

Daniel & Rachel Woods (02) 69 218 218 - All Hours 2 Station Place - Wagga Wagga

www.funeralsofwaggawagga.com.au

- **†** Funerals arranged to suit your family needs
- **★** Pre-paid and pre-arranged funeral consultants
- **★** Member of National Funeral Directors Association



Bishop's Voice

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI - Bishop of Wagga Wagga Diocese





Bishop's Statement of Commitment to Child Protection

Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, 15 September 2020

The abuse of any vulnerable person, especially child sexual abuse, is evil, disgraceful, unacceptable and a crime. Its harmful effects, especially on primary victims, can be traumatic and lasting and are often deeply debilitating. These scars can prevent those who have been hurt from growing to be the people God dreamed they could be. Whole communities are also damaged for people, loved and valued, are not able to return love or function as freely as they would otherwise have.

Abuse of children and of other vulnerable people has been committed by some members of the Catholic Church. Further, some other members of the Catholic community have not reported these serious offences. These people have betrayed those in their care, God and the Church by perpetrating abuse and by protecting and enabling such perpetrators.

The abuse was wrong and should not have happened.

On my own account and on behalf of the diocese, I apologise for these failures and assaults to those who have been abused, to all those who love and support them and to all the good, faithful members of the Church.

I commit the diocese of Wagga Wagga to being a safe place for vulnerable people and children by continuing to improve our processes, training and expectations in accordance with State and National safeguarding standards and legislation.

McLwordsom

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI Bishop of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga

Date: 11 September 2020

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

Publisher

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

Editor/Designer

Karene Eggleton

Printer

The Riverina Media Group Peter Street Wagga Wagga 2650

Submissions

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

Advertisers

TOGETHER acknowledges with gratitude the generous support of advertisers. Please show your support to our advertisers where possible. Please note that products and/or services advertised in this publication are not necessarily endorsed by this publication nor by the bishop of this diocese.

Copy deadline

15th of the month prior to publication

Contact Us

All news stories, advertising enquiries, correspondence and subscriptions to: Together PO Box 473 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

together@wagga.catholic.org.au

Facebook

www.facebook.com/ togetherwagga



Phone 0437 738 726

Member of the

Australasian Catholic Press Assoc.

Annual Subscriptions

\$33 Australia \$44 Overseas

Prayer Intention for September - Pray with Pope Francis

Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

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



http://popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions

this world was made for us. When He created Adam and Eve in His image and likeness He said to them "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over...all the living creatures...". This word "subdue" is a strong one; our instinct is to see it in terms of crushing some manner of resistance. Some see this as God telling Adam to conquer the wilderness outside of Eden, that mankind has a blank check to use the Earth as it sees fit. But this is not so: notice what God does in the beginning.

"The Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed,". Later Scripture tells us that God placed Adam in the

In the beginning, God created the earth and everything garden to "...cultivate and care for it,". In other words, within it and upon it, bearing us in mind all the while: the manner in which we are commanded to "subdue" and have "dominion" over the Earth is to imitate the example God showed Adam when He fashioned, from the wilderness, a patch of paradise: Adam was meant to make the whole Earth an Eden. We haven't license to do whatever we want; rather we have the responsibility to receive what God has entrusted to our care and use it for the fullfilment of our needs, and tend it well, not only for the sake of future generations but in honor of the God who fashioned all things. Let us use the Earth and everything in it, yes! But let us recall what the poet Emerson once wrote "We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

Fr Joel Wallace appointed Vicar General

Bishop Mark appointed Fr Joel in a limited tenure until the first anniversary of Bishop Mark's liturgical reception on 22 July, 2021.

Bishop Mark thanked his priests for and supported the bishop of the day their patience whilst he researched who might be the Vicar General for the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. Fr Joel Wallace was appointed Vicar General of a limited tenure until July 22, 2021, the first anniversary of Bishop Mark's liturgical reception at Wagga Wagga.

On behalf of the Diocese, Bishop Mark thanked Mgr Doug George who has generously been Vicar General and delegate of the Apostolic Administrator faithfully and effectively.

Bishop Mark consulted widely and Fr Joel's name was mentioned by many as being a suitable and wise choice. He is seen as a sensible, sound, hardworking and a good priest with integrity by many..

Being Vicar General is not a promotion, it is a different way to live out one's baptismal commitment, another way of serving God and his people.

Given that Fr Joel is in Albury, is a Parish : Mark has not appointed him moderator of : new endeavour.



Newly appointed Vicar General, Joel Wallace

Priest with a very steady workload, and i the Curia. this is a limited term appointment, Bishop

The Diocese wishes Fr Joel well in his



2017 Family Reunion North Pine Dam.

Father Joel Wallace was born and raised in Pine Rivers, Queensland. The following is a bio written by Fr

Early memories include Sunday Mass in an aircraft hangar at a bush airstrip owned by Ron Versace at the founding of Holy Spirit Parish, Pine Rivers. Ron was a local Catholic who had a business in PNG and regularly commuted in his Piper Twin. He had offered the use of his hangar while finances were raised to build the Parish Hall. Early influences include stories from the East African and PNG missions by lay and clerical missionaries, members of the Spiritans who worked together in teams and who came to Pine Rivers for a rest. There was always a meal at our place so stories were shared. Many were great examples of self-giving and generosity.

Later on, after pursuing and failing in a triathlon career, I thought about those influences and inquired into the missionary vocations. This and the early influences led to a passion for missionary work but recognized the needs here in Australia.

Exploring the Queensland missionary initiative (CCS) led to Wagga Wagga and, though things did not work out as anticipated, I am grateful for what I:



Fr Joel supporting Uganda Kids Missionary.

learned (mostly from my own mistakes). completing Counselling qualifications and having very much enjoyed working with Fr John Fowles and many dedicated parishioners in the Thurgoona initiative, I was grateful to be able to complete some more theology in Melbourne and in Rome and then had a great experience in the Howlong-Walbundrie-Rand before coming back to Albury as Parish Priest of St Patricks (2012 to present).

It is an ongoing adventure with some of the most amazing and generous people in Australia. The community has constantly worked and contributed to maintaining and improving under challenging circumstances. With a love for the Eucharist and the Mass, it has supported our Uganda Kids Missionary



Welcoming Amelia Flores into the St Patrick's community.

initiative with passion and even helped train the parish priest for the Uganda International Marathon in 2018! Our Parish school leaders, staff and families are an integral part of all of these adventures, as well as various other Christians and locals in general. More recently, the community undertook to offer support for the Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF), a multidenominational global initiative, who regularly fly food, medicine, education and Christian missionaries to the remotest communities on earth.

Great memories adventure so far include a working holiday at Kalumburu in the Kimberley, helping out at the Seminary, leading spiritual pilgrimage through the Holy Land (with some parishioners as it turned out) and teaching the *Theology* of the Body to clergy in PNG on several different trips with Dr Adam Cooper

Supporting Capt Joseph Maloney at Latchford has been interesting and led to a recruitment process as a Reserve RAAF Chaplain. Hobbies include all things that fly and 40 series Landcruiser restorations.



completed under Kevin Tankard's direction 2016.



the

Working with Adam Cooper to share experiences and Readings of the Word in a TOB Retreat with PNG clergy, Mt Hagan and Madang, 2016.

St Columba's Primary School in Berrigan to close at end of year

After a long and proud history of educating the local community dating back to 1898, St Columba's primary school in Berrigan will close permanently at the end of the current school year.

Announcing the decision to representatives of the school and parish community, Mrs Elizabeth O'Carrigan, Director of Schools for Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga said the steady decline in enrolments in recent years had ultimately taken its toll.

"Despite the school's valiant efforts to sustain and grow the learning environment in recent years, enrolments at St Columba's have continued to plummet," she said.

"We know this news will be distressing for the local community as St Columba's has been an integral part of Berrigan for over 100 years," "I wish to assure them that the decision to close the school was not taken lightly and express my gratitude to the many families, staff and religious who have made invaluable contributions to this school and its students for so many years," said Mrs O'Carrigan.

In recent years, the Catholic Education Office has heavily subsidised the school in an effort to revive the enrolments, however, with only 7 current students and no new kindergarten enrolments for 2020 or 2021, keeping the school open was no longer sustainable.

Pastoral and financial support will be provided to current families to help ensure a smooth transition to a new



St Columba's Primary School in Berrigan

school in 2021.

Members of the School and Parish community present at Wednesday's meeting are planning to hold a special community celebration to help bring closure to the school.

Further details of this event will be published widely when appropriate.

St Brendan's Ganmain gets a visit from Bishop Mark



On 24 August St Brendan's Primary in Ganmain were honoured to be visited by Bishop of Wagga Wagga, Bishop Mark Edwards OMI. Bishop Mark spent time in the classrooms teaching the students about his role and enjoyed learning more about St Brendan's and the town of Ganmain.

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.

But classes are growing & we need more help.

If you are able to help an hour or two a week please contact **Trevor Dal Broi 0407 537 994** or catechist@wagga.catholic.org.au *Training is provided.*



Commencement of Catholic Education Council (CEC)

On 4 September Bishop Mark Edwards OMI announced his decision to establish a Catholic Education Council (CEC).

I am writing to advise that I have decided that a Catholic Education Council (CEC) be established with the authority to make decisions for **Catholic Education in the Diocese** of Wagga Wagga.

This body will assist me to fulfil my role, responsibilities and mission regarding the ministry of Catholic Education. It will steward the mission of Catholic education by providing oversight, insight and foresight.

In accord with its Constitution, the Catholic Education Council will be a decision-making body and, in stipulated areas, provide advice and recommendations to the Bishop of Wagga Wagga. This body is to ensure confidence and transparency as we provide the very best possible Catholic education for our students and families.

The Catholic Education Council will take responsibility for the governance of CEDWW from the Interim Management Committee on our Lady's birthday, Tuesday September 8th. I have appointed Philomena (Phil) Billington as Chair in the inaugural phase. Phil brings strong faith commitment and the significant senior experience of having been a Director of Catholic Education who worked closely with a Governing Body and a School leader. She is currently the Deputy President of the Council of Edmund Rice Education Australia which operates 55 schools across Australia and the inaugural Chair of the National Committee for Religious Institute and Ministerial PJP School Authorities Australia.



L-R: Dennis Purcell - Business Manager, Diocese of Wagga Wagga, Elizabeth O'Carrigan - Director, Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga, Bishop Mark Edwards OMI - Bishop of Wagga Wagga, and Philomena Billington - Chair, Catholic Education Council Diocese of Wagga Wagga

the Council in the latter part of 2020. It is anticipated that nominations for non ex-officio members will proceed in February. The CEC will provide quarterly communication updates to parish and school communities across the Diocese.

I look forward to the growth and

Phil will oversee the establishment of i development of the CEC as it stewards Catholic education and works with CEDWW and schools to provide the best education for our young people.

> Yours in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate.

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI Bishop of Wagga Wagga



MOUNT ERIN HERITAGE CENTRE

Open every Tuesday and Wednesday 10am to 2pm and also by appointment

Open the first Saturday of every month 10am to 2pm

Parking: Please use Mt Erin Boarding School entrance or Kildare Ave entrance.



Would you like to receive your copy of Together via email?

Simply email us at: together@wagga.catholic.org.au and we will add you to the mailing list.



On 5th September a small ceremony was performed by Fr Doug George to recognise the efforts of Vera McKelvie for playing the organ for 50 years at St Patrick's Church, Marrar. Certainly an amazing effort by a truly lovely lady.

After Mass a dinner was held at the Marrar Hotel where she was guest of honour.

Nabiha's staying strong

Having recently turned 80 and keeping her shop afloat during a lockdown, Nabiha spoke to Together about her latest book and raising funds for Lebanon.

Another major milestone was celebrated by Nabiha's Kitchen owner Nabiha Koriaty, who turned 80 in July this year.

"I'm 80 on the outside, but I'm 22 inside - God renews the inside," Mrs Koriaty said.

"I was wondering what you feel when you're 80, what old people feel. I don't feel tired, I don't feel sad."

Mrs Koriaty says she still feels full of energy, which allows her to continue working 14-hour days - cooking in the kitchen, running the restaurant, and growing vegetables in her garden.

On top of her gruelling schedule she goes to Church to thank God every day and devotes much of her time to volunteering around town and sharing words of wisdom to people who come to her shop for life advice.

Mrs Koriaty believes these good deeds are what give her the energy to keep going and as long as she is able to give, she has no plans of retiring.

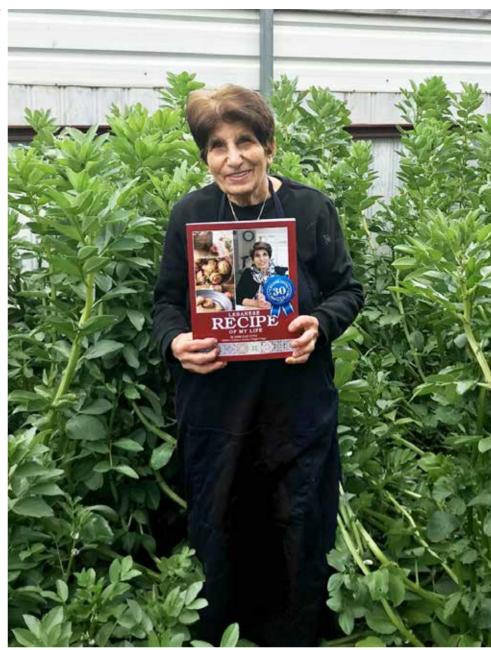
"God wants me to use the shop for good things, to help others. If someone has problems they come to me," Mrs

Koriaty said. "I have a purpose."

Mrs Koriaty is saddened by the recent events in Lebanon and wants to donate the proceeds from all sales of her book Lebanese Recipe Of My Life to Lebanon where she migrated from over 50 years ago. She also plans to send copies of her book for distribution to Abouna Fadi Tabe, a church in Lebanon.

Mrs Koriaty's book tells the story of her life and the challenges and difficulties she has faced including the wars and tribulations she lived through. "I have gone through wars, torments and persecutions. inspired me to write the book," Mrs Koriaty noted that the book is useful for young and old and contains useful practical advice to better live life.

If you'd like to assist Mrs Koriaty in her donations to the people of Lebanon you can buy a copy of her book or visit her shop in the Neslo Arcade on Baylis Street, Wagga Wagga and get yourself a delicious treat while you are there.



Nabiha Koriaty in her garden holding her book 'Lebanese Recipe Of My Life'.

Bishop Mark visits St Joseph's in Culcairn

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI visited the students at St Joseph's School Culcairn on 11th September. The students had lots of great questions to ask.





Afternoon tea at Erin Earth

The Erin Earth Board invited Bishop Mark Edwards OMI to visit Erin Earth on 27 August for a tour and afternoon tea.

It was wonderful to catch up with the Board of Erin Earth and Erin Earth's founders, Sr Kaye Bryan and Sr Carmel Wallis pbvm on a glorious sunny day in friendly and relaxed surrounds.

Sr Kaye spoke about the beginnings of Erin Earth and their goal to set up an urban garden so that urban people could learn how to live more sustainably.

Whilst met with controversy at the time the founders believed ecological justice is an extension of social justice and in 1996 the then bishop agreed that the sisters could take over the former tennis courts to begin their dream of an ecological centre for education and spirituality.

Erin Earth's Manager, Karen Leary read the Mission Statement: "The mission of ErinEarth is to provide a resource for the local community that both models and educates for a sustainable and just lifestyle and to bring forth a sustainable society founded on respect for the earth, universal human rights, economic justice and a culture of peace."

Bishop Mark was very interested in seeing the transformation from tennis courts into the now peaceful, lush, reclaimed space of natural growth and beauty which has become a refuge for possums, birds, frogs,



L to R: Stephen Kemmis (Board Chair), John Goonan (Board member), Professor Sue Green (Board member), Kaye Bryan pbvm (Board member and Founder), Carmel Wallis pbvm (Founder), Marg McKinley (past Director), Denis Nickle (Board member), Bishop Mark, Eltan Mestan (Garden Manager), Gordon Murray (Board member), Karen Leary (Manager), Clare Reeves (Admin Assistant), Kath Wallace (Finance Officer and Board member) and an appearance by Gus the dog.

lizards and bugs and a place for people to come for quiet reflection as they walk through the serene habitat.

Although it preceded Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si, Bishop could see that the ErinEarth garden was promoting and illustrating many aspects of the encyclical. Board members shared with him the various 'cycles' or stages of direction the Garden has moved through, the amazing work done by volunteers every Thursday, the work done with school students and school staffs in the area and the overall efforts to demonstrate sustainable, ecologically safe living.

Professor Sue Green explained to Bishop the respect the local Aboriginal community have for the ErinEarth garden and the efforts being made to highlight indigenous practices and plants. She presented him with a book about Wiradjuri land and culture.

On 31 October Erin Earth will be holding a Family Fun Day from 9:30am to 1:00pm which will be abuzz with activities and talks and delicious homemade food.







The Erin Earth garden is a place to relax and unwind. Spring's sights and sounds are sure to brighten and lighten your day.

Our half hectare native garden is open to the public Tuesdays and Wednesdays during school term, 9am - 4pm. 1 Kildare St Turvey Park.







Homily for Child Protection Week

On 13th Setember, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings.

by Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

Child Protection Sunday, which is observed in the Catholic Church, comes at the end of Child Protection Week. The theme of the week is *Putting Children First*. The phrase catches well the attitude of the heart on whose force all the protocols and regulations designed to ensure children's safety depend. It might also guide our reflection on Child Protection Sunday.

As we reflect on the destructive criminal actions perpetrated against children by Catholic priests, religious and lay people in Catholic institutions, and on the need to ensure that children will now be safe from them, there is no better starting point than putting children first. People who abused children put their own needs, desires, fantasies and frustrations before the good of the children entrusted to their care. They failed to put children first, but used them as means to their own gratification. The institutions of which they were part also failed to put children first. They often allowed and defended a culture in which the welfare of children was subordinated to the observance of punitive rules and to saving the reputation of the institution and the Church. Children were not put first.

Now that institutions both in the Church and the wider society are developing protocols and regulations that keep children safe, Child Protection Sunday invites us to reflect more deeply on what it means to put children first. It certainly means ensuring a safe space in which children can live and grow in wisdom, self-assurance and confidence that they are respected and valued for who they are. The space must be one in which children meet mature adults who understand and care for them and help them to grow. The boundaries of regulation and protocol protect this rich world of respectful and warm relationships. It is an unselfish world:

where adults recognise and respect the human dignity of each child and nurture the distinctive gift that they are

At first sight the Mass readings of the Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time with which Child Protection Sunday coincides may seem remote from its concerns. The readings focus on anger and forgiveness, on sin and not on rebuilding. Yet if we look more deeply into the human qualities needed to put children first, they are pertinent.

Reading 1, Sirach 27:30--28:7

The reading from the Book of Sirach, a work on how to live faithfully in daily life, describes attitudes that make us see children as expendable. In families, institutions and societies where anger, ill will, resentment, hatred and the desire for vengeance rule, children will not be put first. They will be neglected or used as weapons to hurt enemies. In that emotionally dangerous world they will grow to imitate the values they see around them, or spend their life fleeing from conflict. If such a world is to breathe and find space for children, it can only come from people who bring into it pity, compassion and forgiveness.

Reading 2, Romans 14:7-9

The brief passage from St Paul's respect or service we owe to other Letter to the Romans is part of Paul's reflection on different opinions and practices among Christians. They were deeply divisive in his communities. In these verses he insists that people we are in dispute. We should see them as persons and not as a rivals or as enemies. In all our relationships we live together peaceably despite their differences. It is important that speaks to our attitudes to children,



whatever we do, we do for Christ who is Lord of us all. We must focus on God's love that brings us together and not on the things that divide us. This principle of focusing on what matters most also underlies putting children first. It invites us not to insist on our different opinions and practices when with children but always to ask what is for the good of the children.

Gospel, *Matthew 18:21-35*

The Gospel passage is about forgiveness. Peter asks how often we should forgive someone who wrongs us: a great number of times? Jesus raises him to a humungous number of times. He then doubles down by telling a story. It contrasts the attitude of a generous employer who cancels the large debt of his manager, with the brutality of the manager who then throws into gaol a person owing him a small sum. The point of the story is that when there is dispute about the respect or service we owe to other people, we should not focus on what is owed us but on the people with whom we are in dispute. We should see them as persons and not as a rivals or as enemies. In all our relationships we are to put the person first. The story

too. People who abuse children see them as possessions to be used for their own gratification, or even as debtors who owe them service. Jesus way is one of compassion that always looks to the good of the other person.

These readings invite us to reflect on our own attitudes and on how far compassion or selfishness dominates our lives. The emphasis on forgiveness also raises a delicate question that we Catholics must ask ourselves: what should be our attitude to our fellow Catholics, priests, religious and lay people who have abused children? Once all the attitudes and practices that ensure children will be safe within our Catholic world are observed and have become instinctive to us, the Gospel still asks us what claims forgiveness will make on us.

Find out more at:
www.catholic.org.au/
childprotectionsunday
and
www.catholicreligious.org.au/
safeguarding



Lebanon in Crisis:

We need a miracle

Quietly and politely they form a line in the hot sun outside the Socio-Medical Intercommunity Dispensary in the poor Beirut neighborhood of Nabaa. Some are elderly and live alone. Others have families to feed. All have put aside any embarrassment in accepting a handout, in order to eat.

The dispensary has been run by the Assembly of Female Religious Congregations since 1973. It was originally founded in 1968 by the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary to serve those in need. ACN has immediately sent 410,000 AUD in emergency aid to starving Christian families, many of whom are facing real hunger. There is a great deal more still to be done.

As Lebanon's economy worsened, the dispensary expanded its medical and social mission to the needy to include distribution of hot meals in 2017, serving 250 portions per day. Now, as Lebanon teeters near economic collapse, the program has reached 1,200 portions a day.

"We've come to a situation in Lebanon

where the middle class have become poor and the poor have gotten poorer," says Sister Marie Justine el Osta, from the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family, who serves as director of the dispensary. This is a disaster."

Despite the increasing misery she encounters, the petite, energetic 72-year-old sister continues to offer a warm, encouraging smile to all those she serves. "My strength comes from God, only," Sister Marie Justine says. "Our mission is to stand by the people, to lift them up and give them a dosage of positivity and hope. To tell them that God is with us, that better days are coming."

However, Sister Marie Justine admits, "What is really very painful for me is when you see people asking for the least of their rights – asking for food. They



Sister Marie Justine el Osta, from the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family, who serves as director of the dispensary in her office. Photographer: CNEWA. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.

feel they have lost their dignity. It hurts me to see this.

Maguy, a mother of four children, ranging from 7-16 years old, began coming to the dispensary for the hot meal program a few weeks ago. "It's something I never thought I would do," she said of being on the receiving end for food assistance. "But I got to the point that I didn't want to see my children starving. I will do anything for them."

"The sisters and everyone here make me feel so welcome. God bless them for all they are doing."

Hot meals are prepared off-site and beneficiaries bring their own containers, in order to eat at home. Due to coronavirus precautionary measures, distribution takes place outdoors at the entrance to the dispensary. Thus, the meal program was not disrupted by Beirut's catastrophic blast that rocked the capital city August 4, which killed almost 200 people, injured another 6,000, and displaced more than 300,000 people.

Although it is located 2.5 miles from the blast site, the dispensary still suffered considerable damage, totaling nearly \$40,000 in repairs. Sister is thankful that no one was injured at the dispensary, as it was closed at the time of the early evening blast.

"In this country, we live day by day. We don't know what will happen tomorrow.

We can't see the light at the end of the tunnel," says Sister Marie Justine. "I always say that God always helps us. Thank God, He sends us helpers," she said, such as Aid to the Church in Need. "We are so grateful."

Yet the needs keep increasing, she points out. The possibility of a famine in Lebanon is very real. "We are getting closer (to famine), because goods are getting very expensive and people will not have enough money to buy anything from the supermarket," Sister Marie Justine warned. "We need a miracle."

A recent United Nations report shows that more than 55 percent of Lebanon's population is now in poverty and struggling to meet their basic needs for bare necessities, nearly double the percentage from a year ago. The Lebanese currency has lost more than 80 percent of its value in less than a year and prices of food staples have doubled, tripled and even quadrupled.

Aid to the Church in Need has funded a program that is about to distribute food parcels more than 5,800 needy families affected by the Aug. 4 explosion. Sister Marie Justine will oversee part of the distribution.

To donate to ACN's emergency appeal for Lebanon visit: https://aidtochurch.org/Lebanon



Nabaa hot meals distribution. Photographer: CNEWA. Copyright: Aid to the Church in Need.



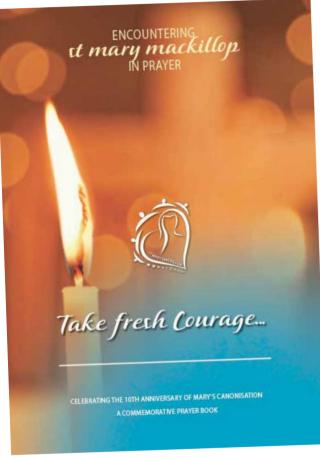
Join us in celebration

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross.

The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos, and a global vigil to honour Mary throughout September and October.

Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often throughout her life.



These prayers focus on ten significant moments in Saint Mary's life, sharing details of her personal journey, highlighting her values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

Order your personal copy of Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer at: https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book/

Postage is free in Australia for orders received before 20 September.

Inspiring Videos

Have you ever wondered how others see St Mary today?

People around Australia and the world share their thoughts in a series of short and inspiring videos. These videos will be shared on our Sisters of Saint Joseph website and the St Mary MacKillop and Sisters of Saint Joseph Facebook pages during the months of September and October, leading up to the Anniversary on 17 October.

View 'Video 1 - Primary School Students' at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=huwRY-MPIb0&list=PLDuZy9qXvebyrd4WqpAFiGinYzvNmtkds



Courage Cards can be purchased at: https://www.designjane.com/store/p24/







Prayer

Mary MacKillop join us in our gratitude on this 10th anniversary of your canonisation. Be with us

in this time of crisis in our world as we gather fresh courage around us for working in God's healing mission.

Keep us participating
as a people of the gospel
engaging with our neighbours
for the good of all
and serving with Christ
in our common home.
Holy Spirit strengthen us.

Amen



Prayer Cards

Courage Cards can be downloaded at: https://www.sosj.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Mary-MacKillop-10th-Canonisation-Anniversary-Bookmark.pdfstore/p24/MMK10Years.html



for more details visit sosj.org.au

Save the Date - Courage Hour

16 October 2020, 8pm your local time

Join us for a global Vigil to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Mary's canonisation. This special event will be an hour of deep peace, prayer and reflection on Mary's courage. You can host your own celebration or participate online via the Sisters of Saint Joseph website. Together, we can all follow Mary's lead and #TakeFreshCourage.

Bishop Mark visits St Patrick's in Holbrook

On 11 September Bishop Mark Edwards OMI visited the students at St Patrick's in Holbrook. There was much laughter at trying on the mitre and episcopal ring.









On 13 September Bishop Mark Edwards OMI celebrated Mass at St Francis De Sales Church of the Pioneers in Bowna.





Holy Land Collection 2020

This year, due to the pandemic caused by the Corona virus, it was not possible to take up the Good Friday Collection dedicated to supporting Christians living here in the Land of Jesus. This is why Pope Francis has accepted the request to move this gesture of sharing that concerns the whole Church to September 13th.

Why September 13th, you may ask? Because it is the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, which we celebrate here with particular solemnity in Jerusalem. On this feast we remember how far the love of the Son of God has come for us: giving His life on the Cross for our salvation and reconciling us to the Father and to each other. This gives birth to a new humanity founded on solidarity and love.

The Cross still characterizes and accompanies the journey of the small Christian community that lives in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East. A small community that carries the Cross in the midst of situations of conflict on the one hand and indifference on the other. It is a small community that this year suffers even more because of this pandemic that has hit the whole world; for here now, there are no pilgrims or any of the work linked to their reception, which allows many Christians to work with dignity and feed their families. Yet despite this, our small Christian community continues to resist, continues to be evangelical salt, leaven and light in a context that absolutely needs it.

The collection in favour of the Holy Land is a small gesture of solidarity that the whole Church is called to make in order to support through the Custody of the Holy Land, the Christian communities that are in the Holy Land and feel the weight and also the glory of the Cross of Jesus on their shoulders.

It is thanks to you Christians throughout the whole world, who give so generously, that we will be able to

continue taking care of the Holy Places of Christianity, from the Holy Sepulcher to the Basilica of the Nativity and to the lesser known sanctuaries. We will be able to support the pastoral action of the parishes entrusted to us. We will be able to guarantee quality education and learning to more than 10,000 students attending our schools. We can help young families find a home. We will be able to assist Christian migrant workers to feel welcomed even though they are far from their homeland. We will be able to stay close to the populations affected by the war in Syria and the refugees now scattered in the various countries in which we find ourselves living our mission.

This is what we have tried to do during an eight centuries long history in the Holy Land and this is thanks to the help of Christians from all over the world. This is what we hope to be able to continue to do thanks to the help of each of you on the 13th September.

Fr. Francesco Patton OFM Custos of the Holy Land

You can make online donations at: https://myfranciscan.org/donation-pagepontifical-good-friday-collection/





Support Christians in the Holy Land

Pontifical Good Friday Collection

> Lord Jesus, Help us to walk Your way of love.

Lead us to serve Your people in love.

Reveal to us
The path to love,
That all may know
Your peace.

Amen.



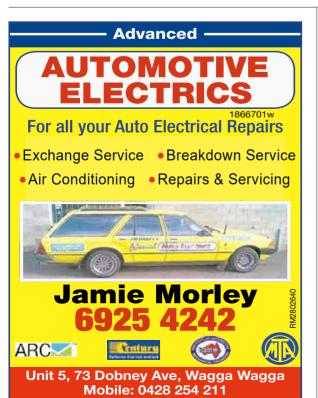
Together is on Facebook

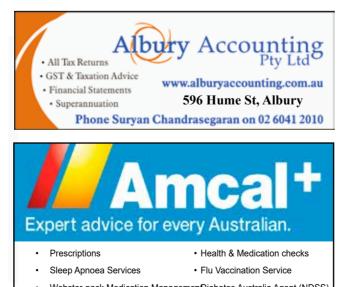
VISIT US AT: www.facebook.com/togetherwagga



Together is on Twitter

VISIT US AT: twitter.com/togetherwagga





Ph: (02) 6962 3596 Fax: (02) 6962 4931

Prescriptions
 Health & Medication checks
 Sleep Apnoea Services
 Webster-pack Medication ManagemenDiabetes Australia Agent (NDSS)
 Be Good to Yourself Weight Management
 Fine Fragrances

PAT ZIRILLI AMCAL CHEMIST
 398 - 400 Banna Ave, Griffith



Lic No: MVRL47719



At Centacare, we are passionate about supporting all people in our community. We are a part of the Wagga, Albury, Griffith, Finley, Junee (and surrounding) communities, and we believe that the wellbeing for all individuals is...

SUPPORT FOR YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

We offer individual, couples or family counselling sessions to help support you to achieve a better sense of wellbeing. This is available for all people at any age of their life.

Our Mental Health Nurse, can also assist with community based nursing support for people who are experiencing severe or complex mental health (*Service limited to Griffith, Leeton and Narrandera)

SUPPORT WITH YOUR RELATIONSHIP, OR A SEPARATION?

We offer individual, couples or family counselling sessions to help support you to strengthen and improve your relationships.

We also offer family group conferencing which helps provide best outcomes for children based on their current needs.

Have you separated? We offer mediation services for parents who have separated and want to work out a plan on how to coparent. We can also support you with navigating the Family Law systems through councelling and advocacy.

LET US SUPPORT YOU WITH YOUR NDIS PLAN?

Your Centacare NDIS coordinator will work with you to:

- » Find quality supports
- » Link you with the right providers
- » Assist with coordination of a range of supports tailored for your needs
- » Build your capacity to self manage and reach set personal goals
- » Provide you with support and encouragement with social and community access

SUPPORT FOR WORK STRESS

We can talk with your workplace to help you develop an Employment Assistance Program (EAP), which offers short term counselling sessions for staff to talk through difficulties that they might be facing.

Your workplace doesn't offer EAP? That is okay, call us to book an appointment with one of our counsellors.

SCHOOL WELLBEING PROGRAM

For our children to think right, they must first feel right. Our School Wellbeing Practitioners work with students, families and school staff within Catholic Diocese to help children feel right and maximise their learning. Referral through school required.

HAVE YOU RECENTLY SETTLED IN AUSTRALIA?

Our settlement, Engagement and Transition Support team (SETS), can help you to feel better connected and supported in your community.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND CARERS?

We offer a wide range of parenting education groups that focus on building skills and knowledge so you can tackle those tricky parenting moments and enjoy a positive relationship with your children.

In whichever way you support your family - by being a parent, grandparent, carer or support person, one of our great groups could help you improve your relationships.

Bishop Mark attends Henschke Mufti Day

Henschke Primary School welcomed Bishop Mark on 4 September and were very impressed to see him dressed in his 'footy colours' for their Mufti Day. He spoke with the Year 6 Confirmation students, and Year 4 classes who had completed their First Eucharist program earlier this term.













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

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

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

Fight injustice this September and help women around the world

Women for the World is a local movement which aims to empower the world's most marginalized women to combat injustice. Each September women and girls across the breadth of Australia gather to stand in solidarity with women fighting inequality around the world.

In today's world poverty and gender are inextricably linked. Women especially in developing countries face systematic discrimination in education, employment, healthcare, control of assets and economic participation.

According to the United Nations, one in three girls or women will experience physical or sexual violence during her lifetime and the risk multiplies during a conflict or disaster.

This September, Caritas Australia is encouraging women across Australia to combat this injustice by hosting their own Women for the World event in solidarity with women experiencing poverty globally.

at home, at work, in schools or really anywhere and can take the form of a morning tea, movie night, luncheon or a dinner party.

Funds raised through the Women for the World events will go to programs supported by Caritas Australia, which is a part of the second largest international aid and development network in the world. Last year, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Caritas Australia assisted two million people directly through our emergency and development programs.

Long-time Caritas Australia supporter and one of the driving forces behind Women for the World, Dr Michelle Fernon believes that given the disproportionate impact that poverty has on women and Women for the World events can be held ! girls it is vital that action is taken.

about justice and making a difference to **Poverty and women: The facts** on this national movement that leads to the defeat of poverty," Dr Fernon said.

One of the most important things about hosting a 'Women for the World' event is to have fun. This year there is a need to be a bit more creative and get together via Zoom or even host a Netflix party.

"Despite being the backbone of their

families, workplaces and communities,

women have access to fewer resources

and are denied opportunities to realise

"Yet we know that when we help a

woman, her children thrive, societies

thrive and the impact is felt for generations

Women for the World events are about

"It is an exciting time for Australian

women who are in a position to help others. By coming together, we can build

bringing together those who are passionate

those living in poverty.

their full potential," Dr Fernon said.

"It might seem hard to invite your friends to a fundraiser, but in my experience once they know where the money goes and who they are helping their generosity is is hold a successful event.

overwhelming."

What your donations can do

- •\$50 Gift of Health could help with the distribution of hygiene supplies and educate to help stop the spread of COVID in vulnerable communities.
- \$450 Gift of Education could help provide training and cross-learning to engage communities in the prevention of abuse against women.
- \$1350 Gift of Equality could allow a group of girls living with a disability in a rural community to attend school for
- •\$3000 Gift of Empowerment could provide domestic abuse survivors with livelihood, farming and business skills training to help them support their families.

Take action

For more information or to register to hold your own Women for the World event visit: www.womenfortheworld.org. au or call 1800 024 113. Following your registration, you will be sent a free host kit containing a series of tips on how to



• 60% of the world's working poor are women

 90% of countries have at least one law that discriminates against women

• 1 in 5 women will be a victim of rape or attempted rape in her lifetime

 1 in 9 girls in developing countries is forced into marriage before her 15th birthday

• In every region, women do the bulk of unpaid work such as caregiving and household tasks











4/41-43 Moorong St Wagga Wagga Ph: 6921 6366 Fax: 6921 6493

We sell Cattle at the Wagga Livestock Marketing Centre every Monday and Sheep and Lambs every Thursday and also offer a range of services:

• Paddock sales, over the hook sales

- and direct to feedlot sales • On farm Stud Sales
- · Auctions Plus Sales
- Clearing Sales
- Rural property sales

For any of your livestock or property needs contact one of our friendly agents:

> Tim Francis 0428 263 852 Alex Croker 0428 326 810 Matt Hawker 0418 861 320 0448 080 607 Sam Sutton David Kosa 0432 064 188 0448 353 764 Helen De Costa

Email: livestock@hfrancisandco.com.au www.hfrancisandco.com.au

Lillypilly 2011 Noble Blend

HOOKE

Students from St Patrick's Primary School in Griffith made their First Reconciliation on 6 August and received their First Communion on 15 August.





On Saturday 15th August, 35 of our beautiful children at St. Patrick's Griffith received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. A special thank you to the Year 3 Teachers; Miss Laura Zandona, Miss Lauren O'Grady and the REC Miss Loretta Zanotto for preparing the children for this Holy Sacrament. Thank you must also go to Father Grace and the Sacred Heart Parish for enabling us this opportunity, to ensure our students could receive this Sacrament, despite the current restrictions imposed at this time.





Congratulations to the 43 children at St. Patrick's Griffith who made their First Reconciliation on Thursday 6th August. A special thank you to Father Grace, Father Paul, Father Jomer, our teachers in Year 2; Mrs. Dorian Patsalides, Miss Anna Bordignon, Miss Victoria De Mattia, Miss Amelia Anderson and our REC Miss Loretta Zanotto for their dedication in preparing the students.

Riding to fight childrens cancer

Did you know cancer is the largest single killer of children from disease in Australia – over 600 children are diagnosed with cancer every year and sadly, 3 die every week.



Next month Fr Casanova will participate in the Great Cycling Challenge during October to raise much needed money for fighting kids cancer.

Holy Trinity Primary students will be supporting his aim to raise \$2000 and ride 1000km during the month of October. We will cover more of the challenge in the next issue.



One of Fr Casanova's parishioners, Levi Blacka (front) has come a long way since being treated for leukaemia. Gloria, his mother works for the diocese.



https://greatcyclechallenge.com.au/Riders/ FrThomasCasanova

2020 Riverina Coding Challenge hosts tournament for region's best coders

After two years as the reigning champions, Mater Dei Catholic College is looking to continue their dominance in the Riverina Inter-School Coding Championship.

by Emma Horn

Students from four high schools from around the Riverina went head-to-head in a virtual coding showdown, with Mater Dei taking the top title in the advanced category.

"It's not easy thinking like a computer," said 15-year-old Samuel Culley from Mater Dei.
"Writing in Python [coding software] is not like writing an

essay."

The program is the brainchild of The Riverina Anglican College (TRAC) teacher Isaac Mannion along with CSU and has been running now for two years.

TRAC won the beginners division, while their all-girls team of advanced coders came third

"It's a male-dominated field, even our Friday STEM sessions, there are more boys than girls," said 16-year-old TRAC student Amelia Mathews.

"It's a challenge, but that's something I like. It's good to have a new skill."



Winners, Samuel Culley and Joshua Shaw from Mater Dei Catholic College.



Joseph Cowell, Taylor Smyth and William McLoughlin.



Riverina Hospital

Hospitality Healing Stewardship

Director of Mission Integration Permanent Part time 4 days per week

The Director of Mission Integration provides executive leadership promoting the mission and core values of Calvary. Calvary Riverina is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced senior leader as a member of the executive team supporting Calvary Riverina Hospital, Drug and Alcohol Centre, Surgicentre and Community Care.

The successful applicant will join a progressive and values based Catholic not for profit health service, one of the largest in regional NSW supporting the people and communities of the Riverina regional area. This person will demonstrate a collaborative, engaged leadership style modelling with authenticity the mission and values of Calvary.

Key Selection Criteria:

- Tertiary qualification in Theology, Ministry, Clinical Care, Social Sciences education and/or Business or related studies (or working towards such qualifications)
- 5 years + experience in area of expertise
- Person of faith who is well formed in the Catholic tradition and ethical principles
- Highly developed leadership skills and demonstrated ability to support people through transition and change
- Demonstrated knowledge of the principles of theology as they apply to Catholic health, aged and community care
- Demonstrated understanding of the philosophy and practical application of pastoral care and volunteering
- Demonstrated understanding of Catholic Social Justice principles
 Outstanding communication facilitation interpersonal
- Outstanding communication, facilitation, interpersonal, relationship building and stakeholder management skills.

Application Inquiries:

Robin Haberecht General Manager Calvary Riverina Email: Robin.Haberecht@calvarycare.org.au Phone: 0269 232331

Mark Green Calvary National Director of Mission Email: Mark.Green@calvarycare.org.au

Applications including resume and response to the key selection criteria are to be addressed to:

Robin Haberecht General Manager Calvary Riverina

Email: Robin.Haberecht@calvarycare.org.au

Applications Close: Monday October 12, 2020.

For more details and to apply online please visit: https://calvarycareers.mercury.com.au/

To learn more about Calvary visit: www.calvaryriverina.org.au

Continuing the Mission of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary

St Patrick's School, Albury





St Patrick's School students had loads of fun creating these fantastic picture plates.

All Saints Primary, **Tumbarumba**

All Saint's had their Cross Country on 9th September.







Mater Dei Primary, Wagga Wagga





We love to see our students enjoying their learning...and this was certainly the case in Year 3! Year 3 have been learning about 'sources of electrical energy' this term. They have been talking about ways we can help sustain the environment and use renewable energy sources that look after the Earth. Students were required to plan and make a house project that uses sustainable forms of energy, such as solar energy or wind energy. They also included items such as a compost bin, water tank and energy saving devices inside. What an amazing design and construction site we had. So many spectacular and energy-wise designs!





St Mary's Primary School, Yoogali

As part of learning on Wild and Wonderful weather, our budding Stage 1 Scientists experimented with water, liquid soap, vinegar and blue dye to create a tornado in



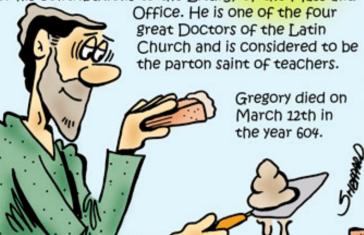
St Joseph's School, Junee

Kindergarten celebrated the end of their English and Geography integrated unit on Aboriginal culture with marshmallows and stories told by Luke around the campfire.



St. Gregory was born in Rome around 540. At age 34 he was appointed Chief Magistrate of Rome. He built six moanasteries in Sicily and a seventh in his own home in Rome. He became a priest at 35.

He was unamimously elected Pope and is known above all for his contributions to the Liturgy of the Mass and



Saint Gregory the Great

Fun tongue twisters to try!

Try and say 5 times quickly:

Irish Wrist Watches

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

Does your sport shop stock short socks with spots?

Crisp crusts crackle and crunch.

Growing gray goats graze great green grassy groves.

Six slippery snails, slid slowly seaward.

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

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

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!



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



St. **Gregory** the Great St. Peter Claver Most Holy Name of Mary Exaltation of the **Holy**

Our Lady of Sorrows St. Cornelius

St. Cyprian

St. Andrew Kim Taegon St. Paul Chong Hasang

St. **Pio** of Pietrelcina

St. Cosmas

St. Damian

St. **Vincent** de Paul St. Michael

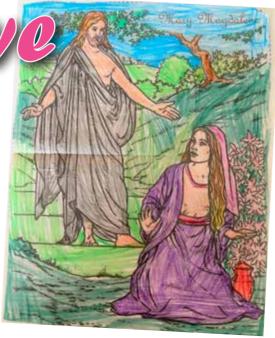
St. Gabriel

St. Raphael St. Jerome



Fantastic colouring in of Mary Magdalene by Adelaide from Mater Dei Primary School in Wagga Wagga. Thank you!

Keep sending in your beautiful creations!



Marian Catholic College raise money for the koalas and the bees

Capilano Honey have acknowledged the Generosity of the MCC Community in our Be Kind initiative to raise money for the Koalas and Bees during the devastating times of the bushfires. MCC wanted to raise awareness of the impact that was caused to our native animals. Capilano Honey has included MCC on their national website see link below. A big thank you to MCC for their efforts in raising \$2,000 to this great cause.

https://capilanohoney.com/au-en/news/capilano-supported-hive-aidcampaign-keeps-on-buzzing



Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover...

your relationship!

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter **Weekend** is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples - set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life at the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Varroville near Campbelltown.

During the weekend, couples have a

unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule to invest in your most precious asset ... your Marriage!

> Weekend date: 20th to 22nd November at **Mt Carmel Retreat Centre** Varroville NSW





Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

If you would like Worldwide **Marriage Encounter** brochures please see **WWME** website at www.wwme.org.au

Thank you for your support of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Movement.

In the love of Our Lord, our sincere thanks, Fr Mick Court, Tracey and Richard Kaldausan - Unit Coordinators and Ecclesial team Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Australia, Eastern Unit www.wwme.org.au



LMD 6808 - Channel13 UHF

Hydraulic hose manufacturers and suppliers Steel supplies, engineering and welding supplies Dealers for Robin & Delta stationary engines

SMITH'S MOTOR **GARAGE**

58-60 GREEN ST LOCKHART MITSUBISHI PH 02 6920 5556 **MOTORS**

- Authorised Mitsubishi Dealers -



Albury Audio Diagnostics

Audiology and Hearing Aid Clinic

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

Our Services

- The selection, fitting and trial of hearing aids to improve your hearing
- Adult and Child Hearing Assessments
- Employment, WorkSafe Vic and WorkCover NSW Hearing Services

6023 1300

563 Wyse St Albury NSW 2640

www.alburyhearingaids.com.au

Over one million dollars donated to Beirut recovery efforts through global Caritas network

Following the massive explosion which killed over 200 people and wounded 6500, Caritas Australia, part of the global Caritas network, is responding to the immediate needs of blast survivors in Beirut with an international solidarity effort.

The Caritas Internationalis network, a confederation of 169 global Caritas partners, is donating over \$1,200,000 to Caritas Lebanon. The Australian community has already donated \$117,000 through Caritas Australia.

Though Lebanon is still emerging from a two-week Government enforced coronavirus lockdown, the Caritas network has been given the 'green light' to continue working closely with communities at this fraught time.

The appeal response commences at the end of August and will continue for 18 months. It includes food, hygiene materials, like soap and water, and emergency cash assistance to renovate houses for those who cannot afford essential shelter, as winter approaches. In the long-term, the response also offers mental health consultations with blast survivors, assessment of shelter damage so that engineers can be involved in repair

efforts and online education support for students who cannot make it into schools or whose schools were destroyed in the blast.

"We must not lose sight of the fact that the effects of economic sanctions and political violence have weakened this country and are weighing heavily on Lebanon, which is facing a food shortage," said Dr Rita Rhayem, the Director of Caritas Lebanon.

"It is vital that the international community acts decisively to alleviate the suffering of poor Lebanese, immediately removing economic sanctions."

Dr Rita will be one of three speakers at a virtual briefing for Australian Parliamentarians, which includes Caritas Australia. It will be held on September 7, shortly after the onemonth anniversary of the blast.

Caritas Australia has committed to providing emergency support to Lebanon, in the form of crucial financial aid, as part of its already



Caritas emergency relief in Beirut.

established Middle East Regional Appeal. The Appeal remains open in anticipation of long-term need.

We stand in solidarity with the people of Beirut and the Lebanese community here in Australia at this time of enormous heartbreak and loss. The Lebanese community is a valued part of the Caritas Australia network.



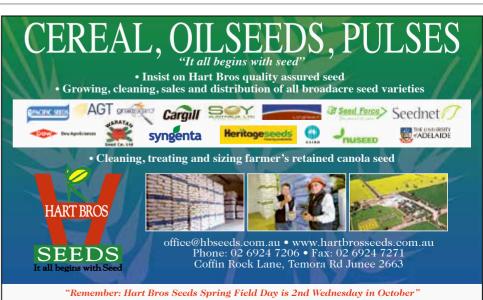
Donations to Caritas Australia's Middle East Regional Appeal can be made at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon or by calling 1800 024 413





CATERING AVAILABLE -

Shop 10 Neslo Arcade, 117 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga Ph 6921 7813



COVID-19 Diocesan Effective Protocols

1. Covid-Safe Business

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

2. Maximum Attendance

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

3. Hygiene practices

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

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

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

5. Eucharist

a. Holy Communion in the hand only.

Friday 24 July 2020

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

6. Communion to Sick and Elderly **Persons**

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

7. Anointing of the Sick

Normal Pastoral Practice continues.

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

8. First Penance & First Holy Communion

Normal Pastoral Practice continues, respecting liturgical and pastoral protocols.

9. Confirmation

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

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI

www.avis.com.au

Bishop of Wagga Wagga



ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS AUSTRALIA

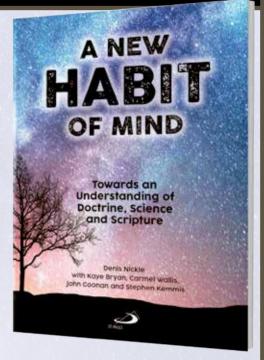
ANEW HABIT OF MIND

Towards an Understanding of **Doctrine, Science** and Scripture

Denis Nickle with Kaye Bryan, Carmel Wallis, John Goonan and Stephen Kemmis

Many Catholics, particularly parents, teachers and others involved in faith formation, can be disconcerted by advances in knowledge and scientific developments which appear to conflict with their own recollection or understanding of Catholic doctrine.

Addressing key areas where this apparent conflict is most prevalent, A New Habit of Mind demonstrates that advances in general knowledge, far from diminishing the Church's timeless truth, shed greater light on them. What is important is that we cultivate, in the words of Pope Paul VI, 'a new habit of mind' to recognise this.



ISBN 978 1 925494 55 6 | 32 pages \$5.95

Published by St Pauls Publications Australia

> **Published** in collaboration with



ORDER ONLINE AT www.stpauls.com.au

Address: 35 Meredith Street, Strathfield NSW 2135 Tel: 02 9394 3400 Email Sales: sales@stpauls.com.au

Cars Trucks Buses Utes

6-10 Edward St, Wagga Wagga



JINDERA

SPRINGDALE HEIGHTS

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Diocese of Wagga Wagga -

Outreaching to all those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and would like the Church to look into the validity of their marriage.

> Enquiries to the Tribunal Office at McAlroy House PO Box 473 Wagga Wagga 2650

Phone: 6937 0017 Email: tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.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 & 6:30pm-6:45pm Saturday 11:00am-12:00noon & 4:30pm-5:30pm

Rosary times

Monday to Thursday 12:25pm and Saturday 11:55am (before Mass)

Carmelite Monastery

10 Morshead Street, Wagga Wagga Monday - Friday - 7:30am Saturday - 8:00am

Sunday - 9:30am St Mary's Chapel

Vianney College, 17 Durack Circuit Sunday - 9:00am

Mt Erin Chapel

Kildare Catholic College Edmondson Street, Wagga Wagga Sunday - 10:00am (Extraordinary Form)

Wagga Wagga - Kooringal

Sacred Heart

Lake Albert Road, Kooringal **Weekend Masses** Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm

Sunday - 9:00am and 5:30pm Children's Liturgy during 9:00am Mass Weekday Masses

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

Saturday - 9:30am Confessions

Saturday - 10:00am - 10:30am

Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

Our Lady of Fatima

Bourke Street, Wagga Wagga

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am & 5:30pm (Syro-Malabar Rite)

St Patrick's Uranquinty Sunday - 8:30am

Weekday Masses - Our Lady of

Wednesday - 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 Rememberance Village**

2nd Tuesday of the month - 10:30am

Saturday - 10:30-11:30am

Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

Holy Trinity Church

Bardia Street Ashmont Monday-Saturday - 7:00am Friday - 10:15am

Sunday - 9:00am and 5:30pm **Loreto Home of Compassion**

Sunday - 10:30am

Monday - 5:45pm

Tuesday - 10:30am Thursday - Eucharistic Adoration - 5:15pm

Thursday - 5:45pm

Wednesday - 5:45pm

Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church

Benedict Avenue San Isidore Vigil Saturday - 6:00pm Wednesday - Eucharistic Adoration - 5:15pm

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

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 - 10.00am

Confessions Prior to Masses

Saturday - 5.30pm-5.55pm

Sunday - 9.00am-9:25am & 5.00pm-5.25pm 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 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 - 7.30am and 9.00am Confessions

Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm

Masses Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and

Friday - 7.30am

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,

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

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

Ganmain

St. Brendan's Ganmain **Sunday Mass**

Saturday - 10.30 - 11.00am

9:00am

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday: December-February 7:30am (Tues., Γhurs.) & 5:30pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.) March-November 5:30pm Saturday: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).

Confessions 8.00-8.55am Sunday and 30 minutes before all Masses.

St. Patrick's Matong 6:00pm Saturday Confessions 30 min before 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

2nd Sunday - 11:30am

Phone parish for details Confessions

Before Mass on weekends St Francis De Sales Church of the **Pioneers** Hume Highway, Bowna

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.

Saturdays 9:30am (after 9:00am Mass)

Reconciliation Howlong

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

Are announced in the Sunday bulletin

Junee

Weekday Masses

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

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

Leeton

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

Currently no Masses.

Weekday Masses Tuesday - 9:00am & Friday - 10:00am Confessions Up to 5 mins before Mass.

Urangeline St Terence's Church

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

Confessions Before weekend Masses Narrandera

Weekday Masses Refer to parish notices

Weekday Masses

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

Tuesday - 5:30pm Wednesday, Thursday - 7:30am Friday - 5:30pm

(subject to changes announced in the

Sunday bulletin) Confessions Friday - 4:30-5:20pm;

Galore

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

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

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

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

Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm

Before all Masses

The Rock

Ladysmith

Confessions

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

Thursday - 7:00am Confessions Up to 5 minutes before Mass.

Tocumwal

Wednesday - 7:00am (Extraordinary Form)

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 25...

TOGETHER - SEPTEMBER 2020

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

4th Sunday - 7.30am **Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

And 30 mins before weekend Holy Masses

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Tooma

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

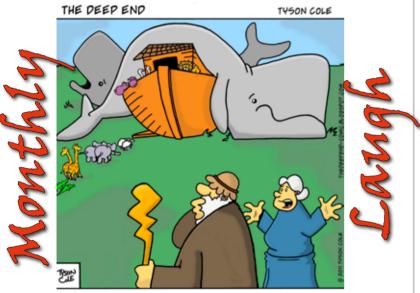
Saturday Vigil - 6:30pm Weekday Masses

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.







southety Newsagency

South City Shopping Centre Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 www.southcitynews.com.au Call (02) 6971 3944

NSW Lotteries

74 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 www.cignall.com.au

Call (02) 6931 7994

"MAYBE THE WHALES WOULD BE OK STAYING IN THE WATER." Family reflections for: September

13th September -

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

If we were paid a dollar every time we recited the Our Father, and we lived to a ripe old age, we'd end our lives with a great fortune to bequeath. So familiar and oft-recited are the words that they're

always in danger of becoming no more than a soothing sound. Is it true to say that if any of us prayed this prayer just once with all our heart and mind and soul and strength and meant every word of it we'd be ready

Today's word of God invites us to home in on just one petition: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us". What a dangerous prayer! We foolishly dare to ask for divine forgiveness only to the extent that we forgive others. The fact is that the more we resist letting go of resentment and anger from our hearts, the less room there is for us to welcome the gift of God's mercy.

Thank God for what Paul wrote in an earlier verse from his letter to the Romans: "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (5:8). Blessed be God for such grace!

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 — 28:7 Psalm 102:1–4, 9–12 St Paul to the Romans 14:7–9 Matthew 18:21–35

20th September -**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A**

The workers in this parable sound very much like

squabbling children, comparing what they have each been given and making complaints to the parent. Among children there is a tendency to equate love with gifts and material things. This tendency can devolve into a spirit of entitlement, which runs counter to the spirit of gratitude. Any effort we make to overcome this tendency, to keep love from being entwined with gifts and possessions, will enable our children to accept completely the love that God gives freely and generously.

Observe together any tendency within your family to make comparisons. Are children sometimes heard saying that another child received a greater portion of a favorite food at dinner or dessert? Does one person complain that a parent spends more time with one child over another? Ask if such comparisons are helpful. Discuss together why such comparisons are made. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 20:1-16. Consider these questions: Why do the workers grumble? Is the landowner's assessment accurate? Unfortunately, we are sometimes like these workers when we make the comparisons we discussed earlier.

Conclude in prayer together remembering that love cannot and ought not to be measured. Sit quietly together acknowledging God's great love for each person as individuals and for your family. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 145, or the Lord's Prayer.

> Isaiah 55:6-9 Psalm 145:2-3,8-9,17-18 Philippians 1:20c-24,27a Matthew 20:1-16

27th September -Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

The example Jesus poses in today's Gospel could have been taken directly from family experience. Each of us can recall instances in which family members spoke one thing but then did another. The point of Jesus' story is to show that our actions speak louder than words, even with God.

As you gather as a family, talk about times when a family member said one thing and then did another. Acknowledge that sometimes the action taken displays a true change of heart. Then read today's Gospel, Matthew 21:28-32. Observe that Jesus faulted the religious leaders for not allowing John the Baptist's message of repentance to change their hearts and actions. The word we sometimes use for this change of heart is conversion. Jesus wants us to do more than pay lip service to the Gospel; he wants us to be transformed by his word.

Pray together that your family will experience a conversion to God and show evidence of this in both actions and words. Pray together today's second reading, Philippians 2:1-5.

> Ezekiel 18:25-28 Psalm 25:4-9 *Philippians 2:1-11 Matthew 21:28-32*

New resource uses history to manage emotions of isolation

Half of all Australians report feeling increasing loneliness since coronavirus. But isolation and social distancing need not produce negative emotions.

A new collection of resources : launched by Australian Catholic University (ACU) aims to mine history for other ways of thinking about isolation and help people manage the emotional challenges of protecting themselves against coronavirus.

The *Emotions of Isolation* is a project of the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, of which ACU is a Node. It features a series of video reflections on how isolation has been approached by thinkers and communities at different times in history and how those insights are relevant in today's pandemic.

Friendship, despair, waiting, comfort, location and embodiment are among the emotions explored.

The project's leader Dr Dawn LaValle Norman said the idea was to use historical research to provide techniques and tools for people living with contemporary challenges.

"We know that people at other times in history have had different ways of thinking about isolation and we think bringing those approaches into how we cope with coronavirus isolation could open up different experiences of being in lockdown or socially distanced."

With Victorians having spent almost two months of this year in lockdown, and people in other parts of Australia still facing restrictions and concerns about a second wave, the circumstances of isolation are difficult to change.

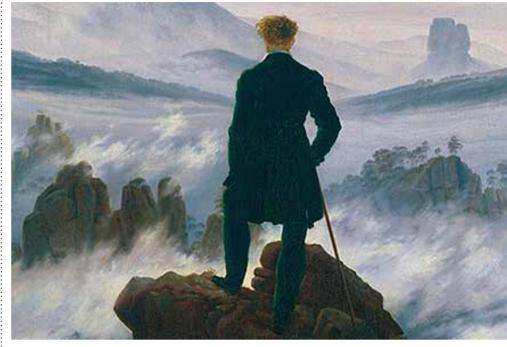
understanding history can help people change how they think about being apart from others. "Isolation is something people have experienced throughout history and in certain times it's been something that they sought. So, it's helpful to think about why people chose isolation and what they gained from it."

In fact, the very concept of loneliness is relatively recent. The idea was unknown before the 19th Century, when Romantic thinkers began to focus on the internally-driven passions of the individual.

At other times, isolation has been thought of as a desirable path to insight. In early Christianity, ascetics living by themselves sought to withdraw from the distractions of society. "It wasn't conceived of as loneliness, it actually made them feel more spiritually connected to community and that tells us something about what makes us feel lonely.

"We know that being enmeshed in a sense of community is more important than just being with people. You can feel lonely in a crowd. If you are part of a community who is sharing the same experience you feel less lonely, even if you are not actually with other

Stories from historical research also provide models for thinking about the positive by-products of physical isolation. Dr LaValle Norman gives the example of the writing of Methodius



way town during a major breakdown of the Roman Empire in the 3rd Century

"He's not in Melbourne or Boston. He is in the equivalent of smalltown Alabama but because the usual networks have broken down, he is able to project his little town as a kind of intellectual oasis. It's like putting up a Zoom background projecting the image he wants and making his world feel like a bigger place.

"He feels he can be part of the intellectual network of his day, in the same way that during the pandemic we've been able to participate in a conference on the other side of the world, because now it's all online. It can actually make us feel more connected."

Moving from a focus on physical contact to spiritual connection is another theme in the project. The pandemic has brought about a huge increase in the livestreaming of religious celebrations. Theologians like Thomas Aquinas thought that But Dr LaValle Norman said of Olympus, who lived in an out-of-the sacramentally eating the eucharistic

body and blood of Christ was less important than our spiritual 'reception' of Christ through becoming like him in faith and charity. Even if we can't "eat" through a screen, we can still participate in this spiritual community.

"We are seeing this practice developing now when people can't go to church due to COVID. You attend religious services online and when it's time for communion a prayer pops up instead of going up to receive communion.

"We can take the concepts that the medievals developed and use it to help us cope with the pandemic," said Dr LaValle Norman.

The Emotions of Isolation site can be accessed at: http://www.historyofemotions.org. au/research/research-projects/theemotions-of-isolation/





Does your workplace, organisation or school require a targeted, in-house program for your staff, clients or students? Did you know that Centacare staff can come to you to facilitate a number of programs or can even work with you to develop a tailored program?

Contact us on 1300 619 379 if you would like to know more.

SAIGON restaurant

Specialises in Chinese and Vietnamese cuisine

- Open 6 days lunch & dinner
- BYO
- Banquets and group bookings
- Takeaway and business lunch menu

[P] 6921 2212 89-91 Morgan St, Wagga Wagga

Kildare Catholic College 'Sock it to Poverty'

Year 10 Student Representative Council (SRC) are leading our 2020 Catholic Mission Socktober Preparation.

They have been working with Jane Plum from Catholic Mission to plan each week's challenges.

Week 1 Socktober Theme focused on the Value of Compassion and the Catholic Social Teaching of Solidarity. Year 10 Benedicta introduced the theme to Coaching groups with a video. The Week 1 Socktober Challenge was to make sockballs from recycled socks, clothes, plastic bags and twine. These are the materials children in the majority of the world use to make their own sockballs so they can play with their friends. Below are some photos of the Year 10 SRC making and testing our Sockballs.

Week 2 of Socktober focused on the : Value of Respect and the Catholic Social Teaching of Stewardship. Year 10 Gandhi introduced the Value of Respect to Coaching groups which we can all

experience through playing sport.

Next, Year 10 Gandhi explained the term Stewardship in the Welcome back to Week 2 of Socktober video. watched Mission in 360 Nagaland, Northeast India. This video can be viewed in 360 degrees, so that you may observe and listen to what life is like for students in Nagaland. This video helped us understand the differences between life as a student in Nagaland, India and life as a student in Wagga Wagga,

Lastly, Year 10 Gandhi explained Socktober Week 2 challenge focusing on respect and stewardship. In coaching we watched how the students in Nagaland were faring with COVID 19.

To highlight Stewardship, the Year 10 SRC students created basketball ring backboards for garbage bins to build awareness of where bins are at KCC,



how much rubbish is produced and the : space it takes up.

Kildare students were encouraged to 'dunk their junk' through the hoop into one of the Stewardship bins at recess and lunch on Friday.

Below are some examples of what our sponsorship money can provide for children in Cambodia.

\$30 can help purchase food, school uniforms and books for kindergarten children in Cambodia.

\$75 can help towards purchasing sports

equipment for children with disabilities in Cambodia.

\$393 can go towards the costs of medical support and physiotherapy for children with disabilities in Cambodia.

To find out more about Socktober head to this site:

https://www.socktober.org.au/about







ALAN HARRIS McDONALD

ALL YOUR FUNERAL NEEDS ARE NOW IN ONE LOCATION



76 Copland Street, Wagga Wagga

www.alanharrismcdonald.com.au







St Vincent de Paul Society good works A long, cold winter for people impacted by COVID-19

When the COVID-19 outbreak came to Australia, it changed Ray's life in an instant. He went from being a happily employed personal trainer working across five different gyms, to being completely out of work as those gyms shut their

It wasn't just Ray's prospects that took a dive, but also those of his family. His wife, Catherine, had just finished studying and was due to start a new job after many years as a stay-at-home mum and carer for her sister, who lives with Down syndrome. COVID-19 put those plans on hold for the indefinite future.

"The difference a day makes is incredible. It was like a domino effect," Catherine said.

Suddenly she and Ray were in a situation they never imagined: worrying about how they would meet their rent payments, keep their lights on, and most importantly, take care of their five-year-old son, Ben. "It's an emotional rollercoaster, day by day. I force myself to get out of bed every morning, just to stop thinking dark thoughts," Catherine said. "I just need some hope."

As they came to terms with their new normal, the family were forced to live on Catherine's meagre carers' pension of \$360 a week. It proved impossible for a family of three.

"We've tried to put all of our outstanding bills on hold as much as possible, and that's helped a bit. But when this six-month period ends, a huge debt will have just accrued," explained Catherine.

The financial stress took its toll on the family's mental wellbeing, with Ray feeling an enormous burden as the family's sole breadwinner. He set right into the work of applying for jobs, but with one million Australians out of work due to COVID-19, it was a crowded field.

Like so many of the people coming to Vinnies in recent months, Catherine and Ray had never sought

help before from a charity or government. They struggled with asking for support, and when they finally called us, their one humble request was for some winter clothes for Ben.

"I came to Vinnies with so much shame about my situation, but [they] treated me with such dignity," Catherine said.

The Vinnies team were able to help the family to pay their electricity bill, access warm clothes, and purchase food to fill the pantry and fridge.

"I'm eternally grateful for the hope we now have, and the sense that we're going to be okay," Catherine

"Vinnies has made the difference between whether my family will eat or not."

Our members, volunteers and staff have done incredible work during the coronavirus crisis, tirelessly ensuring that all people continue to have shelter, food, clothes, and the comfort of knowing that someone cares. Even those members who have had to self-isolate to protect their own health have continued to contribute wherever they can, often calling the people we assist over the phone.

Thanks to you, the vast majority of Vinnies Conferences and services across NSW have remained up and running throughout this crisis, at a time when they are so sorely needed.

The COVID-19 Winter Appeal, raised funds to ensure we can continue to make a difference for people like Catherine, Ray and Ben.

As restrictions are gradually lifted, we know it will take time for life to return to normal for the millions of Australians impacted by COVID-19. Vinnies can play a vital role in helping families back on their feet, ensuring the fallout from this pandemic is not felt so acutely.



Please consider making a donation to the St Vincent de Paul Society

To donate visit: www.vinnies.org.au/donate or call 13 18 12 or visit any local Vinnies Shop

HOW YOUR DONATION WILL HELP THIS YEAR:



PEOPLE ASSISTED





The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia, Charity Number ABN 50 748 098 845, is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient and therefore gifts of two dollars or more to the Society in each State or Territory are tax deductible for the donor. For more information please contact your local St Vincent de Paul Society office. The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is exempt from income tax as a not-for-profit organization. Images and names have been changed to protect the privacy of the people we assist. The St Vincent de Paul Society follows the Australian Privacy Principles and keeps donors' information private. To read a copy of our privacy policy please visit www.vinnies.org.au/privacypolicy

SUPPORT THOSE IMPACTED **BY COVID-19**

Can help feed a family for a day if they are unable to access adequate food due to the crisis

\$116

Can help keep the power on when a family cannot afford their bill because of job loss

\$340

Can support someone who has been adversely impacted by the current crisis

\$857

Can keep a roof over a family's head during times of crisis