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In the Diocese of

Wagga Wagga

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FREE

- May 2018 -

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ABOUT JOY
& MIRACLES



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DEFYING THE
ENEMY
WITHIN



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Student from St Joseph's Primary School, Leeton

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Mission of dialogue and co-responsibility

Dear Friends in Christ,

This is the third theological/pastoral reflection I wish to offer for your prayerful consideration regarding the Australian Plenary Council (2020-2021). For the other reflections please see the March and April 2018 editions of Together.

(i) CO-RESPONSIBILITY

“Co-responsibility” was a key word that the Fathers of the Vatican II Council (1962-1965) used immediately on returning to their dioceses in 1965. It seemed to them a pastoral key to unlock all that had been discussed and promulgated over the years of intense listening to the Holy Spirit. It is a key term for us all as we make the journey to the Plenary Council.

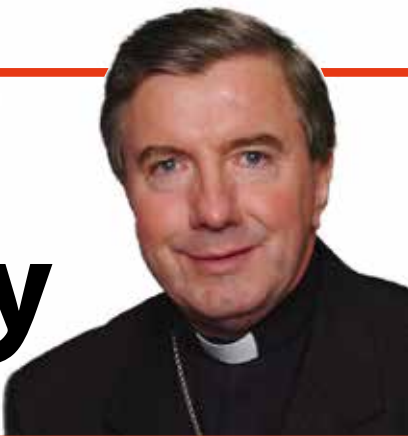
The understanding of co-responsibility is that every baptised Catholic is called to take up their identity as “missionary disciples”, as Pope Francis would describe it. All have a missionary role to live out in some way and at some level. We exercise this role in communion with the whole Church. It means taking seriously the Sacrament of Baptism as the gateway into the missionary life of the Church in the modern world.

Even today the words “missionary” and “evangelisation” are so misunderstood by many Australian Catholics. For many it implies some form of proselytism – a type of forcing people to convert into the Catholic Church. In fact, Catholic teaching for several generations now has insisted that true missionary activity is the opposite of such an aggressive pastoral strategy. Several more recent Popes have used a lovely expression: that Catholics are to “propose” and never “impose” the Faith on others.

(ii) DOUBLE MISSION

A double mission is involved here. First, we are to propose Jesus to the world and preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God. This can be done verbally when appropriate and asked for. More so, it is to be a non-verbal proclamation. As St

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Apostolic Administrator of the Wagga Wagga Diocese



Francis of Assisi is reported to have said: “Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words.” Secondly, there is a social mission involved here. Pope Francis stresses this aspect so much. He talks of the mission to the “peripheries” and famously uses the image of the Church as “a field hospital in the battle field of life. It is a pastoral mission of co-responsibility to reach out the healing and helping arm of us all to the marginalised. It is the poor Jesus who we serve in the poor.

mutual respect. There is no future in demanding that others respect me without a mutual willingness to respect the sincere opinions of others. This requires a deep listening to each other and not simply a hearing of the other. Secondly, **there must be the courage to accept differences.** Just because someone has a different opinion to me does not mean they are to be treated as enemies. In the Australian context of rampant ideological clashes in all public debates, this is sadly eclipsed in vigorous discussion. May this

We must never underestimate the incredible pastoral efforts of generations of devoted Catholics in Australia in the areas, for example, of education, health and social services. Here the social mission of the Church continues to shine brightly.

We must never underestimate the incredible pastoral efforts of generations of devoted Catholics in Australia in the areas, for example, of education, health and social services. Here the social mission of the Church continues to shine brightly. It is hard to imagine the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn without their heroic efforts in living out their Baptisms in past and present times. What can be said of our future social mission in Australia and in our Archdiocese?

(iii) DIALOGUE

Catholics choose the path of dialogue in living out their missionary vocations. Often applied to the way we relate to other religions, but illuminating for all types of evangelisation, dialogue is based on three fundamental and simple foundations. First, there is **the duty to respect our identity and the identity of the other.** When we dialogue with others there is

never be the case in our diocesan and national discussions leading towards the Plenary Council. Thirdly, **sincere intentions** are needed so that we do not harbour specific end goals to our discussions before they even start. No doubt from the Plenary Council and our own local discussions specific proposals will emerge for pastoral action. Yet the journey to these pastoral plans and our accompanying each other is just as important as any arising definite plans themselves. They must be the fruit of our deep listening in humility to each other and not “the hidden agenda” of particular groups. This latter approach is manipulative and unworthy of missionary disciples. **We are to trust that co-responsibility will ultimately give rise to the grace of the fruits and the gifts of the Holy Spirit needed for the pastoral way forward.**

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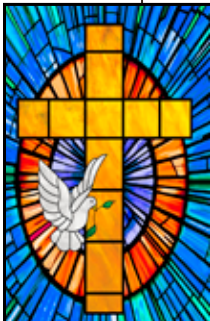
Reflection Questions

How am I living out my baptismal call to serve Jesus in the world?
Is this enough, or is Jesus calling me to more? How do I desire to serve Him? What gifts do I bring to the Body of Christ

Scripture

1 Peter 2:9 – “But you are ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises’ of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his May prayer:
<http://popesprayerusa.net/2018/05/03/may-pope-video-mission-laity/>



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.



Catholic media provides different viewpoint and nourishes faith

The first comprehensive survey of people's experience of the Catholic media landscape in Australia has revealed that users value Catholic media for the different perspective it provides and, in most cases, it has played a role in their personal faith development.

The Australian Catholic Media User Survey was conducted online by the Australian Catholic Media Council (ACMC) from late September to the end of November 2017. It received more than 1,000 responses.

The survey mainly reached those who are highly engaged with Church life and in the older age groups, which reflects the Mass-going profile in Australia.

"This affirms that Church-going Catholics are interested in accessing Catholic media, but it also presents an important opportunity to find new strategies to reach out to those people not in the pews, especially young people," said ACMC chair Debra Vermeer.

When it comes to what kinds of Australian Catholic media people are using, the humble parish newsletter was the big winner, with 78 per cent of respondents saying they use it.

This was followed by websites (59 per cent), email newsletters or eNews (54 per cent), Facebook (44 per cent) and then print newspapers (39 per cent), print magazines (38 per cent) and online newspapers (37 per cent) and magazines (31 per cent), and online-only

publications (32 per cent). Television (16 per cent), radio (12 per cent), podcasts (14 per cent) and social media (other than Facebook) lagged behind.

Asked to nominate what other forms of Catholic media they use, people responded with apps, YouTube, CDs and DVDs, online discussion forums, Catholic cable TV, journals and the Bible.

Most respondents said they use Australian Catholic media daily (41 per cent) or a few times a week (23 per cent), with a reasonable number saying they use it several times a day (13 per cent).

The survey showed people primarily value their Catholic media because it gives a Catholic perspective (67 per cent) and it provides local community/diocesan news (60 per cent). Most said they find it spiritually nourishing (62 per cent) and almost 70 per cent of respondents said it provides something that they don't get elsewhere in Church life.

Most said it had played either a significant role (23 per cent) or at least some role (59 per cent) in their personal faith development and the majority of respondents said the Australian Catholic media plays a significant role in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ (7 on a scale of 1-10).

In terms of opportunities for growth, respondents were seeking more open debate and analysis (53 per cent) in Catholic media and there was

a thirst for more spirituality (48 per cent).

People were also seeking higher quality (35 per cent), more teaching from Bishops (30 per cent), more news (29 per cent), more content in line with Church teaching (26 per cent), more features (24 per cent) and more social media (21 per cent).

In the comments, the key themes that emerged were that people wanted more availability of Catholic media, especially at parish level. There was an even split over whether people wanted more Church teaching and dogma or more open discussion and debate, and there was also a strong impulse to pursue professional social media strategy.

"The survey provided strong affirmation for the place of Catholic media in people's lives and in the life of the Church," Mrs Vermeer said.

"It found that Catholic media both informs with a uniquely Catholic perspective and nourishes in faith life.

"Importantly, many people said it provides a broader perspective on faith life than is available through the parish and thus connects people to the bigger faith community, whether at a diocesan, national or global level."

She said the challenges are to keep encouraging quality in content and production, and to work on social media strategy to engage the young and those not in the pews.

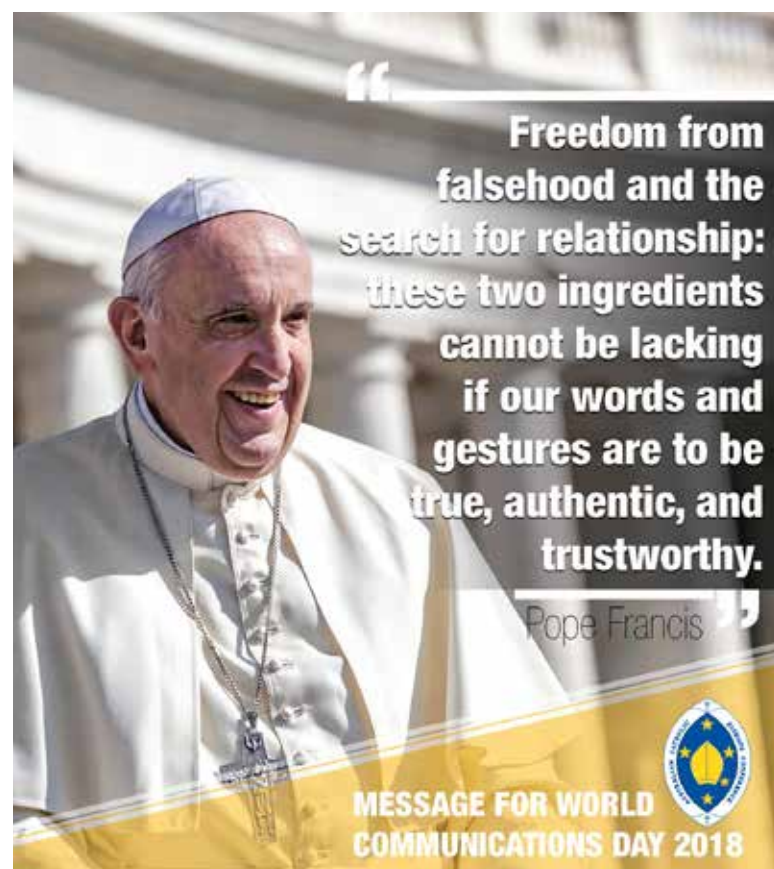
"This affirms that Church-going Catholics are interested in accessing Catholic media, but it also presents an important opportunity to find new strategies to reach out to those people not in the pews, especially young people," said ACMC chair Debra Vermeer.

Mrs Vermeer said there was a strong call from the survey to make people more aware of the different kinds of Catholic media available and to provide easy access to it, especially at parish level.

"The ACMC will use the results of the survey to form advice for the Australian Bishops, including a proposal to establish a central listing

of Catholic media outlets, as well as promoting regular opportunities for further professional development for those working in Catholic media," she said.

The results of the survey will be further unpacked at the Australian Catholic Communications Congress, to be held in Brisbane from September 5-7.



Archbishop Coleridge elected president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has today elected Archbishop Mark Coleridge of Brisbane as president of the Conference.

Archbishop Coleridge was ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne in 2002 and later became Archbishop of Canberra-Goulburn. Since 2012, he has served as Archbishop of Brisbane.

"With few illusions about myself or the task that awaits, I

humbly accept the call to serve as president of the Conference at a time that is clearly challenging," Archbishop Coleridge said.

"Among other issues, we bishops will together have to address the recommendations of the Royal Commission and prepare for the upcoming Plenary Council 2020. I trust I will be able to provide the unifying leadership this will require.

"Pope Francis is showing the way for bishops conferences

around the world, and I look to his leadership to guide and inspire mine in Australia."

Archbishop Coleridge, who will take up the new position from May 10, paid tribute to Archbishop Denis Hart, who will next week complete six years serving as president of the Conference.

"With his courtesy and efficiency, Archbishop Hart has made a unique contribution as president of the Conference

since 2012," Archbishop Coleridge said.

Archbishop of Sydney Anthony Fisher OP was today elected vice-president of the Bishops Conference.

Both Archbishop Coleridge and Archbishop Fisher will serve two-year terms.

The more than 40 members of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference today opened their biannual plenary meeting in North Sydney.

May 2018 TOGETHER



God is love

Nabiha Koriaty talks to us about fear, joy, love, faith and miracles

Every now and then you meet someone who genuinely inspires you. I recently had the pleasure of having a coffee and a chat with Nabiha Koriaty from Nabiha's Kitchen and she is truly a woman who walks her talk.

In the hour that I spent with her, I walked away with a renewed sense of my faith and feel truly blessed to have crossed her path. Nabiha shared parts of her journey with me and talked about the power of miracles and how they can occur anywhere, even in Wagga Wagga. Nabiha's life is full of miracles where she has used the power of faith and prayer to heal.

In November 2012 Nabiha could not use her right arm and was booked to have major surgery. She was worried that she may not be able to work in her kitchen again and prayed. Soon after she could lift her right arm again. In March 2013 she went for scans and she was completely healed. Her specialist was astonished.

I encourage you to pop into Nabiha's Kitchen for a coffee and a chat and don't pass up on her many delicacies she has on offer. I left with a full belly and a full heart.

As I am no journalist and could do her story no justice, I have permission to republish the article below written by Marguerite McKinnon originally published in Your Local Wagga Weekly in February, 2018.

by Marguerite McKinnon
Editor - Your Local Wagga Weekly

She's one of Wagga's most recognisable faces; the little Lebanese lady who runs the shop in the Neslo Arcade on Baylis Street.

Since 1989, Nabiha Koriaty has been running Nabiha's Kitchen in the arcade, serving delicious, organic, Lebanese cuisine to thousands of locals and visitors.

Nabiha also is a woman of remarkable stories, which she is happy to tell over and over again, over a pot of freshly brewed Turkish coffee, some labne and flat bread, or perhaps a chickpea curry made up of freshly picked vegetables from her garden.

While chopping up deep red tomatoes for some tabbouleh, Nabiha's eyes sparkled as she recalled a life seemingly stitched together by a patchwork of miracles and divine interventions that started from birth.

Nabiha was born in a small town in southern Lebanon in 1941 at the height of the Second World War. When only a month old, the family had to leave their home because of fierce fighting and climbed over an icy mountain to a safer town.

Little Nabiha got sick and couldn't open her eyes or eat.

As there was no doctor, the townsfolk all agreed she was dying. Nabiha's parents were told the only thing to do was leave her in a church overnight.

"If God wanted me to live then they would find me the next day," Nabiha explained.

It's a story she relishes, and tells it like it's the first time.

"My Mum and Dad came to see me the next morning and saw that, not only was I alive,

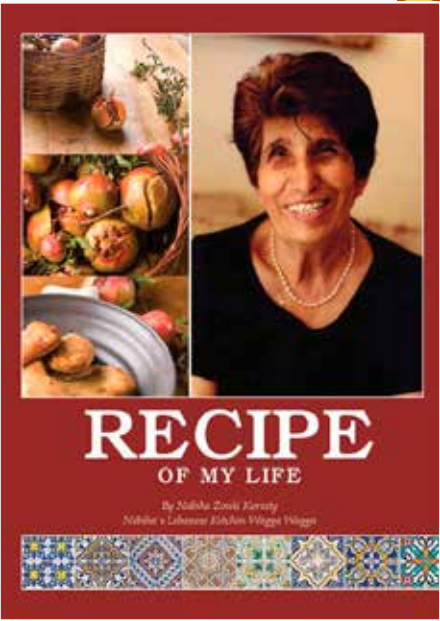
but there was also nothing wrong with me," she said.

At age three, Nabiha's mother died, and she was cared for by her three brothers and father. At the age of five she fell head first into the open kitchen fire and sustained serious facial burns, but recovered. At 12, she was on a bus heading to a bridge before having a strong feeling to get off. The bus driver initially refused before acquiescing, and

all but the driver and a woman she knew followed Nabiha off the bus. The bus went onto the bridge and struck a mine, killing the passenger and wounding the driver.

Two weeks later, Nabiha was captured by guerillas who accused her of being a spy. She rayed to be set free and you can guess what happened next - she was freed.

continued on page 5...



Nabiha's book, 'Recipe of My Life' is available in her store.



A table full of satisfied customers enjoying a banquet.



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CLASSIC FASHIONS

continued from page 4...

“Everybody was screaming but it was the first time I read my bible. I opened it and saw the story of when Jesus walked on water, and how he said, ‘I am with you,’” she said.

These incredible stories tumble out of Nabiha as freely as the aroma of garlic and herbs lift off the fry pan and fill her kitchen before drifting down the arcade to tempt passers-by.

Describing herself as 21 in her heart, Nabiha’s days are long in her beloved kitchen. Arriving at 7:30am after tending her garden at first light, and going to pray, she works all day, then leaves around 9.00pm, hours after fellow retailers have closed up shop for the day.

“I love baba ghanoush and vegetarian food best myself, all organic from my garden,” she said.

On the wall above the kitchen is a large print of a younger Nabiha with her friend in Wagga, frozen in time.

“That’s Mrs Rigardi, who had a farm in Hammond Avenue in the 1960’s, where we used to pick strawberries,” Nabiha said.

To the left hangs a painting of a woman.

“I used to sit and people would draw me, which helped me to get some money,” she said, before laughing and quickly clarifying, “Always with my clothes on!”

Towards midday, Nabiha’s daughter, Viki, arrived and after donning her black chef-like cap, headed straight to the remaining tomatoes that needed chopping up for the day’s tabbouleh, as her mother continued to paint a mental picture of life in Wagga for a woman who knew no-one, had no family and couldn’t

speak English.

That came after another story of how she survived the boat trip to Australia, which almost ended when the boat started to sink and its passengers feared they would drown.

“Everybody was screaming but it was the first time I read my bible. I opened it and saw the story of when Jesus walked on water, and how he said, ‘I am with you,’” she said.

Nabiha says her passions are cooking and God. She recently returned from a trip to Jerusalem and happily described her once-in-a-lifetime experience, which she will share with you next time you pop in to her kitchen.

Now an author of a book titled, ‘*Lebanese Recipe of my Life*’, Nabiha revealed she is now planning another book.

“I will call it, ‘*Fear and Joy*’; how you have fear, and how you can turn that fear into joy,” she said.

“There is so much sadness in people, but this book will help them. I love Wagga. It’s my second home. I know everybody and everybody knows me,” she said.

Nabiha is a walking jewel of a person known to put generosity over business sense by giving away food if she sees a need, and welcoming strangers into her kitchen like they are friends.

By the time they leave, they most likely are.



Top: A table filled with Nabiha’s delicious food.

Above: Nabiha in her own garden filled with organic produce that she uses in her kitchen.

Right: Nabiha and her family migrated to Australia from Lebanon in 1968.



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Bosnia and Herzegovina: Open War Against the Catholic Church

The guns have been silent in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 23 years. However, according to Bishop Franjo Komarica, the country is like a powder keg. Head of the diocese of Banja Luka in the northern part of the country, the 72-year-old does not believe in beating about the bush, particularly when the discussion turns to the Catholic Croat minority. He believes that Catholic Croats are still being kept from returning and that they are disadvantaged economically, socially and religiously. He is making serious charges against the governments of Europe: they are turning a blind eye to the religious discrimination. In an interview with Tobias Lehner during a visit to the headquarters of the pastoral charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) in Germany, Bishop Komarica discusses why a growing number of Catholics are leaving the country, but how, in spite of everything, the church is living reconciliation.



Bishop Franjo Komarica

Tobias Lehner: Bishop Komarica, the Bosnian War officially came to an end in 1995 with the signing of the Dayton Accords. But how are things really?

Bishop Franjo Komarica:

The guns may be silent, but the war continues in other arenas. "Controlled chaos" reigns in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is my impression that neither the government nor the international community is interested in building up a constitutional state that guarantees equal rights to all ethnic groups and human rights also for minorities. Bosnia and Herzegovina are effectively still a semi-protectorate of the

United Nations. A part of the state authority is exercised by a "High Commissioner" (since 2009, Austrian native Valentin Inzko) but he claims that his hands are tied in terms of the political developments in the country. The country remains divided into three ethnic groups: Croats, Serbs and Bosnians. The smallest of the ethnic groups, the vast majority of Croats are Catholic. They lean more towards Europe. The Serbs, most of them Orthodox, are very much under the influence of Russia. And the Muslim Bosnians are turning more and more towards Turkey and the Islamic world. This gives rise to dangerous centrifugal forces. And that is not only damaging to the country, but also to Europe!

What do you mean by this?

The hostilities between the Serbian and Bosnian people are purposefully being kept alive by forces outside of the country. The country continues to be a powder keg! And the Croats are caught in between. Hundreds of thousands of them were displaced during the war, and today, more than twenty years after the fact, they still cannot return, even though the Dayton Accords guarantees them the right to return. The opposite has happened: many are still leaving for other countries. The Conference of Bishops has repeatedly asked for the Dayton Accords to be amended to give the Croat minority more security. They have yet to be accorded equality.

Why is the Catholic minority receiving unequal treatment?

The Croats are not being treated as a constitutive ethnic group in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Many foreign governments also recognise only two ethnic groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina: the Serbs and the Bosnians. This has grave consequences, as is shown by the example of the Republika Srpska (the Republika Srpska was established by the Dayton Accords as the "second entity" of the federal state of Bosnia and Herzegovina and is made up of extensive areas of land in the northern and eastern parts

of the country; editor's note). Only about five per cent of the Catholics who once lived in the 69 parishes that existed in this region before the war have returned. In other parts of the country, Catholics are still leaving. The Croats receive neither political, nor legal, nor financial support. It is almost impossible for them to rebuild their homes or find work. They are the subjects of systemic discrimination. This is badly damaging the entire country. The other religions agree, by the way. I recently talked with the Grand Mufti of Bosnia. He also says: "It is imperative that the Croats remain here!"

The highest ranking Muslim in the country thus recognises the problem. Do his brothers and sisters in faith do so as well?

It is currently being reported that the Muslims are becoming radicalised in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well ... Yes, this development does exist. But the threat to our very existence is even worse than the religious discrimination. To be explicit: we can maintain our faith even during persecution – and we have done so. But when the Catholics have no right to their homeland and to their property, this is even more destructive. One example: the mayor of one town in my diocese said to me, "You may not build a church here." Even though a Catholic parish had been located there before the war! He did not have the right to do so, because religious freedom is guaranteed by the constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina. And so I lodged a protest. But it was turned down by the next highest authority as well. Finally, I went to the representative of OSCE (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, responsible for coordinating the reconstruction process) He said to me, "Bishop, I forbid you to build a church!" I showed him pictures of the old parish church as well as a picture of it's priest who was murdered during the war. He neither apologized, nor approved the church building project. This is an open war against the Catholic Church. I was repeatedly told, "You



Bosnia And Herzegovina, June 2011 40 Youth Day of the Archdiocese of Sarajevo in Kondzaj/Komusina Project trip of Sanja Krsnik and Magda Kaczmarek© Aid to the Church in Need

Catholics need to get out of this country!" Outside of the country, little is known about the dire circumstances of the Catholics in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

What are they asking the international community to do?

Politicians need to finally acknowledge what is happening and condemn the severe discrimination that is taking place right in the middle of Europe. This is particularly true for the Christians. I expect anyone who is serious about their faith to support the disenfranchised people of my homeland – in word and deed. Our appeals have not been heard up until this point. And there have been so many of them! Quo vadis, Europe? Quo vadis, Christianity in Europe? If we just look the other way and tolerate this kind of development on our own doorstep, how do we want to help other people understand our Christian values?

So much hate and discord has been sown in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In spite all of this, what can the Catholic church do to reunite the society?

We Catholics are the oldest community of faith in the country. We feel it is our duty to help our homeland restore a just and permanent peace! Most of our reconciliation work is carried out through our social services and education, particularly our Catholic schools. And

that despite politically being punished for our commitment! That is why I am so grateful to Catholic charities such as Aid to the Church in Need because they draw attention to our circumstances and support us. I will continue to give voice to the truth, even though I have already been physically assaulted because of it. Our opponents will win if we remain silent!

The worldwide pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need has been helping Catholics in Bosnia and Herzegovina for more than three decades. Most of the aid it has provided has been used to rebuild churches, convents and monasteries that were destroyed during the war and renovate a seminary. ACN also provides funding for the acquisition of vehicles for pastoral care, the development of pastoral centres, the training of priests and religious and for subsistence aid for contemplative orders. Church youth and press work are also among the projects it supports.

For more information or to make a donation to help the work of Aid to the Church in Need, please contact the Australian office of ACN on (02) 9679-1929. e-mail: info@aidtochurch.org or write to Aid to the Church in Need PO Box 7246 Baulkham Hills NSW 2153.

Online donations can be made at www.aidtochurch.org/together

National reconciliation week: 27 May – 3 June

These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey - the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 (the International Year of the World's Indigenous People) and was supported by Australia's major faith communities.

of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Make reconciliation part of your story, and your future.

A Brief History:

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 (the International Year of the World's Indigenous People) and was supported by Australia's major faith communities. In 1996, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation launched Australia's first 'National Reconciliation Week'. In 2000, Reconciliation Australia was established to continue to provide national leadership on reconciliation. In the same year, approximately 300,000 people walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of NRW, showing support for the reconciliation process.

Today NRW is celebrated by communities, businesses and individuals at thousands of events across Australia.

The theme for NRW 2018 is Don't Keep History a Mystery.

This year, Australians are invited to Learn, Share, and Grow – by exploring our past, learning more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and developing a deeper understanding of our national story.

27 May - 3 June
National Reconciliation Week 2018



Learn more at
reconciliation.org.au
#NRW2018



NACF Family Day

National Association of Catholic Families

"The future of humanity passes by way of the Family" - St John Paul II

Sunday 20th May 2018

12.30 pm: Rosary
1:00 pm: Shared lunch
2:15 pm: Spiritual talk
3:00 pm: – Divine Mercy
Chaplet & Family Prayer
4.30pm: – Close

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Fr Stephen Onyekwere

Ministry of Faith, Healing and Restoration

Date:

Sunday May 20th 2018

Program:

- 10am: Mass
- 11am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Talk and Prayer for Healing
Father will pray for individuals who wish to come forward for prayer.
- 11am: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout
- 12.00: Light Lunch & Fellowship at Presbytery. A plate most welcome.

Theme:

"FOR I WILL RESTORE HEALTH TO YOU, AND YOUR WOUNDS I WILL HEAL, DECLARES THE LORD." Jeremiah 30:17

Enquires St Patrick's (02) 60412588 Maree 0467805100

A Reflective Liturgical Workshop

conducted by John Angotti

May 26th 2018
10.30am - 12.00 noon
Sacred Heart Parish
Centre, Koorungal

The workshop will include story, song and inspiration - it is suitable for people of all ages.

John is a full time music missionary who travels throughout many parts of the world providing inspirational music and faith witness to all ages through concerts, workshops, retreats, missions, conferences, and worship. He is originally from Clarksburg, West Virginia, and now resides in Franklin, near Nashville, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Chicago Theological Union, West Virginia University and the U.S. Military School of Music, where he was a member of the U.S. Navy Band as lead vocalist.

His message is clear: There is hope, healing, and truth with the love of God. This message not only extends to churchgoers, but also to those in the world who have not been reached by a liturgical worship or Christian music experience.

ALL ARE WELCOME

To register interest please email:
kooringalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN



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

- Applications close 23rd July 2018 -

Details and application: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>



BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

A PARENTING PROGRAM FOR BUILDING GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN



Centacare South West NSW
Wagga Wagga | Albury | Griffith | Finley
Phone 1300 619 379
www.centacareswsw.org.au

This program is designed to promote positive, respectful parent/child relationships by helping you:

- Learn more about the origins of your own parenting style and how it can be more effective;
- Identify the important messages you want to convey to your children and how to achieve this;
- Understand the messages that children communicate to their parents and carers and how they do this;
- Discover how to overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be;
- Learn about the importance of building self-esteem in children;
- Discover ways to take care of yourself and to find support when you need it; and
- Develop strategies to manage your parenting approach despite the mounting pressures on your time and role.

What is “Bringing Up Great Kids”??

The “Bringing Up Great Kids” Parenting Program and resources is underpinned by a philosophy of promoting and supporting respectful, caring and nurturing relationships between parents and their children. Parents are encouraged to become more reflective and mindful in their parenting approach.

This six session group program uses ideas of mindfulness and reflection to support parents and carers to review and enhance their communication and interactions with their children.

The “BUGK” Program:
Promotes respectful interactions between parents/carers and children, while assisting children in developing a positive self-identity and self-esteem.

BUGK looks at “messages from the past”, understanding early brain development, barriers to communication and how messages from our own past can impact our reactions to our children’s behaviours.

What will I learn in “BUGK”?
“BUGK” is delivered over 6 sessions. Each session will build on the session before, and allow time to reflect on your learning.

Session 1: Introduction and overview. Parents will meet each other, and the facilitator, and begin to explore myths about parenting, and how messages from our own parents impacts the way we parent our children.

Session 2: This session focuses on brain development in children, and what that means or their behaviour and how we respond to them.

Session 3: Parents will explore

non-verbal messages and communication with children. You will look at barriers to effective communication and learn about maintaining a “calm state” when dealing with behaviours.

Session 4: In this session you will learn about the emotional needs of children, and how to respond appropriately to children’s behaviour. You will reflect on your experiences as a child, and how these have influenced how you feel about yourself, and your parenting.

Session 5: This session will explore understanding individual differences in personality, gender and position in the family, and how these can impact a child’s behaviour. You will also learn how to respond “mindfully” to children.

Session 6: This session focuses on an exploration of parents’ responses to the ongoing challenges of parenting, and assist in identifying accessible sources of support when parenting becomes difficult.

Who can attend “BUGK”?

- One or both parents or guardians
- Single parents or guardians
- Grandparents, baby sitters and other care givers
- Preschool and Day-care Teachers

“BUGK” has helped a lot of parents find strategies that work for them.

What parents are saying about “BUGK”

In one of our Bringing Up Great Kids parenting groups, after our first practice of Mindful Listening a mother started to cry. She told us “*I have never felt listened to like that in my whole life – it felt so good.*”

One parent made this profound observation, “*It’s just so*

powerful, everything at home is still the same, but it’s different. I am calmer, I listen carefully to my boys, especially when they are having ‘big feelings’, the boys seems to fight less and everyone just seems happier.”

What do I do now?
Courses consist of six, 2 hour sessions, (includes light refreshments and workbook). Courses can also be tailored to meet individual needs, or needs of specific cultural groups and organisations.

Contact Centacare 1300 619 379 for more details, or go to our website: www.centacareswsw.org.au

The GREAT Kids Program has been developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation with the support of the Australian Government Department of Social Services. www.kidscount.com.au



- 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

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02 6964 1447

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201 Tarcutta Street
02 6923 3888

www.centacareswsw.org.au

Founders Day Mass



Sr Barbara's homily:
"Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with our God". These words from the prophet Micah, I know are very much part of your everyday life. In your House groups you are very aware of many groups in the community that need your help and I congratulate you on all you contribute personally and as a group. Your personal involvement and monetary contributions bring so much to help to people in need.

I would like to begin by sharing a true story that occurred in 2000, the year of the Olympic Games in Sydney.

In Garran in the ACT there was a young boy named Tom who was born with severe disabilities. He attended a special school each day where his needs were met and to that school came volunteers to assist the teachers and students with reading.

Tom used to come home each week and tell his parents that his friend Bill had been to help him with his reading. One week Tom announced to his parents that Bill couldn't come as he had to go to Sydney. That evening, with his parents and siblings, Tom was watching the opening ceremony of the Sydney Olympics at Homebush Stadium.

All of a sudden Tom jumped up with excitement calling out, "There's my friend Bill!" Bill turned out to be Sir William Deane, the Governor General of Australia and he was performing the official opening.

I share this story because I believe Tom's friend, Bill, Sir William Deane was living his life very mindful of others. Here he was, the most important man in the country, but was so aware of other people's needs and living his life by the words of the prophet Micah to "Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with our God."

These challenging words from the prophet Micah can be a special mantra for each one of us in the way we live our lives, in the everyday struggles that we face, with every step we take as we constantly seek justice in our environment and world.

Mrs Gill has already spoken of the rich heritage our Founders, Nano Nagle and Edmund Rice have left for us. They were people of vision, courage and perseverance with a strong sense of justice and a will to empower the poor, the disadvantaged and the marginalised.

May each one of us here today take these words of the Prophet Micah to our hearts and by our actions show that we are in touch to the needs of others. Continue with your generosity, commitment, dedication and love and make the prophet Micah's words your guide.



A LIFE OF PRAYER

Are you called to the Benedictine life of divine praise and Eucharistic prayer for the Church?

Contact the:

TYBURN NUNS

Rev Mother Prioress, OSB, Tyburn Priory, 325 Garfield Rd, Riverstone, NSW 2765

Founders Day Mass was celebrated on Tuesday 8th May at Mater Dei Catholic College in Wagga Wagga. Fr Wilf Plunkett and Fr John Baptist Pham led the Mass. The theme of the Mass was taken from the words of the prophet Micah "Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with our God". Our community reflected on ways in which we can advocate this theme through the example of our Founders and Patrons.

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CS471 140518

PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

Aid cuts confirm Australia’s most insular Foreign Policy in 60 years

The federal budget rejected the recent, strong recommendation from fellow OECD governments for Australia to reverse the dramatic reduction in our contribution to international aid and development over the last four years. As the 13th largest economy in the world, Australia has slid to the bottom end of OECD countries in this area.

Caritas Australia’s CEO, Paul O’Callaghan, said: “The 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper stated that Australia was a “regional power with global interests ... We will have to work harder to maximise our international influence”. Now we are going in the opposite direction.”

“After the major aid funding cuts since 2014, the decision to further reduce the aid program by \$141m over four years has placed our wealthy country in its most insular period of international engagement in 60 years.”

“Just as the New Zealand government increases its aid commitment by 30% and the UK conservative government continues aid spending at more than three times the

proportionate level of its income to aid, Australia is stepping away from its goal of being a regional power”, he said.

The Australian aid program is part of a collective international effort to end extreme poverty, promote prosperity and ensure that the rights of people are respected. This has achieved huge improvements in public health, access to clean drinking water and the number of children going to school.

“Australia’s current National Security Strategy presents international aid, as well as defence and diplomacy, as vital for Australia to adapt to the significant international challenges over the next decade”, he said.

In terms of the priorities for this region, the federal budget’s minimalist response to the acute needs of Indo-Pacific neighbours on climate change adds to the growing perception of Australia shrinking into its most insular period since the end of the Second World War.

Since the 1960s, successive governments have provided strong leadership on behalf of the Australian community on global



Above: Nguyet during a literacy class with her teacher Quynh.
Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas
Left photo: Isabel Corthier, Caritas Internationalis



aid efforts. Caritas Australia urges a renewed bipartisan commitment to aid that would re-instate Australia as a global leader in helping end poverty, tackle climate change and promote justice for all.

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





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THEME: **What is our Catholic identity?**

2018 CWL Queensland STATE CONFERENCE

September 14 - 17 BURDEKIN

Everyone is welcome
There is so much to see and do in the Burdekin, so bring along your husband/partner and make the weekend a wonderful and memorable getaway. We have arranged a number of activities for husbands/partners not attending the conferences.

Things to do!...
Birdwatching
Lawn Bowls
Fishing
Golf Club
Heritage Walks
Juru Walking Trail

and see...
Artspace Gallery - Local Art Gallery
Ashworths - Treasures of the Earth Rock Display & Jewellery
Ayr Nature Display - Australian zoology in an artistic display
Bi-centennial Fountain
Burdekin Bridge "Silver Link"
Burdekin Falls Dam
Burdekin Library
Burdekin Machinery Preservationists Display
Burdekin Prawn Farm
Burdekin Theatre
Charlie's Hill - WWII historic site
Cane Cutters - Giant Sculptures
Gubulla Munda - Giant Snake Sculpture
Brandon Heritage Precinct - Machinery Preservation and Historical Display
Hutchings Lagoon
Lilliesmere Lagoon Wetlands
Lions Diorama
Living Lagoon Sculptures
Lynch's Beach, Alva
Mt Inkerman Lookout
Mt Kelly Lookout
Murals
and more....

Conference Schedule		
Friday	14	Opening Mass 5.30pm Meet & Greet 6.30pm @ Burdekin Theatre Foyer
Saturday	15	Conference Saturday Evening Formal Dinner
Sunday	16	Conference Sunday Evening Closing Mass & BBQ
Monday	17	Touring the Burdekin district

Transfers available Friday from Airport to Ayr

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS
AVAILABLE EARLY APRIL 2018

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
Catholic Women's League State of Queensland

Catholic Womens League Conference

What is Our Catholic Identity?

The Catholic Womens' League Queensland State Conference this year will be held in the North Queensland Sugar Town of Ayr, 100 kms south of Townsville on the weekend of September 14-17 and promises to be an exciting event.

This is a time when there are many travellers passing through Ayr on their way home, and they may like to visit the Burdekin District. A great conference is planned with its theme being "What is our Catholic Identity?"

One special feature of the conference is that men are invited to come along and a group of our men will show participants some of the highlights of the district such as cane harvesting; cane fire; algae farm; the heritage precinct; and much more. The men are invited

to join the participants at the opening and closing mass, conference dinner and parish barbeque.

To register for the event go to <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=374059>

A brochure of all the district has to offer and a Registration Form can be downloaded from the site.

For any further enquiries phone Ellen Lund on 0428 636 066 or email her on ellen_lund@bigpond.com

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Concession: \$20.00 + booking fee
Student: \$15.00 + booking fee
Child: \$10.00 + booking fee

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WAGGA WAGGA

In search of authentic friendships

by Emily Shaw
Virtue Ministry graphic designer and writer

Relationships are many and varied, as are our reactions to them. From the butterfly feeling of star crossed lovers, the tearful joy of proud parents and the shared effusive laughter of friends. Relationships are incredibly special, overcoming the greatest of trials and moving mountains.

But relationships are also the things that can hurt us the most and leave scars; some that will fade with time. Being open to authenticity in our relationships leaves us vulnerable to the pain that can, at times, accompany the joy.

The capacity for great good, and great pain, is seen through this lens very clearly.

“In our presentations,” says Stina Constantine, Founder and Managing Director of Virtue Ministry (VM) “we dive deep into the emotions of romantic relationships; how to navigate them and some of the pitfalls we can avoid for more fulfilling relationships.”

“But friendships often get mis-defined. We often hear members of our workshops say: I have

over 500 friends of Facebook, but I don’t even have one true friend.”

This sentiment is an all too common one in our social media saturated world. Social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram may make us feel more connected, but in reality, many feel less connected than ever before.

“At some point,” continues Constantine, “we have to ask ourselves: do I need to make friends everywhere I go and, the question that immediately follows is: what if I don’t?”

At significant times in our lives, like enrolling in a new class, university or TAFE course, or starting a new job those questions often come flooding back to us in a wave of anxiety and insecurity.

For children, the criteria for making friends is much simpler. Two children playing in the sandpit together might be ‘friends’ based on the proximity of their play but as adults our criteria surely changes. We cannot be friends with everyone who ‘plays’ in close proximity to us. Our individual temperaments,

interests and ideals make that impossible.

One way to evaluate our friendships, suggest the VM team, is to define friendship. Is a friend simply someone who you sit next to in class, or at lunchtime, or someone you have connected with only on Facebook? Or is it something that means more than that, something on a deeper level of shared interests and ideals?

Whatever your definition of friendship becomes, this is the standard of friendship by which you measure all others so that you are intentional when you befriend someone new, or strengthen any existing friendships.

“It is ok not to be friends,” muses Constantine, “It’s ok not to share your number with them, or accept their friend request on Facebook immediately. It’s ok to wait out on friendship.”

“Just as what we eat shapes our body, what we read shapes our mind, and relationships shape our being. So it’s ok, in fact it’s prudent, to think about who we befriend.”

Thinking before leaping into a new friendship may require



“Just as what we eat shapes our body, what we read shapes our mind, and relationships shape our being. So it’s ok, in fact it’s prudent, to think about who we befriend.”

perseverance. It is easy to fall into the trap of befriending others on Facebook and giving in to social media defined perceptions of friendship. But not all friendships bring out the best in us.

Persevering in our slower and more prudent evaluation of new acquaintances will reap dividends. If we discern a call to intentional friendship with them, our prudence and perseverance will bear fruit because our relationship is based on our definition of friendship, not on being friends just for friend’s sake.

“In the end,” says Constantine, “we can all be kind to everyone we meet, give a helping hand and acquaint new people. But this does not mean that we are obligated in some way to therefore pronounce them as our friend from the rooftops, or the social media platform, or introduce them to others as such.”

“It’s ok for people to be a fellow student from school, a colleague or a gym buddy. It’s just not possible to have an intentional friendships with everyone, and that’s ok, that’s good.”

MAY VIRTUE CHALLENGE:

Receiving love in all its forms

GOALS

WRITE DOWN:

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

3 obstacles you can forsee to growing in this virtue

EVALUATE:

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

SHARE:

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

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Catholic Mission and the Catholic Church in Myanmar

The main focus for Catholic Mission in 2018 is to provide support to the Catholic Church's efforts in Myanmar.

After six decades of internal conflict and political struggles, Myanmar is moving towards a new age of democracy. Led by Cardinal Charles Maung Bo S.D.B., the Catholic Church has prioritised education as the key stepping stone to peace.

In January, I was privileged to spend 10 days in Myanmar, with five other Diocesan Directors, looking at many of the projects that Catholic Mission has been helping to support. Myanmar has a small but vibrant Catholic population that makes up about one per cent of the mainly Buddhist country.

We visited parishes, schools, seminaries, teacher training colleges and a HIV Aids orphanage and met many priests, religious and lay Catholics. We were given the opportunity to make presentations at masses

and other gatherings.

After travelling to the north of Myanmar where many of the Catholics live, the CM team met with a group of wonderful orphans suffering from HIV Aids in the town of Kalay. The children are being cared for by a group religious nuns and volunteers. Despite their illness they are well cared for and their smiles are still imprinted in my mind.

Leaving Kalay we travelled for over 10 hours through mountainous terrain and very poor roads to Hakha the capital of Chin state where we visited St Johns School which is being constructed with funding from the generous supporters and donors of Catholic Mission.

St John's School is a newly established school that services over 50 local children in preschool to year one. The



John Goonan (top left) with orphans, their carers and other members of the Catholic Mission Group

teachers at St John's provide holistic education to the children through interactive learning with education resources and child-centred methodologies – as they have all been trained through the Church's teacher-training programs.

After a military coup in 1962 all the Catholic schools were closed down in Burma as it

was then called but St John's is an example of the faith and resilience of Myanmar Catholics.

During the coming year I hope to visit many parishes and schools throughout the Diocese to tell of my Myanmar experience and how we as Catholics can assist fellow Catholics who do not have

the opportunities that we can experience in Australia.

To donate to the Catholic Mission please contact John Goonan

Wagga Wagga Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission on 0428 970 445 or email waggawaggadirector@catholicmission.org.au

Visit some of the projects of Catholic Mission in Cambodia



Students at the Arrupe Welcome Centre, Battambang. Many of the students are victims of land mines.

In 2016, Catholic Mission featured the work of the Catholic Church in Cambodia. These projects included support for land mine victims by Bishop Kike in Battambang, the tuk tuk classrooms that visit the children in the poorer parts of Phnom Penh and the amazing Peace Village of Bishop Olivier on the outskirts of Phnom Penh.

Many people around the Diocese were very interested in these projects and supported them very generously.

In November last year, one of the Cathedral parish members, Mr John Dodwell, participated

in a fund raising bike ride with Catholic Mission around Cambodia. John was generously supported by many in the Diocese, especially most of the Wagga parishes. His photos have generated much interest.

And you could also visit some of these places in Cambodia and see the wonderful work Catholic Mission is supporting.

If there is enough interest, a 10 day tour of some of the Catholic Mission projects will leave Wagga next February. Numbers will be limited. The tour will also visit historical sites including the amazing Angkor Wat temples.

The cost will be \$4,950 and

includes all local transport costs (1 domestic flight), all meals, entrance fees, accommodation in hotels and international economy flight. The cost does not include Cambodian visa (USD\$30) and travel insurance.

Participants will be accompanied by two Catholic Mission staff for the duration of the trip.

For more information, please contact by John Goonan, Wagga Wagga Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission. John can be contacted on 0428 970 445 or at waggawaggadirector@catholicmission.org.au



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14

KIDS corner Jokes...

Out of the mouths of our young Catholic children:

After his baby brother was baptized in church, Jeremy cried all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong?

The boy finally replied, "That priest said he wanted us to be brought up in a Christian home, but I wanted to stay with you guys."

A six year old boy was overheard praying, "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, it's ok. Don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time just like I am."

A four year old girl prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets, as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A Sunday religious education teacher was driving to mass with her children. She looked at them and asked, "And why do you need to be quiet in church?"

Her bright little daughter replied, "Because people are sleeping."



Mandy Groce '10

<http://ministry-to-children.com>

Craft...

I love my Mum flower

This Mother's Day craft encourages children to think about what makes their mother special. It is sure to become a treasured possession!



You'll need:

- Coloured card
- Pens
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Either draw a circle and six petals on the card, writing in the middle of the circle: I love my Mum because..
- Cut out your flower parts.
- On each of the six petals, draw or write a reason why you love your Mother.
- Glue the petals to the back of the circle and leave to dry.
- You can now glue your flower to a card for a lovely Mother's day card, or tape a drinking straw to the back and make a homemade vase to pop it in!



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!



Word Search

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

Mother
Love
Family

Home
Gifts
Celebrate

Hugs
Kisses
Flowers

See page 16 for the answers

Year of Youth Events

The Australian Catholic Bishops have designated 2018 as a "Year of Youth". Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are celebrating the Year of Youth over two weeks, from Monday 21 May until Friday 1 June, with three events:

1. "Year of Youth Festival" 21-23 May at Borembola - 140 secondary school students and 40 teachers will gather to celebrate "*New Horizons for Spreading Joy*" with an immersive experience of learning in and for faith, social justice, wellbeing and music. Guest presenters include John Angotti.

2. "Year of Youth Dialogue Day" 24 May at Kildare Catholic College - Principals, Leadership and CSO Schools Service Team enter into dialogue with a representative

group of students from the Festival with input from a theologian, Fr Tony Gittins, and an artist, John Angotti. The day will be facilitated by Jo Kenny and Luke Tobin from Catholic Mission.

3. "Year of Youth Festival Tour" Monday 28 May until Friday 1 June - All secondary school students and students in Stage 3 will experience a 1 hour concert event featuring highlights from the festival. Presented by students who attended the festival and John Angotti.

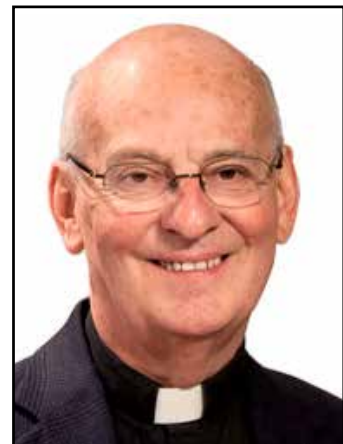


John Angotti is a full time music missionary who travels throughout many parts of the world providing inspirational music and faith witness to all ages through concerts, workshops, retreats, missions,

conferences, and worship. He is originally from Clarksburg, West Virginia, and now resides in Franklin, near Nashville, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Chicago Theological Union, West Virginia University and the U.S. Military School of Music, where he was a member of the U.S. Navy Band as lead vocalist. John last visited the diocese in April 2016 for the Nourish2Thrive Conference.

Fr. Tony Gittins, C.S.Sp., M.A., Ph.D., is a widely experienced missionary pastor and Professor of Theology and Culture at The Catholic Theological Union since 1984. Born in Manchester, England, and ordained in 1967, Fr. Gittins has taught, offered workshops, and given

retreats in more than 35 countries. He has also worked for almost 30 years with homeless women on the streets of Chicago. Tony last visited the diocese in March 2012.



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- Diocese of Wagga Wagga -

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For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined



For the Love of God was launched nationally on the 7th May. Christian history offers plenty of ammunition to its critics. Crusades, the oppression of women, support of slavery, hoarding of wealth, obsession with power, complicity in colonialism – and the list goes on. No wonder people believe that religion poisons everything.

For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined is a documentary by the Centre for Public Christianity (CPX). It confronts the worst of what Christians have done, while also tracing the origins of Western values like human rights, charity, humility, and non-violence.

For the Love of God goes back in time to examine the life and teachings of Jesus Christ to see how one man upended not just his world, but also ours.

It travels the globe recounting how the followers of Jesus have actually followed Jesus throughout history – featuring stories such as ‘holy war’ during the Crusades, the German church’s capitulation to Nazism, but also the sacrificial care of the sick at a leper colony in Hawaii, and Martin Luther King Jnr’s commitment to non-violent resistance.

For the Love of God also features leading international scholars weighing in on the impact Christianity has had on our world.

Join us as we uncover the truth: the church is better and worse than you ever imagined.

From the Director:

We wanted to correct a persistent cultural amnesia that remains unaware of the enormous – and surprisingly positive – influence of Christianity on the Western world. Through telling the stories of those who lived out Jesus’ teachings, we show how many of the things we cherish in the West today – charity and care of the sick, the value of the individual, non-violence, and more – were influenced by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

We explore how the ideals and principles Jesus promoted upended the value system of the Graeco-Roman world into which they were introduced. Through interviews with leading international scholars, we track how these novel ideas went on to influence the West. It turns out that this story has a history that stretches back far further than the Enlightenment.

But we’re not telling a triumphalist story that claims that Christianity is responsible

for everything good about the West – history is much more complex than that. And Christians have been guilty of sabotaging the teachings of Jesus as well as promoting them.

At the same time, we don’t want to suggest that Christianity plays an arbitrary role in the development of Western values. Its radical, uncompromising idea that every individual is made in the image of God assumes the dignity, worth, and significance of all people. Not only is this notion of human worth and equality a base assumption of Western liberal ideals, but it is a unique contribution of Christianity to the West.

We believe that our approach is novel – a clear-eyed assessment of the good, the bad, the ugly, and the unexpected, impact of Christianity on our world.

We don’t draw conclusions about whether, on balance, Christianity’s influence has been good or bad overall. We only claim that Jesus’ teachings – which included his call for his followers to love their enemies – amounted to a beautiful “composition” that Christians have sometimes performed well, and sometimes played completely ‘out of tune’, as they’ve acted for the love of God.

We hope that by engaging with the documentary people will seek to examine Western history anew – not only able to recognise the Church’s failings but also how, sometimes accidentally, Christian ideas have shaped much of what we love about the West today.

We also hope that viewers will appreciate how radical and challenging Jesus was – both for his time, and for ours today.

Through telling the stories of those who lived out Jesus’ teachings, we show how many of the things we cherish in the West today – charity and care of the sick, the value of the individual, non-violence, and more – were influenced by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.



Anzac Day in Griffith

It was wonderful to see Marian Catholic College, Griffith and St Francis De Sales Regional College, Leeton students joining together at the ANZAC March in Griffith. Great effort by everyone involved.



Word Search answers from page 14

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

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Faith and family gets Nell through life's hardships

by John McLaurin
Editor Catholic Voice

The mother of six, grandmother of 12 and great-grandmother of seven says complete trust in God and the unwavering support of children and grandchildren is what works for her.

Hailing from Griffith in the Riverina area of New South Wales, Mrs Toscan's life was 'turned upside down' when

"It was a harrowing experience."

At the time Mrs Toscan's two eldest, Peter and Lyn were married, living in Canberra and Melbourne respectively, but Michael, Karen and twins, Janine and Jennifer, were living at home and still at school.

"The four youngest became my sole responsibility," she said.

Mrs Toscan believes the faith which her parents instilled in her when she was younger held her in good stead and saved her from feeling sorry for herself.

she lost her husband Frank on November 23, 1975.

"It was a significant day," she said.

"I became a single mother to four young children aged between nine and 14 years."

Mr Toscan ran a tile drainage contracting business, while the couple also owned a rice farm to the north of Griffith.

"He (Frank) was down at the farm when suddenly I got a call from the manager of our farm, saying that my husband had a heart attack," Mrs Toscan said.

"The paramedic was trying to revive him in the ambulance on the way to the hospital, but he was gone by the time he got there.

"I have been told that I am a very independent person, but in the position I found myself in I thought where do I go from here?"

"Shortly after Frank's passing I remember attending Mass and a feeling of peace came over me and I just knew it would all turn out well."

Mrs Toscan believes the faith which her parents instilled in her when she was younger held her in good stead and saved her from feeling sorry for herself.

She continued to keep herself busy with Catholic Charismatic Renewal, St Vincent de Paul Society, Lamington drives.

She also volunteered in the local Catholic school tuckshop,



Nell Toscan (pictured with dog Mason) will celebrate Mother's Day with her family on May 13. Picture: John McLaurin.

all the while keeping a close interest in the family's two businesses.

By 1980 all of her children had completed their schooling and were living in the ACT.

"Talk about families staying together!" Mrs Toscan quipped.

It seemed inevitable that she would join them and 1990 it proved to be the case.

"After a while, the four-and-a-half hour drive between Canberra and Griffith was getting a bit tedious," she said.

"So I took it to prayer, and had a strong feeling that God was

saying that it was time to sell up and move closer to family'.

"I'm so glad that I did move here, we are a close bunch."

Upon settling in Isaacs, ACT, Mrs Toscan says she first attended Mass at St Augustine's in Farrer.

She was immediately invited to join the local St Vincent de Paul ladies conference.

Shortly after she became involved with Canberra's Charismatic Renewal which also helped her transition to city life by giving her a network.

The family will again meet-up

for lunch on Mother's Day this month.

It is a ritual which her son Peter says everyone looks forward to.

"Mum has just extended the back deck to cope with the family's growth," he said.

"We meet at her place regularly for many of our family gatherings and we wouldn't have it any other way.

"She is remarkably resilient and is an amazing mother, grandmother and great grandmother, testimony to the fact that we're still a very close-knit family."

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Mater Dei Catholic College, Wagga Wagga



A busy morning down at the Ag plot as day old chickens arrived to find their new home!



A very moving ANZAC commemorative service was held in the Peace Garden at Mater Dei Catholic College in Wagga Wagga..
“We remember them – the first ANZACS and all of those who have followed. They left us a legacy and we, in turn, commemorate their sacrifice when we ask what legacy we shall leave for those who follow us”.

Henschke Primary School, Wagga



Lest We Forget. Thank you Sofia Howard and Sam Borja from year 6, and Mr Kirkman for laying a wreath on behalf of Henschke at the Anzac Day service.



Isabel Owen from Year 6 with her Highly Commended entry into Michael McCormack's annual ANZAC writing competition. Her piece, 'Poppies Stained Red' was published in his Commemorative booklet for ANZAC Day.



Well done to all of these children who received awards for reading for either 25 or 50 nights. Awesome effort!

St Joseph's Primary, Junee

St Columba's School, Berrigan



Thanks to the staff and students who attended the Anzac march. Lest we Forget.

St Joseph's Primary, Jerilderie



What a great start to Term 2 with the students getting straight back into their learning.
The K/1 students are continuing their learning of whole numbers.



Helen came and spoke with the children on 3rd May about responsible pet ownership.





St Mary's Primary School, Corowa

We are so excited that our 'Little Sanger St' learning and play space has arrived. A huge thank you to the Parents & Friends and the School Fete Committee as the work they have done to fund raise has enabled this learning space to be achieved. A massive shout out to Jade and Jonathon from Little Hipster Kubby for their

amazing work and creativity in bringing our vision to life. Finally, thank you to the local businesses Corowa Travel Link Projectura Corowa Supa IGA A&A Automotive, and Corowa Post Office who have enabled this to come to fruition. We are excited about the experiences that await the St Mary's students as each cubby has a curriculum theme associated to it, so we can have even more real life and applied learning, in an innovative,

imaginative and creative learning environment for the students.



A large band of St Joseph's students represented their school at the Leeton Anzac Day March. Their behaviour throughout the ceremony was impeccable.



St Joseph's Primary, Leeton

Term Two here we come!
The energetic Edna Cooper has been hard at work making sure everything at St Joseph's is spick and span ready for the start of the new term. Thank you Edna. Your dedication and attention to detail is just amazing!



St Patrick's Primary, Griffith

Year 2 did the greatest cardboard box challenge. They worked in teams and independently. They had A LOT of fun!



All Saint's Primary, Tumbarumba



All Saints' students in Years 4/5/6 visited Pinnaroo on March 28.



Our Year 2 students had a fantastic day on April 10 on their olden days excursion, learning all about the past. They look fantastic!

St Anne's Primary, Nth Albury



- MIA Deanery -



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(02) 6953 3248
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St Patrick's Primary School
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web.spgwww.catholic.edu.au



St Joseph's Primary School
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www.sjnwww.org



St Mary's Primary School
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web.smywww.catholic.edu.au



St Peter's Primary School
Currawong Crescent
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COLEAMBALLY NSW 2707
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Catholic Schools

Our Catholic school communities encounter and engage with Jesus and his message

Welcome to Catholic Schools

Our Catholic school communities encounter and engage with Jesus and His message as communities of faith, learning, care, service and stewardship. We strive to educate tomorrow's adults, developing their God-given individual talents to enable them to fulfil their life's potential.

Each child is different and each is special, possessing his or her own abilities and skills. Today's students enjoy challenge and embrace the learning technologies and religious and spiritual opportunities available to them as part of their education in a Catholic school.

The staff in our 27 primary and 5 secondary colleges

address the expectations of an ever-changing world in their commitment to educating the whole child. They acknowledge the role of parents as the first educators of their children and appreciate the confidence which parents have in them to deliver appropriate, focused and quality Catholic education.

Catholic Schools and Colleges in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga continue to strive for excellence so that the choice of a Catholic education remains affordable and the right choice for your child's education.

About Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools provides services to our community of schools to assist them in their work of educating students. We work in partnership with

schools to make the best use of available resources.

Our schools operate with the financial assistance of the Commonwealth and New South Wales State Governments and with the considerable input of their broader school communities whose continuing support assists our schools to thrive.

Our Diocese

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are located within the Riverina and South Western districts of New South Wales.

Our small rural Diocese was established in 1917 and is administered through 30 parishes. Students may enrol in one of our 27 primary schools or 5 secondary colleges.

- Albury Deanery -




St Patrick's Parish School
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St Anne's Primary School
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web.sjcuwww.catholic.edu.au



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www.hsslavington.com



St Mary's Primary School
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web.smcoww.catholic.edu.au

- Wagga Wagga Deanery -



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Catholic Schools Vision and Mission Statement

Vision

Our Catholic school communities encounter and engage with Jesus and His message.

Mission

We achieve this as communities of:

Faith - teaching, celebrating and living our Catholic faith;

Learning - inspiring, informing and engaging our communities in learning;

Care - building caring and supportive environments that promote wellbeing and learning;

Service - embracing leadership which fosters collaborative practices for mutual benefit and partnership; and

Stewardship - caring for people, creation and resources.



- South West Deanery -



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web.sjfw.catholic.edu.au



St Columba's Primary School
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web.scww.catholic.edu.au



Sacred Heart Primary School
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TOCUMWAL NSW 2714
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web.shtww.catholic.edu.au



St Francis Xavier Primary School
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St Francis Xavier Primary School
2017 Kindergarten Class



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JERILDERIE NSW 2716
(03) 5886 1475
web.sjjewww.catholic.edu.au

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 and 6:30pm-6:45pm
Saturday 11:00am-12:00noon and 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
Edmondson Street, Wagga Wagga

Weekend Masses
Saturday - 9:30am
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm
Sunday - 8:30am, 10:00am and 5:30pm (for schools according to notices)
Children’s Liturgy during 10:00am Mass

Weekday Masses
Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 7:00am
Tuesday and Thursday - 5:45pm

Confessions
Saturday - 10:00 - 10:30 am

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 - 7:00am
Thursday - 11:00am (Ethel Forrest Centre)
Friday - 5:45pm

Anointing Mass
Marian Foyer, Henschke Hall
4th Tuesday of the month - 10:30am

Weekday Masses - Calvary Hospital
Monday-Friday - 8:00am (except public holidays)

Aged Care Facility Masses
Forrest Centre
Every Thursday - 11:00am

Nan Roberts Nursing Home
- The Haven
3rd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am

RSL 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
Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9.30 am

Confessisons
Saturday - 5.00 - 5.40 pm

Albury - Lavington

Holy Spirit
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 8.00am, 10.00am
St Mary’s Jindera - 9.00am

Weekday Masses
Monday - Friday - 7.00am
Saturday - 9.15am

Confessions
Saturday - 8.15am, 5.00pm
St Mary’s Jindera - Sunday 8.30am

Albury - Thurgoona

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Weekend Masses
Saturday - 8.00am
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.30am, 5.30pm

Weekday Masses
Monday - 8.00am
Tuesday - 7.00am (10.00am only on 2nd Tuesday of the month)
Wednesday - 7.00am
Thursday - 7.00pm (Mass Novena and Benediction)
Friday - 8.00am

Confessions
Prior to Masses
Saturday after 8.00am Mass, 5.30-6.00pm
Sunday - 5.00-5.30pm
Thursday - 7.00pm following Novena Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Also by appointment

Berrigan

St Columba’s
4 Corcoran Street, Berrigan
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 6:00pm Saturday Vigil
2nd, 4th Sunday - 10:30am

Savernake
1st Sunday - 5:00pm

Weekday Masses
are announced in the Sunday bulletin

Confessions
before Saturday Vigil Masses

Coolamon

St Michael’s
Sunday - 9.00am

Confessions
Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm

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 - 12:00noon, 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 (Sat. Vigil); 10:00am

Weekday Masses
Mon.-Fri.:
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
15 Kitchener Street, Junee
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm
Sunday - 9:30am

Weekday Masses
Monday - 9:00am
Tuesday - 7:00am
Wednesday - 9:00am
Thursday - 7:00am
Friday - 9:00am

Confessions
Saturday - 10:30-11:00am;
6:00-6:15pm or by appointment

Illabo and Junee Reefs
Alternate Sundays - 8:00am

Khancoban

Church of St Joseph the Worker
Sunday - 9.00 am

Weekday Masses
9.00 am

Confessions
Prior to Sunday Mass

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
Saturday (Vigil) - 7:00pm

Confessions
Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

Urangeline
St Terence's Church
Currently no Masses.

Mulwala

St Brigid's
Havelock Street, Mulwala

Weekend Masses
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 8:00am
2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm Saturday Vigil

Weekday Masses
Refer to parish notices

St Joseph's
Barooga

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

Weekday Masses
Refer to parish notices

Confessions
Before weekend Masses

Narrandera

Narrandera
St Mel's Church, Audley Street
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9:30am

Weekday Masses
Tuesday - 5:30pm
Wednesday, Thursday - 7:30am
Friday - 5:30pm
(subject to changes announced in the Sunday bulletin)

Confessions
Friday - 4:30-5:20pm;
Saturday - 9.30-10:00am
and 5:00-5:45 pm

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

Galore
St Kevin's Church
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am



Tarcutta

St Francis Xavier
Sydney Street, Tarcutta
Sunday - 8:30am

Ladysmith
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm

Confessions
Before all Masses

The Rock

St Mary's
102 Urana Street The Rock

Weekend Masses
Sunday - 8:00am (Extraordinary Form)
Sunday - 10:00am

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

Confessions
Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

Tocumwal

St Peter's
Charlotte Street, Tocumwal
Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday - 8.30am

Weekday Masses
Thursday - 9.30am

Confessions
Half an hour before weekend Masses

Tumbarumba

All Saints'
40 Murray Street, Tumbarumba
Saturday 9.15am
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.00am

Weekday Masses
Monday - Friday - 5.30pm

Confessions
Friday 4.30pm - 5.15pm
Satuday - 8.00am - 9.00am
And half an hour before weekend Holy Masses

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Tooma
4th Sunday - 7.30am

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday - 4.30pm
Saturday - 8.00am

Urana

St Fiacre's Church
5 End St, Urana

Weekend Masses
Saturday (Vigil) - 5:30pm

Confessions
Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

Oaklands
Currently no Masses.

Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii - Yoogali
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 any time 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.



Wagga Wagga Deanery

Contact: Daniel Shaw 0402 289 811

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

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH Youth Holy Hour
6.00pm
Where: St Michaels Cathedral

Koorungal Parish Youth Night
Where: "White House"
Koorungal Parish
When: Friday Nights 6-9pm
Who for: 13+
Contact: Stina Constantine 0437 425 355 or Nick Grosfeld 0449 690 080

Murray Deanery

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

Immaculate Heart of Mary Youth Group
Where: Thurgoona Parish Centre
When: Every 2nd Wednesday 5:30pm-7pm. Dinner provided.
Who for: School Years 7 to 12 (high school)
Contact: (02) 6043 2222

Murrumbidgee Deanery

Griffith
CAPTIV8 Youth Group
Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall.
Who for: Yrs 7-12
When: 7-8pm on the first & third Tuesday of the month

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall.
Who for: Young Adults
When: 7-8pm on the second & fourth Tuesday of the month
Contact: Parish (02) 6962 1533 or Gianni Cocilova 0412 562 850



Have you recently married, had a child baptised or had another significant event?
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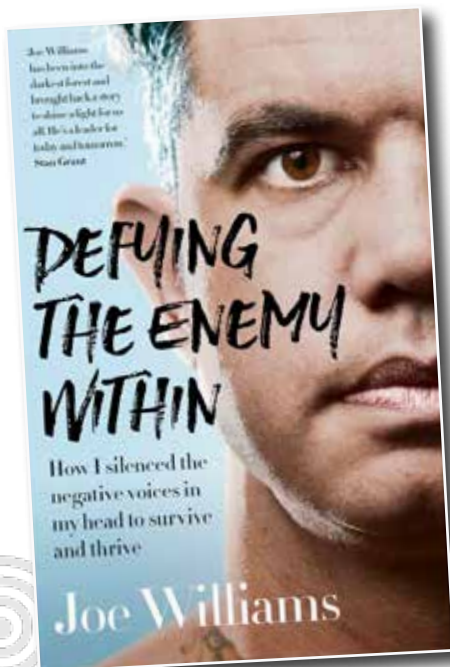
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Defying The Enemy Within:

How I silenced the negative voices in my head to survive and thrive



later worked at Mater Dei Catholic College as their Aboriginal Education Worker.

Joe now works to help others achieve mental wellness. He currently spends his time between Australia and the United States, travelling across both continents delivering workshops and talks to inspire people to think differently about their mental health.

In his memoir *Defying the Enemy Within*, Joe shares his personal struggles and reveals what has helped him survive and thrive.

Joe played in the National Rugby League (NRL) for many years before switching to professional boxing in 2009. He was twice crowned a World Boxing Foundation's (WBF) champion despite suffering severe mental illness.

He continues to struggle with symptoms of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), sustained during his rugby league and boxing careers.

Joe was always plagued by negative dialogue in his head and eventually turned to drugs and alcohol to silence the dialogue, before attempting to take his own life in 2012. In the aftermath, determined to rebuild, Joe took up professional boxing and got clean.

Defying the Enemy Within is both Joe's story and the steps he took to get well. He tells of his struggles with mental illness, later diagnosed as Bipolar Disorder, and the constant dialogue in his head telling him he was worthless and

should die. In addition to sharing his experiences, Joe shares his wellness plan - **the ordinary steps that helped him achieve the extraordinary.**

'In telling his powerful story, Joe Williams is helping to dismantle the stigma associated with mental illness. His courage and resilience have inspired many, and this book will only add to the great work he's doing.' - Dr Timothy Sharp, The Happiness Institute

'It is through his struggles that Joe Williams has found direction and purpose. Now Joe gives himself to others who walk the path he has.' - Linda Burney MP

Joe has a Facebook page *The Enemy Within - Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Wellbeing Education* and regularly attends schools and groups to share his story and to connect with people going through similar ordeals.

He would love to get invited to talk at more schools to discuss mental health and the steps he took to overcome it. Joe believes these steps are: gratitude, exercise, medication, sleep, compassion, humility, resilience and connection. Connection to faith, connection to country, and connection to self.

"Defying the Enemy Within reveals who I really am in all my layers and complexities. I am now in the position to let people know who Joe Williams really is - a proud First Nation Wiradjuri man who's been to the darkest corners of life, returned and is now an advocate for mental health."

You can find out more and order his memoir at www.joewilliams.com.au



Joe winning a welterweight championship during his boxing career.

"When the going gets tough, that's when we grow the most, although, at the time, we aren't aware of it"

- Joe Williams



Joe Williams' 8 steps to wellness.

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