to be fascinating. The Kyrie from his Mass No. 2 in E Minor always gives me chills. While Bruckner is not necessarily a direct influence, his motets do inspire me to write my own pieces in that vein someday. Another composer I enjoy is

Ralph Vaughan Williams. While he wasn't Catholic, I very much like his style of hymnody. His harmonizations are superb, and I love his use of modes and his melodic writing. Other favourites include William Byrd, Thomas Tallis, Manuel Cardoso, Flor Peeters, Jean Langlais, and Louis Vierne, as well as the Anglo-Canadian composer Healey Willan.

If you were given an unlimited budget for musicians for a solemn pontifical Mass, what works would you put on the program?

Of all the settings I could pick, and while it lacks an orchestral accompaniment, I would have to choose Peeters' *Missa Festiva*. Scored for organ and SATBarB choir, this wonderfully modal work is one of my absolute favourite Mass settings. It lacks the operatic tendencies that one might find in Bruckner, and is overall a serious and beautiful work. I love how Peeters comes up with fascinating backdoors into other modes and chromatic avenues that are unexpected, all of which adds to the mystery and grandeur that one would hope to find in a proper Mass setting. Honourable mentions include Bruckner's Mass No. 2 in E minor, Cardoso's *Missa Miserere mihi Domine*, any of Byrd's three Mass settings, Vierne's *Messe Solennelle*, Langlais' *Messe Salve Regina*, as well as the contemporary setting by Yves Castagnet, also titled *Messe Salve Regina*.

Many have been pointing to generational dynamics in the Catholic Church. Have you encountered such dynamics in your own life and work?

Over the years, my taste in church music has shifted, and I now prefer Gregorian chant and traditional hymnody over the so-called "folk hymns" that I grew up with. As for a generational dynamic, I've found that many of my young Catholic friends are also drawn to that which is old and timeless, even if they are not able to attend the Extraordinary Form on a regular basis. This is in stark contrast to the older generations of parishioners, who in my experience seem to prefer the "folk hymns" to what they might call the "moldy oldies."

I sang in my first year of university with the Adoramus Choir at St. Patrick's Basilica in Ottawa, Ontario. We did chanted Mass parts, sang a motet most Sundays, and used strong, traditionally-styled hymns. While the liturgy was in the Ordinary Form, the time I spent there had a big impact on me, as I became acquainted with both Latin and Gregorian chant. When some university-age friends at Western University in London, Ontario during my second year asked me if I



Tate Pumfrey, composer (left); Christian Catsanos, hymnodist (right)

wanted to "try out" the Traditional Latin Mass, I said yes. I have been going most Sundays since then. I love singing chant, and everything that goes along with traditional Catholicism.

As far as traditionally stylings of my own music, I find the seemingly old-fashioned form of four-part hymnody very attractive. This is not to say that everyone my age find traditional sacred music as attractive. Some young Catholics I know are quite attached to the so-called "praise and worship music" (which is largely Protestant in origin); I find that style unappealing. It is musically difficult to distinguish it from popular songs on the radio, and the constant use of "I" statement, such as, "here I am to worship," shows a tendency toward self-absorption, not worship of the Lord Almighty. This kind of music is a complete barrier to my prayer. Hence, I write traditional, four-part hymns that "sound like church," even to someone who has rarely attended. By its very definition, sacred music ought to be set-apart, and this is exactly what I aim to do with my newly composed hymns.

What are some strengths and weaknesses you see in the "traditionalist" movement, particularly from a musical point of view?

I find the "traditionalist" movement to be strong in its support of good, reverent sacred music, especially chant, the music that is supposed to have pride of place in the liturgy. I love chant and the reverence it brings to Mass, and I feel we've lost a great treasury of beauty with the lessened use of chant. I must also say that I've been blest to have some of my hymns sung at the local Traditional Latin Mass, which has further encouraged me to continue composing. My main concern is that there is at times a sense of negativity about the future, but other than that, my time with the "traditional" movement and the Tridentine Mass has been a time of great spiritual growth and has also given me a refuge from the intensity of the outside world.

What are some of your future plans as a composer?

As I am now in my fourth year of an

undergraduate degree in music, I hope to pursue a master's and perhaps even a PhD in composition. I love to compose, both sacred music, as well as more secular, instrumental pieces, and I hope to go as far as I can with my music, as long as God wills it. Even if I do not go as far as a PhD, I will continue to write hymns and other sacred works.

Biography of the Composer

Tate Pumfrey (b. 1998) of Thamesville, Ontario, Canada is a music student at Western University, where he studies composition. Growing up in household with a musical mother, he played many instruments over the years and has more recently taken up the pipe organ. Composition has long been a part of Tate's life, as he would "invent" tunes and pieces for friends as a kid. He began composing formally in high school, where composition lessons with Mr. Jim Brown helped him get his music off the ground. Now in his fourth year of an undergraduate degree, he hopes to continue his studies with a Master's of Composition.

For Tate, faith and music are deeply connected, and as such, it was a natural progression for him to write church music as well as secular classical music. Contact Tate at tatepumfreymusic.com or email tatepumfreymusic@gmail.com

Biography of the Hymnodist

Christian Walter John Catsanos is an organist and hymnodist. He was born in Sydney, Australia in 1993 and began his work as a hymnodist in 2004. His work has been largely influenced by the mentorship of Dr. Richard Connolly and Mrs. Donrita Reefman. Having had an interest in sacred music and having been a singer in his school's chapel choir, Christian held an organist post at the school from 2006 until 2011. Since then, he has held several parochial organist positions starting in 2007.

Christian holds a Bachelor of Music in organ performance from the Australian Institute of Music, awarded in 2017. He can be reached at christianwaltercatsanos@gmail.com

Vale Sister Ann McRae

21st September 1942 - 6th February 2020

Ann, one of six siblings, was born on September 21 in 1942 to John and Irene McRae of Lucerne Vale Mangoplah. Her early school days were in the little one teacher school of Burundana and her secondary schooling was at Mount Erin Boarding School, Wagga.

On 2 July 1960 she joined the Presentation Sisters at Mount Erin, Wagga.

After novitiate Ann's Presentation Ministry began in Hay in 1963 and covered many aspects of secondary school and adult education. Teaching took her to Young, Domremy College Five Dock and Mt Erin Wagga Wagga over a period of eighteen years.

In 1982 Ann undertook a course at the Australian Film and TV School and from then on the camera was her constant companion. She completed a part time Graduate Diploma in Religious Education while she worked in State School catechetics as a Motor Missioner in Hunter's Hill, Concord and Drummoyne. She was then seconded to Mt Erin to take charge of the boarders for four years. Following this she participated in Clinical Pastoral Education courses and worked as chaplain at Balmain Hospital. It was here that her pastoral skills were honed.

Ann then worked at Deniliquin as pastoral associate from 1992-97. These were precious years where she returned to her country roots and her ministry took her beyond Catholic confines and she became an integral member of the Deniliquin community.

1998 was a year of sabbatical. This included rich

ministry experiences in Ireland and London and theology and spirituality study in Belgium and Massachusetts USA.

After four years as Pastoral Care/Animator in Western Sydney in 2003, Ann moved to Wagga Wagga to work with Rural Outreach for the next 15 years until she was too ill to continue in this much loved ministry.

Five years ago, when Ann found out she had a terminal bone cancer, in true Anne style, she stated that she did not want anyone looking on her "with dying eyes". She was determined to live this part of her life to the full. And she did just that. As far as possible being part of every family occasion from birthdays to baptisms, times joyful and sometimes times of grief. As well, she made the decision to be fully part of the life of her various communities, so she made the effort to be at any social gathering be it golfing gatherings, school reunions, Masses and speech nights at Kildare and Mater Dei and numerous coffees and lunches with friends.

Ann's ministry continued often from her bed as she listened and shared her many years of wisdom, hard earned, spending hours on the telephone. She died five years later, in Calvary Palliative Care Unit on 6 February 2020.



Vale Ann, and we give thanks for the gift you have been to so many of us.



Vale Fr Francis Clifford Bell

29 May 1925 - 17 February 2020

Born in Narrandera, NSW in 1925, Frank Bell was educated at St Joseph's Convent Narrandera and St Patrick's College, Sale VIC before heading to Rome for Theological studies at the Pontifical Urban College of Propaganda Fide.

He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wagga Wagga on 21st December 1951 in Rome by Cardinal Pietro Fumasoni Biondi.

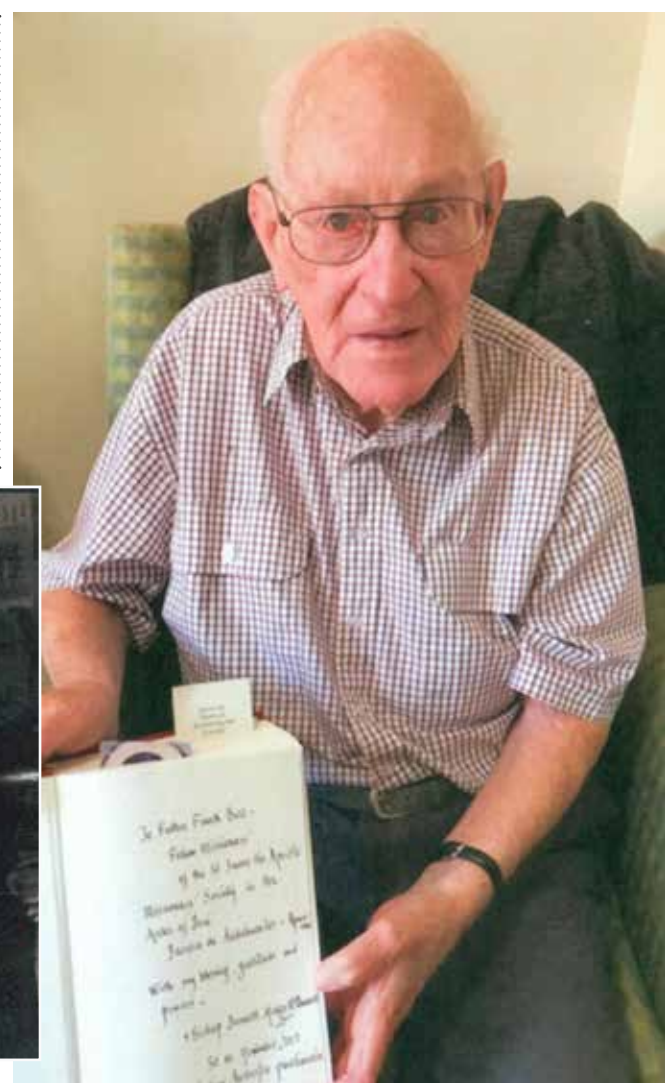
Fr Frank (known to many as "Cliff") served the people of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga in the parishes of Yenda, Griffith, Wagga Wagga, North Albury and Holbrook for 10 years. During this time, he developed a great love for the poor and the needy, and the mission aspect of his work was shown in his kindness and generosity and his love for the Lord. He was always a missionary and he was able to develop that calling by volunteering to go to Peru in 1962.

Frank stayed in Peru for 12 years before returning to his home Diocese of Wagga Wagga where he served in the parishes of Albury, South Wagga and Narrandera, but he continued to use his knowledge of the Spanish language in various situations until he died. He loved to converse in that language. He kept in touch with many Spanish speaking people over the years.

Fr Frank was a very quiet achiever in many ways – he loved people – to talk to people – to be kind and generous – to help wherever he could, and he encouraged others to be generous to the needy both near and far.

Fr Frank's last appointment was to Narrandera – a place he loved so much. He retired to Narrandera in 2000, and lived many peaceful years there in his retirement.

May the good Lord reward Frank for his life of faithfulness and good work and welcome him into the Kingdom of everlasting life.



Message from His Holiness Pope Francis for the 35th World Youth Day

"Young man, I say to you, arise!"
(Lk 7:14)

The message of the Holy Father to young people for the 35th World Youth Day 2020, which will be celebrated on a diocesan level throughout the world, focuses on the theme of: *"Young man, I say to you, arise!"* (cf. Luke 7:14)

The text, signed by the Holy Father on the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, is the first in a series of three messages dedicated to young people on the way between WYD Panama 2019 and WYD Lisbon 2022.

The key word which connects young people with these three stages on the Church's itinerary is the verb "arise," present in the three themes chosen by the Holy Father for the successive World Youth Days.

In his address Pope Francis reminds young people that this verb "also assumes the meaning of resurrection, of

reawakening to life," and he proposes reading the passage of the Gospel on the resurrection of the young man of Nain as a personal invitation to take the decisive step in following Christ: "The Gospel does not tell us the name of that boy resurrected by Jesus in Nain. This is an invitation to the reader to identify with him. Jesus speaks to you, to me, to each one of us, and says: 'Arise!' We know very well that we Christians also fall and that we must always get up again. This is why we must welcome the intervention of Christ and make an act of faith in God. The first step in accepting Christ is to arise," says the Holy Father.

Pope Francis also recalls how the invitation to arise appears various times in the post-synodal Apostolic exhortation "Christus vivit." And so, he underscores the link between the



synodal process dedicated to young people and the journey of World Youth Day, and invites the young people themselves, as well as those involved in youth ministry, to strengthen their commitment to carrying out this exhortation, together with the Final Document of the Synod, in their daily

pastoral work and in the journey towards the next World Youth Day celebrated worldwide.
The next international World Youth Day will take place in Lisbon in 2022, on the theme of "Mary arose and went in haste." (Luke 1:39)

LET'S GET STARTED!

15 - 21 March 2020

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Susan Pascoe to lead Catholic Emergency Relief Australia

Susan Pascoe was named chair of the Catholic Emergency Relief Australia Advisory Council, which will coordinate the Church's ongoing response to the current bushfire crisis and future national emergencies.

Ms Pascoe's long list of contributions to public life includes serving as a 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commissioner and as the inaugural Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissioner.

She said the Catholic Church has a significant role to play in helping people and communities respond to emergencies and to rebuild over a period of months and years.

"Catholic ministries exist in almost every Australian community and our people on the ground are keen to work alongside government agencies, emergency services and other faith-based and charitable organisations to respond now and into the future," Ms Pascoe said.

"The Church's key social services agencies, including CatholicCares and Centacares, are on the front lines finding people accommodation, providing financial assistance and helping address the mental and emotional scars that the bushfire have caused."

About 150 Catholic parishes and more than 200 Catholic schools are located in bushfire-affected areas.

"Our people – priests and parishioners, teachers and parents – understand deeply the impact of the fires on their families, friends and neighbours," Ms Pascoe said.

"The Church takes seriously its duty to respond to the needs of the whole community, and that can be done most effectively by harnessing its vast network of ministries."

Justice Terry Sheahan, a former New South Wales government minister and former judge on the NSW Land and Environment Court, and former CatholicCare Melbourne CEO Fr Joe Caddy, who led the Church's local response to the Black Saturday bushfires, will also serve on the Advisory Council.

Other members of the Council will represent key Catholic ministries: parishes, schools, social service agencies, religious congregations, hospitals and aged and community care services.

"On behalf of those national organisations, I express my sincere thanks to Susan, to Terry and to Fr Joe for undertaking this significant

leadership task within the Church," Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge said.

"Their wisdom and their passion for a Church that puts the Gospel into action will help guide Catholic Emergency Relief Australia down a path of measured, effective response and to a response that can bring a sense of hope to people who may be struggling to find it."

Ms Pascoe said while CERA has its origins in the ongoing bushfire disaster, the new governance arrangements will allow it to be activated quickly for other devastating events.

"Clearly the bushfires will be a key discussion point at today's inaugural meeting of the CERA Advisory Council, but we'll also be discussing what role the Church might play in responding to the coronavirus and our preparedness to respond to future domestic emergencies," she said.

Among the Advisory Council's roles will be the consideration of applications for funding from Catholic organisations responding to emergencies. The



Susan Pascoe was named chair of the Catholic Emergency Relief Australia Advisory Council

allocation of grants will be published on the CERA website alongside other financial reporting.

"Transparency and accountability are critical and I will ensure that CERA adheres to the highest standards in the receipt and distribution of funds, as well as its other work to respond to current and future emergencies," Ms Pascoe said.

Find out more about CERA at www.cera.catholic.org.au



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GIVE IT UP For Lent

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. There is a different story for each week of Lent for you to see how Project Compassion is making a difference.

Sakun from India

32 year old Sakun lives in a village in central-east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. Until now Sakun, an indigenous Gond woman, has been isolated in her community, unable to earn a livelihood and without knowledge of government schemes that could help her.

Sakun lives with her sister in a rural area of Chhattisgarh, India's poorest state. Home to 26 million people, with 10 million living in poverty.

Life is hard in this region, and even harder for the state's indigenous people. Sakun belongs to the Gond tribal community which is amongst India's officially designated Scheduled Castes

and Tribes. Historically disadvantaged, they suffer higher poverty rates than other parts of India.

In 2018, Sakun joined a Caritas Australia-funded program which is implemented by Caritas India and its local partner, Samarthan. Through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun learned new skills and gained important



Sakun is one of nearly 35,000 people to benefit from this Caritas Australia program so far.

mobility.

Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent.

With your help, Caritas Australia can help uplift vulnerable communities and support the right of indigenous peoples around the world. A brighter future for women, men and their families can start today. **Let's Go Further, Together.**



“I can move around my village, visit community members and talk to them, I feel happy and my social life and network has improved,” said Sakun. “It has also given me the opportunity to keep in contact with other people living with disabilities which enabled me to express solidarity with them. Today I am given due respect in the village and community.”



Sakun's business is thriving, her kiosk is always busy, as she sells to around 900 students.

“We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community.” (Dorothy Day)

Tawonga from Malawi

Tawonga is a 10-year-old girl, living with a disability. She lives in a village in northern Malawi in a region plagued by food insecurity and poverty. For most of her life, her parents have struggled to put meals on the table.

Tawonga often had to miss school because she was too sick from hunger. The family also faced discrimination in their community due to her disability. Since

participating in a Caritas Australia supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed. Her family now grows enough food to provide three meals a day, ending the struggle of

malnutrition, and helping her thrive at school.

Tawonga, whose name means ‘thank you’, says her community is blessed with many resources, like rivers, fertile soil and hills. However, with dry spells followed by floods, armyworm infestations and crop failures, her parents struggled to make a living.

In 2016, Tawonga's parents heard



Tawonga on her wheelchair.

PROJECT COMPASSION

about the A+ program run by Caritas Australia’s partner, CADECOM (Catholic Development Commission in Malawi). They learned irrigation farming and were given fertiliser and high-yield seeds. With these new techniques, their production of crops almost tripled.

With your help, this transformational program can continue to empower



PROJECT COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER



\$700

can provide beekeeping training to over 200 young people, giving them a potential income source and a brighter future in **MALAWI**

vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them. **Let’s Go Further, Together.**

“It gives me hope that I will finish my education,” Tawonga says. “My community now understands that my living with a disability is not inability. Although I sometimes face discrimination, most of the community has realised my value as a person.”



Tawonga family now grows enough food to provide three meals a day, ending the struggle of malnutrition, helping her thrive at school and help with chores.

“No single person is more valuable than another, especially when it comes to those with disabilities.” (Pope Francis)

Dominic from Papua New Guinea

Dominic, 47 is a father of six from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with Caritas Australia’s partner, Centre of Hope, who runs safe house and family anonymous programs and turned a difficult life and an unhappy relationship around.

Now a community trainer, he works with other men to help them to change their behaviour and build more harmonious family lives.

Domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse and limited employment opportunities mean that many in PNG struggle to meet their basic family needs. Forty percent of its population lives below the poverty line.

In 2016, Caritas Australia and its PNG partner, Centre of Hope, invited Dominic to join its Safe House program. It provides Gender-Based-Violence prevention training, counselling services and safe accommodation for women and children survivors of violence. It also provides support for income-generating projects and life skills for young people.

Please help support the Safe House



Dominic with his family.



Dominic is now a community trainer, Dominic works with other men to help them to change their behaviour and build more harmonious family lives.

project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea. A brighter future for men, women and their families can start today. **Let’s Go Further, Together.**

To donate to Caritas visit:
<https://lent.caritas.org.au/donate/>



PROJECT COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER



GIVE IT UP
For Lent

“After entering the Caritas program, I have actually changed some of my bad attitudes. It has really opened my mind and heart to see where my weaknesses are and I’m trying to improve.”



PROJECT COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER



\$20

provides a week’s supply of food to a domestic violence survivor and her children who have fled to a Safe House in **PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

“In our families we learn to recognise the dignity of all.” (Pope Francis)

Return of Griffith's St Vincent de Paul Sacred Heart Day Conference

St Vincent de Paul Sacred Heart Day Conference (Griffith) returned to continue activities at the Care & Support office in February. The members have come back after the Christmas break and are eager to assist those community members who feel they may need some assistance.

They do home, hospital and aged care visits together with meeting with clients. **The group is always looking for new volunteers to continue the St Vincent de Paul code of "good works".**



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St Joseph's, Jerilderie wins \$257,000 in capital funding

Jerilderie's St Joseph's Primary School community are excited by the news that the school will soon boast fully refurbished staff and administration facilities after successfully seeking a NSW Government grant of \$257,000.

The grant will be used to provide an extensive refurbishment of the current administration and staff areas, bringing these up to the same high standard as the school's existing state of the art collaborative learning areas.

The works will include the development of a number of specialty spaces for staff to work with parents and students.

St Joseph's Primary School principal, Mr John Carey, said "Our teaching and parent community are very excited about this refurbishment. It means we will have the facilities to support parents and students with a greater sense of confidentiality and professionalism.

As the new Principal, I want to acknowledge

the work of the Parent Community in 2019, 2019 Principal Nic Braybon and Catholic Education Wagga Wagga. We have been looking forward to this announcement and we are grateful for the support we have received from the NSW Government."

Member for Albury Justin Clancy welcomed the announcement, adding that the grant was part of a four year, \$500 million commitment by the NSW Government under the Building Grants Assistance Scheme (BGAS).

"BGAS grants help Independent and Catholic schools with the greatest need build, extend, or upgrade their facilities to provide more student places in growing communities," Mr Clancy said.



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St. Jacinta Marto (d.1920)

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Featured projects in March



- Help for the formation of 46 young Carmelite novices - Central African Republic and Cameroon
- Support for the ongoing pastoral outreach to the Borana people- Ethiopia
- Success Story: Help to rebuild part of the Bridgettine convent in Puebla - Mexico
- Support for the youth apostolate in the diocese of Faisalabad - Pakistan
- A vehicle for pastoral work - Krygyzstan

Central African Republic and Cameroon Help for the formation of 46 young Carmelite novices

At the age of five, Jean-Thierry Ebogo from Cameroon already knew he wanted to be a priest. For him, being a priest meant the same thing as "being Jesus". But in 2004, just a year after entering the Carmelite order as a novice, a malignant tumour was found on his right leg. Not even amputation was enough to save him.

On the feast of the Immaculate Conception on 8 December 2005, with special permission, he was permitted to take his final vows in his hospital room. His only concern was whether he would still have time to be ordained to the priesthood. He endured the intense pain with a smile and offered everything up for priestly and religious vocations. "I only want to be healed so that I can become a priest", he said. But his lifelong wish was not to be fulfilled, for he died shortly afterwards, aged just 23, already reputed for his sanctity.

Before his death, young Jean Thierry Ebogo had promised to bequeath Africa with a veritable "rainfall" of priestly vocations. And he seems to have kept his word, for in fact the disalced Carmelite Friars in Cameroon, and especially in the neighbouring, crisis-torn Central African Republic, have been blessed with numerous vocations. At present, there are 29 young Carmelite novices from the Central African Republic and

17 from Cameroon now undergoing their religious formation in the various centres in Bangui, Bouar and Yaoundé. We have been regularly supporting the training of these young Carmelite novices and we hope to help again this year, with a contribution of AUD \$45,000, so that these 49 young religious can pursue their vocation.

Padre Federico Trinchero, the prior of the Carmelite monastery in Bangui, where some of these young men are training, has written to us recently: "The Church in the Central African Republic is celebrating the 125th anniversary of its first evangelization. We thank you for your constant and generous help in providing a sound human and spiritual formation for these young Carmelites, both in the Central African Republic and in Cameroon. In the not too distant future, they will be called to continue the work that was begun by the foreign missionaries."

Ethiopia Support for the ongoing pastoral outreach to the Borana people

The Holy Cross Parish is based in the village of Dhadim, in a remote and underdeveloped region of southern Ethiopia. Its people are members of the Borana tribe, who were until very recently nomadic. Today more and more of them are becoming settled, although some of them continue their traditional pattern of migration with their herds of cattle.

At present around 5000 of the 9000 people in the parish are Catholics, but



Central African Republic. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need
Photograph Credit: Fr. Federico Trinchero

a growing number of people are also seeking baptism. It is a very lively parish, with catechetical classes and Bible study circles, and in addition, the vocations apostolate is now starting to bear its first fruits. Two of the girls have expressed a desire to become religious sisters, and five of the boys are showing an interest in the priesthood. All in all, there is a great deal of youth activity, with around 250 young people regularly involved in the parish. Thanks to the aid supplied by ACN, somewhere between 65 and 100 young people are able to take part each year in a three-day pastoral programme in another diocese. Father Kenneth Iwunna, the parish priest and a missionary from Nigeria reports: "Most of them have never been anywhere except their own village. So for them, it is an important new experience to meet together with young people from other ethnic groups and share their life experiences with them. They don't speak the same language, of course, but we make sure there is someone there to interpret. The young people are able to grow in their faith and enjoy an important new experience of being Church. And it is not only they themselves who benefit from these days, but the whole community, for when the young people come back home, they talk about their experiences in church. And older people are also very interested to hear about it."

Thanks to the support of ACN, the parish has also been able to establish a programme for married couples who have adopted the Christian faith. For some of these newly baptised adults, there is a problem in the fact that they were not married in the church,

which means that they are unable to receive Holy Communion. For many of them are unable to afford the rings, the festive attire and the entertaining that is expected of them. To resolve this problem, the parish organises multiple wedding ceremonies for several couples at the same time, also providing everything they need for the celebration. „It is a great relief for these couples to be finally married in church and so able to receive Holy Communion“, Father Kenneth tells us.

All in all, the involvement of the Church has tangibly changed the lives of these people. In the past, there were not infrequently intermittent feuds between members of the various local tribes, but the reconciliation work done by the Church has made a major contribution to the calming of the situation. At the same time, the situation of women has greatly improved. Traditionally, the women of the Borana had no voice and were not permitted to do anything outside the home. But things have changed now, thanks to the work of the Church, and today more and more girls are attending school. And now women can even work as catechists.

Once again this year ACN is proposing to support the pastoral work in the parish with AUD \$8000, as we did last year. This help will be used for the formation of catechists, for the youth meetings and wedding ceremonies described above for couples who, after baptism, wish to be married in the sight in the Church. And it will be also used to fund retreats days and other pastoral activities within the parish.

continued on page 15...



Fr. Iwunna Kenneth celebrating Holy Mass in an Outstation in Ethiopia, Awasa-Lat
Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need

continued from page 14...

Mexico

Success Story: Help to rebuild part of the Bridgettine convent in Puebla

The Order of the Most Holy Saviour was founded in Sweden in the 14th century by Saint Bridget of Sweden, and so it is also known as the Order of Saint Bridget or the Bridgettine Order. The nuns live a life of strict enclosure and contemplative prayer. In the 17th century a Spanish branch of the Order was founded, and today it still has convents in Spain, Mexico, Venezuela and Peru.

The Bridgettine convent in Puebla, Mexico was founded in 1907. It still has 20 professed nuns and three young women who have yet to take their final vows. And there are more young women who wish to enter the convent. Astonishingly, the sisters relate, it was a tragedy a few years ago which led to a sharp rise in the number of vocations. It was after seven of the professed nuns had been killed in a road accident. Suddenly, there were more and more young women who wished to join the Order.

But then a major problem arose for the content, when the building was severely damaged by an earthquake, whose epicentre was not far from Puebla. Part of the building had to be demolished for safety's sake – and also because the building, which dates back to the 19th century, was already problematic on account of the cold, the damp and the inadequate ventilation – problems that had, in any case, made it an unhealthy place to live in the past. It was also small and cramped, and with outside sanitary facilities, all of which made it inadequate for accommodating new vocations.

Thanks to the generosity of our benefactors, ACN was able to help with a contribution of AUD \$40,000 towards the cost of rebuilding the convent wing. Now there is much more space, and the sisters will be able to take on more young women and at the same time enjoy healthy living conditions. They send their grateful thanks and prayers to all who have helped!

Pakistan

Support for the youth apostolate in the diocese of Faisalabad

Roughly half of the 207 million people who make up the population of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan are younger than 25, while one-third of them are actually aged 14 or younger. Young Christians, living in a society that is 97% Muslim, face many more and much greater challenges than their Muslim counterparts. In fact for many Christians, it is almost impossible to advance professionally within society and the religious minorities such as the Christians find themselves in the lowest strata of society, mostly having to work as street sweepers, day labourers or domestic employees. A Christian name can be enough to block one's access to higher studies, and non-Muslims are in effect seen as second-class citizens, not full Pakistani citizens. They are even unfavourably portrayed in official school textbooks, and the many services performed by Christians on behalf of the country are passed over in silence. Islam is promoted in almost every area of the curriculum, most notably in the selection of essay topics. Christian pupils are often insulted and excluded, or else pressured to convert to Islam. For Christian girls it is even worse, since they are doubly discriminated against, on account of their gender. And young Christian girls face a very real danger of being abducted and forcibly married to their abductors, which at the same time means being forcibly converted to Islam.

In response, the Catholic Church in Pakistan is working very hard to encourage Christian young people to take pride in their faith and give confident and capable answers whenever they are confronted with prejudice and ignorance. Many Catholic children also attend one of the many Church-run Sunday schools, but the older teenagers also need guidance and support in living their faith. So it was that in November 2019 the Catholic Church in Pakistan announced a „Year of Youth“ for this year, 2020, which will contain a range of different



Sisters of St. Francis in Bishkek Kyrgyzstan. Copyright Aid to the Church in Need.

initiatives.

Now the Youth Commission of the diocese of Faisalabad is seeking support for its youth apostolate programme. Its aim is to strengthen young Catholic women and men in their faith and help them to stand firm – and at the same time find their rightful place in society. ACN is supporting this initiative with a contribution of AUD \$11,500.

Kyrgyzstan

A vehicle for pastoral work

Up until 1991 Kyrgyzstan was a Soviet republic. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, this country – which lies in Central Southern Asia, bordering on China in the southeast – gained its independence. It has a population of only around 6.3 million people from various different ethnic groups in an area of around 78,000 square miles (almost 200,000 km²). Roughly 75% of the population are Muslims, and while most of the Kyrgyz Muslims are generally tolerant, there has been a very recent tendency among younger Muslims towards increasing radicalisation. As for the remaining population, around 20% are Russian Orthodox, while the remaining 5% belong to a range of different religious groups. Catholics make up only a tiny minority, most of whom have Polish, Ukrainian or German roots. There are just three regular parishes, plus a further 20 smaller communities where the Catholic faithful gather. Sometimes there may be only a single Catholic family in a village – far removed from their fellow Catholic believers.

Altogether, the Apostolic Administration of Kyrgyzstan has six priests, one religious brother and five religious sisters serving there. In addition to its pastoral work in the parishes, the Catholic Church also runs a number of institutions for handicapped children, orphans and victims of drugs and alcohol abuse.

Needless to say, the priests and religious sisters have to travel long distances in challenging climatic conditions in order to serve the people. Much of the country is mountainous

and the long winters bring with them bitter cold, snowstorms and avalanches. The road conditions are often very poor and many places are difficult to reach. The priests make every effort to reach even the most isolated and distant members of the Catholic faithful. Not surprisingly, then, a robust and powerful vehicle is indispensable for their work here. But unfortunately, most of the cars available for pastoral work are at least 10 years old and some even more than 20.

Father Adam Malinowski works in the parish of Dzalalabad tätig. At least once a week he has to drive to the town of Osh, to visit his small chapel and his little Catholic flock there. And he is also very committed to his pastoral and charitable work at the children's centre on the shores of Lake Yssykköl, which is no less than 600 miles (1000 km) away.

His existing car is already on its last legs and has to spend more and more time in the repair shop. We want to be able to help him with AUD \$78,000 for a new and more reliable car.

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

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

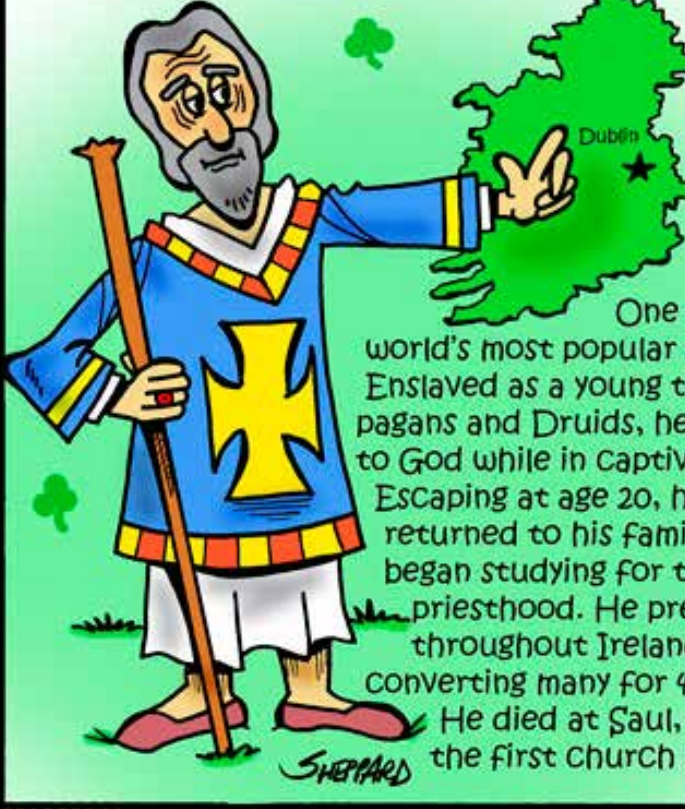
If you have the means and would like to "adopt a specific project" please call 1800 101 201 during business hours (AEST) and we can match you with a project that you can fully or partially fund.



Socio-religious formation of youth in Faisalabad Diocese - Catholic Diocesan Youth Commission - 2020 Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

KIDS corner

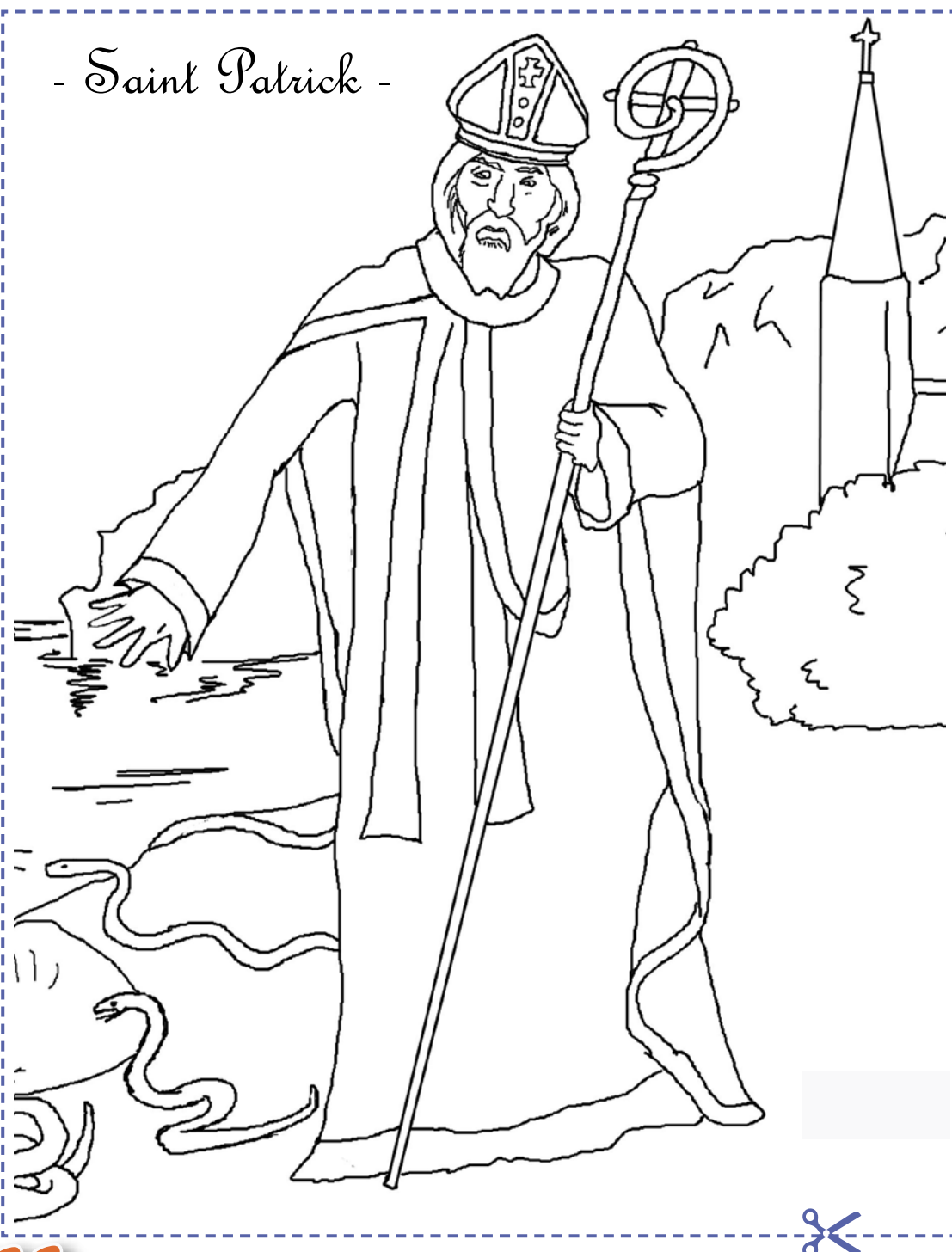
SAINTS FUN FACTS



by John Sheppard

One of the world's most popular saints. Enslaved as a young teen by pagans and Druids, he turned to God while in captivity. Escaping at age 20, he returned to his family and began studying for the priesthood. He preached throughout Ireland converting many for 40 years. He died at Saul, site of the first church he built.

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Science... Mentos Geyser



This activity is definitely best done outside as it will create a world of mess, but loads of FUN!

- You'll need:**
- Roll of Mentos
 - 2 litre bottle of soda
 - Wide open space

Instructions:

- First, open the bottle of soda.
- Place the bottle on flat ground so that it will not tip.
- Unwrap the whole roll of Mentos.
- The goal is to drop all of the Mentos into the bottle of soda at the same time (which is harder than you think).
- One easy way is to roll a piece of sturdy paper into a tube just big enough to hold the loose Mentos - make sure it can fit through the top of the bottle.
- Have everyone stand back and then quickly drop all of the Mentos into the bottle at the same time and RUN!
- The soda will erupt straight up in the air and your children will forever think you're cool!
- You can do this as many times as you're willing to spray down the area that is drenched.



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

Together Editor
PO Box 473
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

We'd love to hear from you!



MARCH SAINTS & FEAST DAYS Word Search

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

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



- St. Katharine Drexel
- St. Casimir
- St. Perpetua
- St. Felicity
- St. John of God
- St. Patrick
- St. Joseph
- St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- The **Annunciation** of the Lord

St. Brendan's 2nd Annual Bush Dance

A cartoon illustration of a man and a woman in Western clothing. The woman, on the left, has brown hair and is wearing a pink dress with a red collar and red boots. The man, on the right, is wearing a green shirt, blue pants, a yellow hat, and green boots. They are both smiling and appear to be dancing or walking together.

Contact: Father Justin Darlow 6927 6438 or 0407 734 747

Family Fun Day

The Home and Garden family fun day is a chance to relax with your family in our native Australian garden and learn how to walk lightly on the Earth in our changing climate.

**ErinEarth's Family Fun Day is on
Saturday the 28th March.**

In addition to our famous scavenger hunt and nature play area, we are giving demonstrations about how to be environmentally friendly in our changing climate. While the kids are running around you can grab a coffee and tune in to one of the demonstrations, or just tune out and spend some time relaxing in our half hectare native garden.

We will be conducting informative talks on:

What types of environmental changes are happening and are likely to happen, in our local area.

How we can set up our homes to be environmentally friendly while at the same time adapting to these changes.

How can we set up our backyards and veggie patches to cope with the changes.

The Café opens at 9:30am with a BBQ at 11am. Plant sales also available.

What:

ErinEarth Home and Garden
Family Fun Day – with café,
BBQ and plant sales.

When:

Saturday 28 March,
9:30am-1:00pm.

Cost:

Gold Coin Donation

Where:

ErinEarth, 1 Kildare St,
Turvey Park, Wagga Wagga.

More information:

Phone 6925 7150 or email
admin@erinearth.org.au or
visit www.erinearth.org.au

Featuring our famous scavenger hunt, nature play area and demonstrations.

PARENTING CHILDREN WITH ADHD

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

Topics in the course include:

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



- Family Counselling Services
- School Wellbeing Program
- Personal Helpers and Mentors Program
- Employee Assistance Program
- Family Education Services
- Complex Case Services
- Natural Fertility Awareness
- Settlement Grants Program
- Recovery Approaches to Dementia
- Pre Marriage Education
- Partners in Recovery
- Clinical Clergy Assessments

Centacare Office Locations:

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

www.centacareswnsw.org.au

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

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

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

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

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

Where: Centacare Office 201 Tarcutta Street Wagga

When: Wednesday 18th, 25th March and 1st April 2020

Day session: 10.30am - 12.00pm

Evening session: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Fees: \$30 standard \$15 concession

Facilitator: Maree M

Bookings Essential

For further information or to register your interest please contact Centacare South West NSW on 1300 619 379 or email info@centacareswnsw.org.au



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Narrandera Shop 181 East St Narrandera

Tumbarumba Shop 16 The Parade Tumbarumba

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

Vinnies volunteers needed

One Saturday a month the wonderful women from the St Michael's Cathedral chapter of St Vincents de Paul volunteer their time in the store located in Peter Street, Wagga Wagga.

Vinnies are always looking out for more volunteers and the Peter Street store is no exception.

Vinnies Wagga Wagga is more than just a treasure trove of bric-a-brac, books, toys, jewellery, furniture, clothing and accessories. Vinnies shops raise funds to allow our members, volunteers and staff to help thousands of everyday people in need of support and hope. The St Vincent de Paul Society reaches out to the most vulnerable in our communities, and by shopping at Vinnies you're helping us continue our good works, including homeless services for men, women and families; migrant and refugee assistance; support for those living with mental illness; home, hospital and prison visitation; supported employment services for people with intellectual and other disabilities; budget counselling; and youth programs. Visit regularly to check out the many treasures that are looking for their next home – you never know what you'll discover... Donations of suitable items are welcome – if you'd give it to a mate, it's perfect to donate! Interested in becoming a volunteer? Pop in and we'll tell you how. If you can spare some time, even for a few hours a month, then Vinnies would love to hear from you.

They are located at 15 Peter St, Wagga Wagga and can be contacted on 02 6923 1912.



Mary, Marion, Barbara, Marie, Kate and Cassandra volunteer once a month

“Being a Vinnies volunteer is a great place to meet fantastic people and learn new things every day.”





St Joseph's Primary School, Culcairn

Left: Students were blessed to have Sr Clare Gaynor and Sr Judith Baz join us. Sr Judith is a past student of St Joey's.

The sisters shared some wonderful advice from Pope Francis and also joined students for their Opening School Mass.

Right: The installation of the new school Cross! This cross was carefully constructed by Trent Keller TKEL Furniture from the verandah posts salvaged from the St Joseph's Convent! A big thank you to Cam from Crackers Building who installed it beautifully for us. Our long and proud history is front and centre here at St Joey's!



St Joseph's School, Junee

Congratulations to students at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. It was a miserable, wet day, but our girls represented our school and deanery and did us proud! **Well done team!**



Mater Dei Catholic College, Wagga



Year 10 students at Mater Dei Catholic College are currently studying food consumption and how it affects our bodies and activity levels.



St Mary's School, Corowa

A big shout out to all the students and parents who were involved in the Australia Day themed float in the Federation parade!



St Patrick's School, Albury

St Patrick's Parish School Year 1 Art Class with their Aboriginal Education Officer - Darren. The budding artists learnt so much.



St Mary's Primary School, Yoogali



The students at St Mary's Primary School in Yoogali having so much fun in their playground!



St Brendan's Primary, Ganmain



This year St Brendan's started the Peer Support program. Each week one of their Year 6 students leads a session on an important life skill. **The leaders are doing brilliantly!**



All Saints Primary, Tumbarumba



All Saints Primary celebrated Shrove Tuesday by making heaps of pancakes.



Xavier High School, Albury

Despite the weather conditions it was a successful day for Xavier High School at BISSA Swimming in Wagga Wagga.



Catholic
Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

The relics of St Thérèse and her parents St Louis and St Zélie Martin

The relics arrive at St Patrick’s, Albury, at 7pm on Tuesday evening, 31st March, and will be there through the overnight vigil to 11am, Wednesday 1st April. *by Elizabeth Peoples*

The relics will be guarded in the church overnight by the Knights of the Southern Cross and volunteers.

There is an open invitation to priests to concelebrate Mass at 8pm (RSVP to Jean Percy at admin@stpatricksalbury.org.au). Other Masses will be Midnight 12am (Latin), 7am, and 9.30am. The relics depart at 11am, with St Patrick’s schoolchildren forming a Guard of Honour. Donations of Roses and other flowers are welcomed. All visitors welcome.

For more information, see also the webpage www.stpatricksalbury.org.au

Periods of Reflection will be interspersed with Masses, and homilies on the Little Way of St Therese and the significance of the inclusion of her parents as a canonized, married couple in the sanctoral calendar, with opportunities for Reconciliation and devotions.

A holy family is a gift to all families.

At the age of 70, on July 29, 1894, whilst fixing his eyes on the daughter next to him, St Louis prayed the beautiful prayer with dying breath “Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give You my heart, my life, and my soul...”

This ancient prayer, appealing for help from the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary and Joseph – reflected St Louis’ whole life. His undivided love of God bestowed on him the grace to raise his own family to the altar as an exemplary model of God’s plan for families and the Christian ideal of holy matrimony.

Prior to marriage both St Louis and his wife St Zélie yearned for the cloister. At twenty-two St Louis left for the monastery of the Great St. Bernard in the Swiss Alps but was refused admission because he didn’t know Latin. At nineteen St Zélie applied to enter the Hotel-Dieu of Alençon, a community of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, in order to consecrate herself to God through caring for the sick. She also was refused entry, being told that it was not the will of God.

Within three months of meeting, St Louis and St Zélie married at midnight, according to the custom of those seeking a wedding shrouded in intimacy and prayer. Their single-mindedness for God was the bedrock upon which their marriage flourished. Preserving their hierarchy of love, with God at the top, should not be lightly noted. It is the secret to the sanctity of their married state, and the model for young people today seeking a happy marriage.

Love was the key to their vocation. The sacrificial love of St Louis towards his family astounded many. As St Therese wrote in her autobiography describing the moment after telling her Father of her desire to enter the Carmelites:

“[Father] stifled a sob and told me, ‘Ah, but without you...’ He was unable to finish. Then . . . told me, ‘The Good God could not have asked a greater sacrifice from me. I had been convinced that you would never leave me.’ And he embraced me in order to hide his emotions.”

It was relayed that the Chancery office commented “that nothing like this has ever been seen: a daughter as passionate about offering herself to God as the father is about giving her to Him.” (www.louisandzeliemartin.org/sicari)

St Louis desired that his children were well-rounded, educated, appreciative of God’s creation though nature, and had an experience of culture including even taking his daughters to the theatre. In the afternoons there was the never-to-be-missed walk with ‘Papa’, which always included a brief visit to the Blessed Sacrament. During their walks there were also the regular encounters with a poor person, and it was Thérèse’s responsibility to give the person some money. Family prayer in the evening would close out the day, and Thérèse—who always received the place closest to Papa—

adds, “All I needed to do was to look at him, to find out how the saints prayed.”

Principally St Louis led a family where love was at the centre, where there was no space for resentment, where everyone really loved each other and were properly concerned for one another.

The tour of the relics of the Martin trio will be an opportunity to pray to St Louis, St Zélie and St Therese, and ask for their help in fulfilling our vocation of love either as Husband and Father, Wife and Mother, Child, Religious or Priest. To the Martin family, underlying these vocations was a more important vocation, more akin to being a spouse of Christ - addressing our deepest calling - that of belonging entirely to Christ, concentrating oneself lovingly upon Him and His will, concretely and continually.

St Zélie was entirely devoted to the God’s will. When told that religious life was not the will of God, St Zélie suffered for long time, feeling nostalgic for the cloister.

She prayed ‘Lord, [since] . . . I am not worthy to be your bride I will enter the married state in order to fulfil Your holy Will. I beg of You to give me many children and to let them all be consecrated to You.’

In a letter of Feb. 14, 1868, St Zélie wrote “When I began my Alençon lace business, I ended up sick with all the worries. Now I am more reasonable about it; I worry less, and I accept all the unpleasant obstacles that happen or could happen. I tell myself: The Lord wants it this way (Our Lady had revealed it, via an interior locution) and I don’t think about it anymore.”

Interestingly, St Zélie’s own mother was rough with her, but St Zélie treated everyone with kindness. HowSt Zélie’s mother treated her was not how she treated her children. St Zélie could have followed her mother’s suit; or resented her mother. Instead, for StTherese, it became enough to understand that the arms of her mother were the sign and sacrament of the merciful arms of her Heavenly Father!

In a letter of Dec. 15, 1872, St Zélie writes: “I am crazy about children; I was born to have them”.

“She always made us say our prayers!” said the Martin girls (Manuscript A, 42) [Story of a Soul] and St Therese learnt from her mother the Morning Offering which she and her sisters said each day, and which is now recited daily, by so many, all over the world.

Thérèse herself marvelled at how it had been possible “to educate me with so much love and thoughtfulness, without ever spoiling me.” “[Father and Mother] . . . didn’t condone even one imperfection: I was never scolded without cause, and yet neither did they ever go back on a thing once it was decided.” (Manuscript A, 64).

Corporal works of mercy were instilled in the children along with a love for the poor, even at the cost of long, bothersome labours. Solidarity with one’s neighbours, even in unpleasant circumstances and paying wages and bills on time were sacrosanct. On Sunday afternoons St Zélie paid visits to the homes of any of her workers who were sick. She did all sorts of acts of kindness for those in need.

Many books have been written about St Therese, and her autobiography, and the Story of a Soul quickly became a modern spiritual classic, read by millions and translated into over fifty-five languages.

In here we read St Therese explaining the challenges of ordinary life in a family and at school. Rising to the occasion of true Christian friendship at school, she writes:

“I chose as friends two little girls of my own age, but how shallow are the hearts of creatures! One of them had to stay at



home for some months; while she was away I thought about her very often, and on her return I showed her how pleased I was. However, all I got was a glance of indifference – my friendship was not appreciated. I felt this very keenly, and I no longer sought an affection which has proved so inconstant. Nevertheless, I still love my little school friend, and continue to pray for her, for God has given me a faithful heart, and when once I love, I love forever.”

As St Therese heard many times from her parents, “The world’s thy ship and not thy home” St Therese saw heaven as her true home and her earthly life as her way to get there. Her sights were not on this world but the next. She reminds us that this life is fleeting and short compared to eternity after death. She reminds us that the true purpose of our life is to be united with God in heaven. (<https://www.coraevans.com/blog/article/the-most-insightful-st.-therese-of-lisieux-quotes-on-death>)

Now that the relics are coming here, all that is left to do is ask help from the wonderful example of these three saints. No matter if one is Secular or Religious, God has a plan for each and every one of us. **May we be inspired to pray for their intercession in fulfilling the will of God and aspiring to also becoming saints.**



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TOGETHER - MARCH 2020

Empowering the next generation of female Catholic leaders

Whether she is funding projects to build toilets in remote villages in Palu, or coordinating interfaith dialogue in Bandung, Indonesia, Natalia Teguhputri is at the frontier of building a better world for humanity.

A young Catholic woman originally from Indonesia, Natalia co-founded a movement called The Waterjars, an organisation that works with non-profit organisations and charities to help fund projects relating to health, education and youth.

“I have always been fascinated by the intersection of commerce, faith, and mission. I started a movement called The Waterjars with a colleague with the goal of helping to fund community developments projects,” Natalia said. “Although I understand the numbers and logistics of our projects, I have struggled with the theology side. This is why I chose to pursue further academic study in this area.”

Natalia enrolled in 'Leadership for Mission', a specialised program developed by Australian Catholic University's (ACU)'s Faculty of Theology and Philosophy in partnership with the National Office for the Participation of Women, Catholic Mission and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Leadership for Mission is designed by and for women who are inspired by the Gospel vision of justice, freedom and the dignity of the human person, and brings the leadership experiences of women within the Church together within the context of an academic and collaborative learning environment.

Framed by an engagement with scripture, theology, spirituality and leadership, the program encourages participants to reflect on their faith within the context of our contemporary world. The program invites participants to explore how and in what ways their personal mission and vocation can

contribute to a vision of leadership for the church that promotes equity, equality, and reconciliation.

“Through our projects, I sense there is a God aspect in the practical needs of the community; the need for water to wash is parallel with the need for cleansing the heart from stain due to broken relationships; the need for a proper toilet is related to the dignity of the human being; and the need for everyone to be respected and to belong,” Natalia said.

Natalia graduated from Leadership for Mission in January this year and will now head to Assisi for the international event, Economy of Francesco.

Executive Dean of the ACU Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, Professor Dermot Nestor, said, “Natalia is a fantastic ambassador for the Leadership



Leadership for Mission group photo - Natalia is second from the right

in Mission program and for all of its participants: past, current and future. Her many achievements, founded upon a profound, reflective and Christ-centred disposition are illustrative of the overarching learning outcome that defines this course and for all who share in it: women do lead.”

Leadership for Mission has been acknowledged by the Vatican as promoting “best practice” in Lay Formation and was recognised as the

“stand-out” offer in Australia to help develop a new generation of Catholic leaders. The two-year, part-time program is structured across four residential sessions and supported through ACU's online learning management system.

The next Leadership for Mission program will commence in March 2020. For more information about future courses, visit: <https://women.catholic.org.au/projects/leadership-for-mission>

Have you ever thought about teaching SRE?

Over 100 volunteer SRE Teachers generously donate their time each week to teach SRE in public schools in our diocese.

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International Women’s Day 2020

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Australian Bishops’ response to research on the participation of women in the Catholic Church in Australia.

The research results were published as *Woman and Man: One in Christ Jesus* (Harper Collins, 1999) and the Bishops’ Social Justice Sunday Statement for 2000 was titled *Woman and Man: the Bishops Respond*. In 2019 the Office for Social Justice published a collection of essays marking these anniversaries. Titled *Still Listening to the Spirit: Woman and Man Twenty Years Later*, the book was a collaboration with the Office for the Participation of Women.

In their foreword to the collection, Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen acknowledge:

... twenty years down the track,

women are still listening to the Spirit and seeking to engage the whole Church in a conversation about a more fulsome development of the participation of women in the Church, for the sake of us all, and for the sake of the Reign of God.

There is unfinished business from the action commitments made by the bishops in 2000. There is also an opportunity to contribute to the communal discernment process of the Plenary Council 2020. This collection of essays engages creatively with both of these elements of the present moment.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Bishop Vincent Long, Foreword, *Still Listening to the Spirit*.

Mater Dei Catholic College sets up phone pouches to curb classroom distractions

Mater Dei Catholic College has adopted a new approach to solve the school's mobile phone "epidemic" by setting up pouches for students to holster their handsets during class.

by Kenji Sato - Journalist, The Daily Advertiser

The school has hung up thirty pouches in every classroom, with students stowing away their beloved phones before class and only retrieving them once class is over.

It has made a world of difference for year 11 student Brody Sly, who said he could better focus on lessons without the temptation of a phone in arm's reach.

"It's good for concentration, not having a phone in your pocket all the time," Brody said.



Assistant principal Daryl Lawrence puts his own phone into a pocket to avoid the distraction. Picture: Les Smith

"It keeps you focused on your school work, and I'm more focused and applied now."

Assistant Principal Daryl Lawrence has also opted into the new system, tucking away his own phone in a show of solidarity with the students.

"It's probably been one of the best changes to learning in the college," Mr Lawrence said.

"Screen time has dropped dramatically, and it's also led to a massive decrease in social media issues within our school."

Mr Lawrence said the modern addiction to mobile phones had hit plague-like proportions in schools and workplaces across the world.

"With the current epidemic of apps such as Snapchat and TikTok we see students - and adults for that matter - always checking their phones," he said.

"You've only got to go to a train station or an airport and you can see everybody on their phones."

Mr Lawrence said most of the students had taken the ban on the chin, although so far there have been "two or three" students who have been caught attempting to sneak their phones past the teacher.

However, in general he hailed the



Year 11 Mater Dei Catholic College students Brody Sly and Ada Crain holster their hand-sets before sitting down for classes. Picture: Les Smith

system as a "massive success", saying students were mostly happy with the system and that their parents were downright delighted.

Year 11 Ada Crain said she supported

the new system, because it meant she could head into the HSC with fewer distractions. "Especially being in year 11, it makes it easier for us to focus on taking notes," she said.

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Poverty and inequality in Australia

The St Vincent de Paul National Council welcomes the release today of *Poverty & Inequality in Australia*, the report published by ACOSS and UNSW in Sydney.

National Council CEO, Toby O'Connor said the report shows that more than one in eight adults and one in six children (that's 774,000) live below the poverty line.

'The next generation is set up for failure because of increased housing costs and failed policy around social housing, stagnant rates of income support and slow wage growth', he said.

'The Government can reduce poverty by boosting jobs growth, increasing Newstart and Rent Assistance and investing in social housing.

'In Australia the poverty line, which is measured as 50 per cent of median income, is \$457 a week

for a single adult. The average poverty gap (the gap between the poverty line and the incomes of people in poverty) is \$282 a week.

'The report highlights the persistent, deepening poverty in Australia – 42 per cent of households in poverty are living on average at 42 per cent below the poverty line, compared to 34 per cent in 2007.

'Every day, Vincentians work with people who are struggling with a range of issues in communities across Australia. For many, their struggle is exacerbated by persistent, grinding poverty.

'Today's report is an important measure of poverty in Australia. We track GDP and other economic indicators we consider important.

'We must also track poverty, or nothing will change,' Mr O'Connor said.



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	Melbourne Marc Florio 0412 252 077
	Sydney Mary Clare Meney 0435 496 624
	Wagga Mark & Jenny Mannering 0419 411 161
	N.E. Victoria Bridget & Brendan Griffin 0437 219 046

We are pleased to announce that **Archbishop Julian Porteous** (Archbishop of Hobart) will be present as conference chaplain for the entire weekend Archbishop Porteous was formerly auxiliary Bishop of Sydney and chief exorcist.



The conference will feature many speakers and presenters from across Australia including: Sisters of the Immaculata, The Culture Project, Fr John Rizzo, Dr Gerard O'Shea, Monica Doumit and many others.


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Mass times across our Diocese

Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

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

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

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

Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

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

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

Albury

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

Albury - North Albury

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

Albury - Lavington

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

Albury - Thurgoona

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

Berrigan

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

Coolamon

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

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

Corowa

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

Culcairn

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

Darlington Point

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

Finley

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

Ganmain

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

Griffith

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

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

Holbrook

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

Howlong

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

Jerilderie

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

Junee

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

Khancoban

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

Leeton

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

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

Lockhart

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

Mulwala

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

Narrandera

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

Tarcutta

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

The Rock

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

Tocumwal

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

continued on page 27...

Tumbarumba

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

Urana

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

Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

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

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



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

- 1 March 1982 Fr Richard Walter O'Donovan
- 4 March 1989 Mgr John Desmond Lane
- 6 March 1996 Fr Edward (Tony) Fitzgerald
- 7 March 2001 Fr Peter O'Leary
- 17 March 1949 Mgr William Slattery



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

Monthly Laugh...



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Family reflections for: March

8th March - Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

As a family, talk about some of your times of highs and lows. How have you been able to use the good times and experiences to sustain you in the difficult ones? Jesus' Transfiguration may have been an event from which Peter, James, and John drew courage when they faced the difficult events of Jesus' Passion. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 17:1-9. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the good times and experiences that your family has had together. Pray that your family will use these experiences to sustain you during times of difficulty. Close by praying today's psalm, Psalm 33.

Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 33:4-5,18-20,22
2 Timothy 1:8b-10 Matthew 17:1-9

15th March - Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

Lent is a season for repentance. It is a season during which we are called to reflect upon and to live deeply the promises of Baptism. The well and the conversation about water immediately recall for us the Sacrament of Baptism. As the Samaritan woman was converted and sent on a mission because of the conversation about water, we too are converted and sent by our Baptism to preach the good news of Jesus to others.

Take this opportunity to reflect upon the importance of Baptism with your family. If you have photos or other mementos of your family's Baptisms, bring them out and take some time to recall the day of Baptism and its importance to you and your family. Create a prayer table that includes these mementos and a bowl of holy water. After you have spent some time talking about Baptism,

invite everyone to listen carefully and prayerfully to today's Gospel. Read John 4:5-42 together. Ask how Jesus' meeting with the woman at the well is like Baptism. (Jesus knows the woman's sin and forgives her. The woman comes to know Jesus as the Messiah. The woman invites others to meet Jesus.) Pray a prayer of blessing for each member of the family that God will help each one live the promises of his or her Baptism. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Exodus 17:3-7 Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Romans 5:1-2,5-8 John 4:5-42

22nd March - Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

When infants are baptized, parents, with the help of the godparents, assume responsibility for raising the child as a follower of Jesus. The process of maturation in the faith is much like the example found in the story of the man born blind. The man is cured of his blindness, a symbol of his sin. Each time he meets someone after the healing, the man comes to a deeper awareness of who Jesus is. In a similar way, we who are baptized continue to mature in faith as our relationship with and knowledge about Jesus grows.

Invite each member of your family to draw a timeline of his or her life. On the timelines, ask family members to identify significant moments in their lives, especially their life of faith. Invite each person to reflect upon who Jesus was to him or her at each significant moment. How has each person's relationship with Jesus changed or matured? Then read together today's Gospel, John 9:1-41. Note how the relationship between Jesus and the man born blind changes and grows throughout the Gospel. Pray together

that your relationship with Jesus will continue to grow and develop, becoming ever deeper. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a Psalm 23:1-6
Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

29th March - Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

Jesus' promise of eternal life is a central element of our Catholic faith. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, our Gospel today invites us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death, evidenced in the raising of Lazarus, and to anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection. We sometimes use examples from nature to help describe this mystery of our faith. Jesus himself talked about the seed that dies when planted in the ground in order to produce new life (John 12:24). Using that image and others, we find hope and confidence in Jesus, the Resurrection and the life.

Gather your family today and read today's Gospel in its shorter form, John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45. Write Jesus' promise from today's Gospel ("I am the resurrection and the life.") on a large sheet of white paper. As your family talks about what Jesus means by this promise, decorate Jesus' words with symbols that will remind you of his promise of eternal life. Display this reminder of Jesus' promise in a prominent place in your home and keep it there until Easter. Pray that you will always remain confident in Jesus' promise of eternal life. Conclude by praying together the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed.

Ezekiel 37:12-14 Psalm 130:1-8
Romans 8:8-11 John 11:1-45




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