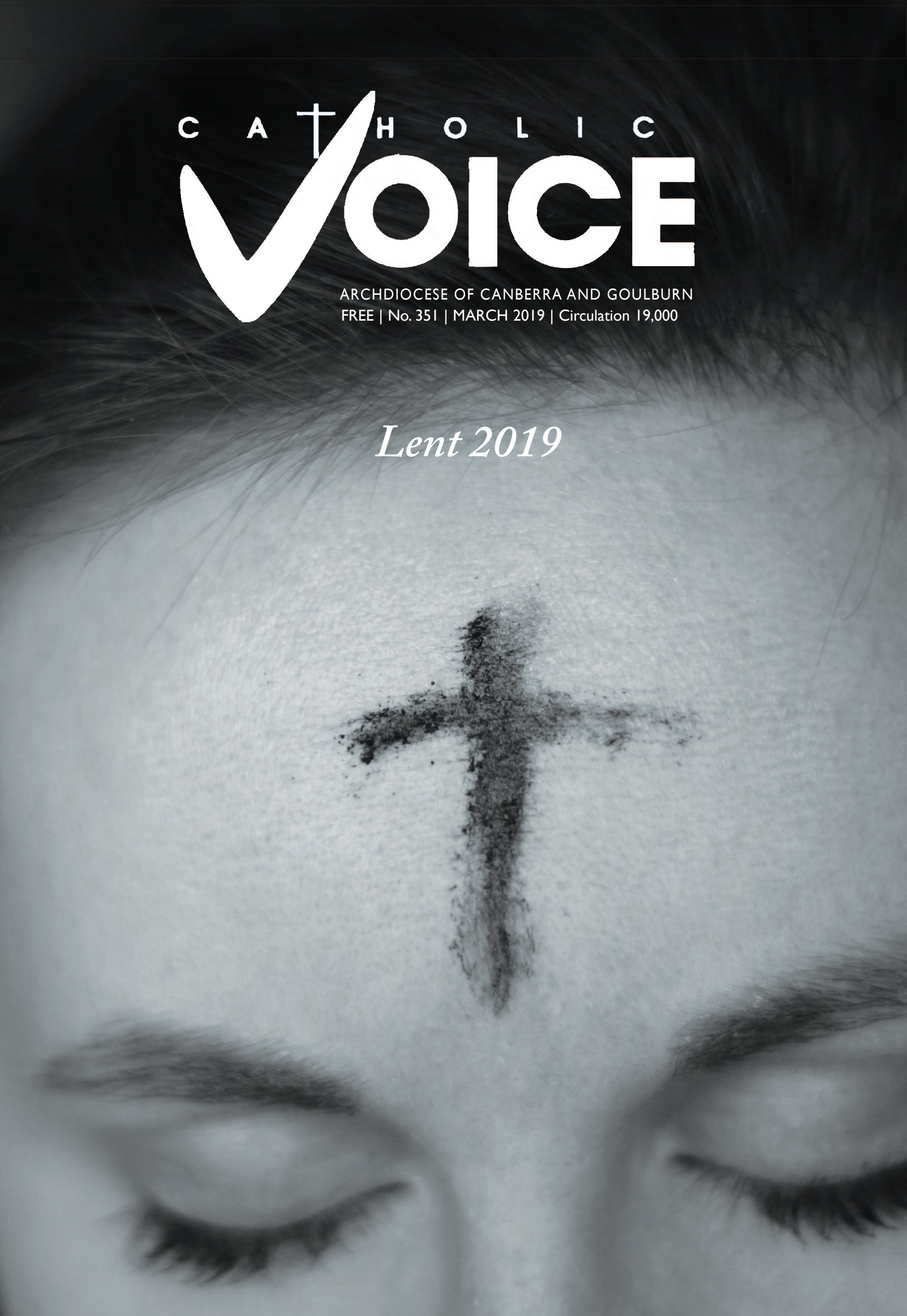


CATHOLIC **voice**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN
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Lent 2019





Archbishop’s Message
Archbishop Christopher Prowse

The NOW of God

1. WORLD YOUTH DAY, PANAMA (22-27 JANUARY 2019)

At the concluding Mass of W.Y.D. Panama, Pope Francis spoke directly to over 700,000 youth from throughout the Catholic world. He mentioned that some described youth as the “future” of the Church. He disagreed. Our God is not simply the future God – he is the God of the NOW. Youth are the now of the Church, preached the Pope.

Their contribution does not need to wait until some nebulous future moment to ignite. It is a now contribution. Our own youth delegation from the Archdiocese resonated with this insight strongly. When we look at the contribution they are already making for example as Catholic schoolteachers and youth leaders, I heartily agree with this NOW focus of our youth.

If the wonderful youth whom I spent an intensive two weeks with as a fellow pilgrim at W.Y.D. are any indication, then our youth ministry is now in the hands of faith filled and Holy Spirit led leaders. Thank you, Lord Jesus!

2. PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA – STAGE 1

Stage one of our common journey in the Plenary Council is concluding (6 March 2019). This has been the stage of intensive listening and dialogue sessions.

I wish to thank sincerely the very many groups in the Archdiocese who have earnestly participated in this first stage and have now submitted their responses to the national office.

Soon the second stage will commence. This will be the follow up to the analysis given to the submissions of stage one. These will be professionally analysed to identify emerging themes and undergo a theological reflection.

Maybe it is still not too late to submit your group’s reflections. However, please Hurry. Now is the time.

Let us pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit to imbue the entire process with love, unity and truth in these now moments.

3. LENT 2019

This year Lent begins a little later than last year. Ash Wednesday 2019, the beginning of the Lenten Season, is 6 March.

Our ancient tradition views Lent as our liturgical season of conversion and repentance as we Journey toward the Easter Mysteries of the Death and

Resurrection of Jesus. It is a NOW time to open ourselves up to the merciful embrace of our Loving Saviour, Jesus.

As always, I encourage all our parishes and communities to enter fulsomely into this important liturgical season. Gathering for scriptural prayer groups, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the devout reception of the Sacrament of Penance (Confession), Masses and devotional practises are to be emphasised. Equally important is our attentiveness to the poor and oppressed in our communities. Practical charity is an essential dimension of this penitential season. The now of God as the call to charity “shouts out” in the needy and lonely. An important expression of this is Project Compassion. There we find Jesus in the here and now. Let us not forget also the importance of fasting as a real form of prayer.

I have every confidence that you will enter into Lent with zeal and trust in the Lord.

Let us ask Mary, our Heavenly Mother, to guide us to her Crucified and Risen Son, Jesus, Our Lord and Redeemer.

IN THIS Edition



A deep love in marriage



Aboriginal Mural becomes a focal point



International Youth Leaders flock to Canberra for Equipping School



Eddies ethos remains unchanged



A Copernican revolution



St Mary’s Crookwell success

Archbishop’s Diary March 2019

THURSDAY, 7 9.00am
Council of Priests/Trustees & Consultors Meeting

FRIDAY, 8 12.30pm Visit to Oaks Estate, Community Inclusion Program, Oaks Estate, Queanbeyan

SATURDAY, 9 6.00pm
Mass, St Christopher’s Cathedral

SUNDAY, 10 11.00am
Mass, Rite of the Elect, St Christopher’s Cathedral

MONDAY, 11 5.00pm
Mass, Anniversary of the election of Pope Francis, St Christopher’s Cathedral

TUESDAY, 12 11.00am
Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture Board Meeting, Barton

SUNDAY, 17 9.00am Mass, 150 year celebration of St Patrick’s Primary School, Bega

TUESDAY, 19 12.15pm
Mass, St Christopher’s Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, 20 2.00pm
Council of the Seminary of the Good Shepherd

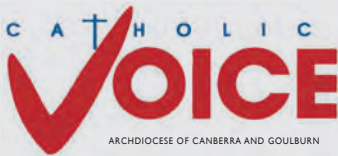
Meeting, Homebush, Sydney

THURSDAY, 21 9.00am
Bishops NSW/ACT meeting, Sydney

THURSDAY, 28 5.30pm
ACT Chapter Meeting, Canberra

FRIDAY, 29 9.30am LEAD – Student Youth Ministry Conference, St Clare’s College, Griffith
11.30am Blue Door, St Vincent De Paul Lunch, Campbell

SUNDAY, 31 11.00am
Mass, St Christopher’s Cathedral



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The Catholic Church in the 21st Century

Catholic Voice Journalist, CHRIS GORDON speaks with Fr Tony Percy, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, as he prepares to deliver this year's Bishop Manning lecture.



Leaders, students, staff and clergy celebrate the 2019 Youth Festival and Youth Mass. PHOTO Loui Seselja

The Bishop Manning Lecture is a leading Church forum hosted by the Catholic Commission for Employment Relations in celebration of the significant pastoral and social justice achievements of Most Rev Kevin Michael Manning DD, Bishop Emeritus of Parramatta.

"He was the Bishop of Parramatta, the last Bishop of Parramatta," Fr Tony explained.

"Catholic Commission for Employment Relations began the Bishop Manning Lecture back in the early 2000s. It sort of follows the interest that Bishop Manning had in the Church's social teaching and has that sort of focus.

"Bob Hawke was the first one to give it. Noel Pearson had also given it, as did Melinda Tankard Reist."

The Bishop Manning lecture has grown to be a widely recognised and prestigious address and Fr Tony said he was very honoured when he was invited to deliver this year's lecture.

"I was asked by Tony Farley, the Executive Director of Catholic Commission for Employment Relations, and I said that'd be great. The topic arose as we began to discuss things."

The topic for Fr Tony's lecture is: 'The Catholic Church in the 21st Century. Where have we been? Where are we now? Where are we going? Who's going with us?'

It's a topic that crosses over into some of the discussions that have taken place in the lead up to

the Plenary Council but Fr Tony reflected that his lecture was a bit broader in scope.

"It's a sort of evocative title, but it's a good title given the sort of moment we're in as a Church, as a Catholic community," Fr Tony said.

"The lecture itself has its own dynamic but I guess you could see it in the context of [the Plenary Council] which would be helpful.

"I think the wish is, and the desire, is that we get a lot of younger Catholics to it because they've got to carry the whole can forward, and it tries to suggest a bit of a paradigm... it looks at a bit of recent history with Pope Pius IX and Pope Leo XIII and how they looked at and responded to change.

"I'll outline that and then a little bit of research about what people are saying about renewal and communities, parish communities, school communities, the agencies the Church has... they're all communities, and they all fit into the whole mystery of the body of Christ in the Church.

"We'll look at that and then ask the question 'well, who's going with us?'

"Things have changed. Pope Francis has said we're living not just in an era of change, but in a change of era. And so if that's true, what does that look like and how might we respond to it as a figure like Pope Leo XIII did.

As the expression change of era implies, many have emphasised the importance of youth engagement in the church. In

terms of 'Where are we going' and 'Who's going with us', Fr Tony agreed with Pope Francis' comment at World Youth Day that young people "are not the future, but the now of God.

"I think what's important is that we try the best we can with our youth ministry, and we've done major things in the archdiocese to do that," Fr Tony said.

"Two years ago we hardly had any youth ministers in the Archdiocese, and we had no systematic diocesan project. Now we have 20 and we've just begun this renewal of this youth ministry in the Catholic Schools where the kids are, and in our parishes where the kids aren't, and we're trying to bring the two together.

"And of course as you have these new things you have teething problems but it's a project that, if we support it and persevere, it will succeed because it's saying 'the way to get to young people is with young people.'

"We've discovered a whole lot of really interesting things so when we present this youth ministry subject to kids in Catholic Schools, and in our secondary schools there's probably half that are baptised Catholic and half that aren't, but when we present it as a voluntary subject just about 50 per cent of them say we'd like to do this voluntary subject.

"You'd have to say in any stretch of the imagination that's a major achievement to say well, you know what, our young ones they are interested in spirituality, they are interested in religion.

"So I'm very hopeful. We're just at the very beginning of this and I think, if we trust the young people, and say 'YOU go out to the young people', then I think we're in for a nice ride. I think that's what we have to do to try and really encourage them as best we can, and I think we're doing that in the Archdiocese."

One of the themes Fr Tony believes to be central to his talk is that of mutuality between clergy and lay people.

"We've been through this dreadful period of child sexual abuse, we've had a Royal Commission and one of the things it shows is we lacked mutuality with the priests and the people," Fr Tony said.

"We have tremendous lay people with extraordinary qualifications and talents and we need to make sure they are very much in the mix, in the collage which we call the Catholic Community.

"So there's been a crisis but it presents an opportunity. We've learned so much and need to take what we've learned and move forward."

The Bishop Manning Lecture will take place at the Kirribilli Club in Lavendar Bay, Sydney on March 21 starting at 6pm. Attendance is free but people interested in attending are asked to register at this site.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/bishop-manning-lecture-with-fr-anthony-percy-tickets-55952117289>

February 26, 2019

Statement From Archbishop Mark Coleridge, President Of The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

The news of Cardinal George Pell's conviction on historical child sexual abuse charges has shocked many across Australia and around the world, including the Catholic Bishops of Australia.

The Bishops agree that everyone should be equal under the law, and we respect the Australian legal system. The same legal system that delivered the verdict will consider the appeal that the Cardinal's legal team has lodged. Our hope, at all times, is that through this process, justice will be served.

In the meantime, we pray for all those who have been abused and their loved ones, and we commit ourselves anew to doing everything possible to ensure that the Church is a safe place for all, especially the young and the vulnerable.

28th February 2019

PASTORAL MESSAGE REGARDING CARDINAL GEORGE PELL

Dear Friends in Christ,
I reach out to each one of you in Jesus, by way of this simple Pastoral Message.

The revelations regarding Cardinal Pell over these last days have deeply shocked and disturbed us. We find in our hearts so many emotions and confusions.

We hold deeply in our hearts all survivors of sex abuse and their families. We pledge to do all we can to stand alongside them in prayerful, transparent vigilance.

Given that Cardinal Pell's conviction will now be subject to an appeal in court we best leave aside further comment on this matter.

Be assured of and comforted by my prayers and thoughts for you, my dear people, in this fragile time. Please find strength in your care for each other.

Together, let us turn as always to the Lord Jesus and our Mother Mary, during our Masses and our prayers to guard and guide us in this "vale of tears."

Please pray also for our priests, deacons and seminarians. They who seek to serve you with great pastoral care are in need of their own care in these days.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn
Apostolic Administrator of Wagga Wagga Diocese

Farewell Fr Emil from West Wyalong

ON DECEMBER 29, St. Mary's parish of West Wyalong and the surrounding villages in the Western Mission farewelled their Parish Priest, Father Emil Milat.

Fr Emil has been transferred to the City part of the Archdiocese in Canberra.

Fr. Emil had been with the Parish since January 2015 and was instrumental in quite a few changes to the Church and the surrounding areas. His devotion to Mary was passionate and he passed that feeling for her onto all his charges. He dedicated all the Churches in his care to Mary and the Rosary was said before Mass.

He had a great affinity with the School and its pupils. School masses were said each month, a special time for all. He was very good with the students and had his own special sermons for the School Masses, bringing God to his charges through the modern

way.

The Masses were a delight as the children had special hymns and they sang them with great gusto. He went to the Youth Rallies and then to Fatima, but bought all this back to his parishioners to share with them.

Father Emil saw to the wiring of our church. It had the original wiring – over 100 year's old – and it was his main repair priority. The lighting in the church has been updated featuring our beautiful main altar. There were other revamps in the pipeline, but he will have to leave them to his successor.

His affinity to Bolo Chapel at Tullibigeal was strong and he and Brother Dominic had many tourists out there to see this amazing "Church in the Paddock". He helped with the construction of the Stations of the Cross on the Hill and it is a beautiful tribute to him.

He "inherited" Lake

Cargelligo parish when their PP Father Mayne-Murphy passed away and they will miss him too.

He may have been a "City boy" but soon adapted to the country life and his parishioners loved him for it. He was a quick learner and found the lifestyle suited him.

He was even on the winning bowls team for St. Vincent de Paul and was their other office when the Conference wasn't available to the people who needed help after hours.

The parishioners of the Western Mission will miss him greatly. He was a quiet achiever and did things well and with advice from his Committees, both Parish and Finance.

We wish Father Emil every happiness in Canberra and any further venture he takes on.

Contributed by the West Wyalong parish



Fr Emil cutting the farewell cake. PHOTO Supplied

Faithful join in 24 hour Adoration

MATT RANSOM

PRAYING at 3am in the Morning? Believe it or not, people were there. And at every other hour of the day.

Over eighty people joined in the 24 Hours of Adoration at St Christopher's Cathedral from 7am on Wednesday, February 20 until 7am the following day as we prayed for all things youth: the Youth Equipping School, Catholic Education, Catechists and Vocations to the Priesthood were all a focus as the participants responded to this important need.

The Adoration drew attendance from many of the Communities within the Archdiocese.

A group of five enthusiastic Korean Catholic youth spent time

in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr Mathew and the Syro Malabar community were heroes, covering the 10pm to 4am spot, while some youth leaders led praise and worship from 6am to 7.30am.

Why did they do this, you ask? That's a good question.

Where this ministry has been established, many prayers have been answered, lives have been changed and there has been an increase in the fruitfulness of the Church's Mission.

Essentially, it works!

If you'd like to read some more experiences click the following link

<https://eucharisticadoration.ie/testimonies/>



More than 80 people participated in the 24 hour Adoration at St Christopher's Cathedral. PHOTO Supplied



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A deep love in marriage

FRANK Sinatra used to sing a song about Love and Marriage... if you're old enough you may remember it from the show Married with Children.

And they are different things. Many people experience Love for people they aren't married to... parents, siblings, family and friends. And while marriage is based on love, it's a unique love unlike any other as newly married couple Anna and Gavin Abraham attest.

Anna and Gavin were married late last year. This is their first St Valentine's Day as a married couple and they agree that their love has changed through marriage.

"Being married has deepened the love that we already had for each other," Anna said.

There pre-marriage relationship often saw them in different places and Gavin believes the relationship they have now has only grown, and continues to grow.

"The first year of our courtship was spent in different countries," Gavin explained.

"When we finally got to live in the same city, we experienced a new closeness. When we got engaged, this deepened further. Now that we are married and living together (we chose not to live together until we were married) there is a new level to our love. One that comes from the sharing of the everyday things and the knowledge that this is for the rest of our lives."

Marriage has always been a central aspect of Catholic life and Gavin pointed out some of the pronouncements and commentary Pope's have made as particularly helpful.



Gavin and Anna Abraham on their wedding day last year. PHOTO Supplied

"Amoris Laetitia has some really good advice and teaching on marriage. St John Paul II's **Theology of the Body** has also been a helpful tool in our preparation for marriage," he said.

As Catholics, Gavin and Anna are committed to the fullness of a Catholic married life and the particular commitment to the sacrament of marriage that entails, which the pair believe is intrinsically knitted into the fabric of their relationship.

"In our time of dating and preparation for marriage, it was important to us to make sure our decisions were prayerfully considered," said Anna. "Now

that we are married, we both recognise the need to continue to develop our own personal faith."

"In saying that," added Gavin, "our faith as a couple, as a family, needs to be nourished also. While we were engaged, we began to pray together daily and we are continuing that now that we are married. Being involved in the life of our parish community is another way we foster this faith."

St Valentine's Day, despite its origins, has largely become a commercial and a secular occasion in today's world and Gavin said that he and Anna had placed more emphasis on their three month milestone a few days ago.

"Valentine's Day hasn't been a day of special significance for us so far in our relationship. We are not celebrating it this year, mainly because we celebrated our 3 month-iversary, which was a few days before Valentine's Day," he said.

"Celebrating our milestones, no matter how small, has been part of our marriage so far," agreed Anna.

"We enjoy reminding each other of the love we share and the gratitude we have for each other."

FROM THE CATHOLIC VOICE WEBSITE

Our top stories for February

www.catholicvoice.org.au

Truth and justice after the Pell verdict:
Fr Frank Brennan, who among other things is a qualified lawyer and who sat through some of Cardinal Pell's trial, adds his assessment of the process and what follows.
(1,499 pageviews)

Pastoral message from Archbishop Christopher Prowse:
Archbishop Prowse wrote a pastoral note to the Archdiocese at this difficult time.
(1,024 pageviews)

Archbishop Christopher Prowse defends the Seal of Confession:
In the context of the ACT government debating protection for the Seal of Confession, Archbishop Prowse offered this defence.
(652 pageviews).

Archbishop Mark Coleridge responds to conviction of Cardinal George Pell:
Archbishop Coleridge provided a statement as president of the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference.
(620 pageviews)

Fr Tony Percy to deliver this year's Bishop Manning Lecture:
Vicar General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, Fr Father Tony, has been chosen to deliver the annual Bishop Manning lecture in Sydney in March.
(611 pageviews)

65 years on, the Eddies ethos remains unchanged:
It's been 65 years since St Eddies opened but the College believes that an Eddies Boy is still an Eddies Boy.
(504 pageviews)

Fr Emil farewellled from Lake Cargelligo:
Parishioners bid a fond farewell to Fr Emil before he was installed at St Patrick's, Bradon and St Brigid's, Dickson
(478 pageviews)

Third generation enrolls at St Jude's:
Maria Hicks, her daughter and grandson become a three generation St Jude's family.
(459 pageviews)

Why would you get Married at First Sight?:
It's Australia's most popular TV show, but not everybody loves it. (451 pageviews)

Five minutes with

Leah Sutherland

Parish Secretary, Sacred Heart Parish Cootamundra



a wide variety of tasks in the job and you never know what's going to walk through the door – sometimes it's something happy, sometimes it's something sad. But the job is very satisfying and I love it.

What do you like most about Cootamundra?
Cootamundra is only a small town, about 8,000 people, but it's very friendly. It's probably an older population, and many of the parishioners are a bit older, but I'm inspired by their dedication to their faith.

Where do you like to go when you're not in Cootamundra?
Mainly the beach. My favourite spot is actually the Northern Territory.

Favourite Movie?
Legends of the Fall

Favourite singer?
Keith Urban

Favourite book?
I loved the Harry Potter books, and books by Dan Brown.

Favourite Meal?
Family BBQs. We have a lot of family BBQs and I just enjoy them a lot

Favourite motto or inspirational saying?
To know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, that is to have succeeded

an office job, it's more like a vocation.

What do you like most about your work?
Sometimes the person that comes in and sits opposite you really needs someone to talk to. I may be the only person they speak to all day. So you are conscious of being there for the person opposite you and always try to be friendly and helpful. But every day is different. There's

How long have you been the Parish Secretary at Cootamundra?
I've been here for seven years

Had you been a secretary before that?
Not a secretary but I'd always been in Admin.

What differences have you found working for the Church?
You deal with people more. It's not just a job, it's not just

Rapid growth of junior youth ministry

ONE of the great successes and hidden treasures of the Archdiocese's Youth Ministry has been the growth of primary school Youth Ministry, growing from two schools and one parish in its pilot year to nine schools and five parishes this year.

Students from Year 3-6 have been invited to take part in Journey with Jesus Retreats and junior youth groups and the response has been amazing according to Youth Minister Sarah Larkin.

"I've been working at St Matthews in Page and St Vincent's, Aranda and I've been heading into the schools and working on the junior Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA) program," she said

"We've run a couple of Journey with Jesus retreats early in the year, and then from there we created a Junior Youth Ministry team in school and all the kids have been really excited and keen to be involved in that group.

"We've also been running Youth Masses at the Parish for the first time and our new junior aged youth group for students in years 3 to year 6 and it's just



Youth Minister, Jordan Hodge with students at the Journey with Jesus Retreat

tripled in size.

"We had about twenty kids come along on the weekend and that was the first one of the year and so I think it will keep on growing."

That interest has been echoed at other schools and parishes.

Youth Minister Sarah Pearson

and Holy Trinity Primary School REC Emily Capper ran a Journey with Jesus Retreat on February 18 and held their first junior youth group on February 25 with 20 students coming along.

They have hopes for a similar attendance for the St Peter and

Paul's Garran Retreat on Friday March 8.

Other Youth Ministers from the Archdiocese have experienced similar responses.

The Journey with Jesus program for primary school students have only been running for six months and are already

kicking major goals. And Sarah said that there is opportunity for the programs to grow.

"I think it's a program that's really expanding across Canberra and elsewhere, just because it's so good to get primary school students interested in their faith while they're young and then they can hopefully transition across to High School and adult life," she said.

The Junior model will also develop this year with raining programs for the Junior Youth Ministry Teams and an Archdiocesan Primary Youth Ministry gathering called "Illuminate."

Sarah said she wanted to thank Fr Simon Falk at South Belconnen for his involvement, as well as RECs Luke Maher and Sylvia Campbell at St Matthew's and St Vincent's respectively, and also Lena and Graham, the principals of those schools.

Parents and primary students interested in the Page and Aranda junior youth groups and related programs are welcome to come along on the fourth Saturdays of each month at 4.45pm just before 6pm Youth Mass.

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To register or for more information, visit
acu.edu.au/short-courses-canberra

Ideal conditions for growing good men

FATHERS and their teenage sons are invited to take part in a new program called 'Growing Good Men' which encourages them to spend special time together to strengthen their relationship and share their faith. The weekend will be held at Warrambui Retreat Centre 5-7 April 2019 and is aimed at boys aged 12-14. The program will include plenty of fun and laughter, outdoor activities mixed with talks on true father-son relationships.

Previous participants have said, "[It was] Excellent, fantastic and life changing," adding: "A must for any father and son. This should be a compulsory event for all teenage sons and their fathers. Something I wish I had done with my father."

Adrian & Julian Gomez participated in a GGM weekend in November 2018 and reported, "it was a nice bunch of dads (and a granddad too) and their boys. All the dads were all these because we wanted to make an effort to have a better relationship with our sons. That in itself said a lot about the group. Maybe a few of us had our arms twisted by our wives, and a couple were told by their son's schools that it would be helpful for their boys. But in the end, we were all willing to be there, to take a risk, sacrifice a weekend and step out of our comfort zones to have some special time with our sons. There's no way I capture in these few words the impact that this weekend has had on

myself and my son. All I can say is, you have to do it yourself to understand. Dads out there, if you love your son and want the best for him, take him on this weekend. Mums, family and friends, encourage and support the dads to make this happen. Thank you menALIVE for the difference you have made for me and my son!"

The weekend is supported by MenALIVE and encourages fathers and sons to spend special time together. The following link will take you to a promotional video about Growing Good Men <http://bit.ly/GGMpromo>

This weekend experience is a small but powerful step in the ongoing process of helping adolescent males to grow into psychologically, emotional and spiritually mature men. It has been a key moment for many in our experience. It is certainly an opportunity to awaken the father to the importance of their role and give them skills and ideas. They are supported by other fathers and sons in the experience. The program certainly invites ongoing meetings to support in a community setting to encourage ongoing growth. Where natural fathers are absent mentors such as older brothers, relatives of friends, or other primary males can work well.

Place are limited and early registration is recommended. Please contact Nathan Ahearne at nathanahearne@mcc.act.edu.au for further information.



Dad takes a risk: Growing Good Men gave dads and sons the space to talk, undertake fun activities and bond. PHOTO: Giovanni Portelli



Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

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

To discover more MSC stories please visit whatsalifeor.com/stories, attend a discernment weekend retreat, volunteer as a short term lay missionary or just call Fr Peter 0408 299 170



MenALIVE founder Robert Falzon shares his insights with the fathers and sons. PHOTO: Giovanni Portelli

Aboriginal Mural becomes a focal point

YEAR 5 / 6 students from St Francis Xavier School were lucky enough to participate in designing and painting an Aboriginal mural. This project is a result of an Arts Out West grant which supported local artists Lindsay Kirby, Tanya Harris and Georgina Kelly under the coordination of Sandon Gibbs-O'Neill, an Aboriginal artist and Community Engagement worker at Lake Cargelligo TAFE.

The students attended a Mural skills workshop at TAFE where, along with secondary students, they learned painting techniques and contributed their design elements and ideas for the mural. The adult artists then combined all the students' ideas and came up with the design.

The Aboriginal mural was blessed by Fr Paul (Anglican



Fr Emil Milat blessing the new mural

priest) and Fr Emil. The blessing ceremony commenced with Josie Thorpe sharing a welcome to country with all present, then Fr Paul and Fr Emil shared some special prayers, asking that the mural be a symbol of Reconciliation and a continued way forward for our community working together.

All that were involved and the mural were then blessed, before Sandon Gibbs-O'Neill, the project coordinator concluded the ceremony by thanking all that were involved and congratulated them on their work, the extra efforts put into completing the mural and the co-operative nature of the work with elders

and the students from Lake Central School and St Francis Xavier School.

This project was a result of a successful grant organised by LLCs through the funding body- Arts Out West (CASP- Country Arts Support program) grant.

"We would like to thank all

those involved in the project that enabled our students to work with so many talented artists to create a mural that will be a focal point in our community forever," stated Mrs Jacinta Elwin. "Our students learnt so much about the process of design, painting techniques and working together as a community."



DARAMALAN COLLEGE

2020 ENROLMENT INFORMATION

YEAR 7 2020 ENROLMENT PERIOD

Year 7 2020 enrolments open
Monday 6 May 2019

For about enrolment information in other Years, visit the website or contact the Enrolments Office on the details below.

"TRY DARA FOR A DAY"

We offer all current Year 6 students an opportunity to visit the College and experience life at Daramalan. (Bookings are essential).

For more information contact the Registrar enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au on phone 6245 6348

OPEN EVENING 28 MARCH 2019

Tours start 5.00pm
Last tour 6.30pm

Year 7 Information session - Option 1
4.45pm - 5.15pm in McCowage Hall

Year 7 Information session - Option 2
7.00pm - 7.30pm in McCowage Hall

Year 11 2020 Information Session
6.00pm - 6.30pm

Daramalan College is an independent Catholic coeducational school operated by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
For enrolment enquiries please contact the College Registrar at enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au or (02) 6245 6348
Reception 6245 6300 | Cowper St Dickson | www.daramalan.act.edu.au



With eyes wide open

Shane Dwyer

is the Director of the National Centre for Evangelisation and the Catholic Enquiry Centre.

Over the summer a significant little figure who added her own beautiful take on how to understand the wonder of human creativity has died. She was the unexpected television star, winning a following the world over as she made the journey from country to country, gallery to gallery, work of art to work of art, to contemplate the essence of what she saw before her.

Sister Wendy Beckett was a natural guide and teacher. A nun vowed to the life of prayer and simplicity, she responded to the invitation to share her insights into the world's great art because, in faith, she believed that was what God was asking of her. She had never seen a television program, much less understood what had to go into making one. Producers were initially perplexed by her as she refused to provide them with a script. She talked off the cuff about what she saw before her, drawing spontaneously from the many hours of study she had put into her favourite hobby. When asked about this she responded: 'I simply talk to the person behind the camera, trying as simply as I can to explain how the particular piece of art I'm standing before is impacting on me'. To have a script (much less, a rehearsal) would have made the conversation she was having with the camera operator stilted. This would have impeded our seeing into her soul.

We caught a glimpse of a woman who was the living embodiment of that famous phrase from the philosopher, Søren Kierkegaard: 'purity of heart is to will one thing'. Sister

Wendy only wanted one thing: to experience and reflect the love of God. An unwitting interviewer asked her once: 'if all you want is silence, prayer and the love of God, why are you making these television programs?' The reason to her was obvious. 'I have the special privilege of experiencing the love of God in my life, for others it is not so easy. There are those who are so removed from that experience of God that they even believe God does not exist. The nearest a person who doesn't believe in God may get to experiencing the wonder and beauty of God, is by contemplating the wonder and beauty of human art.'

It was faith and compassion that motivated her. When asked what she made of the society into which she would occasionally make her way, she responded: 'I see people always hurrying about, searching for something. My heart goes out to them. Don't they know that what they are looking for is all around them and inside them?' By inviting people to sit and contemplate art (she once said a chair is essential if you are to have any hope of understanding a work of art), Sister Wendy did her best to encourage people to stop, take

note, and so be open to something more than the superficial. It is the path to finding God and, paradoxically, to finding ourselves.

The connection with the season of Lent should be obvious. It begins by noting that our Lenten practice is intended to be a response to an invitation, not a burden to be reluctantly shouldered. You're being invited to stop and look, and to put aside those things that prevent you from taking time and from seeing. Sr Wendy often used art as her entry into contemplation, but don't misunderstand what she intended by this. When described by an interviewer as someone whose love of God was only matched by her love of art she felt compelled to set the record straight: 'my love of art pales into insignificance in comparison to my love of God', she gently noted.

God is the point. I don't know what you've decided to 'do for Lent', but I know that when it comes right down to it, it scarcely matters. That is to say: it doesn't matter what you do, just that you do something. Even more accurately: what matters is what you're looking for as you do what you do. At the centre of our

Lenten observance is to be an embodied prayer, where we make real in our lives our desire for God to be God in, around and through us for the world.

Whether you're successful in your own eyes when it comes to your Lenten observance isn't the point either. Congratulations if you manage to last the whole 40 days without that much-enjoyed cup of coffee, or whatever it is you've decided to do. But if that observance doesn't represent the real desire to enter into the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, so as to be re-formed in his image, then it is nothing more than an exercise of willpower.

Sr Wendy reminded us of that taking the time to observe and to allow God to make himself known is at the heart of who we are as human beings. We are made for this relationship, whether we are aware of it or not. 'Lent' is derived from the Old English word 'Lencten' which meant 'Spring'. While it is for us an autumn experience, the fundamental idea remains: Lent is about taking the time to allow something new to grow within us.



Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

A response to the Seal of Confession Legislation

PRIESTS are not above the law. Of course, that is true. Priests want to be good citizens. At the same time, they want to be good and faithful Ministers of the Catholic Church.

The child abuse crisis is everything good people in society respond to with disgust. Courageous survivors have shared their wounds of criminal abuse within the Catholic Church over past decades.

The way we initially handled the crisis was disastrous. The wounds of the victims have wounded us. There is firm resolve to amend our ways. I am deeply committed to ensure that this lamentable history remains exactly that: history.

As a leader within the Catholic Church, I welcome the inclusion of clergy as mandated reporters of child sex abuse within the ACT. Indeed, I called for this some years ago before it was

proposed for legislation.

The proposal that all adults have responsibility for reporting such abuse is certainly true. This makes child protection everybody's business.

The moot point is the issue of the seal of confession.

Confessions are anonymous. Priests, unlike counsellors, do not take appointments. Confessors are generally unaware of the identity of the penitent because of the construction of the confessional room.

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn explained this clearly to the ACT Government. We indicated that the extension of the legislation into the seal of confession would be inoperable.

At the same time, priests throughout the world are bound never to reveal what is spoken of in the confessional.

Secrecy and deceit are the modus operandi of paedophiles. If

they are Catholic, evidence suggests they avoid confession. On the rare occasion a paedophile may confess, priests know they must give clear and unequivocal advice to the penitent to report themselves to the police.

The Attorney-General asked Justice Julie Dodds-Streeton to provide advice on failure-to-report laws, including laws that could compel priests to report revelations of child sexual abuse heard during the Sacrament of Confession.

Her independent report concluded that abusers are very unlikely to tell anyone. In the unlikely circumstance they did, there would almost certainly not be enough information to see the confession reported to police.

Over the past 30 years, the Church has focused on things that will make children safer. Since the Final Report of the Royal Commission, we continue

to implement their 10 key elements for child-safe institutions.

We are also giving great attention to the screening of priests, religious and lay faithful who work with children. All this continues in the future.

Now, however, we priests in the ACT find ourselves on the brink of an impossible choice. We will have to either respect the seal of confession and face prosecution, or comply with the law and face automatic excommunication.

Laws to break the seal of confession are a distraction from other measures that can make real and important improvements to child safety.

The ACT Government's own report says trying to break the seal of confession would be ineffective. Let's continue to work together on the many effective initiatives that can protect children and vulnerable adults.

International Youth Leaders flock to Canberra for **Equipping School**



Over 130 participants from around the South Pacific, UK and Uganda came together in Canberra for the Oceania Youth Ministry Equipping School from February 28 until March 4.

The Equipping School is an intensive formation school that inspires and resources youth, young adults and ministry leaders for the mission of the Catholic Church. It was open to all current and future youth and young adult ministry leaders from across the Archdiocese as well as participants from Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, New Zealand, England and Uganda.

Hosted by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and run by Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia, the Equipping School culminated in the Archdiocesan Youth Cultural Festival and Youth Mass on Sunday, March 3.

The Festival and Mass included key national and international leaders, including Cardinal Soane Mafi from Tonga and key leaders from other participating countries.

The Youth Festival and Youth Mass seeks to bring the young Church of the Archdiocese together, gathering as one and celebrating our Catholic faith and parishes from across the Archdiocese were invited to attend.

Following the Equipping School, participants were given the opportunity to form cross-cultural mission teams. In addition to the Equipping School, Youth Ministers may participate in the YMA network which includes an ACU accreditation program called Signum Fidei.

Missions for 2019 include England, Fiji, East Africa (Rwanda and Uganda), Northern Territory, Solomon Islands and New Zealand.

The Oceania Equipping School was followed by a Catholic Schools Youth Ministry International (CSYMI) Leaders Training day on Monday March 4.



Third generation enrols at St Jude’s

SOME things run in the family. Hobbies, appearance, sporting teams.

And sometimes, schools.

Maria Hicks believes that her grand-son will be the first third-generation student to attend St Jude’s in Holder.

“I think we’re very close... I can’t think of anybody else,” Maria said as her grandson, Harry, prepared for another day in his first week of school.

Harry has just started at St Jude’s Early Learning Centre, his mother Emily attended St Jude’s Primary from 2000-2002 and Maria attended back at the very beginning.

“I was here from 1975, the very first year that it opened,” she said

“I was here until 1977 in grades 4-6 when it was run by the Sisters of Nazareth. Sr Irmina was the first Principal. She came over from America and had to build the school and the community.

“While she was here the parish got together and built the church.”

During that time, Fr John O’Connor was the first priest at St Jude’s and Maria described him

as a very popular figure around the school and the parish.

Work has often meant movement for Maria but her bond with St Jude’s has always brought her back.

“Being a defence force family whenever we’ve had postings back to Canberra we’ve always lived in this area to make sure our children went to this school because I had such fond memories of being here,” she said.

Maria said that one of the things she liked about the school was that its moderate size ensured a close school atmosphere and community. Her vocal support of the school has also been matched by action. Over the years she has been on the School Board, Co-ordinator of the fete committee, helped fund-raising for the P&F and worked on the canteen.

“It was easy to do because there was always such a strong community that the work was shared and it was never a hardship,” said Maria.

“It’s how I’ve made some of my life-long friends from being involved with the school committees.”

Fond memories of the



Maria Hicks with her daughter Emily and grandson, Harry. PHOTO Chris Gordon

school run in the family. Maria’s daughter Emily also speaks highly of her time with the school and when the time came for schooling Harry, the choice was automatic.

“I had a great time here,” said Emily.

“I liked the friendships I made here, the location, and it was very close to my grandparents’ house. We had great teachers and

some great times, playing netball together, spending weekends together with our families. Just a great experience and I’m hoping it will be the same for Harry.”

Falling for Lent

LAST week as I walked along a tree lined street, two leaves fell at my feet; it alarmed me a little as I wasn’t expecting this after the warm weather. Yet it reminded me that Autumn and therefore March were only several days away - as was Ash Wednesday. The tree was preparing for the season ahead and called me to do the same.

The liturgy of Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, where we are marked on the forehead with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes are derived from the burned blessed branches from the previous Palm Sunday, which honoured Jesus’ arrival into Jerusalem and hailed him as the Messiah. The ashes are to remind us of our need of forgiveness and our prayer to

God in the liturgy tells us that we are not alone.

One of the prayers for the *Blessing and Distribution of Ashes* from the Roman Missal is:

*Dear brothers and sisters
let us humbly ask God our Father
that he be pleased to bless with the
abundance of his grace these ashes,
which we will put on our heads in
penitence.*

*O God, who are moved by acts of
humility
and respond with forgiveness to works
of penance,
lend your merciful ear to our prayers
and in your kindness pour out the grace
of your blessing
on your servants who are marked with
these ashes,
that, as they follow the Lenten*

*observances,
they may be worthy to come with minds
made pure
to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of
your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.*

This beautiful prayer concisely states what this forty-day Lenten journey is all about. The Lenten penitential observances of prayer, almsgiving and fasting are powerful tools to help reorientate ourselves towards Christ.

When I was a child the focus was on “giving things up”; another way is to approach Lent as a graced time, opening up a space to enable me to ask for God’s grace to “take up” a new way of being.

The readings and psalms are especially rich throughout Lent



and will offer sustenance to those prepared to linger with them. If you are fortunate enough to have RCIA candidates in your parish, you are a gift to each other. Pray for them and with them.

Like those fallen leaves, we are asked to let go; to let go of

anything that keeps us from Christ. The liturgies of Lent guide us on the journey to the Easter Vigil.

*Ms Sharon Boyd, MA
Professional Specialist-Liturgy
Education ACU Centre for Liturgy*

Vocation Matters

Every vocation is an exodus from self ... It leads us on a journey of Adoration of the Lord ... and service to him in our brothers and sisters
POPE FRANCIS

Are you considering a vocation as a priest in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn? If so please contact Fr Paul Nulley paul.nulley@cg.org.au



The Eddies ethos remains unchanged

CHANGE is inevitable. Times change. People change. Places change.

But amidst change, some things remain constant.

A visitor approaching St Edmunds College Canberra in 2019, for instance, will see the same columns, the same main building, the same front steps that the first students walked up 65 years ago.

“The pillars out the front, the stairs, even team photos are taken on those stairs still,” said Germaine Muller, Community Development and Marketing Manager for St Edmund’s.

“It is such an iconic façade as far as we’re concerned. And I don’t think there’s any intention to ever change that because it’s just one of those things. We’re very proud of it.

“The Hall is still pretty similar to how it was even 20 years ago. A lot remains very familiar for visiting Old Boys. We’ve added new buildings, new wings, the Performing Arts Centre for example was opened in 2013 and new equipment and facilities are added regularly. But the façade will stay the same for a long time to come.”

This year, St Edmund’s, or Eddies as it’s more widely known, celebrates its 65th year. The first class began on February 2, 1954. Classes have continued since, making Eddies the oldest continuing Catholic School in Canberra.

And while some physical aspects of the College may have changed, Germaine believes



Eddies boys set for another school year. PHOTO Supplied

the core of the school, its ethos and its community, remain unchanged.

“The sense of community is definitely unchanged,” Germaine said.

“I’m an Old Boy. A number of the staff here are Old Boys and Eddies has over 11,000 alumni.

“The technology’s changed and the times have changed, the influences have changed, but the Eddies “feel”... the fact old boys from across generations can ease instantly into conversations, shows that the community hasn’t changed. And that community is known across Canberra.

“I heard the other day that we had raised more than any

other school for the Vinnies door-knock appeal in 2018, and we continue to do things like that, that really touch back to our community spirit. And as a student you feel it, as a parent you feel it and obviously as a staff member and Old Boy you feel it as well.

“Somehow, amidst all the changes, I think the ethos here has remained the same and I think Eddies boys continue to be proud of similar things within the College that they were proud of 65 years ago.”

So what is different about an St Eddies Boy? It’s hard to nail down said Germaine, who was quick to clarify that he wasn’t trying to critique or compete with

other schools, but it’s something students and Old Boys feel.

“I think there’s a holistic difference,” he said.

“It’s subtle. There’s no specific thing that makes an Eddies Boy stand out. There are other schools that we are similar to.

“We tend to stand up against injustice, tend to contribute to the community, tend to have unwavering motivation... and it’s not about saying we’re better, or trying to rubbish other schools, but it is a holistic experience that touches on so many areas of your life, and there’s a reason that Eddies Old Boys like to hire Eddies school leavers. Their experience of the school stays with them and

they value that and favour that.”

In this 65th year, Germaine said there aren’t any new events, however, existing events will celebrate the occasion.

“We have the usual events that we’d have every other year, only this year they have a 65 year celebratory spin on them,” said Germaine.

“We have the opening school Mass, the end of year Mass, the Founders Day Mass.

“We have the Blue and White Ball which was rejuvenated a few years ago and we have the Heritage day/Reunion Day. Those five events have always been big events in the school calendar, but this year they take on a unique 65 years spin.

“The Blue and White Ball is coming up on 17th of May... anyone from the community is welcome and we’re hoping to have staff members from 30, 40, 50 years ago attend as well. We anticipate it will be bigger than any ball we’ve hosted in recent history.

“For the Heritage Day as well... this year we’ve also called it the Reunion Day, and we’ll be opening the electronic scoreboard that was fundraised by the Old Boys & Friends Association.

“For the Founders Day Mass we’re inviting all of our friends from all of the other schools and the wider community and we’ll be hosting them for refreshments at a small reception afterwards as well.

“So nothing will be completely different, but everything will be slightly different, and collectively we will have a year celebrating 65 years.”

Which brings the discussion back to the topic of change, and a final word from Germaine.

“I think over the 65 years, an Eddies Boy has remained an Eddies Boy. The times have changed but we continue to adapt to the changes, to ensure that we are educating boys the best way possible, and to make sure that our output continues to be the same – quality human beings, Eddies Boys.”



St Edmund’s students across the years

MEDIA RELEASE: CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Catholic Education Welcomes New NCEC Executive Director



Executive Director of the National Catholic Education Commission, Jacinta Collins.

FORMER Victorian Senator Jacinta Collins has been appointed Executive Director of the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC).

Ross Fox, member of the NCEC and Director of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, welcomes the appointment, “I look forward to working closely with Jacinta. I have known and worked closely with Jacinta over almost a decade. She is a welcome asset for the NCEC. Jacinta has been a strong advocate for fair funding and school education as a Senator. She brings a wealth of experience and an excellent understanding of the challenges faced by Catholic education today to her new role as leader of the NCEC.”

With over 20 years in the Senate, Jacinta’s extensive leadership experience includes serving on the frontbench in the school education and early childhood portfolios. She has been a strong

advocate for social justice and quality education across all sectors. As parent to three children Jacinta has a deep interest in early learning and quality education for all children.

Jacinta is passionate about Australia’s diverse school system of government, Catholic and Independent schools and strongly believes in the right of parents to choose the type of school most suited for their child.

The NCEC’s new Executive Director will continue to advocate on behalf of Australian Catholic school children.

“In the Parliament, I was a strong advocate for fair funding for all schools and I will continue to be a strong voice for the needs of Catholic schools, teachers and students,” she said.

Jacinta will commence in her new role on 18 February 2019.

Catholic schools across the country, the vast majority of which are low-fee schools, educate one in five Australian children.

Physically attacked, stressed and depressed: Australia’s school principals speak out

ONE in three Australian school principals was physically attacked and one in two experienced threats of violence at work, according to a new survey released on Wednesday, Feb 27.

In a worrying trend, almost half of school principals (45%) were threatened with violence in 2018, compared with 38% in 2011. The survey also found that increasing threats and violence, aggravated by excessive working hours, are leading to serious levels of distress, burnout and depression among school leaders.

Now in its 8th year, The Australian Principal Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Survey, has collected data from about 50% of Australia’s 10,000 principals from 2011 to 2018. Australia’s principals are overwhelmed by the volume of work; being threatened with violence; being physically attacked; having great difficulty sleeping; and experiencing high rates of depressive symptoms.

Associate Professor Philip Riley, from Australian Catholic University’s Institute of Positive Psychology and Education and the survey’s chief investigator, said, “Clearly, our nation builders are under attack. Consequently, fewer people are willing to step into the role. At a time when 70% of school leaders will reach retirement age within 2-3 years, we are ignoring a looming national crisis.”

Causes of Stress

The survey found the sheer quantity of work and the lack of time to focus on teaching

and learning were the greatest sources of principals’ stress. Teacher shortages were also a frequent issue.

An increasing source of stress is managing the mental health issues of staff and of students.

Work hours

The standard working week in Australia is an average of 38 hours.

53% of principals worked more than 56 hours per/wk, during term.

Approximately, 24% of principals, or 1 in 4, worked more than 61-65 hours per/wk.

During school holidays, approximately 40% of principals worked more than 25 hours per/wk.

The survey found an overwhelming 99.7% of principals worked hours far beyond those recommended for positive mental and physical health.

Violence

One in three principals was physically attacked in 2018.

Violence jumped from 27% in 2011 to 37% in 2018.

“Australia’s school leaders experience a far higher rate of offensive behaviour at work than the general population,” Associate Professor Philip Riley said.

Female school leaders are most at risk of physical violence with 40% experiencing violence compared to 32% of male school leaders. The rates of physical violence show a concerning upwards trend in almost every part of Australia including: NSW, Victoria, Queensland, South

Australia, Western Australia, and the ACT.

Threats of violence

The highest number of threats of violence is found in government primary schools at 49%.

The lowest prevalence of threats is in P/K – 12 Independent schools at 12% (this is still 1.5 times the population rate).

Associate Professor Philip Riley said, “The steadily increasing levels of offensive behaviour in schools of all types is a disgrace and it needs to stop.”

Health

One in three school leaders was identified as so distressed that their physical and mental health were seriously at risk.

When compared to the general population, principals report 1.5 times higher job demands,

1.6 times higher levels of burnout, 1.7 times higher stress symptoms, 2.2 times more difficulty sleeping, 1.3 times negative physical symptoms and 1.3 times more depressive symptoms.

Key recommendations

“Australia should adopt a whole-of-government approach to education,” Associate Professor Philip Riley said. “This would mean the federal government, states and territories combine to oversee a single education budget. The funding agreement should be bipartisan and a transparent mechanism which is simple to understand.”

Source: Australian Catholic University

Every goodbye is different

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS' SURVEY AT A GLANCE



VIOLENCE		
 1 IN 3 PRINCIPALS was physically attacked	VIOLENCE jumped from 27% IN 2011 to 37% IN 2018	FEMALE SCHOOL LEADERS are most at risk of physical violence with 40% EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE compared to 32% OF MALE SCHOOL LEADERS
The rates of physical violence show a CONCERNING UPWARDS TREND IN ALMOST EVERY PART OF AUSTRALIA including: NSW, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and the ACT.		Almost half of school principals were THREATENED WITH VIOLENCE 45% IN 2018 compared with 38% IN 2011
WORK HOURS		HEALTH
 99.7% OF PRINCIPALS WORKED HOURS FAR BEYOND THOSE RECOMMENDED for positive mental and physical health	 1 IN 3 SCHOOL LEADERS was identified as so distressed their PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH WERE SERIOUSLY AT RISK	

Source: The Australian Principal Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Survey 2018 data was authored by Australian Catholic University Associate Professor Philip Riley www.healthandwellbeing.org

A Copernican revolution

AUSTRALIAN Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge delivered the homily at the final Mass of the Vatican Summit on the Protection of Minors. Here is the text of Archbishop Coleridge's homily.

In the Gospel just proclaimed, one voice alone is heard, the voice of Jesus. Earlier we heard the voice of Paul and at the end of Mass we will hear the voice of Peter, but in the Gospel there is only the voice of Jesus. It is good that, after all our words, there are now only the words of Christ: Jesus alone remains, as on the mount of the Transfiguration (cf Lk 9:36).

He speaks to us of power, and he does so in this splendid Sala Regia which also speaks of power. Here are images of battles, of a religious massacre, of struggles between emperors and popes. This is a place where earthly and heavenly powers meet, touched at times by infernal powers as well. In this Sala Regia the word of God invites us to contemplate power, as we have done through these days together.

Between meeting, Sala and Scripture therefore we have a fine harmony of voices.

Standing over the sleeping Saul, David appears a powerful figure, as Abishai sees only too well: "Today God has put the enemy into your hands. So let me nail him to the ground with the spear". But David retorts: "Don't kill him! Who has ever laid a hand on the Lord's consecrated one and gone unpunished?" David chooses to use power not to destroy but to save the king, the Lord's anointed.

The pastors of the Church, like David, have received a gift of power – power however to serve, to create; a power that is with and for but not over; a power, as St Paul says, "which the Lord gave for building you up, not for destroying you" (2 Cor 10:8). Power is dangerous, because it can destroy; and in these days we have pondered how in the Church, power can turn destructive when separated from service, when it is not a way of loving, when it becomes power over.

A host of the Lord's consecrated ones have been placed in our hands – and by the Lord himself. Yet we can use this power not to create but to destroy, and even in the end to kill. In sexual abuse, the powerful lay hands on the Lord's consecrated ones, even the weakest and most vulnerable of them. They say yes to the urging of Abishai; and they seize the spear.



Bishop Mark Coleridge's homily on the final day of the Vatican Summit on the protection of minors.

In abuse and its concealment, the powerful show themselves not men of heaven but men of earth, in the words of St Paul we have heard. In the Gospel, the Lord commands: "Love your enemies". But who is the enemy? Surely not those who have challenged the Church to see abuse and its concealment for what they really are, above all the victims and survivors who have led us to the painful truth by telling their stories with such courage. At times, however, we have seen victims and survivors as the enemy, but we have not loved them, we have not blessed them. In that sense, we have been our own worst enemy.

The Lord urges us to "be merciful as your Father is merciful". Yet, for all that we desire a truly safe Church and for all that we have done to ensure it, we have not always chosen the mercy of the man of heaven.

We have, at times, preferred instead the indifference of the man of earth and the desire to protect the Church's reputation and even our own. We have shown too little mercy, and therefore we will receive the same, because the measure we give will be the measure we receive in return. We will not go unpunished, as David says, and we have already known punishment.

The man of earth must die so that the man of heaven can be born; the old Adam must give way to the new Adam. This will require a true conversion, without which we will remain on the level of "mere administration" – as the Holy Father writes in *Evangelii Gaudium* – "mere administration" which leaves

untouched the heart of the abuse crisis (25).

This conversion alone will enable us to see that the wounds of those who have been abused are our wounds, that their fate is our fate, that they are not our enemies but bone of our bones, flesh of our flesh (cf Gen 2:23). They are us, and we are them.

This conversion is in fact a Copernican revolution. Copernicus proved that the sun does not revolve around the earth but the earth around the sun. For

the powerless one around whom the Church revolves forever, the powerless one whose scars shine like the sun.

In these days we have been on Calvary – even in the Vatican and in the Sala Regia we are on the dark mountain. In listening to survivors, we have heard Christ crying out in the darkness (cf Mk 15:34). And the cry has even become music. But here hope is born from his wounded heart, and hope becomes prayer, as the universal Church gathers around

justice and healing to survivors of abuse; we will listen to them, believe them and walk with them; we will ensure that those who have abused are never again able to offend; we will call to account those who have concealed abuse; we will strengthen the processes of recruitment and formation of Church leaders; we will educate all our people in what safeguarding requires; we will do all in our power to make sure that the horrors of the past are not repeated and that the Church is a safe place for all, a loving mother especially for the young and the vulnerable; we will not act alone but will work with all concerned for the good of the young and the vulnerable; we will continue to deepen our own understanding of abuse and its effects, of why it has happened in the Church and what must be done to eradicate it. All of this will take time, but we do not have forever and we dare not fail.

If we can do this and more, we will not only know the peace of the Risen Lord but we will become his peace in a mission to the ends of the earth. Yet we will become the peace only if we become the sacrifice. To this we say yes with one voice as at the altar we plunge our failures and betrayals, all our faith, our hope, our love into the one sacrifice of Jesus, Victim and Victor, who "will wipe away the tears from every eye, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning or weeping or pain any more, for the former things have passed away" (Apoc 21:4).

Amen.

For us, the Copernican revolution is the discovery that those who have been abused do not revolve around the Church but the Church around them

us, the Copernican revolution is the discovery that those who have been abused do not revolve around the Church but the Church around them. In discovering this, we can begin to see with their eyes and to hear with their ears; and once we do that, the world and the Church begin to look very different. This is the necessary conversion, the true revolution and the great grace which can open for the Church a new season of mission.

Lord, when did we see you abused and did not come to help you? But he will reply: In truth I say to you, as often as you failed to do this to one of these the least of my brothers and sisters, you failed to do it to me (cf Matt 25:44-45). In them, the least of the brothers and sisters, victims and survivors, we encounter Christ crucified, the powerless one from whom there flows the power of the Almighty,

us in this upper room: may the darkness of Calvary lead the Church throughout the world to the light of Easter, to the Lamb who is the sun that never sets (cf Apoc 21:23).

In the end, there remains only the voice of the Risen Lord, urging us not to stand gazing at the empty tomb, wondering in our perplexity what to do next. Nor can we stay in the upper room where he says, "Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19). He breathes on us (cf Jn 20:22) and the fire of a new Pentecost touches us (cf Acts 2:2). He who is peace throws open the doors of the upper room and the doors of our heart. From fear is born an apostolic boldness, from deep discouragement the joy of the Gospel.

A mission stretches before us – a mission demanding not just words but real concrete action. We will do all we can to bring

New book an invaluable resource for parents, educators and children

BY KAY DUNN

BOOK REVIEW: Youcat for kids - Catholic Catechism for children and parents. Australia and New Zealand Edition, Freedom Books.

This is a great new book that should appeal to a wide range of people. It would be invaluable for parents and children, Godparents, grandparents, teachers of Religious Education and catechists. The content is relevant and contemporary and the presentation is beautiful.

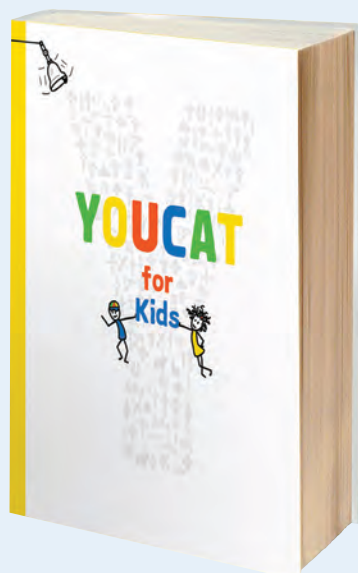
Easily identified sections make researching a topic very simple.

- Want to know the role of a deacon?
- May the priest reveal what he has heard in confession?
- What are the words of the Angelus?
- How can I hear God?
- What are Sacraments?

The answers are all there - well illustrated and with more adult and Scriptural references and quotes from saints and others to support the initial explanation. Really simple, really well done and very meaningful.

The size, shape and feel of this book also appealed to me. It would slide easily onto a shelf, fit into a school bag and be easily accessible for a range of ages and uses. Although it is recommended for "around 9 to 13 years", I think it could be used with children much younger as well.

My seven year old grandson watched and listened and read some to himself, commenting on the "cool" line drawings and recognizing the stunning photo



of Usain Bolt used to illustrate "Taking a Stance". Secondary students needing definitions for assignments or more detailed explanations for the traditions and practices of our Church would be glad to have access to YOUCAT.

I agree with Pope Francis when he says, "Be a living chain which makes it possible for the Good News to always be present in our families, communities and in the Church". This Catholic Catechism for children and parents deals with the entirety of the Catholic Faith and deals with it very well. Highly recommended for families and schools.

Youcat for Kids is available from the Catholic Bookshop, 55 Franklin Street Manuka, \$34.95. <http://cgcatholic.org.au/catholic-bookshop/>

"Over 18" documentary is going on the road



After a successful launch last year and much popular community response, the Archdiocese Marriage Family Relationships Team is taking the Canadian documentary "Over 18" on the road in 2019.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn is partnering with other community organisations to conduct a public awareness campaign using the documentary as its base.

The campaign targets parents of primary school children (and older) who can be are unaware of the violent and degrading content their children are easily be exposed to as soon as they have access to the internet, game platforms and social media.

The forums raise awareness through screening the excellent Canadian documentary "Over 18" and provide tools so that parents can have calm, confident and helpful conversations at home.

After the first screening at St Edmund's College last year, the team was contacted by several parents who were able to have helpful conversations at home (after they got over the shock of what their children had already been exposed to) and by two

community organisations offering support for our project.

This year's campaign will start with forums in West Wyalong and Lake Cargelligo on Wednesday March 20 and Thursday March 21 respectively, with other regions in the Archdiocese to follow including Goulbourn and the South Coast

Government schools are also asking for screenings.

OVER 18 is a clear-eyed examination of modern pornography and its effects on kids, teens, parents, and porn stars. In addition to interviews with porn producers, ex-porn stars, and academics, directors Jared and Michelle Brock highlight the story of Joseph, a 13 year-old boy who is recovering from a porn addiction that he fell into when he was nine years old.

The film compares what porn used to be in the magazine era and what it's become in the age of the internet, and demonstrates why kids in particular are susceptible to addiction.

Please note, there are no explicit images in the film. However, some of the language and terms may be shocking or unfamiliar. This is the unfortunate reality of what children

and youth are being exposed to online.

If you would like to host a documentary screening and parent forum for your community please contact Lara Kirk 0429 192 869 lara.kirk@cg.org.au

To host a screening you will need to provide a free venue where parents from your community can gather for a two hour session (preferably Thursday evenings)

What we are offering:

- Centralised booking, advertising and promotions handled by the Archdiocesan Communications team

- A licenced screening of the excellent Canadian documentary Over 18 (see trailer at <https://over18doc.com/>)

- A moderated forum / discussion helping parents to feel less isolated and better equipped to have calm, confident, helpful conversations at home.

- A take home booklet of resources prepared by Perimeter Guardian



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Fr Josh with participants in the Youth Ministry Equipping School that took place over Feb 28 – March 3. Photo Rossen de Ramos.



Youth Ministers Sarah Larkin and Jake Mc leading a session at the Youth Ministry Equipping School. Photo Rossen de Ramos.



Students from St Mary's, Batlow at their swimming carnival. Photo supplied.



West Wyalong recently farewelled Fr Emil Milat. Photo supplied.



Author Jackie French was happy to get into the spirit of preparations for the Bega 150th Anniversary along with St Patrick's Assistant Principal Caz Perryman and Principal Jo Scott-Pegum. Photo supplied.



Big grins to be out of the class room and into the pool at St Mary's, Young. Photo supplied.



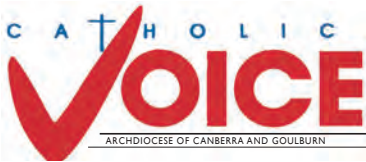
An estimated 47 parishioners of St Joseph's O'Connor met for a planning day in February. Photo supplied.



LEFT: Lovely day for a dip at the swimming carnival for St Anne's Central School, Temora. Photo supplied

.BELOW: Lumen Christi students and staff hosted members of the Social Justice Advocates of the Sapphire Coast for morning tea to celebrate their Australia Day Service award. Photo supplied.





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.
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HARRISON: 25 sq m office space available for rent near Harrison Schools. Secure place with parking area. \$210 /wk. Contact 0421 544 878.

HOLIDAYS

BROULEE: Spectacular views near beach. Six-bedroom, three-bathroom house. Two living areas, includes balcony with wonderful views, fully equipped. Great for family groups – sleeps 14. Phone: (02) 6257 1222. Visit www.broulee-beachhouse.com

EUROBODALLA: Bodalla Rockhouse. Best of the bush and the beach. Passive solar Stone farmhouse set on 100 acres. Spectacular elevated views over the lagoon and Tuross river valley.

Relax, pray, eat to the slow rhythms of life amongst the dairy farms. 8km from the historic village of Bodalla. Minutes to beaches lakes. Sleeps 8, four bedrooms, two bathrooms. Great for families or couples. Pets welcome by arrangement. Ph Jenny 0400735454. www.stayz.com.au/bodallarockhouse

CURRAJONG, JERVIS BAY: Fantastic house with six bedrooms, two bathrooms and rumpus. Sleeping 14, it's ideal for two families to share. Stylishly redecorated in mid-2010. Visit www.currajongbeach-house.com.au

TUROSS HEADS: Ella May Holiday Flats. Renovated two bedrooms, walk to the beach. Fully equipped, available all year including weekends. Off-season rates ranging from \$150 p/n to \$350 p/n. Contact Deidre on 0414 597 619 or (02) 6278 5271. Visit www.ellamay.com.au

FOR SALE or REPAIR

CHOOKS: Good, healthy layers. From \$15. Phone 02 6259 1088.

GARDEN: Bags of garden sheep manure, \$7 per bag. Minimum order is five bags. Free delivery around Canberra area. Phone Mark on 0427 053 988.

GARDEN & CLEANING TOOLS: Locally owned 2WP selling premium garden & cleaning tools since 1977 including; secateurs, gloves and high reach poles helping to make gardening effortless. View our range at www.2wp.com.au or call 1300 297 000

KENWOOD: Chef food mixer \$100, microwaves from \$40. Six month warranty. Free quote for repairs. Will trade-in or purchase old items. Microwave glass trays from \$10. Phone John on (02) 6166 5512 or 0403 050 960.

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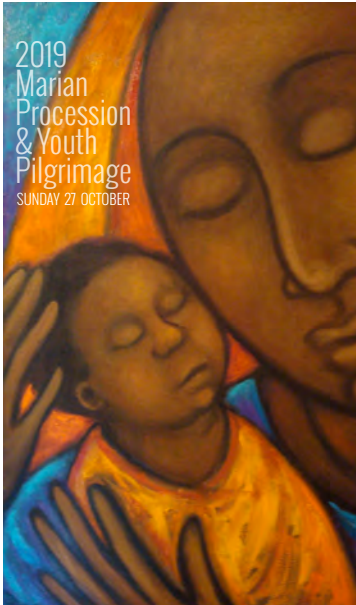
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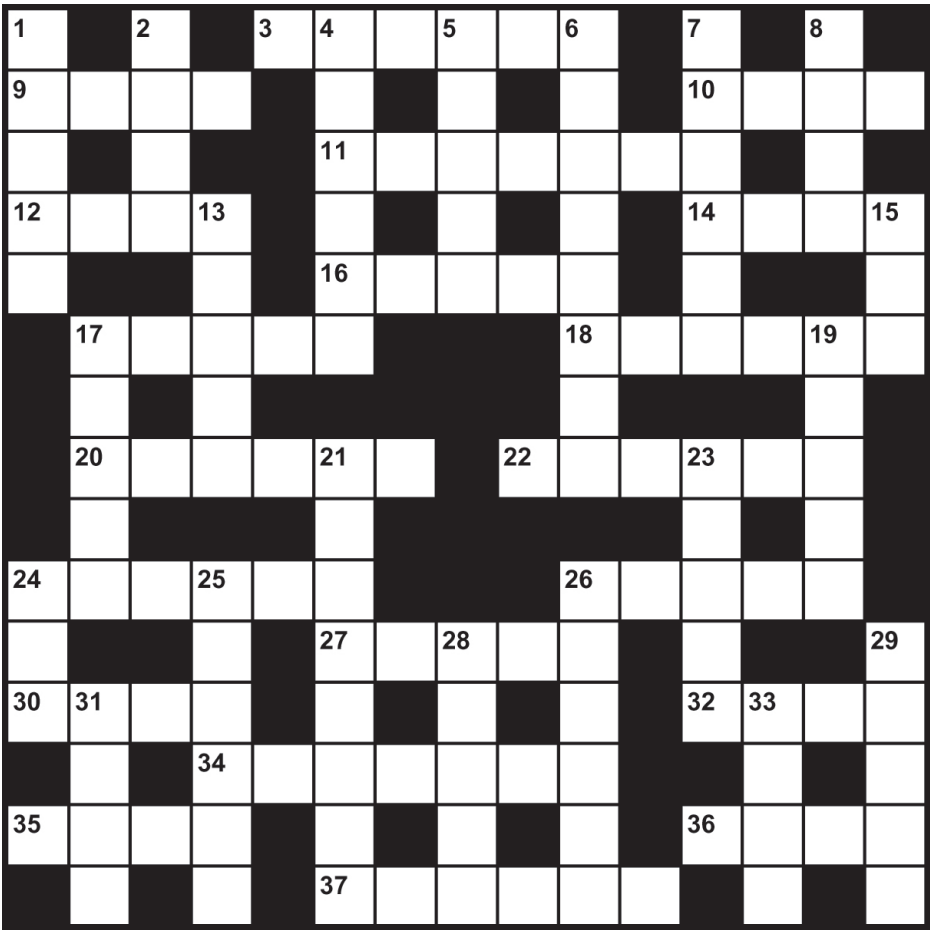
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10.30am Sacrament of Penance
11.30am Mass
12.30pm BYO lunch | 2:00 pm Procession to the grotto
Contact 02 6239 8500

CROSSWORD



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ACROSS

- 3 Number of New Testament letters that bear the name of a person
- 9 The Garden of Eden might have been in this modern-day state
- 10 He called for justice to roll down like water
- 11 Extreme ____
- 12 "What God ____ joined together..."
- 14 French clergyman
- 16 Her tomb was the first thing bought in the Bible
- 17 Number of days Jonah spent in the belly of a large fish (Jon 1:17)
- 18 Saint for sore throats
- 20 St. Nicholas is a patron of this country
- 22 Nativity scene
- 24 Doubting apostle
- 26 Color of Ordinary Time
- 27 "____ Noster"
- 30 Funeral ____
- 32 There were 40 days and nights of this
- 34 Penance ____
- 35 Mary made a request of Jesus here
- 36 Sydney's first archbishop, John ____ Polding
- 37 Author of The Models of the Church

DOWN

- 1 Number of humans in Noah's ark (Gen 7:13)
- 2 Nod, vis-à-vis Eden
- 4 St. ____ de Marillac
- 5 ____ of Christ
- 6 "Love your ____ as yourself"
- 7 North American country with

- 8 approximately 40% Catholic population
- 8 "...the babe leaped in her ____" (Lk 1:41)
- 13 They blew these outside the walls of Jericho
- 15 Wife of 31D
- 17 The Law
- 19 50's Catholic televangelist-bishop
- 21 Moved by God
- 23 Sacre ____
- 24 Abbr. for two NT epistles
- 25 Book with the words and rubrics of a liturgy
- 26 Catholic author of The Power and the Glory
- 28 "And do not bring us to the time of ____." (Lk 11:4)
- 29 One of the seraphim or cherubim, for example
- 31 First man
- 33 Cry from the congregation



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

Coming Events

MARCH 11, 2019: Sixth anniversary of the Pontificate of Pope Francis. Celebrated by the Nuncio, His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana. St Christopher's Cathedral, Manuka from 5pm.

MARCH 15, 2019 to MARCH 17, 2019: SAVE THE DATE. St Patrick's Primary School Bega will celebrate their 150th Anniversary.

MARCH 23, 2019: Lenten Retreat with Fr Roni George & Fr Joby George. St Benedicts, Narrabundah. 9.30pm to 4.30pm. For enquiries please contact Parveen (0439 642 571), Winnie (0451 0155 527), Prakash (0406 381 446), Shan (0412 310 364) and Tom (0434 689 957). RSVP by March 21 to p.l.rebello@gmail.com

MARCH 29-31, 2019: Mothers' Prayers Retreat with Monsignor Stuart Hall at St Clements Retreat Centre, Galong. Contact Anne Hartwell on bahartwell@netspeed.com.au or 02 6282 0874. Bookings: St Clements 02 6380 5222.

APRIL 12-14, 2019: Finding life and joy in today's world: A

retreat using worship from Taizé, 12-14 April 2019 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, Sydney. Facilitated by Fr John Armstrong and Annemarie Nicol. All welcome (with a special invite to young people between 18 and 35). Cost: \$300.00 Private facilities, fully catered Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. Address: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW 2566 Bookings: Mount Carmel Retreat Centre (02 8795 3400) or visit <http://carmeliteretreats.com.au/> More information: Annemarie (0421 492 554)

OCTOBER 11 to 17, 2020: Australian Catholic Plenary Council Session One in Adelaide.

MAY 2021: Australian Catholic Plenary Council Session Two in Sydney.

REGULAR GROUPS

CANBERRA CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY (CLC): Meets fortnightly. It's part of an international lay organisation originating from St. Ignatius of Loyola who formed the Jesuits. Groups are based on ordinary

people leading ordinary lives practising Ignatian spirituality, the essence of which is finding God in the everyday. Contact Steve on 0407 147 540.

CATENIANS IN CANBERRA: A Catholic men's group sharing faith and friendship and supporting each other and their families. Meet on the third Thursday of each month, 6.45pm Southern Cross Club Woden followed by dinner, often with guest speaker. Contact: Phil Murray 0419 695 927.

CANBERRA CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY (CLC): meets fortnightly. It's part of an international lay organisation originating from St. Ignatius of Loyola who formed the Jesuits. Groups are based on ordinary people leading ordinary lives practising Ignatian spirituality, the essence of which is finding God in the everyday. Contact Steve on 0407 147 540.

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 & worship with an anointed sharing of the Word. Contact Shan on 0412 310 364 or Sean 0448 510 237

COUPLES FOR CHRIST (CFC) CANBERRA CHAPTER: For more information contact Chris Carlile 0414 938 831.

CONCERNED CATHOLICS OF CANBERRA-GOULBURN

is a group actively committed to church renewal and reform in the spirit of Pope Francis. For further information, go to www.concernedcatholicscanberra.org or contact John Warhurst (john.warhurst@anu.edu.au - phone 0439 498 283).

COUPLES FOR CHRIST (CFC) CANBERRA CHAPTER: 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. Rosary, charismatic praise and worship, teachings, testimonies, prayer ministry, intercession and fellowship. Contacts Susanna on 0419 902 293, Neda on 0415 266 019 and Gabriel on 0432 082 642.

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

IGNATIUS 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.au

TAIZE PRAYER GROUP: 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. Prayers, songs, Scripture readings and silent meditation as used in the monastery in Taizé, France. All welcome. Enquiries to Annemarie (0421 492 554) or CBRTaizeFriends@internode.on.net

VOCATIONS

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

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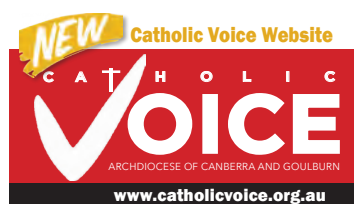
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St Mary's Crookwell success

A RECENT grant from the NSW government will ensure a wider variety of sports will be available not just to the students of St Mary's in Crookwell, but to the whole community.

St Mary's Principal, Sarah Lowe, applied for a grant for a multi-purpose sporting facility for the school and recently found out the grant had been successful.

"We've received a NSW clubs grant for infrastructure for \$108,400 which will open up many opportunities for the students," Sarah said.

In announcing the successful grant in January, Member for Goulburn Pru Goward explained that the Infrastructure Grants were made possible through the NSW Government's Clubgrants Category 3 Fund which reinvests a contribution from the State's registered clubs gaming machine profits back into community projects.

Sarah said that she applied for the grant during 2018. She had applied for this particular grant once previously and said she was very thankful it worked out the second time around.

"On behalf of the school community I would like to thank the NSW Government for this investment in our School" she said. "Since I've been at the school these courts have been rarely used, and this funding will enhance the potential of this community area."

"This is already a wonderful open space with good parking – the new court will have revolving netball and basketball hoops."

Sarah said the amount of the



On the site of the old tennis courts where the new sporting facility will be built, and excited by the prospect were St Mary's Crookwell students – BACK ROW: Sienna Charnock, Bella Croker, Bridie Croker, Lucy Gamble, Seth Grove, Toby Charnock. MIDDLE ROW: Addin Grove, William Croker, Charlie Tarlinton, Hayden Tarlinton. FRONT ROW: Sophie Croker.

grant was very similar to the amount that was requested. The new facility, when completed, will not only be of use to St Mary's but to the whole community.

"We currently don't have a basketball or netball competition in town and if we have a full-sized, regulation court it will be able to be used for that," Sarah said. "We've had a lot of expressions of interest from people

who would be prepared to go on organizing committees for both sports so we're keen to get them up and running as quickly as they can."

"We're all excited at the prospects for the new sporting facility." Work on the courts is expected to begin later this year.

St Mary's has also been successful in another of its grant applications. Federal Member for

Hume, Angus Taylor announced in December a Federal funding grant of \$417,000 under the Capital Grants Program.

"We heard at the end of last year that we were successful in obtaining a block grant, which is a federal grant for the refurbishment of our Mercy building which was built in 1948," said Sarah.

The work we've got planned

will open up the old classrooms to provide breakout spaces and collaborative learning spaces for the students. The work will also include a ramp to the front door, a new learning support room and a covered walkway area to the front of the school.

"We're really excited that all of these things are happening at St Mary's this year and are looking forward to exciting times ahead."



Five Archdiocesan students make representative AFL team

CONGRATULATIONS to the following boys that were selected in the combined Wollongong-Canberra/Goulburn AFL team. The boys will be playing at the MacKillop trials in Wagga on Friday April 6. Well done boys.

Daylen Coleman – St Anne's Temora
Lachlan Blackwell – St Anne's Temora
Thomas Miller – Lumen Christi Pambula
Ned Phillips – St Francis Xavier Lake Cargelligo
Cooper Lees – Mt Carmel Yass

Source: Catholic Education Canberra-Goulburn facebook page.