



**Archbishop's Message**Archbishop Christopher Prowse

# Jesus asks us to pay attention to detail

DEAR friends in Christ,

You may be aware that Pope Francis has recently published an Apostolic Exhortation, GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE (Rejoice and Exult) - On the call to Holiness in today's world.

Typical of all his writings, it's beautifully written and very accessible to all of us. I strongly recommend you read it prayerfully http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\_esortazione-ap\_20180319\_gaudete-et-exsultate.html

One section of the Exhortation that immediately caught my eye was the following:

"Let us not forget that Jesus asked his Disciples to pay attention to details.

The little detail that wine was running out at a party.

The little detail that one sheep was missing.

The little detail of noticing the widow who offered her two small coins.

The little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay.

The little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had.

The little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak". (Paragraph 144)

After some of my own personal meditation on this beautiful quote, and given our current circumstances of challenge here in Australia, I thought of adding a few other "little details" for our prayerful consideration.

The little detail of spending sometime every day to be silent, still, and simple before Jesus in prayer.

The little detail of listening extra carefully at Mass to the Liturgy of the Word and the Homily.

The little detail of making quality listening time for an estranged member of your family.

The little detail of thinking deeply about why homelessness (especially in winter) in our part of Australia is such a big social problem.

The little detail of asking ourselves the key question of our Plenary Council gatherings: WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME?

The little detail of clarifying your attitudes, in the light of our Catholic teachings, on current public issues, for example, Euthanasia (Catechism Catholic Church no. 2278, 2324, 2277) and the Seal of Confession (CCC n.1465-1467, 2488-2492).

Let us all meditate carefully on the great wisdom of this new Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis and add some "little details" from our own life into this litany of Grace and Hope.

Let's continue to pray for each other in our Archdiocese in these troubled times.

To access the Catechism online go to http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\_IN-DEX.HTM

# ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S DIARY

# July

SUNDAY, 8 11.00am

Multicultural Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

FRIDAY, 13 6.30pm

Community of the Risen Lord Mass & Talk at Leaders Conference, Gungahlin

SATURDAY, 14 6.00pm

Mass, St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla

SUNDAY, 15 11.00am

Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

**THURSDAY, 19 5.30pm**ACT Chapter Meeting, Canberra

SATURDAY, 21 6.00pm

Mass, St Benedict's, Narrabundah

SUNDAY, 22 9.00am Installation Mass for Fr Michael Lim, St John Vianney's Church,

Waramanga 11.00am Mass, St Christopher's Cathedral

THURSDAY, 26 9.00am

Bishops NSW/ACT Meeting, Sydney

**SATURDAY, 28-12.00pm** Star of the Sea Parish,

Narooma – Parish Visit

**SUNDAY, 29** Star of the Sea Parish, Narooma - Parish Visit

# First steps on a long journey

THE LOCAL journey towards the Australian Catholic 2020 Plenary Council is in full swing following the Archdiocese hosting the first of its listening and dialogue sessions.

Held at Eastlakes Football Club in both Gungahlin and Kingston, the sessions attracted 300 people, mainly the Laity. Former Truth Justice and Healing Council Lawyer Dennis O'Brien and Holy Trinity Primary Principal, Philippa Brearley, facilitated the sessions alongside South Woden Parish Priest, Fr Richard Thompson, who coordinated them.

Fr Thompson, the dean of the Central Deanery in the Archdiocese said he felt encouraged by the sessions.

"The affirmation that came from the floor at the end of the meeting I was quite touched by," he said.

"The first one was always going to be a bit of a test run but I didn't get any negative feedback from anybody on the floor in terms of the process.

"It's long, it's involved this process. They were engaged and respectful [and] I walk away happy with where we were able to lead them."

Mr O'Brien agreed with Fr Thompson.

"I think we managed to convey to the people what the

whole process involves," he said.

"That it is a long process of dialogue and discussion before any stage of implementation is

Archbishop Christopher Prowse attended the sessions

The first one was always going to be a test run but I didn't get any negative feedback

and offered some thoughts along with his encouragement.

The official Plenary prayer was prayed by all and was followed by a period of silence for reflection and discernment.

Eight areas or 'umbrellas' of the Church which emerged on the day include – Church governance, Liturgy, Ecumenism, The Church's Relevance, The Church in its Post Royal Commission stage, Education, Evangelisation and the Role of the Laity.





# Upcoming Regional Listening and Dialogue Sessions in the Archdiocese

AUGUST 19 (10.30am to 12 noon): Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue for the Monaro Deanery at St Patrick's School Cooma.

SEPTEMBER 9 (11am to 12.30pm): Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue for the Monaro Deanery at St Joseph's Catholic School Bombala.

OCTOBER 27 (10am):

Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue in the Western Deanery. Session will be held somewhere in Cootamundra. Exact location to be confirmed at a later date.

#### **OCTOBER:**

Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue in the Northern Deanery (Queanbeyan). Exact date and location to be confirmed closer to the event.

#### **NOVEMBER:**

Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue in the Northern Deanery (Goulburn). Exact date and location to be confirmed closer to the event.

#### **DECEMBER:**

Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue in the Coastal Deanery. Exact date and location to be confirmed closer to the event.

# LivingWORD Free Gospel reflection

delivered in your inbox every Monday - Friday www.cgcatholic.org.au



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# Seal of Confession

# **Dismay over stalemate**

THE CATHOLIC Church in Canberra has called for greater consultation after seemingly reaching a stalemate with the ACT government over the seal of Confession.

Last month, the ACT Legislative Assembly voted in favour of religious organisations being included in an expansion of the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

However, Archbishop Christopher Prowse said the reporting scheme shouldn't ignore the Catholic community's concerns on the seal of Confession.

"I support the government's reportable conduct scheme," he said

"But I cannot support the government's plan to break the seal of religious confession."

The new law in the ACT means that it will be mandatory for priests to report what was said to them in the Sacrament of Reconciliation should a perpetrator disclose related information

to sex abuse cases

At this stage there is a ninemonth period for the specific addition to take effect however many more discussions between the Church and the government are expected to happen during this time.

Indeed, the Archbishop met with the ACT Attorney-General, Mr Gordon Ramsay MLA and his advisors recently to discuss both the importance of the protection of children and the seal of Confession.

Speaking on the matter in an open letter in the Canberra Times (June 7), Archbishop Prowse said "when the government scheme to report all child abuse allegations to the ACT Ombudsman did not include parishes and communities of faith, I called for that anomaly to be rectified and strengthened."

However, attempts to break the seal of Confession is a threat to religious freedom. Priests are bound by a sacred vow to maintain the seal.

"Without the vow, who would be willing to unburden themselves of their sins, seek the wise counsel of a priest and receive the merciful forgiveness of God?" the Archbishop asked.

In his letter, he expressed dismay at the actions of the ACT Government in legislating on the seal of Confession without first consulting Church leaders.

And he urged Chief Minister Andrew Barr to allow the Catholic community into the conversation to ensure that it is a part of the solution.

"I take very seriously our responsibility to be a part of the solution, but we need to be a part of effective dialogue," he said.

To read the letter in full go to https://www.canberratimes.com.au/politics/act/reporting-scheme-shouldn-t-ignore-catholic-community-s-concerns-20180606-p4zjuo.l

# Seal of Confession Overview

- 1. What sexual abuser would confess to a priest if they thought they would be reported? It is the common experience of pastors that those who abuse children do not confess the crime to police or to priests. If the seal is removed, the remote possibility that they would confess and so could be counselled to report is gone.
- 2. The government itself acknowledged that the Church's "Truth Justice and Healing Council said the evidence put before the Royal Commission about abuse of the Seal of Confession was, at best, selective and patchy, and made it difficult to see systemic abuse of the Seal of Confession". The government did not challenge that assessment. People who attend Confession are sorry for their sins, indicate resolve not to sin again and seek God's mercy. Paedophiles carry out evil and unspeakable act. They hide their crimes; they do not self-report.
- 3. There is no guarantee any priest would know the identity of the penitent. If there is a screen in the confessional, the priest would not see the penitent. If the priest saw the penitent they may well not know them. There is no requirement for proof of identity to confess.
- 4. Priests are bound by a sacred vow to maintain the Seal of Confession. Without that viw, who would be willing to unburden themselves of their sins, seek the wise counsel of a priest and receive the merciful forgiveness of God?



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Registrations are now open at acu.edu.au/uni-experience



# The new drug

# The problem with pornography

'Porn can get into a young person's head and stay there for a lifetime seeping into their thoughts and relationships like an invisible toxic poison.' - Paul Ninnes

BY PAUL NINNES (FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF REAL TALK AUSTRALIA)

THE PROBLEM with pornography is that it has a negative effect on many peoples' lives including the user.

Porn distorts and reduces not only the sexual act but the appreciation of the person as being made in the image and likeness of God.

It changes the viewer's perspective on the real meaning of love and intimacy. It is normal to be attracted to the human body and to desire sexual intimacy, however, pornography trains us to see sexual acts as being all about using another person for our pleasure.

People should be treated with love, respect and dignity, not seen as objects to be taken or used for selfish reasons.

When Real Talk Australia started going into schools earlier this decade we would ask the question of young men: Does pornography effect a person's behavior towards the opposite sex?

The answer we received from Australian teenagers was usually split. Some said it did, whilst others disputed this statement with a passion.

Today, nearly everyone



answers the question in the affirmative. Yes – Today's youth think porn effects peoples' behaviour. When asked "why?" the answer is usually two-fold.

Young people have often seen the research, usually shared on social media.

They have seen scary stats like the fact that porn users tend to be more okay with violence against women.

Others simply have experienced the impact of porn on themselves or in their relationships.

It's pretty hard to see explicit violent sexual acts and to not have what you have seen influence your thoughts, perceptions and relationships.

To claim that porn is dissociated from lived experience is like claiming popular music stars and social media influencers don't influence fashion and trends.

Today's youth are swimming in a sea of pornography and it is not the 'soft core' kind of porn that their parents may have encountered.

A recent sample of 1000 Australians aged 15-29 found that 84% of men and 19% of females watched porn weekly or daily.

Other Australian research has stated that 20% of boys first viewed porn at age 8 or lower. ("Sex lives of Australian Teenagers" J Sauers, 2007).

# What can priests practically do to combat the epidemic?

Online pornography is one of the fastest growing addictions on par with cocaine and gambling. Once confined to the pages of a smuggled Playboy magazine, pornography can now be in the hands of anyone with a smartphone, and is more prolific and anonymous than ever. Probably the most common place a priest will first find out about a pornography addiction is in the confessional.

BY MARY REZAC

Washington DC (CNA/ EWTN News) - PORNOG-RAPHY used to be a simpler problem for priests to address in the confessional – consecrate yourself to Mary, go to weekly Adoration – [however] the growing level of addiction makes it a much more complex problem for the Church to address. That's why Fr Sean Kilcawley, the program directory and theological advisor for pornography ministry Integrity Restored, has started to put on intensive trainings for clergy, providing them resources and practical tips for how to address the growing crisis of pornography addiction.

"We try to equip the priest to get that person to come talk to them outside of confession, just to bring that into the light, so that the priest can then become the first responder in the field hospital of the Church." – Fr Kilcawley

# Preventative: Stopping porn addiction before it starts

"Practical things priests can do to address pornography addiction generally fall into two categories: preventative and interventional." – Fr Kilcawley

Ensure that the parents of the parish are being provided with education and resources they need for pornography prevention in the home.

Parishes should hold mandatory meetings for parents of children who are either receiving the sacraments or religious education at the parish, where they can give parents an overview of Theology of the Body, as well as tips and resources for internet safety and how to address pornography.

#### **Recommended resources**

'Good Pictures Bad Pictures': a read-aloud picture book that helps parents address the issue with very young children.

'Wonderfully Made! Babies': Starting at the 4th grade level. It puts the content within the context of theology of the body and the sacrament of Marriage. 'Plunging Pornography': A book to leave in the bathroom for teens to find that can serve as a conversation starter.

'Covenant Eyes': An internet filter which sponsors a special service for parents, parishes and schools.

# Interventional: What to do about those who are already addicted

"Most people who are stuck in addiction, they need a support group, whether it's a 12-step group like Sexaholics Anonymous or a spiritual support group, where they are open and vulnerable and accountable about their lives. They need that, plus a counselor, plus a spiritual director that they're working with regularly," Fr Kilcawley said.

#### The don'ts of porn ministry with Dr Todd Bowman, Christian psychologist

The biggest cardinal mistake that clergy can make in regards to pornography addiction ministry is never mentioning it, Dr Bowman said.

A mistake often made by untrained clergy in pornography addiction ministry is that they may suggest, explicitly or implicitly, that a pornography addiction is the fault of the spouse.

"It's not the spouse's lack of sexual interest that's to blame for her husband's sexual addiction," Dr.Bowman said. Addicted persons often try "blame shifting," which creates "a spiritual crisis that compounds the betrayal trauma" of the spouse.

# Not a fringe ministry – this is evangelization 101

It may be helpful for priests to view this as part of evangelization, and not as a fringe ministry, Fr Kilcawley said, because very likely, someone who is stuck in addiction is unable to have a good relationship with the Lord.

"Most people who are stuck in addiction believe they're unlovable, and that if people really knew them they would reject them, and they don't trust other people to meet their needs."

# **Porn Myth**

AUSTRALIAN born and raised Catholic apologist Matt Fradd has produced a number of key products to 'fight the new drug'.

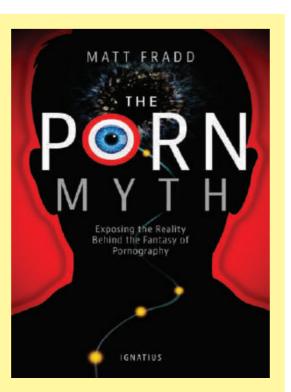
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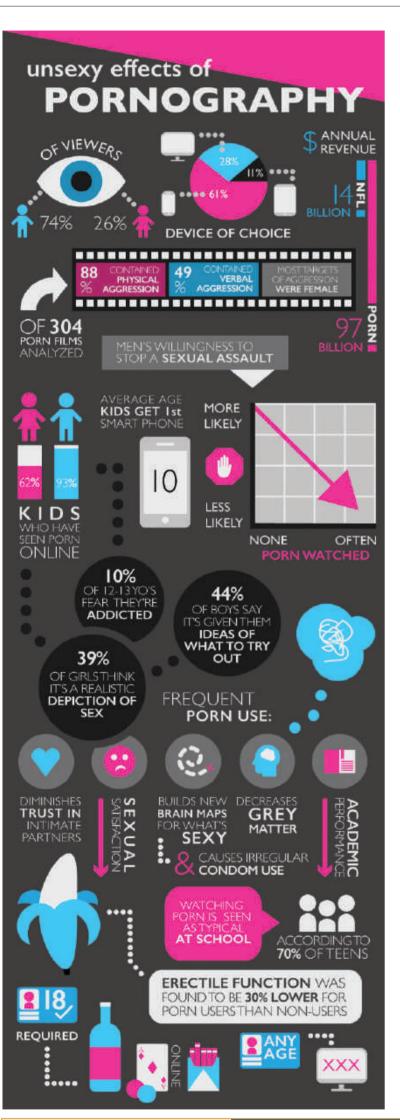
thepornmyth.com

https://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/ store/title/protecting-innocence-parentingyour-kids-and-the-internet?style=grid

http://theporneffect.com/

For more information on Matt Fradd





# How to see Over 18

THE ARCHBISHOP'S Office for Evangelisation has purchased the screening rights to Canadian Documentary *Over 18*.

Lara Kirk, Manager of the Marriage, Family and Relationships office, said the Archdiocese purchased the documentary in a bid to help parents understand the nature of the online world their children are being exposed to. "We want to equip parents to assist their children in navigating the online world safely," she said.

"It is hoped that Catholic secondary schools throughout the Archdiocese will offer their facilities to host screenings for local



parents as a service to their local communities.

"All bookings, advertising etc can be looked after centrally by the Archbishop's Office so the school need only provide the venue." A trailer for the documentary can be viewed at http://over-18doc.com/

If your school is interested in hosting a screening your executive and Parents and Friends (P&F) can be given time-limited access to a full preview of the documentary to ensure you are comfortable with the content.

For information, lara.kirk@cg. org.au or on 0429 192 869.



# YOU JUST HELD HER, LET HER CRY AND SAID NOTHING.

# **EVERYONE HAS A STORY.**

I remember it well. A man collapsed and died at the front gate of his home after work. I was called to the hospital, anointed the man and prayed with his gathered family.

His wife wrapped her arms around me and began to weep. I held her, feeling quite helpless to do anything else.

The following Sunday after mass a young man approached me, saying, "I want to thank you Father for what you did for my Aunt. We were all telling her not to worry, Uncle is in heaven now. You just held her, let her cry and said nothing. That's what she really needed. Thank you Father."

He shook my hand and walked away, leaving me stunned.

- Fr Patrick Sharpe msc

weekend retreat, volunteer as a short term lay missionary or just call Fr Peter 0408 299 170



# Supporting parish initiatives

# Growth in Indigenous baptisms

FRANCISCAN Friar Dominic Levak and West Wyalong Mission Parish Priest Fr Emil Milat, combined again recently to extend sacramental and pastoral care to the Aboriginal Catholic community of Lake Cargelligo.

Fr Milat says there is steady growth in the number of Indigenous Baptisms taking place out west.

"Br Dominic OFM\* is able to meet the Aboriginal people in their time frame not being restrained by the often 'appointment' based culture of modern life," Fr Milat said.

"He just sits and listens to them, just 'being' with them and as a result requests for Baptism of the children have sprung up."

According to Fr Milat, Br Dominic has been breaking new ground following the Holy Spirit's lead in re-developing the semi-contemplative dimension of Franciscan Spirituality that the Order has let fade away somewhat over time.

"With his Superior's approval Br Dominic is undergoing a life of prayer and solitude at a beautiful chapel at Bolo," Fr Milat said.



"The chapel was built by a local farmer that is gaining wider appeal as a pilgrimage site,"

"It's about 28 kilometres north of the small town of Tullibigeal with 18kilometres of it being dusty dirt roads.

"Once a week Br Dominic

goes on mission to Lake Cargelligo and over the border to the Condobolin Parish in the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes.

"When there, he shares the gift of God's love (gained in prayer and contemplation) with the local Aboriginal people in the



Left: Fr Milat asking the Godparents Nadia Clarke, Lindsey McCann, Horis Vincent and Emma King, as part of the baptism Rite, to 'Receive the light of Christ' on behalf of the children. Above: Margaret Kennedy intently watches on as Fr Emil baptises her brother Wayne- as she is next! Picture: Supplied.

area."

The Conventual Franciscan Brother and Fr Milat were joined by family and other parishioners as they celebrated the Baptisms of a number of Indigenous members.

A barbecue in the park

situated by Lake Cargelligo followed the Baptisms, while a decorated cake donated by the local 'fisho' (takeaway shop) was described as 'lovely'.

\*is the acronym for Order Franciscan Minor

# We need to find common ground, says Dodson

Changing the national agenda for First Nations and the role people of faith can play

'CHANGING the national agenda for First Nations and the role people of faith can play', was the topic when Aboriginal Senator and former Daramalan College teacher, Patrick Dodson, spoke at the St Thomas More Forum in Campbell, ACT, earlier this year.

Senator Dodson, was introduced by Zarah Mason, Daramalan Mission captain and vice-captain.

He reflected on his links to College where he taught in the 1970's and said we need to search for the principles that can unite people of faith.

"We need to remind ourselves that we hold more in common as human beings than what divides us," he said.

"To try and find the common ground amongst us. As human beings there is that commonality."

Forum President Bill Mason said the Forum is very appreciative of the contribution Senator Dodson made to their May gathering.

"He was a passionate advocate for the case that Australians of faith should support recognition in the constitution of Indigenous Australians," Mr Mason said.

"A distinctive feature of the Senator's presentation was the lengths he went to draw on the life of St Thomas More, the Patron of Statesmen, in his address.

"Of the nearly 100 people in attendance, it is my assessment that Senator Dodson won many supporters for his position on the night."

To listen to Senator Dodson's talk go to online to https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=NAWdkH2Ekv8

#### Who is Senator Dodson?

A former priest with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (ordained in 1975), Senator Dodson is the Shadow Assistant Minister Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and Senator for Western Australia.

He was both appointed by the Parliament of Western Australia and elected to the Senate in 2016.

He has held many significant positions including as a Royal



Commissioner into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, 1989, and Chair of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, 1991 to 1997.

Based in Broome, he is a former director of the Central Land Council and the Kimberly Land Council and former member of the Council of the Australian National University.

Most recently, he was the Co-Chair of the Expert Panel for Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians which reported in 2012.

He is now the Co-Chair of Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. He is now the Shadow Assistant Minister for Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

# Historic day as islander ordained deacon

BY JEROME BALDSING

KOPEL Gibuma made history on June 9 becoming the first Torres Strait Islander to be ordained to the transitional Diaconate in the Catholic Church.

Deacon Gibuma of Queensland, was ordained by Bishop James Foley in St Francis Xavier's Catholic Church, West Cairns.

In observance of Torres Strait Island tradition, Rev Gibuma was brought to the door of the church by fellow Islanders, accompanied by singing, guitars and the sound of traditional drummers.

He was handed over by them to Mgr Harry Entwistle, Ordinary of the Ordinariate and Bishop Foley of Cairns who ordained him on behalf of the Ordinariate. The service was an impressive blend of Catholic sacramental worship, devout piety which were enhanced by Torres Strait traditional customs.

It was appropriate that the Gospel was read by the Rev Ralph Madigan who is the first permanent deacon of Aboriginal descent to be ordained in the Diocese of Cairns.

Following the service, Deacon Gibuma and the worshippers were greeted by traditional singing and dancing offered by Torres Strait islander singers and musicians. Deacon Kopel will assist Fr Gordon Barnier, the parish priest of St Clare Cairns with Holy Cross Dauan.



# 'Engage with Aboriginal identity'

SALLY FITZGERALD has called for a greater influence of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in the Catholic Church of Australia.

Speaking in the lead-up to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday and also NAIDOC Week (July 8 to 15), she said now is the time to bring about change.

Mrs FitzGerald is the Archdiocesan representative at the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Catholic Council (NATSICC).

She said this can be the beginning of a greater appreciation of the Aboriginal culture among the Catholic Church.

"For many years now all that the Aboriginals are called to do is the Welcome to Country or a Smoking Ceremony," she said.

"We need to sit down with some key people in order to see what we can do moving forward, but I think it can be an exciting time in the Church if we embrace and engage with our Aboriginal identity more-so."

She also wished to remind everyone of St Pope John Paul II's words to Indigenous Australians at Alice Springs in 1986 which reads:

'The Church herself in

Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.'

Last month Mrs FitzGerald was instrumental in attaining framed prints of Aboriginal Stations of the Cross at St Benedict's Parish in Narrabundah.

"The originals were painted by Richard Campbell," she said.

"They're well worth going for a look, they're absolutely marvellous."

The Narrabundah Parish again held the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass as a Vigil Mass. Archbishop Christopher Prowse was the principal celebrant and he thanked all those who contributed to it.

The Mass began with a Traditional Smoking Ceremony in which parishioners were encouraged to walk through the white smoke as a purification. The Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country was led by Ngunnawal Elder, Mrs Caroline Hughes.

Archbishop Prowse was assisted at Mass by Missionaries of God's Love priest, Fr Daniel Benedetti MGL. Fr Benedetti



L-R: Fr Dan Benedetti MGL, Sally FitzGerald and Noreen Dick. Picture: John McLaurin.

himself, only arrived in Canberra in February.

He was in Darwin for the eight years prior and said he thoroughly enjoyed his time being among the First Nations people. Fr David Lemewu MGL,

played the keyboard and playing the Didgeridoo alongside him was Mr Tony Liston, a member of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry.

The Aboriginal Our Father was sung with gusto, while Fr

Lemewu also provided a sung version of the Aboriginal Prayer of Healing which he says he composed 15 years ago.

Catholic Education Indigenous Officer, Mrs Kerry O'Callaghan read the first and second reading was read by the Chairperson of the Torres Strait Islander Corporation, Mrs Samantha Faulkner.

Mrs FitzGerald praised the theme of this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday 'Because of her we can'.

The 'her' is a reference to the strong women in our lives – our mothers, daughters, aunties, grandmothers, sisters – and also to Mary, Mother of God.

To read more about the theme of this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday go to http://www.natsicc.org.au/index.html

Registrations are now open on the website for the 2018 NATSICC Assembly which is taking place in Perth from October 1 to 5.

Catholic Education is holding a NAIDOC Week Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral on July 6.

For more information about NAIDOC Week go to http://www.naidoc.org.au/

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# The stone the builders rejected

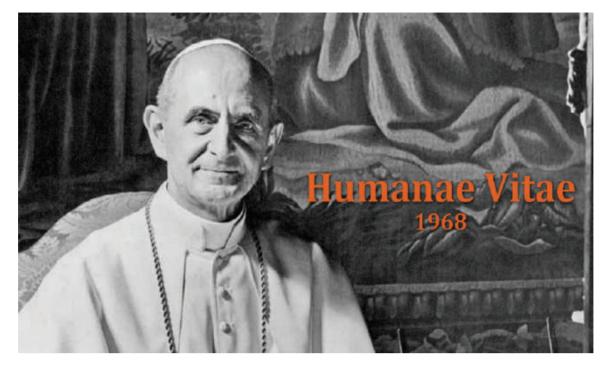


BY JOSEPH DOYLE

From the moment of its publication, Humanae Vitae (Of Human Life) was controversial. Its prohibition of artificial contraception made it one of the most divisive, despised and unfashionable publications in the Church's history. However, fifty years after its release, in the light of new evidence, Humanae Vitae is finally getting some of the recognition that it deserves.

Written in 1968 by the soon to be canonised Pope Paul VI, the encyclical letter on the regulation of births was written to reaffirm the traditional Catholic position on married love, responsible parenthood and the use of contraception. In it, Pope Paul VI beautifully reiterates the good of married love as created by God so that "husband and wife become in a way one heart and one soul, and together attain their human fulfillment." (HV, 9). Pope Paul was also clear that sex and marriage were designed to be fruitful and is "ordained towards the procreation and education of children." (HV 9). As a result, Pope Paul VI advised married couples to use natural infertile periods to space out children instead of using contraceptives, all of which are "no act of true love" because they deprive sex and marriage of their "meaning and purpose," (HV 13).

However, by the time the encyclical was written the sexual revolution was in full swing



promising liberation from restraints on sexual freedom. The encyclical was also written amidst pervasive fears of a global overpopulation crisis due to unregulated births. In the immediate aftermath of the Second

For many Western Catholics at the time, as now, Humanae Vitae was an embarrassment

Vatican Council, the Church was expected to stride into the modern era by rescinding many of their traditional teachings. The Anglican Church had approved in 1930 and, except the Eastern Orthodox churches, all of the other major Christian denominations had followed suit. The Catholic Church was the only major institution left in a world that, both inside and outside of the Church, was growing more and more hostile to the

prohibition of contraceptives.

The Pope's answer ought to have been a foregone conclusion.

For many Western Catholics at the time, as now, Humanae Vitae was an embarrassment. In a world that almost universally acknowledged contraception as a necessity for freedom, relationships, and responsible parenthood, the vast majority of Catholics ignored or protested against the Church's definitive teaching on this issue. It was declared invalid by many theologians and clergymen, ignored by the hostile majority of Western Catholics and derided by the secular world.

However, much has changed in the fifty years since its writing.

Widely available contraception was thought to be the solution to the over-population crisis. In reality, there never was an over-population crisis. Modern studies have dismissed the 'Population Bomb' as built on a mix of flawed science and ideological fear mongering. Over-population science has been so thoroughly debunked that modern theorists

international governments, such as in India and China, to forcibly sterilize undesirable segments of their populations. Contraceptives have also been explicitly targeted to poor people in third world countries by Western governments. Contraceptives are, thus, still relatively unpopular in Africa and Latin America, where the people who live there seem somewhat unenthused that there are those in first world countries who think there should be less of them and have funded organisations accordingly.

Widespread birth control was thought to enable women control of their destinies and bodies, resulting in increased respect and liberation. However, the undeniable decline in moral standards and rise in sexual license and promiscuity have led to the unparalleled disrespect and degradation of women. The years since 1968 have witnessed the growth of the now ubiquitous nature of pornography, soaring cases of sexual assault and the declining rates of women's happiness. The last fifty years have

and abusive men, allowing them to use women as instruments of their desire without unintended consequences of their sexual misadventures.

The incredible thing about Humanae Vitae is that Paul VI predicted both of these outcomes back in 1968. He predicted that mainstream contraceptive use would lead to a "general lowering of moral standards," the reducing of women to "a mere instrument for the satisfaction of his desires" and the coercive use of contraceptives by governments. (HV 17). The fact that all of this came to pass is nothing short of astonishing and casts Humanae Vitae as a prophetic masterpiece, instead of as a regressive embarrassment.

So what is it about the mainstream use of contraceptives that have made all of this possible?

The loss of the procreative element of sex for the elevation of sexual pleasure has meant that our society has lost traces of both. The widespread use of contraceptives had a cheapening effect on sex, marriage, children and the human person, all of which became expendable when separated from each other. Sex was no longer "fully human" and "a compound of sense and spirit" (HV 9), but just an avenue for personal pleasure. The family was no longer a place of "mutual love" (HV 13), but something to be corralled and repressed. Sure, contraceptives didn't affect everyone in the same way at the same time, but it pulled the pin on the natural traits that kept the dignity of sexuality and the human person together. Once it was gone, the binding of such relationships was held in place only by societal custom, one that is in rapid decline.

As Pope Francis is fond of saying, "The realities outweigh the ideals." In this case, the realities of human nature have outweighed the ideals of the sexual revolution. The result of which is that the single most reviled, controversial and subsequently ignored Church document in modern history has turned out also to be the most prophetic. Vindicated by an avalanche of secular and empirical evidence, Paul VI's warnings are a "sign of contradiction" with the society and church that turned its back on his encyclical.

As the Gospel of Matthew says, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. And it is a marvel to us.'

# The widespread use of contraceptives had a cheapening effect on sex, marriage, children and the human person

are worried about precisely the opposite problem. What we have inherited instead is demographic disaster through plummeting birth rates and rapidly aging populations.

The myth of the over-population crisis, despite assurances to the contrary, gave license for

democratised the degradation of women, who are objectified, abused and made miserable like never before. Growing rates of violence against women suggest that, in accordance of the vast weight of modern social science, the sexual revolution has instead served the interests of aggressive



# 'We don't do moderation well'

ROBYN Lewis is a picture of health these days but it hasn't always been the case.

The West Wyalong woman says she suffered with strong addictions over a 37-year period and can't believe that she lives to tell the story.

At her lowest point she simultaneously had six addictions – the worst being to the drug Ice.

Her dependencies saw her gain considerable weight, lose several jobs and become a regular shop-lifter.

She had sores all over her body. At times these became infected

Admitting to hanging around the wrong circles, she lost a friend to murder.

At one point she contemplated suicide because she felt trapped with depression and anxiety and couldn't see a way out.

It was only the potential of having a better life that kept her going.

Now, recently turned 53, she eats well, exercises regularly and spends hours with her beloved horse, Peanut.

Earlier this year she became a home owner.

"I'm living proof that you can turn your life around," she said. "I was down and out."

Despite managing a bar, she feels no temptation to have a drink or a flutter on the poker machines.

"They were vices for me along with the drugs," she said.

"I've come too far in my recovery to let it all go now.

"That's the thing with addicts or former addicts, we don't do moderation very well."

Ms Lewis comes from a Catholic family of 11 children. Her father was of Swedish heritage and her mother is of Aboriginal descent.

She says when she was growing up, the family did it tough and that this had a lasting impact on her choices in life, including leaving home when she was 18.

Showing courage, she decided last year to share her story to help others.

"Most people have a vice of some sort whether it be drugs, cigarettes, alcohol, food, internet, sex or pornography," she said.

"I just want to help those who are battling as I once did."

Teople want to know how they can prevent their kids getting into drugs and also what to do once they are on them

In her 20s, Ms Lewis helped raise three children including her own daughter.

She sent them all to St Mary's Primary School in West Wyalong confident that they would be taught the same Christian values that she was.

Since she decided to go public with her story, she says she has had nothing but positive feedback and has been inundated with offers to give talks throughout NSW as many seek answers to the nation's drug epidemic

Ms Lewis' testimony is appealing because it is a raw account and comes with practical advice.

She has given talks in Griffith, Parkes, Wagga Wagga, Temora, Forbes, Port Stephens, Murrumbateman, Nowra, Bogangate, Myall Lakes and Newcastle.

This month she will speak in



Robyn Lewis is free from her addictions and loving life. Picture: John McLaurin.

her hometown West Wyalong for the first time.

"People want to know how they can prevent their kids getting into drugs and also what to do once they are on them," she said.

"Unless you've had an addiction then it's hard to appreciate just how gripping and crippling it can be for those who are suffering with one.

"My advice in that situation is to just be there for the person, showing love and offering encouragement."

Ms Lewis facilitates a SMART program in her hometown which supports those with addictions. It stands for Self-Management And Recovery Training.

She says for a person to beat addiction they really have to want to do it.

"The support program is there for people," she said.

"But unless they genuinely want to get off drugs or other vices then it won't work.

"You have to remember that

drugs etc are coping mechanisms and some people prefer to stay in a state of addiction because the pain of their 'normal life in reality' is often greater.

"I am not going to sugar-coat it because it has been incredibly difficult to overcome an addiction, but it can be done.

"Milestones are important."

To learn more about the

To learn more about the SMART Recovery program or to contact Ms Lewis about giving a talk, contact her on 0403 523 711.

# Helping us get better at dealing with death

MANY people don't think about the kind of funeral a loved one wants until after the death. Too often, that leaves them scrambling to fulfil a parent's wishes, even as they deal with the early grief that makes them least able to make a decision or to understand complex new information.

For those in parishes who need to deal with dying patients and grieving relatives, knowing the rituals and liturgy well means having a store of comfort and confidence to call on.

The Centre for Liturgy at
Australian Catholic University

has recognised the need for better conversation around funeral rituals.

To improve knowledge and processes, the Centre for Liturgy is presenting a series of short courses around the country exploring Christian beliefs about death and how Catholics celebrate the death of a loved one according to the Order of Christian Funerals.

The course will include a focus on how priests and funeral directors can work together to care for the grieving, and the course will culminate in a practicum where participants

will actually prepare a Catholic funeral.

Professor Clare Johnson, Director of the ACU Centre for Liturgy, said the course had been developed in response to a need for a better understanding of Catholic funerals.

"Catholic funerals serve a number of different purposes.

"They offer a way for mourners to remember, honour and give thanks for the life of a loved one through beautiful and consoling rituals, and they also offer a way for the Church to proclaim its profound hope and belief in Jesus' promise of eternal life after death."

Prof. Johnson believes that more people need to consider what will happen when they or a loved one dies, before it happens.

"If people can start to think now about what decisions they will need to make in order to arrange a Catholic funeral, they will be far better prepared to celebrate meaningfully and beautifully when the time comes," she said.

"We hope that this short course will offer support to those who are facing the death of a loved one as well as an opportunity for deeper learning about how Catholics celebrate the death of a member of the Church, and what Catholics believe about what happens after death."

In Canberra, the course will take place in the Haydon Hall at St. Christopher's Pastoral Centre (55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT) on July 7 and 14 between 11am and 3pm.

For further information or to register go to: http://www.acu.edu.au/about\_acu/faculties,\_institutes\_and\_centres/centres/acu\_centre\_for\_liturgy/short\_courses

2020 Plenary discussions answering the big question

# What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

Catholic Voice Editor John McLaurin posed the key Plenary question to a number of folk in the Archdiocese and the feedback was interesting to say the least.

# **Traditional:**

"The feeling of a number of community members is that God wants us to improve upon the faith formation and catechesis for all ages, and for our Church leaders to give and promote a clear presentation and explanation of what we believe, how we are to worship and why, and how we have to live that out as followers of Christ." -Fr Christopher Blust FSSP, Traditional Latin **Mass Community** 

### **Social Justice:**

"We believe God is asking us to identify and to learn from the mistakes and weaknesses of the past and to renew our commitment to the Church in the light of our recognition of failings. God is asking of us what he has always asked of us: that we live justly, love compassionately and walk humbly with him." - Mike Cassidy, Chairman of the Catholic Social Justice Commission in the Archdiocese.

# Aboriginal Catholic Ministry of Canberra and Goulburn

"We think that God is asking us to be fully active members in the life of the Church. To make a positive contribution so that our culture and spirituality is part of the Church and not just 'brought out' for special occasions. We need to feel fully accepted by the Church!" - Sally FitzGerald, NATSICC Councillor and Coordinator for the **Aboriginal Catholic** Ministry for the Archdiocese

#### **Rural:**

"I think God is asking us first and foremost to come back to him both personally and nationally. We have lost our way morally in this country as witnessed by the vote last year for samesex "marriage" and the current debates (and wins) on abortion and euthanasia. We need to turn back to God and our Christian roots and that means praying more, attending the sacraments and evangelising those who, through no fault of their own, have never been given a belief system." - Nola Drum, Temora

# Concerned Catholics of Canberra and Goulburn:

"God is asking us to explore how all the faithful can contribute to strengthen our Church community in following Christ's example and teachings. The wide range of issues raised by the participants with strength and thoughtfulness at the Listening and Dialogue sessions underlines the need for and value of a much more inclusive Church." - Mark Metherell, Committee Member

# Vietnamese Community: Youth: "Almost 2000 years ago, Jesus "I think God is asking asked the apostles a question us evangelise more similar to the question He is effectively by building a asking of us today. Parallel to the virtual Catholic world in settings 2000 years ago (MK 4, social media, Television, 35-41), in Australia the Church is Newspaper or Radio. also facing storms internal and Roby Ray Joshua, Jesus external. As the apostles did on Youth Community. that sinking boat, we sometimes ask Jesus a bitter question, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" His response then and now is one of reassurance. After 2000 years, Jesus asks us today the same questions, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" Through the storms of faith, Jesus is repeatedly asking us to renew our faith in Him. Maybe He is using the storms to strengthen our faith. Maybe He is using the turbulent sea outside to help us create the calmness and tranquillity in our souls. Maybe Jesus is gently asking us if we could let Him again be the captain of our lives, our boat and our Church. Thach Van Vietnamese Catholic Community in Canberra

**Charity:** 

"We in the St

Society are

Vincent de Paul

concerned about

who are homeless

the worsening

plight of those

or are at risk of

homelessness.

is saying to us

in this context

We feel that God

'Feed my sheep'.

For Catholics a

response to this

call is putting our

faith into action."

President of the

Society in the

Archdiocese

- Warwick Fulton,

St Vincent de Paul

**Syro Malabar Catholic** 

"A key message from

the community is to

listen to the voice

of Holy Spirit and

be courageous to

proclaim the Word of

God through what we

This entails developing

community groups that

pray together and that

are courageous enough

to walk into the homes

of the parishioners who

believe there should be

promote the importance

vocations. The Mass is

not a mere ritual but the

powerhouse of Christian

Mathew and Ann Mary

an increased focus to

of Holy Mass and

life." - Sebastian

Joson

may not be personally

known to them. We

do and what we say.

**Community** 

**Community Group:** "For many decades the Catholic Church has enjoyed a comfortable existence within Australian society. That sense of comfort has been disrupted by the shame of child sexual abuse and a growing distrust of all forms of institutions but especially Churches. The challenge for us is not to withdraw but to continue to reach out with good works to those in need and let our actions speak of the love of Christ for all." -Chris Carlile, Couples for Christ - Canberra Chapter

## The Family:

**Education Sector:** 

"God is calling us to

be an encounter with

Jesus - entering into

relationships of meaning

Education, God is asking

and depth that provide

opportunities for God

that we be centres of

academic excellence,

skills development and

profound human love."

Dr. Patrick McArdle,

Australian Catholic

Campus Canberra.

University, Signadou

to touch the lives of

others. In Catholic

"God is always asking us to come back to him with all our heart. Pope Francis has just released Gaudete et Exsultate his Exhortation to holiness in today's world. How can we bring back the majority of Catholic's who no longer practice their faith? How can we live out our Baptismal vows to be a disciple to all?" - Paul Monagle, President of the Canberra chapter of the Australian Family Association

12 YOUTH JULY 2018

# World 'hypersexualised' Giving 'new way to think about things'

on 'how to live out your faith in a hypersexualised world' was the catalyst for 40 Young adults who gathered at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre earlier this month., Mr Ninnes, a cofounder and director of RealTalk shared his personal experience and opened up to the floor for discussion.

He helped lead the group to realise the reality that so many young people are growing up in a world which is saturated by

Young adults present said that they valued the talk and wished that more of their friends could have heard it - particularly given how little hyper-sexualisation is spoken about. Archdiocesan Youth Minister Hannah McMahon, said that "Paul Ninnes was incredible. 'Living in a hypersexualised world' is such a big topic for young adults in our society, and he shared such



Paul Ninnes (standing) speaks about a hypersexualised world. Picture: Supplied.

knowledge and insight!

"It was so great to come together as Young Adults in the Archdiocese, and I'm looking forward to more of these formation sessions throughout the year!"

There will be more formation opportunities for young adults developing across the Archdiocese.

For more information about RealTalk go online to http:// www.realtalkaustralia.com/

# **Five Minutes with**

# Lily Sarah

Youth Minister

How old are you?

What school did you attend? St Clare's College, Griffith

#### What influenced you to become a **Youth Ministry Worker?**

I was inspired by previous Youth Ministers and the work they accomplished to take up a role in Evangelisation.

Are you full time or part-time in **Youth Ministry?** Part-time

#### Are you studying or working elsewhere?

I'm taking a Gap Year in 2018, and along with Youth Ministering, I will be working at the Public Service in the Health Call Centre, hopefully doing some traveling and just

## What sustains your faith in an increasingly secular society?

I'm very blessed to be surrounded with some incredible friends and family, who are constantly inspiring, supporting and empowering me through the way they live the faith. I also love Adoration and daily chats with Jesus to strengthen and nourish my relationship with God. What qualities would you like to bring to this role? Creativity, positivity and passion for change

# What is your message to young

Give God a chance, open your heart as much as you can, and He'll do the rest.

#### What are you most looking forward to in the Year of Youth?

The ability to make a difference in the life of even one person, and the opportunity to share the joy and Good News with others.

Which is your favourite Saint? St Elizabeth of Hungary

# What is your favourite sporting

I'm not a huge follower of sport, but for our sanity, I hope my Dad's teams win.

#### What is your favourite food or beverage?

My Mum's famous pasta

What is your favourite movie? Tangled (you can't beat Disney)

# Who is your favourite actor/

It's a tie between Anne Hathaway and Sandra Bullock (and soon to be my brother)

#### What is your favourite book? The InBetween Series by

Jenny B. Jones

What music do you listen to



Ed Sheeran, Train and Maroon 5

#### What is your favourite place for a holiday?

Denhams Beach in Batemans Bay with my Grandparents

#### What is your favourite quote, phrase or motto?

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13) AND "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

#### What is the best advice you have ever been given?

A quote from Koichi Aoyagi sums it up perfectly, 'Put God first, regardless of the trials you face. Love God. Have faith in Christ, and entrust yourself to Him in all



L-R: Georgia Whittaker, Neve Tually and Georgia Breynard. Picture: Supplied.

CATHOLIC parents in Murrumbateman are piloting the new YOU youth resource in a bid to help local teenagers develop healthy relationships skills in the midst of a sex-saturated culture.

YOU is a 10 week program which presents church teaching on relationships and sexuality in a very positive and contemporary

The program includes 20 minute video presentations, small group discussions and student workbooks as well as detailed outlines for interested parents and for the program facilitator.

So far the Murrumbateman group has been running for six weeks. Eleven girls aged 15 to 18 have been attending. Fifteen year-old Kate says the program is "really engaging" and presents Church teaching "in a way I hadn't really thought about before".

"It gives you a new way to think about things".

Sixteen year-old Clare says she is really loving the "community aspect" of the program - "getting together with other girls and feeling supported in my faith journey".

The two parent organisers, Anna Healey and Zenka Taffe, wanted to keep the momentum going for the group of young girls who had recently attended and enjoyed the parish Alpha

They settled on the YOU

program on recommendation from staff at the Archbishop's Office of Evangelisation.

Mrs Healey, was nervous about running something for young people but says that the starter pack they purchased gave such detailed instructions that it has been pretty straightforward. They also approached some vounger married women in the parish with experience in youth ministry and teaching to help facilitate the small group discussions.

Mrs Healey, says the parents are learning a lot themselves about how an authentic Catholic view of sexual morality is "not primarily about following rules, but about valuing our own Godgiven identity and calling so we can be free to love others in a healthy way".

Mrs Healey, says she would highly recommend the program to any parent, youth minister or teacher who would like to start an 'opt in' discussion group for those young people who are looking for more and want to go deeper in understanding their faith on a personal level.

The YOU program starter pack can be purchased from Parousia Media for \$160 – go to https://parousiamedia.com/

Alternatively it can be borowed from the Archbishop's Office of Evangelisation.

Contact lara.kirk@cg.org.au for more information.



LOCAL 13 CATHOLIC VOICE

# Adoption 'should be celebrated'

BY FIONA VAN DER PLAAT

BARNARDO'S 2015 Mother of the Year, Chauntell McNamara, can't understand why a family's desire to adopt foster children is not embraced by the social services system.

"For foster carers, adoption is made to be the hard road, even though what many of these kids need is consistent, permanent carers," the mother of two children adopted through the foster system said.

"If you are putting up your hand to say, 'I want this kid to be a part of my life', it should be something that is celebrated. But instead it's presented as the road you go down only if you are prepared to fight."

Mrs McNamara, a Leader of Learning and Wellbeing at St John Paul II College in Nicholls, and husband Andrew - who also have a nine-year-old biological son, Cooper - adopted their long-term foster children, Brodie, 15, and Annabella, 11, in 2014 after six years of "fighting" the system.

She believes she would never have made it through the process if she wasn't such an advocate for herself. "I

don't take no for an answer and I am always out there fighting," she said, adding that many others struggle because they are afraid to do or say anything that might jeopardise their chances of adopting children.

While the McNamaras were finally successful in becoming the first parents in the ACT to adopt two non-siblings at the same time, Mrs McNamara is dismayed to see that, rather than becoming smoother, the adoption process has regressed - especially in comparison to the vast progress in the neighbouring NSW system.

The problem, she said, is a lack of funding for a full suite of well-trained, prepared and resourced case workers, and the need for clear, well-documented and consistent processes. "There is no logical flow from foster care to adoption. You basically have to go through all the paperwork and processes again."

She would also like to see a team approach to the adoption process, rather than an "us-versus-them mentality".

These are the types of issues ACT Liberal Senator Zed Seselja is hoping to address through the Parliamentary Friends of Adoption group he has

established with Victorian Senator Kimberley Kitching.

One of the group's goals is to raise awareness of adoption as a "viable pathway" for more of the 50,000 children in out-of-home care around Australia, not to mention intercountry adoptions.

While he is no longer involved in the Social Services portfolio, Senator Seselja said his time as assistant minister in that area and the many stories he has heard from constituents in the ACT had fuelled his desire to "keep adoption on the agenda".

He said the group had attracted a growing number of parliamentarians. "The aim is to have some great events where we can raise awareness and tease out some of the barriers."

Senator Seselja, who has been "struck" by the progress being made in NSW and the work of organisations such as Barnardo's, said the Parliamentary Friends of Adoption would work with advocacy groups such as Adopt

Mrs McNamara, who now offers respite care for other children, also continues to advocate for adoption through Adopt Change and foster carers' groups. Chauntell McNamara. Picture: Supplied.



# St Greg's youth keen to spread their wings



Top row L-R): Jackson Stanford, Kiera Stanford, Jordan Hodge and (Bottom row L-R): Jazmin Madden, Maggie Wilson, Brendan O'Sullivan

THEY'RE young, talented and enthusiastic.

They also have a keenness to spread their wings - or tunes for that matter. And from this month on they are available to come to a parish near you.

St Greg's Youth SGY Worship is a music ministry organically raised out of the Queanbeyan Parish. Leading the group is Jordan Hodge, a Youth Minister in the Archdiocese and St Greg's parishioner.

He says the impetus to venture beyond their own doors stems from a want to support other parishes looking to develop Youth Masses of their own. "In early 2016, St Gregory's Parish started its Sunday afternoon Youth and Family Mass," he said.

"As the first Sunday approached, they quickly realised they had forgotten one of the most important parts of a Youth Mass, an awesome music ministry."

Mr Hodge says a parent from the parish initially volunteered himself, his guitar (named Martin) and his two kids.

"Two and a half years later they have grown beyond their humble beginnings to become a full Catholic worship band."

SGY Worship are made up of school students from the Queanbeyan region who are united by their love of Jesus and commitment to sharing the Gospel through music. You can contact them at sgyworship@ gmail.com or on Instagram by following @sgyworship.

# Vin's simple Christian service

VIN Kane, is a prime example of what can be achieved post-retirement.

He received an Order of Australia Medal last month as part of the Queen's Birthday honours following three decades of service with the St Vincent de Paul Society in Canberra.

Remarkably, the Ainslie pensioner earned the award during a stage of life where most are playing golf, travelling or taking it easy in other ways.

He says there is nothing really special about his involvement with the Society, although since joining the Braddon conference in 1987 he has gone on to make more than 7000 visits to households and homeless people in the city and inner north.

"My achievements are just a representative sample of the service that members give all over Australia, and indeed wherever the Society exists in the world," the current Braddon president said.

"I see it simply as service that goes with being a Christian, although I do know that some of us respond to the challenge of service more easily than others.

"I am constantly reminded that there go I but for the grace of God."

Originally from Melbourne, Mr Kane says his appreciation for the charity coincided with the family's move to Canberra.

"Early in 1961, after ten years

of a happy and fruitful married life, I had a mid-range position as a clerk in the old PMG Department in Melbourne, a wonderful wife and six healthy children, all accommodated in our two bedroom house in Box Hill," he said.

"I thought I should try to do better to provide for the growing family.

"So I began a program of weekly visits and petitions to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour in Melbourne's St Francis Church in the city. "Within months this proved to be successful, well bevond my reasonable expectation."

Mr Kane's move to a position within the Public Service at the National Capital Development Commission in Canberra in mid-1961 provided fresh opportunities for all the Kane family - housing, schooling, Church, tertiary education, friendships, maturity – even another child - Jaki in 1969. Jaki, is known to many in the Archdiocese as the director of music at St Christopher's Cathedral.

"In light of all that good fortune something in return was called for, so I took early retirement in 1987 and joined the St Vincent de Paul Society," he said.

As a long-time parishioner of the Central Canberra Parish, Mr Kane recalls how in the 1970s Fr Tom Wright, a former parish priest of Braddon handed over to him the responsibility for the



Vin Kane received an Order of Australia Medal last month. Picture: Supplied.

re-settlement in the northern par of Canberra for the first wave of refugees that came to Australia from behind the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe and from war-torn Vietnam.

"With two other Braddon parishioners, who have since gone to their eternal reward we pestered estate agents for temporary accommodation, businesses for jobs, school places for the children; and Vinnies and the Salvos for clothing and bedding," Mr Kane said.

"Five families from Vietnam and two from Eastern Europe were successfully settled."

Warwick Fulton, the St Vincent de Paul Society President of the Canberra and Goulburn division, said the Braddon Conference formed in 1936 was the second oldest in the ACT, after S Christopher's in Manuka.

Marist marks 50 years of growth

THERE WAS a sense of déjà vu with Old Boys Fr Peter Day, Fr Paul Nulley and Fr Trenton van Reesch concelebrating the 50th anniversary Jubilee Mass at Canberra's Marist College.

Another former Marist student, the Rev Matt Ransom, was deacon at the Mass.

They were joined on the sanctuary by Fr Richard Thompson and Monsignor John Woods.

College Marketing Manager Katherine Anderson said many former staff, parents and Old Boys attended the Mass.

"The College opened its doors on January 30, 1968, to 91 boys at the Forestry School in Yarralumla," she said.

"Months later in May 1968 it

moved to its current Pearce site.

"The Mass was an opportunity for the College to celebrate our charism and to acknowledge our beginning in Canberra.

"The jubilee celebration was also an opportunity to express a deep sense of gratitude for the gifts of many who have contributed to the Marist College Canberra story."

Of particular significance on the day were the large numbers of Brothers who returned to Canberra to share in the jubilee Eucharist celebration.

Not only did the June 5 Mass commemorate 50 years of the College but it also marked the June 6 feast day of St Marcellin Champagnat, Marist patron and founder.



The Marist College Canberra 50th anniversary Jubilee Mass. Picture: Supplied.

# **Getting together to celebrate Jubilee**

The Marist College Canberra 50th anniversary Jubilee Mass



Anita and John Gillespie



Catherine Donohoe and Sandra Marron.



Matthew (College Headmaster) and Anna Hutchison



Melanie and Richard Green.



Glenn (1981) and Michelle Slate

# Former college head gets OAM award

FORMER Marist College Canberra Headmaster Ross Tarlinton has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to secondary education.

The award, which was announced in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, acknowledges his distinguished career in educational leadership and governance of Catholic schools over many

Mr Tarlinton is Regional Director of Queensland, Northern Territory and Northern NSW Marist Schools Australia.

His new role follows on from terms of leadership as Headmaster of St Joseph's College Hunters Hill (2006-17) and Marist College Canberra (2001-05).

He also made a significant contribution to Catholic education as former deputy director of schools and principal of two schools in the Diocese of Lismore, as well as other significant governance and advisory roles including a member of the NSW Catholic Education Commission and Member of the NSW Ministerial Committee for School Education Leaders.

National Director of Marist Schools Australia Dr Frank Malloy said the award was further recognition of Mr Tarlinton's exemplary leadership as a Marist educator and his continuing commitment to the educational advancement of young Australians and those who teach them.

"I know Marists throughout the country join in congratulating Ross on this important recognition and honour for his contribution to our nation through Catholic education," he said.



Dale and Michael Martin.

# Seth tries to walk in orphans' shoes

WHAT BEGAN as a simple thought from a six-year-old Canberra student has turned into much more for children living in Kenya's orphanages and crowded refugee camps.

Seth Gray, a Year 2 student from Page's St Matthew's Primary School, and his family visited an orphanage when they travelled recently to Kenya.

What stood out to Seth was that so many children did not have shoes. After his family returned to Australia, he could not let this image go and decided he was going to help them get shoes

He asked his teacher if it he could go to each classroom and ask for donations of old shoes.

"I really want to collect shoes that we don't need any more and send them to the children in Kenya because they need them," Seth said.

A few tubs and baskets were placed near the school's front office and with through the generosity of the St Matthew's community, the shoes began to pour in.

At the end of term, Seth collected the donated shoes and was determined to send them on as promised.



St Matthew's Primary School student Seth Gray. Picture: Supplied.

"We filled five suitcases," he said.

However, sending the shoes to another country included obstacles, mostly due to import taxes on donated items and a range of custom-related legalities. But Seth and his family persevered and began looking for organisations that were closely aligned with Seth's initial desire to 'help children get shoes'.

They came across a private

organisation in South Australia called **Barefoot to Boots** which supports refugee children living in Kenyan camps and their neighbouring communities.

Seth was able to add his package to their next scheduled flight, and his initial vision of sending the donated shoes became a reality. His teacher, Agi Ryan, was delighted to receive an email from the Gray family, along with photographs letting her know

that Seth's first package had been received.

"It's made me realise what a huge difference an individual can make," Mr Ryan said.

"I am just blown away by the result and want to send out a big thank you to the students, parents and teachers at St Matthew's for their generous donations, and in particular to Seth and his family, whose amazing initiative has inspired us all."

# **Creating healthier community**

ST CLARE'S College is aiming to create a healthier community after winning an ACT Government's Health Promotion Innovation along with seven other local organisations.

Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Meegan Fitzharris, congratulated the College and said the projects that will be funded will help give the ACT the edge it needs to improve our standards of living and encourage more healthy lifestyles.

"When 80 per cent of the burden of disease and injury in the ACT is caused by chronic conditions, we need to tap into the intellect, ideas and creativity of our people and organisations to develop programs that will change habits and encourage change as early as possible," she said.

St Clare's College will conduct a student-led project to encourage healthy food choices in conjunction with a local dietitian and food providers, and through the establishment of a kitchen garden.

# 2018 RECOGNITION AWARDS

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The Recognition Awards pay tribute to exemplary practice, dedication, and innovation contributed to the system of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

The Recognition Awards will be celebrated at Mass 4pm on 21 September at St Christopher's Cathedral.

# **Award Categories**

- 1. Mission Faith formation, religious education, Catholic identity
- 2. Performance Student engagement, learning progress, teaching performance
- **3. Service** Pastoral care, wellbeing of students/staff, parent engagement and satisfaction, social justice, outreach
- **4. The Director's Award** In recognition of special service to Catholic Education
- **5.** The Archbishop's Religious Education Award An individual or group will be selected by the Archbishop in recognition of emerging leadership in Religious Education.

Categories 1, 2 & 3 will recognise two awardees – an individual or group nominated from NSW and on individual or group nominated from the ACT. Nominations can be made by any member of the school community – students, staff or parents.

For more information and to nominate visit *cg.catholic.edu.au*Nominations close: COB 17 AUGUST



16 NATIONAL AND WORLD JULY 2018

# **Comensoli appointed as Archbishop of Melbourne**

POPE Francis has appointed the Bishop of Broken Bay, Peter A. Comensoli, as the new Archbishop of Melbourne, with effect from August 1, when he will be installed in St Patrick's Cathedral.

Archbishop-elect Comensoli was ordained priest for the Diocese of Wollongong and served as auxiliary bishop and apostolic administrator of the Archdiocese of Sydney before being appointed to Broken Bay in December 2014.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge said Archbishop-elect Comensoli has the gifts and energies that his new mission will require.

"Archbishop-elect Peter has a good mind, an engaging personality and the strong pastoral sense needed in our largest diocese at a complex time like this," Archbishop Coleridge said.

"He's a man who can listen and a man who can speak not only to Catholic people, but to the wider community as well."

Archbishop-elect Comensoli grew up in the Illawarra region of New South Wales and was educated by the Good Samaritan Sisters and Marist Fathers before studying commerce at the University of Wollongong and working for a time in the banking sector.

He entered the seminary in 1986 and was ordained in 1992. After ordination, he undertook postgraduate studies in moral theology in Rome and at the University of St Andrews in Scotland.

Archbishop-elect Comensoli said he was humbled that Pope Francis had appointed him Archbishop of Melbourne and recognises "the challenge he has placed before me to lead God's people in Melbourne tenderly, mercifully and joyfully".

"The life of Christian discipleship is a precious gift, developed through hearing and responding to God's call," Archbishop-elect Comensoli said.

"In accepting this call to be a new missionary among God's people of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, I readily acknowledge the great responsibility entrusted to me, along with the frailties I carry."

Archbishop-elect Comensoli



currently serves on the Bishops Commissions for Evangelisation and for Family, Youth and Life. He has particular responsibility for euthanasia, life matters and media. He recently published a book entitled In God's Image: Recognizing the Profoundly Impaired as Persons.

In announcing the appointment, Pope Francis also accepted Archbishop Denis Hart's resignation after 17 years as Archbishop of Melbourne.

# New Darwin bishop's deep spirituality



POPE Francis has appointed Fr Charles Gauci, administrator of St Francis Xavier's Cathedral in Adelaide, the seventh Bishop of Darwin.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge welcomed the appointment of a man who is known for his deep spirituality and real commitment to evangelisation.

"Fr Charles has ministered to people from many walks of life – as a pastor in parishes, a chaplain to schools, a spiritual director and retreat leader," Archbishop Coleridge said.
"He will be a great gift to the

Church in Darwin with all its challenges and also a good addition to the Bishops Conference because of his long and varied experience as priest and teacher of the faith."

To read the article in full go to http://www.cgcatholic.org. au/catholic-voice/

Fr Gauci was born into a faith-filled family in Malta and arrived in Australia as a 13-year-old. He was ordained for Adelaide in 1977 and has served in parishes across the Archdiocese.

He has also held a number of archdiocesan leadership roles, including as chairman of the Council of Priests.

He said he was introduced to the life of the Diocese of Darwin and the faith of the community there when he was invited to lead a retreat for the priests of the Diocese about three years ago.

He said he hopes to visit the Diocese – which takes in almost all of the Northern Territory – as soon as possible so he can meet the local people and speak with Bishop Eugene Hurley, who has served in Darwin for the past 11 years and as a bishop for almost 20 years.

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# **Adelaide Archbishop sentenced**

POPE Francis has appointed Bishop Gregory O'Kelly SJ of Port Pirie as Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Adelaide following the sentencing of Archbishop Wilson.

"Archbishop Wilson was sentenced today to a non-parole period of imprisonment of six months with an additional period of six months to be served on parole," Bishop O'Kelly said.

The proceedings have been

adjourned until August 14 during which time he will be assessed for suitability for home detention. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference appreciates both the Holy Father's pastoral concern for the Archdiocese and Bishop O'Kelly's generosity in accepting the appointment. Bishop O'Kelly was born in Adelaide and served there as a priest and Auxiliary Bishop before his appointment to Port Pirie.

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# BRIEFS

# ARCHBISHOP STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF SUNDAY MASS

Edinburgh, Scotland, (CNA/EWTN News) - LEO Cushley Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, has stressed the importance of the Sunday Mass obligation for Catholics. "It is true that many people think of Sunday as just part of the weekend, a welcome break from the usual routine, and perhaps a day for family, or sporting activities," the UK archbishop said in a pastoral letter for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

To read the full article go to https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/sunday-mass-is-not-optional-uk-archbishop-reminds-catholics-30711

# WHAT'S THE SECRET SAUCE IN WICHITA'S VOCATIONS BOOM?

Wichita, Kansas, (CNA) - FATHER Chad Arnold, is hesitant to dole out advice about how a diocese can increase its priestly vocations. However, as the vocations director in the Diocese of Wichita, he recognizes that he's been blessed. Wichita has ordained 10 men to the priesthood for the second year in a row, upping their priestly population by about 20 percent. "I wish there were an easy, A-B-C sort of answer," he said. One aid to vocations he says is a commitment to perpetual adoration chapels in parishes. "We have a high number of perpetual adoration chapels, so we have a lot of young men spending time before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament," he said.

# Coming Events

JULY 8 (12pm): Canberra Regional AMICUS (meaning friend) Group will meet for lunch at Little Brother Café in Red Hill. Contact Paul on 0419 411 691.

JULY 12 to 14: The PROCLAIM 2018 conference in Brisbane is organised and hosted on behalf of the National Centre for Evangelisation, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. For more information go to http://promo.proclaimconference.com.au/

## JULY 14 (9am to 4pm):

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Seminar on Prophetic Intercession presented by Anne Marie Gatenby, National CCR Intercession Coordinator at St Peter Chanel Parish Room, Yarralumla, ACT. A collection will be taken. Morning and Afternoon Tea provided. To register and for more information, call Neda on 0415 266 019 or Susanna on 0419 902 293.

JULY 17 (10.30am to 12 noon): Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue for the Monaro Deanery at St Patrick's School Cooma.

JULY 22 (11.00am to 12.30pm): Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue for the Monaro Deanery at St Patrick's School Cooma.

JULY 23 (10am): Marymead Card and Games Day at Royal Canberra Golf Club Yarralumla ACT. Contact (02) 6162 5800.

#### JULY 29 (7pm):

Archdiocesan Catholic Social Justice Commission Human Trafficking in Australia Forum at St Christopher's Pastoral

Centre. Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) is working in a consortium with the Salvation Army, Red Cross, UNICEF, Human Rights Law Centre and other groups to find realistic pathways towards eliminating trafficking in Australia. Join in discussion about what the Australian Government is doing to combat human trafficking through the introduction of an Australian Modern Day Slavery Act.

AUGUST 3 (7am to 7pm): Twelve hours of Adoration at

St Christopher's Cathedral. For more information go to cgyouthministry.org. au/12hoursofadoration or email youth@cg.org.au

**AUGUST 5: SHINE Youth** Mass and Rally at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre. Save the date.

AUGUST 6 (9am to 3pm):

SHINE Student Gathering for Youth Ministry students from years 9 to 11 at Marist College Canberra, Pearce ACT. For more information go to cgyouthministry.org.au/ shine and email Nathan at nathan.galea@cg.catholic. edu.au

**AUGUST 11:** St Mother Mary of the Cross MacKillop Pilgrimage at Star of the Sea Church Eden, NSW. More information to follow at a later date.

AUGUST 19 (10.30am to 12 noon): Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue for the Monaro Deanery at St Patrick's School Cooma.

#### **CANBERRA TAIZE GROUP:**

Meets for prayer every second Sunday of the month at Weston Creek Uniting church at 5.30pm.

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#### **CATENIANS in CANBERRA:**

Meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6.45pm for the 7.15pm meeting which is followed by dinner at 8pm. Venue: The Southern Cross Club Woden.

#### **COMMUNITY OF THE RISEN LORD CANBERRA:**

Meet at 7.30pm each Friday evening in St Brigid's Church parish hall (2 Bancroft St Dickson) for charismatic praise and worship with an anointed sharing of the Word. Contact Shan on 0412 310 364 or Sean 0448 510 237.

#### **COUPLES FOR CHRIST** (CFC) CANBERRA CHAP-

**TER:** For more information contact Chris Carlile 0414 938 831.

**GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP:** Meets each

Wednesday from 7pm to 9pm in the parish room at St Peter Chanel's Church Yarralumla. Contacts Susanna on 0419 902 293, Neda on 0415 266 019 and Gabriel on 0432 082 642.

# Regular Groups

#### **HOLY SPIRIT SECULAR** FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY:

Meet on the third Friday of the month at 7:45pm, St Augustine Church, 262 Beasley St Farrer. Secular Franciscans try to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi. Call Tony on 0407 072 139 or Hélène on 0420 533 264. Email: sfo@ fastmail.fm

**IGNATIAN GROUP OF** 

**CANBERRA:** Meets fortnightly for discussion and reflection. Based on the international movement Christian Life Community. Contact Steve on 0407 147 540.

**LEGION OF MARY: Meets on** the third Sunday of each month at St Joseph Church O'Connor at 2pm.

#### **MAN OVERBOARD:** A

monthly gathering of young men discerning priesthood. It is a time to gather, reflect; and commune in order to feel supported during a time of such importance. Each gathering will be held on the first Friday of every month (public holidays excepted). Please RSVP to Fr Paul Nulley at paul. nulley@cg.org.au For catering purposes or follow the prompts at http:// www.manoverboard.org.au/

**MARIAN MOVEMENT OF** 

PRIESTS: Meets to pray a Cenacle at St Joseph's Church O'Connor each Wednesday following the 8.30am Mass. Contact Maria on (02) 6247 4026.

menALIVE: Encouraging authentic Christian manhood, the Canberra chapter of 'Men Alive' meet on the first Monday of each month at St Christopher's Cathedral for Mass at 5pm. Mass is then followed by drinks at 'Public Bar' in Manuka.

**MINISTRY TO THE NEWLY MARRIED:** A mentoring program for newly married couples or engaged couples

soon-to-be married. Contact Debbie and Brian on (02) 6231 3389 or 0414 878 167. Email: mnm@grapevine.com.

TAIZE PRAYER: The Canberra Friends of Taizé Ecumenical Group meets regularly for prayer every second Sunday of the month at Weston Creek Uniting Church at 5.30pm. Enquiries to Annemarie (0421 492 554) or CBRTaizeFriends@internode.

on.net

**CANBERRA'S Peter To Rot Papua New Guinea Family** Group will meet at St John the **Apostle Parish next month to** celebrate the PNG Blessed's **Feast Day** on Saturday, July 7.

The day will begin with Mass at 11am and is to be followed by a traditional PNG lunch feast. All are welcome.

For more information contact Francesca Deklin on 0437 415 052 or email Nick Palm at nppalm@hotmail.com

# St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage at Eden on Saturday August 11

Save the date More details available in the August edition of Catholic Voice Contacts: Sue - 0405 251 947 or Bernadette - 0429 774 119

#### **St Augustine's Parish Yass** is celebrating 180 years

Friday August 24 to Sunday August 26 Limited numbers for Friday night dinner and book launch RSVP to contacts: Bob - (02) 6226 1674 or Bryan - (02) 6226 4235 More details available in the August edition of Catholic Voice

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18 CLASSIFIEDS JULY 2018



# Classifieds

Cost: \$10 for the first 30 words, and 50c for each additional word. Payment by cheque or credit card. Deadline: 15th of the month. Email: catholic.voice@cg.org.au

# **ACCOMODATIONS**

BRUCE, ACT: Full board available for a student in a caring Catholic home. Close to universities and amenities. Long term option only. \$250 pw (neg) plus expenses. Referees required. Phone: 0430 667 447.

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New homes, fix taps, toilet repairs, blocked drains. Min call out fee \$80.00 - discount for pensioners. Please call us for your free quote as well as some water saving tips. Call Matt -0422 050 553.

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#### **PRAYERS**

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

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# **VOCATIONS**

Are you considering a vocation as a priest for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn?

If so please contact Fr Paul Nulley paul.nulley@cg.org.au

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# **ACROSS**

- The 12 \_\_\_ of Israel
- 9 Biblical garden
- \_ to Emmaus
- In13:23, Jeremiah asked if this animal could change its spots
- Aaron made a golden one
- 14 Jesuits' motto (abbr.)
- 16 Temple tree
- 17 The form of a sacrament
- 18 Patron saint of beer brewers
- 20 Our Lady of \_\_\_\_
- 22 An angel
- Minor (Franciscan Order)
- Catholic singer and songwriter George M.
- "...and the rich he has sent \_\_\_\_ away" (Lk 1:53)
- 30 We should enter by the narrow one
- 32 Bible section
- 34 Church spire
- 35 Friday in Lent no-no food
- 36 Where Jesus met the Samaritan

# 37 Liturgical season

#### **DOWN**

- Prince of \_
- The Mass is both a sacrifice and
- Articles of clothing or bones of
- 5 "You \_\_\_ of vipers!" (Lk 3:7)
- Companion of Daniel

- Make a father of
- One of two names in a Catholic book publishing company
- Commandment that tells us to worship only God
- He called to Adam, "Where are you?" (Gen 3:9)
- Communion host
- Father of Rachel
- Prayer of repentance
- She tied a scarlet cord in her window
- Tree under which Jesus saw Nathanael (Jn 1:47-48)
- First word of a Latin hymn
- Hometown of Simon
- By the end of the 20th century there had been 265 of these
- Place of the \_\_\_ (Mt 27: 33)
- 31 Killed by Cain
- 33 Job owned five hundred yoke of



# About Town

# Marian devotion strong on the coast

IF EVENTS in May are any indication to go by, devotion to Our Lady in the South Coastal Deanery remains strong. Devotees from the parishes of Batemans Bay, Moruya (Tuross/Bodalla), Narooma (Cobargo/Bermigui), Bega (Candela/Tathra) and Merimbula (Pambula/Eden) came together for the annual Marian Procession at Cobargo on May 6, while Tathra, Bega, Moruya and Batemans Bay all participated in the inaugural nationwide Oz Rosary 53 on May 13.

Speaking on behalf of Catholics on the South and Sapphire Coast said this year's procession at Cobargo, Fr Martins Aloga said this year's events were reckoned to be the best in years.

"The high points of the procession included the circular recitation of the Rosary with every parish leading a decade in



Moruya parishioners join with Fr Dominic Byrne to pray a national Rosary on May 13. Picture: Supplied

turn," he said.

"The solemn exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the worship hymns from Merimbula parish and the violin exhibition were other high points. "We hope to bear the statue of Mary in the future processions." Fr Aloga said that Archdiocesan Vicar General, Fr Tony Percy,



Fr Dominic Byrne, Fr Paul Bateman, Fr Mick MacAndrew and Fr Tony Percy with Marian devotees at Cobargo. Picture: Supplied.

delivered an inspiring exultation identifying The Blessed Virgin Mary as one who received the love of God and shared same with humanity. The gathering concluded with cuppa organized by the Cobargo Church Community with a great hospitality enjoyed by all in attendance.

# Sleepy CEOs'\$585,000 a record breaker

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY of Canberra's business and community leaders have together raised over \$585,000 for homelessness by sleeping out in the Garden of Australian Dreams at the National Museum of Australia on night.

This is the largest sum ever raised by the Canberra CEO Sleepout.

Temperatures dropped below freezing, and CEOs experienced the difficulties of sleeping outside with only three sheets of cardboard and a sleeping bag to protect them from the elements.

The highest fundraiser of

the night was Nick McDonald Crowley, Projector Director at Capital Estate Developments, who had raised \$32,469 at the time and was rewarded with a pillow to help him get through the night.

He had been challenged to do the Sleepout in a Pink Panther onesie, and so earned a \$5000 donation from a friend.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse braved the elements as did Catholic Healthcare Australia CEO Suzanne Greenwood, Marymead CEO Camilla Rowland and Catholic Education CEO Ross Fox.

He was joined at the Sleepout by college principal's

Brad Cooney (St Clare's College), Loretta Wholley (Merici College) and Catherine Rey (St John Paul II College).

In Nicholls ACT, 150 students from St John Paul College also got in on the act sleeping out in the elements to play their part in eradicating homelessness.

"Students from the Social Justice committee were inspired to become involved five years ago when I first put my hand up to sleep out as a CEO," Ms Rey said.

"There are 1596 people experiencing homelessness in the ACT, 42% of these are under 24."



Vinnies CEO Sleepout L-R: Camilla Rowland, Barnie van Wyk, Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Ross Fox, Suzanne Greenwood, Patrick McArdle and Loretta Wholley.



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- Pilgrimage
  - Santiago
    - Madrid
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"Were not our hearts burning within us while he walked and talked with us on the road". Luke 24:32

For further enquiries or to make a booking contact tour leader Paul Skippen TODAY!



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