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PAGE 4



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# Bishop's Voice

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI - Bishop of Wagga Wagga Diocese



TOGETHER  
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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### Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

It is my role as bishop to regulate the celebration of the Liturgy in the Wagga Wagga diocese, a role that I take seriously and want to exercise out of love for all of you and with great respect.

Pope Francis issued a *motu proprio* called *Traditionis Custodes* which changed some Church law around the celebration of the Mass according to the 1962 Missal (what we might have called the Traditional Latin Mass). In response to the issuing of *Traditionis Custodes*, I issued a decree on February 28th which can be found elsewhere in this *Together*. The decree regulates the celebration of Mass according to the 1962 Missal, largely leaving in place the practice I found when I arrived though there are some exceptions.

Having two ways of celebrating Holy Mass provides the potential for a division in the diocese along the lines of ritual. What should unite us, our celebration of the Lord's death, resurrection and sending of the Spirit, might divide us.

With the two Masses celebrated according to different Missals, we will need intentionally to find and make other opportunities for broader mingling. I invite you, with me, to consider the question "How can we better be the Lord's Church together?" and to then take practical steps to achieve that. Such communion and unity are not just my desire; they are what the Lord Jesus wants. He prayed for our unity on the night before he died.

It is necessary but not sufficient that we should be pleasant with each other and not antagonise each other. We are part of the body of Christ and a deep love and unity are required.

We will better be Jesus' Church when we are a missionary diocese and a social justice diocese and a devotional diocese. There is a need to talk with each other, to

work together and to learn. God is calling us to find a way of living the faith with each other. Those with a different preference for how Mass should be celebrated are not a force 'out there' but are part of the us, the family that is Wagga Wagga Diocese.

Let us take practical steps to achieve this unity. It might be by having a family day with exposition or a pilgrimage on our diocesan feast day or working together for refugees.

Can I suggest that adapting our terminology might have a positive impact in this area? I am worried that the way we are using the terms 'Traditional Latin Mass' and 'Novus Ordo' is not always helpful. For example, the phrase 'Novus Ordo' is sometimes said in a disrespectful way.

In my understanding, the Mass according to the 2000 Missal is the Traditional Latin Mass (as well as being the Novus Ordo). To doubt that this is the Traditional Latin Mass is to doubt that the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church. For me, then, every Sunday the Traditional Latin Mass is celebrated both according to the 1962 Missal and according to the 2000 Missal. I do experience hurt when people suggest that Mass celebrated according to the 2000 Missal is not an organic and legitimate part of the Traditional Latin Mass tradition.

As 'Novus Ordo' and 'Traditional Latin Mass' are terms that don't work well, I suggest we refer to the 1962 Missal Mass and the 2000 Missal Mass when we wish to distinguish between the rites.

How we talk about receiving Holy Communion also has the potential to be a danger to our parish unity. We want and need to be reverent when receiving the Eucharist as this is not a sharing in "ordinary bread and wine" but in the Body and Blood of the Lord. The Church has approved two reverent, holy

and appropriate ways to receive Holy Communion. Either may be used at the free choice of the communicant.

However, I have seen people look in askance at and make unkind judgements about people receiving Holy Communion on the tongue. It is as though they are offended by the devotion of those receiving on the tongue or perhaps they see this through the lens of the culture wars.

I have also had people approach me confused because someone had told them in an authoritative voice that receiving on the tongue is more reverent than receiving in the hand. At its core, this is an accusation of illegitimacy. It says "your way isn't truly respecting our Lord" which means "you're not as reverent, as truly Catholic, as respectful of Christ, as I am." This is a lie dressed up in piety.

As bishop, I command that all these judgemental voices be silent. Our reverence comes from the heart and is very well expressed in either approved way of receiving Holy Communion.

My goal is that people in our diocese are, as Our Lord wants, one family deeply united around Christ, his sacrifice for us and around our love for his Mother and our loyalty and devotion to the Church. To achieve this, it is important that we are intentional in forming unity and that we use appropriate behaviour and language.

May God be with us on this journey.

**Yours in Jesus Christ and  
Mary Immaculate**



## Prayer Intention for March - Pray with Pope Francis

### For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his monthly prayer:  
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Let us pray that we may give a Christian response to bioethical challenges.

It is evident that science has progressed, and today the field of bioethics presents us with a series of problems to which we must respond, not hiding our head like an ostrich.

Applications of biotechnological must always be used based on respect for human dignity.

For example, human embryos cannot be treated as disposable material, to be discarded. This throw-away culture is also applied to them; no, that can't be done. Extending that culture this way does so much harm.

Or allowing financial gain to condition biomedical

research.

We need to understand the profound changes that are taking place with an even more profound and subtle discernment.

It's not a matter of curbing technological advances. No, we must accompany them. It's about protecting both human dignity and progress. That is to say, we cannot pay the price of human dignity for progress, no. Both go together, in harmony.

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**Pope Francis**



# Pope Francis dubs 2025 a 'Holy Year of Hope'

Pope Francis announced that hope will be the central theme for the upcoming 2025 Jubilee Year, voicing his desire for the year to foster a greater sense of global brotherhood and solidarity with the poor, as well as care for the environment.

BY ELISE ANN ALLEN - CRUX Senior Correspondent

**After two years marked by the coronavirus pandemic and the crisis left in its wake, "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision," the pope said in his letter.**

The coming Jubilee "can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire," he said. "That is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, 'Pilgrims of Hope.'"

Dated Feb. 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the letter was addressed to Italian Archbishop Rino Fisichella, head of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, which is tasked with organizing the Jubilee.

The first-ever "Holy Year" was instituted by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 and was initially celebrated every 100 years. Then, following biblical tradition, it was marked every 50 years, and it was finally decided by Pope Paul II in 1490 to observe the jubilee year every 25 years, so that each person could experience one in his or her lifetime.

Jubilees, designed to be a time of conversion and increased emphasis on God's mercy and forgiveness of sins, are marked by the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. The Holy Doors, present in each of the four papal basilicas in Rome, are destination points for pilgrims who travel to Rome during the Jubilee and who pass through seeking special graces and outpourings of God's mercy.

The last Ordinary Jubilee was the Great Jubilee of 2000, celebrated by Pope John Paul II.

A new custom of calling "extraordinary" jubilees, meaning outside of the 25-year rotation, and which can last a few days to a few months, began in the 16th century.

There have only been a handful of extraordinary jubilees since, the latest being the 2015-2016 Jubilee of Mercy called by Pope Francis.

The Holy Year of 2025 will be the 27th ordinary jubilee year of the Catholic Church.

"As the first twenty-five years of the new century draw to a close, we are called to enter into a season of preparation that can enable the Christian people to experience the Holy Year in all its pastoral richness," Pope Francis said.

This will only happen, he said, "if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity," especially migrants and refugees forced to flee their homes.

"May the voices of the poor be heard throughout this time of preparation for the Jubilee, which is meant to restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone," the pope said.

"All of us are pilgrims on this earth," he said, and urged faithful to make a special effort to care for creation during the Jubilee, saying, "may we never fail, in the course of our sojourn, to contemplate the beauty of creation and care for our common home."

"Growing numbers of men and women, including many young people and children, have come to realize that care for creation is an essential expression of our faith in God and our obedience to his will," he said.

Pope Francis urged Fisichella to coordinate with local churches in both the Latin and Eastern rites in a spirit of synodality in keeping with the current Synod of Bishops dedicated to the topic, and "in order to be ever more fully a sign and instrument of unity in harmonious diversity."

He stressed the importance of the "responsible participation" from everyone, pointing to the four apostolic



Pope Francis inaugurates the Jubilee of Mercy in 2015 with the opening of the Holy Door.

constitutions of the Second Vatican Council and the major papal documents of recent decades as resources.

These documents, he said, "will continue to provide direction and guidance to God's holy people, so that it can press forward in its mission of bringing the joyful proclamation of the Gospel to everyone."

Francis said a Bull of Indiction outlining the guidelines for the celebration of the Jubilee of 2025 will be issued "in due course."

In the lead-up, the pope asked that the year 2024 be devoted to prayer, "above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him."

With preparations for the 2025 Jubilee just getting underway, there are few details regarding the specifics of how the holy year will be observed. However, Pope Francis implemented several novelties for his extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy that could also be

featured as part of the 2025 event.

Among other things, he allowed dioceses and shrines to designate holy doors that pilgrims could pass through without having to travel to Rome and allowed all priests to absolve the sin of abortion, which could previously only be absolved with permission from the local bishop.

Francis also allowed priests in the schismatic Society of Pope Pius X to validly hear confessions in the Catholic Church, and he widened indulgences – the full remission of the temporal consequences of a person's sins after they have been absolved – available to the faithful during the holy year.

**He also instituted the Missionaries of Mercy, a ministry in which the priests who assume the role are able to freely travel around hearing confessions, giving talks, and offering special guidance related to the topic of God's mercy.**

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# Message of the Holy Father for Lent 2022

*“Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all” (Gal 6:9-10)*

## Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a favourable time for personal and community renewal, as it leads us to the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For our Lenten journey in 2022, we will do well to reflect on Saint Paul’s exhortation to the Galatians: “Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity (*kairós*), let us do good to all” (*Gal 6:9-10*).

### 1. SOWING AND REAPING

In these words, the Apostle evokes the image of sowing and reaping, so dear to Jesus (cf. *Mt 13*). Saint Paul speaks to us of a *kairós*: an opportune time for sowing goodness in view of a future harvest. What is this “opportune time” for us? Lent is certainly such an opportune time, but so is our entire existence, of which Lent is in some way an image. All too often in our lives, greed, pride and the desire to possess, accumulate and consume have the upper hand, as we see from the story of the foolish man in the Gospel parable, who thought his life was safe and secure because of the abundant grain and goods he had stored in his barns (cf. *Lk 12:16-21*). Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life’s truth and beauty may be found not so much in

possessing as in giving, not so much in accumulating as in sowing and sharing goodness.

The first to sow is God himself, who with great generosity “continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 54). During Lent we are called to respond to God’s gift by accepting his word, which is “living and active” (*Heb 4:12*). Regular listening to the word of God makes us open and docile to his working (cf. *Jas 1:21*) and bears fruit in our lives. This brings us great joy, yet even more, it summons us to become God’s co-workers (cf. *1 Cor 3:9*). By making good use of the present time (cf. *Eph 5:16*), we too can sow seeds of goodness. This call to sow goodness should not be seen as a burden but a grace, whereby the Creator wishes us to be actively united with his own bountiful goodness.

What about the harvest? Do we not sow seeds in order to reap a harvest? Of course! Saint Paul points to the close relationship between sowing and reaping when he says: “Anyone who sows sparsely will reap sparsely as well, and anyone who sows generously will reap generously as well” (*2 Cor 9:6*). But what kind of harvest are we talking about? A first fruit of the goodness we sow appears in ourselves and our daily



lives, even in our little acts of kindness. In God, no act of love, no matter how small, and no “generous effort” will ever be lost (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 279). Just as we recognize a tree by its fruits (cf. *Mt 7:16, 20*), so a life full of good deeds radiates light (cf. *Mt 5:14-16*) and carries the fragrance of Christ to the world (cf. *2 Cor 2:15*). Serving God in freedom from sin brings forth fruits of sanctification for the salvation of all (cf. *Rom 6:22*).

In truth, we see only a small portion of the fruits of what we sow, since, according to the Gospel proverb, “one sows, while another reaps” (*Jn 4:37*). When we sow for the benefit of others, we share in God’s own benevolent love: “it is truly noble to place our hope in the hidden power of the seeds of goodness we sow, and thus to initiate processes whose fruits will be reaped by others” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 196). Sowing goodness for the benefit of others frees us from narrow self-interest, infuses our actions with gratuitousness, and makes us part of the magnificent horizon of God’s benevolent plan.

The word of God broadens and elevates our vision: it tells us that the real harvest is eschatological, the harvest of the last, undying day. The mature fruit of our lives and actions is “fruit for eternal life” (*Jn 4:36*), our “treasure in heaven” (*Lk 12:33; 18:22*). Jesus himself uses the image of the seed that dies in the ground in order to bear fruit as a symbol of the mystery of his

death and resurrection (cf. *Jn 12:24*); while Saint Paul uses the same image to speak of the resurrection of our bodies: “What is sown is perishable, but what is raised is imperishable; what is sown is contemptible but what is raised is glorious; what is sown is weak, but what is raised is powerful; what is sown is a natural body, and what is raised is a spiritual body” (*1 Cor 15:42-44*). The hope of resurrection is the great light that the risen Christ brings to the world, for “if our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are of all people the most pitiable. In fact, however, Christ has been raised from the dead, as the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep” (*1 Cor 15:19-20*). Those who are intimately united to him in love “by dying a death like his” (*Rom 6:5*) will also be united to his resurrection for eternal life (cf. *Jn 5:29*). “Then the upright will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father” (*Mt 13:43*).

### 2. “LET US NOT GROW TIRED OF DOING GOOD”

Christ’s resurrection enlivens earthly hopes with the “great hope” of eternal life, planting the seed of salvation in our present time (cf. *BENEDICT XVI, Spe Salvi*, 3; 7). Bitter disappointment at shattered dreams, deep concern for the challenges ahead and discouragement at the poverty of our resources, can make us tempted to seek refuge in self-centredness and indifference to the



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suffering of others. Indeed, even our best resources have their limitations: "Youths grow tired and weary, the young stumble and fall" (Is 40:30). Yet God "gives strength to the weary, he strengthens the powerless... Those who hope in the Lord will regain their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; though they run they will not grow weary, though they walk they will never tire. (Is 40:29, 31). The Lenten season calls us to place our faith and hope in the Lord (cf. 1 Pet 1:21), since only if we fix our gaze on the risen Christ (cf. Heb 12:2) will we be able to respond to the Apostle's appeal, "Let us never grow tired of doing good" (Gal 6:9).

Let us not grow tired of praying. Jesus taught us to "pray always without becoming weary" (Lk 18:1). We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion. If the pandemic has heightened the awareness of our own personal and social fragility, may this Lent allow us to experience the consolation provided by faith in God, without whom we cannot stand firm (cf. Is 7:9). No one attains salvation alone, since we are all in the same boat, amid the storms of history;<sup>2</sup> and certainly no one reaches salvation without God, for only the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ triumphs over the dark waters of death. Faith does not spare us life's burdens and tribulations, but it does allow us to face them in union with God in Christ, with the great hope that does not disappoint, whose pledge is the love that God has poured

into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:1-5).

Let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives. May the corporal fasting to which Lent calls us fortify our spirit for the battle against sin. Let us not grow tired of asking for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, knowing that God never tires of forgiving. Let us not grow tired of fighting against concupiscence, that weakness which induces to selfishness and all evil, and finds in the course of history a variety of ways to lure men and women into sin (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 166). One of these is addiction to the digital media, which impoverishes human relationships. Lent is a propitious time to resist these temptations and to cultivate instead a more integral form of human communication (ibid., 43) made up of "authentic encounters" (ibid., 50), face-to-face and in person.

Let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbours. During this Lent, may we practise almsgiving by giving joyfully (cf. 2 Cor 9:7). God who "supplies seed to the sower and bread for food" (2 Cor 9:10) enables each of us not only to have food to eat, but also to be generous in doing good to others. While it is true that we have our entire life to sow goodness, let us take special advantage of this Lenten season to care for those close to us and to reach out to our brothers and sisters who lie wounded along the path of life (cf. Lk 10:25-37). Lent is a favourable time to seek out – and not to avoid – those in need; to reach out – and not to ignore – those who need a sympathetic ear and a good word; to visit – and not to abandon – those who are lonely.

Let us put into practice our call to do good to all, and take time to love the poor and needy, those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against and marginalized (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 193).

### 3. "IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP, WE SHALL REAP OUR HARVEST IN DUE TIME"

Each year during Lent we are reminded that "goodness, together with love, justice and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all; they have to be realized each day" (ibid., 11). Let us ask God to give us the patient perseverance of the farmer (cf. Jas 5:7), and to persevere in doing good, one step at a time. If we fall, let us stretch out our hand to the Father, who always lifts us up. If we are lost, if we are misled by the enticements of the evil one, let us not hesitate to return to God, who "is generous in forgiving" (Is 55:7). In this season of conversion, sustained by God's grace and by the communion

of the Church, let us not grow tired of doing good. The soil is prepared by fasting, watered by prayer and enriched by charity. Let us believe firmly that "if we do not give up, we shall reap our harvest in due time" and that, with the gift of perseverance, we shall obtain what was promised (cf. Heb 10:36), for our salvation and the salvation of others (cf. 1 Tim 4:16). By cultivating fraternal love towards everyone, we are united to Christ, who gave his life for our sake (cf. 2 Cor 5:14-15), and we are granted a foretaste of the joy of the kingdom of heaven, when God will be "all in all" (1 Cor 15:28).

May the Virgin Mary, who bore the Saviour in her womb and "pondered all these things in her heart" (Lk 2:19), obtain for us the gift of patience. **May she accompany us with her maternal presence, so that this season of conversion may bring forth fruits of eternal salvation.**



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# Stand up for life

*Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*

(George Santayana's *The Life of Reason*, 1863 -1952)

BY DENISE CAMERON - President of Pro- Life Victoria (Inc)

In *Judgement at Nuremberg*, the investigations into and trial for the war crimes which began with Hitler's euthanasia program, when the condemned German said "But we didn't think it would go that far" the American Judge replied "It went that far the very first time you condemned an innocent human being." This was only 75 years ago. And so it is with legalised euthanasia.

Premier Daniel Andrews' contribution to the debate on Victoria's state sanctioned doctor assisted suicide was to predict there would be "about 12 such deaths a year." There were 224 in the first two years.

And his government is working with the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board* to allow Victorians, especially regional Victorians, "to be able to have important conversations" about voluntary assisted suicide, over the phone or via a teleconference. It is hard to believe that despite the Government having failed to address the inadequate palliative care available for regional Victoria, it is being suggested that action is needed to improve their access to "voluntary assisted dying"!

It took 15 months only for the first sad tale of assisted suicide in Victoria to surface on 10 September 2020.

In the face of volumes of evidence published by "euthanasia watch" organizations such as the Canadian based *Euthanasia Prevention Coalition* and our own *Australian Care Alliance*, pro-euthanasia *Dying with Dignity* spokesman, comedian Andrew Denton, brazenly claims euthanasia regimes elsewhere in the world are going just swimmingly.

In The Netherlands, apart from reporting a fourfold increase in euthanasia deaths since 2003, the 2020 *Regional Euthanasia Review Committee* revealed in 2015 there were 413 cases of euthanasia without explicit request. Unbelievably the district court in The Hague has ruled that a person with dementia may be euthanized even if the person is actively resisting the process, provided that an advanced directive requesting euthanasia was completed when the person was considered competent.

Dying with Dignity advocates are unlikely to tell you of *Euthanasia: Searching for the Full Story: Experiences and Insights of Belgian Doctors and Nurses*, an anthology of experiences of 10 doctors and nurses at the coal face of the practice of Belgium's euthanasia legislation. Australian bioethicist Michael Cook, editor of *Bio-Edge* alerted us to this publication in May 2021, referring to them as "Resistance Fighters". As the author of one of the book's forwards puts it: *The testimonies reported in this book are forward-thinking and prophetic: they are the words of "Resistance fighters" and watchers who do not believe that euthanasia can be a medical or a caring act, neither can it be a neutral option. Euthanasia does not complement palliative care, it ends it; it is not the pinnacle of care and support for the patient, it discontinues it; it does not relieve the patients, it takes their lives.* As Margaret Somerville, an Australian bioethicist and Wes Ely, an American critical care specialist, observe in their forward, there is a dearth of literature about the societal ramifications of legalising euthanasia. They write that: *"The case against euthanasia is much more difficult to promote, not because it is weak—it is not—but because*

*it is much more complex. This case requires looking not just to the present but also to our 'collective human memory'—that is, history—for lessons from the past and to our 'collective human imagination' to try to anticipate the full and wider consequences of legalizing euthanasia."* This book destroys any pretence that euthanasia is a success in Belgium.

If we think we can escape the risk of being euthanized when we are sick or aged by selecting a Catholic hospital to care for us, there is no guarantee this will be possible. People drawn to Green policies should remember former Victorian Greens MP Colleen Hartland urged Premier Andrews to cease funding Melbourne's Catholic St Vincent's hospital if it refused to practice euthanasia. For how long will Melbourne's *Eastern Palliative Care*, the not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Order of Malta and the Catholic Church, be able to keep up its current courageous stand against practicing euthanasia there, as it is targeted by Dr McLaren and Melbourne's *Age* newspaper? *Dying with Dignity* advocates won't tell you how the hospice in British Columbia last year lost an appeal to the Canadian Supreme Court, one of several avenues it unsuccessfully pursued in an attempt to avoid participating in assisted suicide. *Delta Hospice Society* was founded 30 years ago by a Christian woman who vocally opposed assisted suicide. Up until then the private society operated a 10 bed hospice facility, a charity shop and a supportive care centre. On March 31, a provincial health authority, Fraser Health, formally ended its contract with *Delta Hospice Society* and assumed control of the 10 bed facility and the supportive care centre. The facilities reopened under the new leadership on April 15 and assisted suicide is now offered there.

In a powerfully insightful article in *The Australian* newspaper 18 September 2021, Australia's indigenous activist Noel Pearson wrote *"The opponents of assisted dying focused their campaign on palliative care and its inadequate funding. I understand this argument and why these advocates focused on it - but even though there is truth in this, it isn't the core."* This has been born out in Canada where voluntary euthanasia research has highlighted the inherent conflict between assisted suicide and palliative care. Interviews with 23 doctors and nurses found that treatment that would remove or alleviate pain was frequently withheld from patients so that they would remain eligible for assisted suicide under Canadian law. Oh what a web we weave, when first we set out to deceive!

We should be forever grateful that local legislators, Wagga Wagga's Dr



Banner Witness staged by local pro-lifers outside Albury MP Justin Clancy's office, November 18 2021.

Joe McGirr and Albury's Justin Clancy, have fulfilled the first responsibility of any government, to protect the lives of its citizens, by voting against the New South Wales *Greens* MP, Alex Greenwich's *Voluntary Assisted Dying* bill. Currently this bill resides in the Upper House so the battle is not yet over. There is always the possibility that with enough appeals from constituents, it will be rejected. The final vote on state sanctioned suicide may not be until March or even May, so there is still time to convince local MLC Wes Fang to vote against state sanctioned killing. As Noel Pearson wrote: *"I understand this argument (palliative care) and why these advocates focused on it - but even though there is truth in this, it isn't the core."* The core is simply that we do not kill people.

You can access the petition at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/pages/epetitions-list.aspx>

Denise M Cameron is a retired nurse and long time pro-life activist. She is President of Pro- Life Victoria (Inc) and resides in Albury.



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# Pro Patria Property Trust purchases Carmelite monastery as part of 'fundamental shift' in veteran care

Veterans charity Pro Patria has officially signed to take over the Carmelite Monastery in Ashmont and hope this will herald a "fundamental shift" in how we care for the veteran and first responder community.

BY CONOR BURKE - Daily Advertiser

**The Pro Patria (Wagga Wagga) Property Trust has been established and it purchased the monastery from the Carmelite's for \$1.5 million, which will then be leased to the Pro Patria committee to allow them to provide breakthrough therapies.**

"Wagga itself being the home of the soldier, we'd now like to make it the haven of the soldier," said veteran and Pro Patria board member Jason Frost.

"We have a lot of ex-defence people in this region and obviously there's a lot of services that have been lacking for a very long time."

The group will initially look at providing additional mental and physical health treatments, as well as additional GP access for vets.

But in the future hope to incorporate alternative treatments such as hyperbaric oxygen therapy and medicinal cannabis.

The monastery and memorial shrine, also known as 'The Carmel of Our Lady Queen of Peace', was founded in 1966

but closed in 2019 due to dwindling numbers of nuns entering the order.

Carmelite nun Sister Maria Hughes said that the monastery's next phase closely aligns with its Carmelite roots.

"It is an answer to Carmelite prayers beyond expectations," Sister Maria said.

It will provide a base where "Pro Patria can grow into their identity" and mission, which is not unlike the Carmelite's - "essentially concerned with the wellbeing of the human person, spiritually and physically".

Sister Maria likened Pro Patria, with their tree logo, to the olive tree in the monastery garden, which she was speaking in front of.

The olive tree grew from a sapling, "planted and nurtured in solid shale" and in its "prolific expression" symbolises what can be achieved from small beginnings.

Pro Patria is a response to generations of government and institutional ignorance to the plight of our armed forces, and people in need more



Carmelite nun Sister Maria Hughes and veteran and Pro Patria board member Jason Frost stand in the Carmelite monastery garden in the shadow of the Monastery's olive tree.  
Picture: Conor Burke

broadly, she said.

"The government and its inability to respond and engage with the people in their horrific need," she said.

"We have our government sending our service people to war and when they come back, where is the duty of care?"

"We need to now engage with the fragility of our human condition."

The Pro Patria Property Trust chair Gordon Sagers said that the monastery purchase allows Wagga to become home to the first facility of its kind in Australia.

"We don't have a template to follow, it's unique."



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# PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

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

## Rosalie from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

From her life as a former child soldier in the DRC, Rosalie is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life.

**Rosalie had a tough childhood. Her father passed away when she was just two-years-old and her mother struggled to look after the family on her own.**

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, women are traditionally responsible for household tasks, with limited employment opportunities outside the home. Rosalie's mother found it difficult to afford food and clothing, let alone school fees, and Rosalie had to drop out school.

Then, when she was just 15 years old, Rosalie was forced to join the army. In recent decades, the DRC has experienced ongoing political instability, violence and conflict, and the recruitment of child soldiers is all too common.

When Rosalie finally left the army after six years, she was eager to start a new life, free from violence. But

like many ex-combatants, Rosalie found the challenge to adjust to civilian life overwhelming. With her childhood and education cut short by the war, she had missed out on developing skills that would help her to find secure employment.

With your generous help, Rosalie was able to participate in business and social skills training, supported by Caritas Australia's partners, Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) and Caritas Bukavu.

Rosalie also joined a Saving and Internal Lending Community group (SILC), which helped her with a loan to start her own small business, selling second-hand shoes and natural remedies. She learnt savings and group management skills and became the SILC group's president.

Rosalie (standing) attends a Saving and Internal Lending Community group (SILC) meeting near her home in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Rosalie is now the president of this SILC group which provided a loan to start her business. Photo: Arlette Bashizi/Caritas Australia

Through the program, she gained essential skills in generating an income while gaining a sense of belonging and community spirit.

Rosalie is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants who are seeking to readjust to civilian life. She is inspiring women and other members of her community to overcome the violence of the past, to work towards a more peaceful and harmonious world for all future generations.



Watch Rosalie's story at:  
<https://youtu.be/wp1UmTgo5UE>

"I was in the battlefield with my baby on my back. I walked with a child in my left hand, a box of ammunition on my head and another child on my back. I also had a weapon on my right shoulder. The chief commander had no mercy on me, even though I had my baby on my back."

Rosalie



## Shaniella from Solomon Islands

Shaniella from the Solomon Islands was determined to forge a path out of poverty, moving away to a rural vocational school. With your support, she was able to overcome the challenges of natural disasters, and gain the skills she needs to create a brighter future for herself.

**Shaniella grew up in a remote village in the Solomon Islands in a province which has limited educational and job opportunities – and one of the country's highest poverty rates.** After leaving school, she decided to move closer to the capital city, Honiara, to study hospitality and tourism.

However, her vocational training school was hit by a landslide and cyclone in quick succession, destroying its water supply system and the vegetable garden that it relies on for food. The landslide destroyed the school's main source of water, damaged school buildings and devastated the garden which the school relies on for food.

With your kind support, Caritas Australia Solomon Islands (CASI) was able to help the school to install eight water tanks. This restored students' access to clean drinking water and the tanks also supply water to nearby schools, health centres and the wider community.

CASI also supported the school by providing it with improved planting materials, 200 chickens, and training in agricultural skills and poultry management, to help it to boost its food security.

To ensure that the school is better prepared to respond to future disasters, CASI ran Disaster Risk Reduction training workshops, raising awareness about evacuation procedures





and how to respond during an emergency. It provided additional support when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, by helping the school to improve hygiene practices to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Shaniella can now complete her job skills training and the school has enough food and water for its students. She is also better prepared when disaster strikes and can share her knowledge with her community back home.

Watch Shaniella's story at:  
[https://youtu.be/EVy\\_OBNSOpM](https://youtu.be/EVy_OBNSOpM)

"I was in school that time when the landslide occurred. I was devastated because I had no knowledge of what to do and where to get information. I saw students in the school panic, I could hear people's screaming, crying and shouting, as if the world is going to end."

Shaniella



## PRAYER

Loving God,  
 We thank you for the gift of our lives and  
 for the life of every person, both near to us  
 and far away.  
 We thank you for the wonder of all your creation.  
 Through fasting, almsgiving and prayer  
 may this Lent draw us deeper  
 into the warmth and light of God's love.  
 May we see the world more clearly,  
 Especially those who are often overlooked.  
 May we come closer to your heart,  
 Which you showed through the cross of Jesus.  
 May we be full of hope for all future generations.  
 We ask this in Jesus' name  
 Amen.

# Where are they now?

Meet some of the past faces of Project Compassion campaigns whose lives have been transformed thanks to your generous support.

**With your generosity, Caritas Australia has been able to help millions of vulnerable people around the world, through Project Compassion.**

From Thandolwayo in Zimbabwe, to Halima in Bangladesh and Shirley in the Philippines, your generosity gives vulnerable people across the world the support they need to face the challenges of today and build a better tomorrow.

### Thandolwayo, Zimbabwe - Project Compassion 2019

Life wasn't easy for Thandolwayo. Every morning she would walk seven kilometres and risk being attacked by crocodiles, as she collected clean water for her family.

With your generous support, Caritas Australia's partner, Caritas Hwange, helped the community to install two solar-powered pumps and two 10,000 litre water storage tanks.

Now 14-years-old, Thandolwayo, is excelling at school, particularly in English and Maths. She can concentrate on her studies instead of spending hours collecting water.



Shirley, the Philippines

### Shirley, the Philippines - Project Compassion 2020

Shirley is a Manide woman from the Philippines. As her family's sole breadwinner, she found it difficult to support her husband and four children.

With your generous support, through Caritas Australia's local partner, the Socio Pastoral Action Center Foundation of Daet, Inc. (SPACFI), Shirley trained to become an indigenous health worker.

She has now taken over her father's role as tribal chieftain and has been able to lead her community through the pandemic.

### Halima, Bangladesh - Project Compassion 2021

For Halima, a Rohingya refugee, living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh, the past year has been particularly tough. Widowed at just 21, she fled escalating violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State in 2017, arriving at the camp with nothing. She is caring for her two young children, as well as for her mother who has a disability.



Halima, Bangladesh



Thandolwayo, Zimbabwe

Halima is now earning an income from her hygiene training role with Caritas Bangladesh. Through this role, she is helping the community to prevent the spread of COVID-19, as best they can in the crowded conditions with limited access to water, soap and masks.

Thank you for your support for Project Compassion – past, present and future! Together we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for future generations.

Watch more at:  
<https://youtu.be/v8ao2iyxsSg>



# Vinnies Flood Appeal

Help is urgently needed for those affected by the recent flood disaster in New South Wales and Queensland.

**Vinnies has launched a Flood Appeal to help those from NSW and Qld recover with the daunting task of rebuilding their lives, both now and long after the waters have receded.**

Qld's CEO Kevin Mercer said the Society was working on providing direct assistance in the form of food, clothes and day to day essentials but said it was also crucial to ensure people are supported in the long road ahead to recovery.

"Once the initial shock of losing everything starts to settle, thousands of Queenslanders will need to rebuild their lives from scratch – a process that can take years," Mr Mercer said.

"Our Appeal isn't just about providing help now, but also to ensure when people are ready to finally

return to their homes, they can have the support, furniture, appliances and other household essentials they need to start again."

Mr Mercer said this flood was another reminder that Qld and NSW are unfortunately no strangers to natural disasters.

"We are still actively supporting victims of the 2011 flood, and our assistance to those in need right now will continue well after the waters clear and news coverage slows," he said.

"Again and again, we've seen our communities come together to help each other in times of great need.

"If you've been personally impacted, while it can be daunting to seek help and you may have never needed to ask for help before – please know we are



there for you.

"Whether that be in the immediate form of assistance or long-term recovery – Vinnies has had more than 127 years of experience helping people through disasters; so please reach out."

If you are able to donate in support of flood victims, Mr Mercer said a donation of \$58 can provide emergency groceries and essential items, while \$340 can help re-equip a home that has lost everything with needed essential items.

"We will be doing all we can, and our nearly 3000 Volunteer Members across local communities are ready to

answer the calls for help from those in need. Financial donations to support our effected communities rebuild and recover are very much needed and appreciated," he said.

"People should know they do not need to battle this alone."

If you have been impacted by the recent floods and need support, please reach out to Vinnies.

**If you would like to donate to the Flood Appeal and help people to rebuild their lives, call 13 18 12 or visit [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au)**



#### Food and essentials

When a family loses everything, they urgently need the basics. Your gift will purchase emergency food, toiletries and essential household items for a disaster affected family.



#### Emergency Housing

Rebuilding can take months, even years. When a family's home is flooded, they need a temporary place to live. Your kindness will help provide basic furniture to stabilise their family, pay rent and get them back on their feet.



#### Clothing

If a family evacuate their home in a natural disaster, they often leave with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Your gift can provide the immediate comfort and relief of a fresh set of clothing with they have nothing.

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# Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI Bishop of Wagga Wagga Decree

## **Dear brother priests and my brothers and sisters in Christ,**

Those who are attached to celebrating Holy Mass according to the 1962 Missal are precious and much-loved sons and daughters of the Church. In his care for all of us, Pope Francis issued *Traditionis Custodes* and an accompanying letter and, subsequently, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued a *Responsa ad Dubia*, regulating the celebration of the Mass according to the 1962 Missal.

In response to this *motu proprio* and the other documents, I issue the following decree:

1. Permission is given for Holy Mass to be celebrated according to the 1962 Missal on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation at noon or early afternoon at St Patricks, Albury, in the morning at The Rock and in the late morning or early morning at Mt Erin.
2. The Sacred Scripture readings at all celebrations of Holy Mass according to the 1962 *Missale Romanum* are to be proclaimed in English using the translation of the Sacred Scripture approved for liturgical use by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. (cf. TC 3) This takes effect from the Second Sunday of Lent, 2022.
3. The Easter Triduum is to be celebrated according to the reformed rite using the liturgical books promulgated by St Paul VI and St John Paul II.
4. Priests who celebrate Holy Mass according to the *Missale*

It may also be celebrated in the Adoration Chapel at St Patricks, Albury, on Mondays and Wednesdays in the evening and on the first Saturday of the month. As well, it may be celebrated at Lavington on Friday evenings and at the Rock on the first Friday and the first Saturday of the Month. (cf. TC 2, 3)

*Romanum* of 1962 and deacons and instituted ministers who assist at such Masses should request from the diocesan Bishop the authorization to continue to enjoy this faculty. (cf. TC 5) As a transitional measure, those currently celebrating Holy Mass according to the 1962 Missal have faculties until Palm Sunday, 2022, and the Chancery has application forms by which one may apply for this to continue.

Issued on the 28th Day of February, 2022.

**In Jesus Christ and  
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*M Edwards OMI*



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# Caritas warns of increased risk of human trafficking for people fleeing Ukraine

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine has caused over three million people to flee the country – mostly women, children and the elderly.

**An astonishing 1.5 million children have fled Ukraine, which is close to one per second, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Children are especially vulnerable to human trafficking.**

"Caritas Ukraine is supporting women and children crossing the border into neighbouring countries like Poland, Slovakia and Hungary, to try to prevent human trafficking. Right now, there is a very high risk that people might become a human slave," said Vladyslav Shelokov, Caritas Ukraine's Resource Mobilisation Director.

"More than 230,000 Ukrainians have been the victims of human trafficking since 1991, when Ukraine gained independence. We are now distributing information and advice on how to avoid this."

The leaflets and other materials outline key guidelines such as information about not handing over identification documents to the person who



Children's activities for internally displaced families in Zakarpattia region. Photo Caritas Ukraine

is offering accommodation and registering where they stay with local authorities.

"We are also providing support to internally displaced people, such as temporary shelters for people who have fled their homes, particular in cities close to the contact line where there is a high risk of violence. The Caritas offices in these cities are supporting people with food parcels and hygiene kits, and helping to support the large number of people with small children."

"Baby food and formula are a real challenge, because there are limited stocks on shelves and it is even challenging for us to find them and deliver them to areas in need."

"We are also organising hot meals, drinking water and other necessary things like warm clothes for internally displaced people. People are leaving their homes with almost no additional clothes for themselves, and the temperatures are really low here. Before it was minus 4, now it's minus 8 degrees. It is a really big problem for people to stay warm in premises which are not normally for

accommodation."

Caritas Australia is working directly with Caritas Ukraine and its local partner Caritas Spes to support Ukrainian families with food, hygiene kits, clean water, psychological support, and emergency shelter to displaced families. Protection of women, children and the elderly continues to be a focus of Caritas Ukraine programs during the conflict. Since the beginning of the conflict, Caritas Ukraine has assisted more than 70,000 people across the country.

**Donations can be made at:**  
**[www.caritas.org.au/ukraine/](http://www.caritas.org.au/ukraine/)**



Baby food ready for distribution in Ternopil, Ukraine. Photo Caritas Ukraine

DRESSED BY

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# Project of the Month: March

This month please help with the training of 43 seminarians in the Spis major seminary in Slovakia.

**Slovakia is a strongly Catholic country, with around 60% Catholics among its 5.4 million population.**

Prior to the pandemic half of them still regularly attended Sunday Mass, and consequently, four or five Masses on a Sunday morning were commonplace. Interestingly, there are also a considerable number of adult baptisms in the country today.

But, like everywhere else, the Church in Slovakia is facing many social challenges. Christian values are increasingly attacked and undermined in public and the mass media, in particular, continue to promote a relativistic and liberal worldview.

So good priests are greatly needed, priests who can embody the Gospel values and convey them to the people, strengthening believers and encouraging them to stand up for these values, so that healthy families can build a healthy society – which in turn is the most fertile soil for new vocations.

Today there are 43 young men currently training for the priesthood in the major

seminary in Spis. Under communism, in the second half of the 20th century, the seminary suffered a difficult fate, one that it shared with many other Church structures in Eastern Europe. Shut down by the communists in 1950 it was confiscated and used for 40 years as a police academy and archive centre. It was not until 1990, following the political changes, that it was finally returned to the Church, albeit in a profoundly derelict condition.

When it was finally officially reopened, there were no fewer than 235 seminarians enrolled. One reason why the number of candidates was so high at the time was the fact that initially, those older men who had not had the opportunity to be ordained during communist times and who had already completed other kinds of study, were now finally able to embark on the long-desired priestly formation. Additionally, in those first few years, there were still many candidates for the priesthood from three different dioceses, including the archdiocese of Kosice, which was finally able to open its



own seminary only in 1995. Since then the buildings of the seminary in Spis have been used for many other events and activities in addition to priestly formation. Among other things, there are training courses for the laity and remote learning theological studies and conferences.

ACN has been supporting the seminary for almost 30 years now, and the fruits of its work are happily visible today. Whereas in communist times the clergy of the diocese of Spis were all very elderly, most of the priests today are young. And while in the

past there were many places in the country without any priests at all, today Slovakian missionaries are already working in many other parts of the world, proclaiming the Gospel and helping to alleviate the shortage of priests.

This year ACN is once again supporting the seminary for the current academic year, with a contribution of \$19,600 AUD for the 43 seminarians now studying there.

**Can you help ACN fund projects like this? Visit: <https://aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject>**

## SUPPORT A SEMINARIAN

**Jesus left His Church** the gift of the **priesthood** to ensure the **faith was spread** and the **sacraments were brought forth** to **nourish** and **bring life to His people**.

Photos © Irmel Martínez Sánchez / ACN

"If I were to meet a priest and an angel, I should salute the priest before I saluted the angel. The latter is the friend of God; but the priest holds His place... When you see a priest, you should say, **'There is he who made me a child of God, and opened Heaven to me by holy Baptism; he who purified me after I had sinned; who gives nourishment to my soul'**"

St John Vianney

While we currently experience less priestly vocations, it is **not the same everywhere**. In many countries the faith is flourishing, and an abundance of young men have discerned a call to **leave everything and follow Christ**.

However, the road is not always easy. Their families may be **poor**. Their bishops may **lack resources**. They may live in areas experiencing **persecution towards Christians**.

We are all part of the **one Church**; therefore, **it is up to us**, as members of the body of Christ, to **help the seminarians of today become the priests of tomorrow**.

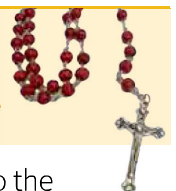
For 75 years, the Catholic charity **Aid to the Church in Need** has worked to **keep the faith alive**, relying solely on the prayers and financial resources of people **just like you**. Each year, as part of our mission, we support some **15,000 seminarians** on the path to priesthood.

**In 2022, support a seminarian** with your prayers and resources. Help us form the priests of tomorrow.

Scan the QR code, or, visit [www.aidtochurch.org/seminarians](https://www.aidtochurch.org/seminarians) to make an offering. Thank you and God bless you!



As a sign of thanks, you can choose to receive as a gift a rose perfume rosary made by the Christians in the Holy Land.



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

# Broad approach to respectful relationships will help keep young people safer

Labor's announcement earlier this month of \$77 million to teach students about respectful relationships recognises a broad approach is needed to prevent violence and keep young people safe.

**National Catholic Education's Executive Director, Jacinta Collins said Labor's plan to ensure quality, age appropriate respect education programs will support a consistent approach across all sectors and states.**

"We've seen too many examples where young people do not feel safe and have not been appropriately supported to seek help or identify harmful behaviours.

"Age-appropriate education to help model healthy relationships, prevent harmful behaviours, and to teach young people about domestic violence, consent, sexual harassment and assault needs to be supported through evidenced-based approaches, professional learning for staff, education for families, and a network of specialist services to support school communities.

"For example, in New South Wales, through collaboration across the Catholic, government and independent school sectors, we are seeing a solid

commitment and response to preventing violence and supporting young people to learn the skills needed to establish respectful relationships and seek help if they are unsafe," Ms Collins said.

"This response includes recognising the important role parents and families play, and critically, the voice of children and young people to inform effective policies and programs.

"The safety of our children and young people is everyone's responsibility and we welcome Labor's commitment to support school communities and systems across Australia in this important work."

*NCEC is the peak body for Catholic Education in Australia and is responsible for the national coordination and representation of Catholic schools and school authorities.*

*There are 1,755 Catholic schools educating over 777,000 or one in five Australian students and employing over 100,000 staff.*



- Cars
- Trucks
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- Utes

**6921 9977**

6-10 Edward St, Wagga Wagga [www.avis.com.au](http://www.avis.com.au)

## TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

### - Diocese of Wagga Wagga -



Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Wagga Wagga Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the  
Wagga Wagga Office of the Tribunal

**Phone: 6937 0017** Email: [tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.au)



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Albury



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**NOW TAKING 2022 ENROLMENTS**

An independent school offering traditional education and instruction in the Catholic faith, promoting virtue and excellence of character in a personal and nurturing environment



## Who is Centacare?

At **Centacare** we are passionate about supporting all people in our community. We belong to the **Wagga Wagga Albury, Griffith, Mulwala and surrounding communities** We believe in the wellbeing for all.

### HAVE YOU RECENTLY SETTLED IN AUSTRALIA?

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

### LET US ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR NDIS PLAN

Your NDIS coordinator will work with you to provide supports and link you to other providers, build your capacity to self-manage, and give encouragement.

Your NDIS core support worker can assist you to engage with your community, build your self-reliance and support with your daily living skills

### SCHOOL COUNSELLING

Our School Wellbeing Practitioners work within Pre-schools, Primary and High Schools with students, families and staff to help guide student academic, behavioral and social – emotional growth.

*Call if you would like to discuss this further*

### PARENTING ORDERS PROGRAM (POP)

Our Parenting Orders Program (POP) is child-focused and helps parents to manage disputes and increase cooperation and communication for separated families

### SUPPORT FOR YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

Speak confidentially with one of our counsellors who can help you improve your wellbeing and discover your potential

### COUNSELLING

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

**Individual** working one on one in a safe and confidential environment

**Couples** helps two people resolve conflict and improve relationship satisfaction

**Families** learn new ways of relating to each other, resolve conflicts, and open lines of communication between all family members

### EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We can offer your workplace our Employment Assistance Program (EAP) which offers short term counselling support and debriefing for staff.

*For tailored business packages contact our office*

### FAMILY AND PARENTING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

We offer a wide range of parenting and education groups that focus on building skills, strategies and knowledge so you can enjoy positive relationships.

These programs can be run individually or in a group

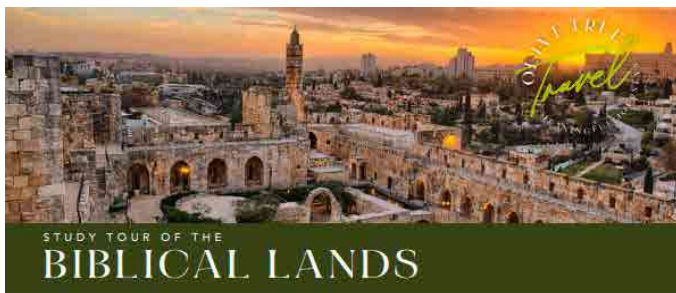
### MEDIATION

We offer mediation services to assist in resolving disputes related to separation and divorce, children and parenting plans.

*Call and find out how our mediator can assist you*

## And more...

**Email** [info@centacareswnsw.org.au](mailto:info@centacareswnsw.org.au) | **Web** [centacareswnsw.org.au](http://centacareswnsw.org.au)



## STUDY TOUR OF THE BIBLICAL LANDS

3 - 14  
DEC 2022

ESCORTEE BY  
DR ROSEMARY  
CANAVAN

16  
DAYS

TOUR  
PACKAGE  
PRICE  
PER PERSON (TWIN ROOM)  
OPTIONAL  
SINGLE  
ROOM  
SUPPLEMENT ADDITIONAL

\$6,290\*  
\$1,525

FULLY  
ESCORTED  
REGISTER HERE



Journey with me and with Luke in 2022 along with our experienced guide, Gila Yudkin. This tour is focused on the Gospel of Luke engaging the narrative in the contextual landscape. Experience being on a boat on the Sea of Galilee, explore underground Jerusalem, walk through the Kidman Valley from Getsemane to the Church of the Cock Crow, meditate in the Shepherd's field, ponder the site of the Nativity and engage the women who followed Jesus among the disciples, all the while learning more deeply what Luke reveals of the good news of Jesus. Prepare to be captivated, moved, and to enjoy new food and cultural experiences as we follow Luke in modern Israel and Palestinian Territories. Be immersed in an experience of a lifetime and come home changed. PLUS You can take the opportunity to undertake a study unit through CTC in conjunction with this tour (conditions and additional cost apply).

Dr Rosemary Canavan is a Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies and formerly Academic Dean of Catholic Theological College, University of Divinity. Rosemary graduated her PhD in Biblical Studies at Flinders University in 2011 and coordinates the Study Tour of the Biblical Lands at CTC, leading numerous past tours. In 2018 Rosemary took her sabbatical at the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem to work on her research and deepen her knowledge of the City of Peace. Rosemary's teaching and research engages the visual material culture of the world of the Synoptic Gospels and Pauline Letters.

### PRICE INCLUDES

- Return economy airfare Melbourne - Tel Aviv with Emirates Airlines via Dubai
- Current airport and departure taxes
- 13 nights' hotel accommodation in shared twin rooms
- Daily breakfasts and dinners at hotels
- 1 lunch
- Transport by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- All guiding and entrance fees
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- All tips, portage and gratuities
- PCR Test upon arrival at Tel Aviv Airport
- Whisperer headsets

### NEXT STEPS

- STEP 1: **BOOK HERE** to register your interest and obtain a booking form from Rosemary Canavan or the team at Olive Tree Travel.  
STEP 2: To secure your place, a booking deposit of \$350 per person will be required by 31st March 2022.  
STEP 3: The balance payment is required by 1st September 2022.  
(A second deposit may be required prior to this deadline. Advance notice will be given.)

OLIVE TREE *travel*

Ph. 1300 550 830 or 03 8488 9696  
info@olivetree-travel.com.au www.olivetree-travel.com.au  
1028a Glenelg Road, Glenelg, Victoria 3193

## THE 25TH ANNUAL DIOCESAN

## Divine Mercy Pilgrimage



**SUNDAY APRIL 24, 2022**  
**MARIAN HILLS, TARCUTTA**

*Be a part of history as we celebrate 25 years of devotions at the Divine Mercy Shrine, Marian Hills.*

### TIMETABLE

- 11.00am Confessions
- 12.00noon Angelus
- 12.30pm Mass
- 1.30pm BYO Picnic Lunch
- 2.30pm Procession to the Cross
- 3.00pm Adoration, including the 3 O'Clock Prayer, Divine Mercy Chaplet, then Benediction
- 3.30pm Afternoon tea

### LOCATION

Shrine of Marian Hills, 6503 Hume Hwy, Kyeamba NSW 2650.  
Marian Hills is located on the southbound side of the Hume Highway approximately 21km south of Tarcutta.

### CONTACT

For more information about the 25th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage or the Shrine itself, please contact Damian and Manuela Tetley, Caretakers of the Shrine, on 0420 933 829 during business hours Monday - Sunday.



# Erin Earth Open Day

ErinEarth's amazing team of volunteers will be running an Open Day on Saturday 2 April.



**ErinEarth's Family Fun Day is back!!!**

**Join us on Saturday 2 April 2022 from 9.30am - 2pm at the ErinEarth Garden 1 Kildare Street, Turvey Park.**

The theme of this year's Open Day will be sustainability. There will be plant sales, live music, food, freshly made coffee by our baristas, tours, various informative

workshops on sustainable living practices and activities for children of all ages. It'll be a morning of wholesome family fun for everyone!

The ErinEarth grounds are wheelchair accessible and entry is by gold coin donation.

**We're looking forward to seeing you all there!**



The ErinEarth garden is a place to relax and unwind. Set in the heart of Wagga with on street parking and wheelchair accessibility, our predominantly native garden is a great place to take some quiet time out. Our large urban garden is open to the public Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9am - 3pm, at 1 Kildare St Turvey Park.





## Fr Justin Darlow installed as Parish Priest of Ganmain

On Sunday 13 March Fr Justin Darlow signed the Profession of Faith in a ceremony where he was installed as the Parish Priest of Ganmain.



## 1000km walk for Oyiti

Nyibil Amum is walking 1000 kilometres on foot from Melbourne to Canberra and then to Sydney from 7 March 2022 to raise awareness of mental health after it personally affected his family.



Nyibil made a speech on the steps of Victorian State Parliament prior to his departure.

**Nyibil aims to bring attention to the important social issue of teen and young adult suicide after losing his son.**

Nyibil says "The grief of losing our beloved son was very painful and overwhelming. It has taken a heavy toll on my family

But we are determined not to sit idly and watch more young people like Oyiti fall to this horrendous scourge. As it is known, many young people like Oyiti feel lost and hopeless in today's world, they come to believe that they are disenfranchised and worthless. This problem is even more complex among young people from multicultural backgrounds like my community, who are relatively new in Australia.

Hence, our painful personal experience made us to specifically help the culturally and linguistically diverse CALD youth whose cultural heritage does not encourage them to seek mental health assistance and treatment.

My walk to Canberra and Sydney is to share Oyiti's story with different communities along the way and raise funds that can help us make mental

health awareness and advocate for suicide prevention.

Australian families are being torn apart by the mental illness and suicide of their young people despite of the widespread accessibility of health services.

We will be powerful advocates and educators of how to access the life-saving services currently available in Australian health system to assist our communities and individuals to connect with providers.

Help the families and individuals caught in this insidious cycle of illness cultural shame, guilt, and denial to recognise warning signs and have the tools to access the help they need if you or your organisation have been affected by Youth suicide, then you too know this unique form of pain and sadness."

Bishop Mark Edwards offered his support whilst meeting with Nyibil on 16 March during the Wagga length of his walk.

**You can follow Nyibil's journey on Facebook at:**

<https://m.facebook.com/OFFMCMY>

**To donate please visit:**

<https://gofund.me/6835fe5c>



Bishop Mark with Nyibil outside St Michael's Cathedral.

LMD 6808 - Channel 13 UHF

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

### SMITH'S MOTOR GARAGE

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## Help make Together the best newspaper it can be



**Let us know what is happening in your area.**

Together relies upon your stories to make it relevant and meaningful. We want to know what is happening in your local area so that we can share that news with the rest of the diocese.

We are always looking for local contributors who can write 250 to 350 words about local church projects, initiatives or school events. Include a couple of high resolution photos and you are well on your way to being published in Together.

**For more information about making contributions to Together or to submit your article contact us at:**  
[together@wagga.catholic.org.au](mailto:together@wagga.catholic.org.au)

# KIDS corner

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard



- Saint Patrick -



# Science...

## Mentos Geyser



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

### You'll need:

- Roll of Mentos
- 2 litre bottle of soda
- Wide open space



### Instructions:

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

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

Together Editor  
PO Box 473  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

*We'd love to hear from you!*



## MARCH SAINTS & FEAST DAYS

# Word Search

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



St. Katharine Drexel

St. Casimir

St. Perpetua

St. Felicity

St. John of God

St. Patrick

St. Joseph

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

The Annunciation of the Lord



# Spirituality Day for Women - Update and New Date

The 9th Diocesan Spirituality Day for Women was scheduled for 28 August last year. However, due to the many changing Covid restrictions, this had to be postponed.

**We are pleased to announce the day has been rescheduled for Saturday 14 May 2022, same time but a different venue.**

## When

Saturday, 14th May, 9.00am – 3.30pm

## Where

Kildare Catholic College Hall,  
Coleman St, Wagga Wagga

## What

Who Is My Neighbour? Let Us Dream,  
Let Us Weave A New Path

## Cost

Donation (morning tea and lunch supplied)

We have two outstanding speakers, Dr Michele Connolly and Dr Cristina Lledo Gomez.

Michele Connolly is a sister of St Joseph of Lochinvar in the Hunter Valley. She is an Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, and Biblical Studies and Discipline Coordinator at the Sydney College of Divinity and lectures in Biblical Studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney. After teaching in secondary schools, Michele studied theology, graduating with a PhD from GTU, Berkeley, CA. Michele speaks regularly around Australia at conferences on the Scriptures. Michele's principal area of interest is the Gospel of Mark.

Cristina Lledo Gomez is a Catholic Systematic Theologian and the Presentation Sisters Lecturer at BBI-The Australian Institute of Theological Education (TAITE.) She is also a Religion and Society Research Fellow at Charles Sturt University's Public and Contextual Theology Research Centre. Her role at BBI-TAITE is directed toward promoting women's spiritualities, feminist theologies, and ecotheologies. Cristina is mother to Julian and Sophia, and wife to Adrian, a high school teacher, permanent deacon, and chaplain of the Australian Navy.

The day is a time to reflect, to explore ways to build a better world, to dream of what could be. The Day will reflect on Pope Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti, encouraging fraternity, sisters and brothers all, and friendship as the ways to build a better, more just and peaceful world, with the contribution of all people and institutions. All are welcome.

## Register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/spirituality-day-for-women-tickets-275424812027>

## or by contacting:

Anne Brown

[spiritweaverswagga@gmail.com](mailto:spiritweaverswagga@gmail.com)  
or phone 0499 425 970

## SPiritUALITY DAY FOR WOMEN

SATURDAY MAY 14, 2022

SPONSORED BY



SPIRIT WEAVERS



DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

Website: <https://spiritweaverswagga.com.au>

This event will be registered for 5 hours towards maintenance of currency to Work, Teach and Lead in Catholic Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

KILDARE COLLEGE  
WAGGA WAGGA

## SPEAKERS



**DR MICHELE CONNOLLY** RSJ  
Associate Professor of Biblical Studies  
Sydney College of Divinity; lectures in  
Biblical Studies at CIS.



**DR CRISTINA LLEDO GOMEZ**  
Catholic Systematic Theologian and  
Lecturer at BBI-TAITE promoting  
women's spiritualities, feminist  
theologies, and eco-theologies.



## FACILITATOR

**CHRISTINE SAVAGE**  
Co-Chair Spirit Weavers Wagga

9.00 am – 3.30pm  
KILDARE CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
COLEMAN STREET  
WAGGA WAGGA

COST: DONATION  
MORNING TEA & LUNCH PROVIDED

REGISTRATION: EVENTBRITE  
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/spirituality-day-for-women-tickets-275424812027>

Contact: ANNE BROWN  
Mb: 0499 425 970  
Email: [spiritweaverswagga@gmail.com](mailto:spiritweaverswagga@gmail.com)



COVID SAFE  
REGULATIONS  
WILL APPLY

*Who is My Neighbour?  
Let us dream  
Let us weave a new path*



# Spirit Weavers and Pope Francis' Synod on Synodality

**Spirit Weavers - Contemplative Active Christian Women Wagga Wagga Diocese - have been busy during January and February formulating their response for submission to the Pope's Synod on Synodality.**

After an invitation to the women of the Diocese, 16 women met via Zoom on 20 January to discuss and prepare a draft submission. Participants were divided into 3 groups aligned to the three themes of Communion, Mission, and Participation.

Each group followed the ACBC guidelines to pray, read and reflect, share and listen, pray and respond. An initial response to each of the themes was then formulated by each group.

The 3 drafts were then refined according to a key guideline for submissions – the need to adhere to a maximum of 250 words.

The Spirit Weavers team met twice in February to review and agree on the final documents. These were circulated to all those who attended

the 20 January meeting before submission.

The three submissions, for Communion, Participation and Mission, were sent to the official site <https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> prior to the 13 March deadline. Copies of the submissions were forwarded to Bishop Mark and the Diocesan Coordinator.

**The documents will soon be available for viewing at the Spirit Weaver's website: <https://spiritweaverswagga.com.au>**





## Mater Dei Primary, Wagga Wagga



Mater Dei Primary rocked it today in support of their classmates Charlie and Zara as part of the Thomas bros Wagga Wagga Takes 2 fundraising for BrAshA-T Ataxia-Telangiectasia.

A big thanks goes out to Mater Dei and it's school captains for organising a fun day for all.

## St Joseph's Primary, Culcairn

Thanks to the GWS players for their chat on 28 February. Elite sportsmen reaching out to kids in the country. Thanks to Toby Greene, Lachie Keefe and the boys for their time.



## St Mary's Primary, Yoogali

St Mary's Primary had a fun St Patrick's Day Disco! Thank you to the School Council Team for organising such a super fun night!



## St Peter's Primary, Coleambally

The new chess set at St Peter's Primary has been a big hit amongst the students!





## St Joseph's School, Junee



Students had fun in the playground on March 18 making fairy gardens.



## St Patrick's School, Albury



Year 1 students at St Patrick's Parish School celebrated St Patrick's Day on March 17.



## All Saints Primary, Tumbarumba



Years 4/5/6 had their Leadership Camp at Laurel Hill Forest Lodge. Looks like everyone had a great time.



## Mater Dei Catholic College, Wagga Wagga



Congratulations to the following students selected in the Wagga Wagga Diocesan Netball teams at the trials held on March 16.

15s: Isabel Edmunds

Opens: Ava Moller, Ash Reyanoldson, Harriet Priest, Abbey Reinhold and Sophie Edmunds.



Catholic  
Education  
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now



# Mass Times across our Diocese

## Wagga Wagga - Cathedral

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

## Wagga Wagga - Koorinal

**Sacred Heart**  
Lake Albert Road, Koorinal  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm  
Sunday - 8:00am and 10:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 5:45pm  
Tuesday and Thursday - 7:00am  
Saturday - 9:30am  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday - 10:00am - 10:30am  
Changes to Mass times will be on Chapel door.

## Wagga Wagga - South Wagga

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

## Wagga Wagga - West Wagga

**Holy Trinity Church**  
Bardia Street  
Ashmont  
Monday - Saturday - 7:00am  
Friday - 10:15am  
Sunday - 9:00am, 10:30am and 5:30pm  
**Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church**  
Benedict Avenue  
San Isidore  
Monday to Saturday - 6:00pm

## Albury

**St Patrick's** 515 Smollett St, Albury  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
Saturday - 9:30am  
Vigil (Saturday) - 5:00pm  
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am, and 5:30pm  
Latin Mass - Sunday 12 noon  
**Weekday Mass Times**  
Monday to Friday - 7:00am  
Tuesday & Thursday - 9:30am  
Latin Mass Mondays - 7pm in the Adoration Chapel  
First Friday - 5:30pm  
**Rosary before Mass**  
Saturday - 9:10am and 4:30pm  
Sunday - 7:40am and 9:40am

## Albury - North Albury

**Sacred Heart** Mate Street, North Albury  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00 pm  
Sunday - 9:30 am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday to Friday 9.30am or as printed in weekly newsletter  
First Tuesday of month - Mercy Place 11.00am - Includes sacrament of anointing  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 5.15 - 5.45 pm

## Albury - Lavington

**Holy Spirit**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am  
St Mary's Jindera - 9:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - Friday - 7:00am  
Saturday - 9:15am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 8.15am, 5.00pm  
St Mary's Jindera - Sunday 8.30am

## Albury - Thurgoona

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 9:30am, 5:30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - 8:00am  
Tuesday - 10:00am  
Wednesday - 8:00am  
Thursday - 7:00pm (Mass Novena and Benediction)  
Friday - 10:00am  
**Confessions**  
Prior to Masses  
Saturday - 5.30pm-5.55pm  
Sunday - 9.00am-9.25am & 5.00pm-5.25pm  
Thursday - 7.00pm following Novena  
Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

## Berrigan

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

## Coolamon

**St Michael's**  
Sunday - 7:30am and 9:00am  
**Confessions**  
Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm  
**Masses**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 7:30am  
Thursday - 10:15am  
Saturday - 9:00am  
**Marrar**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
**Confessions**  
1st Saturday - 5:30pm  
**Allawah Village**  
First Thursday of each month.  
Mass at 9.15am

## Corowa

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

## Culcairn

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

## Darlington Point

**Oliver Plunkett**  
Hay Rd, Darlington Point  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8:30am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm (Saturday Vigil)  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:30am - Darlington Point  
**St Peter's** Cnr of Currawong Crescent and Kingfisher Avenue, Coleambally  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 10:30am  
2nd, 4th Sunday - 8:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Holy Hour - Friday 5:00pm - 6:00pm at Darlington Point  
**Confessions**  
15 minutes before 10:00 am Mass on Sunday or by request

## Finley

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

## Ganmain

**St. Brendan's Ganmain**  
**Sunday Mass**  
9:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday to Friday:  
December-February 7:30am (Tues., Thurs.) & 5:30pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.)  
March-November 5:30pm  
Saturday: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).  
**Confessions**  
8:00-8:55am Sunday and 30 minutes before all Masses.  
**St. Patrick's Matong**  
6:00pm Saturday  
**Confessions** 30 min before Mass

## Griffith

**Sacred Heart** Warrambool St, Griffith  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Saturday - 8:00am  
Sunday - 7:30am, 9:00am, (Italian), 10.30am, 6.00pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday - Friday - 7.00am, 5.30pm  
**Confessions**  
Friday - 4.30pm to 5.30pm  
Saturday - 11.30am to 12.30pm  
**Marian Catholic College Chapel**  
185 Wakaden Street Griffith  
Sunday - 9.00am

## Holbrook

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

## Howlong

**St Brigid's**  
Hovell St, Howlong  
**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
Queen Street, Walbundrie  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
**Howlong**  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
**Walbundrie**  
Sunday - 9:00am  
**Masses**  
**Howlong**  
Saturday 9.00 am - Howlong  
For other Masses during the week, see the parish website.  
**Reconciliation**  
**Howlong**  
Saturdays 9:30am (after 9:00am Mass)  
5:30pm - 5:55pm  
**Walbundrie**  
Sundays 8:30am - 8:55am

## Jerilderie

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

## June

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

## Khancoban

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

## Leeton

**St Joseph's Leeton**  
Wade Avenue, Leeton  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 10:00am (First Sunday of the month is Italian)  
**St Patrick's Yanco**  
Sunday - 8:00am  
Tuesday - 9:00am  
**Weekday Masses in Leeton**  
Monday - 9:00am  
Tuesday (Yanco) - 9:00am  
Wednesday - 9:00am  
Thursday - 9:30am (Assumption Villa)  
Friday - 9:15am and 5:30pm

**Sacrament of Penance**  
Friday - 4:45-5:15pm  
Saturday - 5:30-5:50pm  
**Eucharistic Adoration**  
St Joseph's Church Leeton  
Friday - 4:30pm

## Lockhart

**St Mary's Church**  
55 Ferrier St, Lockhart  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday (Vigil) - 6:00pm  
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - 9:00am & Friday - 10:00am  
**Confessions** Up to 5 mins before Mass.

## Mulwala

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

## Narrandera

**Narrandera** St Mel's Church, Audley St  
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 9:30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 7:30am  
Friday - 5:30pm  
(subject to changes announced in the Sunday bulletin)  
**Confessions**  
Friday - 4:30-5:20pm;  
Saturday - 9:30-10:00am  
and 5:00-5:45 pm  
**Grong Grong**  
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8:00am  
**Galore**  
St Kevin's Church  
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8:00am

## Tarcutta

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

## The Rock

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

## Tocumwal

**St Peter's**  
Charlotte Street, Tocumwal  
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm  
Sunday - 8:30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Thursday - 9:30am  
**Confessions**  
Half an hour before weekend Masses

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



## Tumbarumba

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

## Urana

**St Fiace's Church** 5 End St, Urana  
**Weekend Masses**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 8.00am  
2nd & 4th Saturday (Vigil) - 6.00pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Thursday - 12.30pm  
**Confessions** Up to 5 mins before Mass.  
**Oaklands**  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - 10.00am

## Yenda - Yoogali - Hanwood

**Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii**  
17 Edon Street, Yoogali  
Sunday - 9.30am  
**St Anthony's - Hanwood**  
Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm  
Sunday - 8.00am  
**St Therese's - Yenda**  
Saturday Vigil - 6.30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday - 8.00am - Hanwood  
Wednesday - 8.00am - Hanwood  
Thursday - 5.00pm - Yenda  
Saturday - 9.30am - Yoogali (first Saturday of the month only)  
**Confessions**  
Yenda - Thursday, before Mass  
Yoogali - Sunday, before Mass  
Hanwood - Saturday - 4.30pm  
Or by arrangement with the priest.

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

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

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



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



## Junior Legion

Every Wednesday afternoon at 3:45pm at St Michael's Cathedral Parish Centre.

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Contact:  
Caronne 0413 801 616

**PRAY**  
IS LOVE FOR GOD  
**FAST**  
IS LOVE FOR YOURSELF  
**GIVE**  
IS LOVE FOR OTHERS

# Family reflections for: Mar/Apr

**20th March**

**Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle C**

**We may be unfamiliar with fig trees, but we might know about the growth of spring flowers.** Perhaps we have looked at a dry, brown flower bulb and wondered how this produces the colorful tulip or daffodil blossom that we expect to bloom in the spring. Perhaps we've even thought about the patience and hope that are required to plant flower bulbs in October. We don't have to be gardeners, however, to know about patience and hopefulness. As parents, we practice these virtues each day with our children. We may become frustrated and even angered by their willfulness and lack of cooperation. Yet we continue to offer our attention and guidance in hope that one day our efforts will bear fruit. Today's parable suggests that God is like that with us, working with us in patience and in hope that one day we will show evidence that such work is not in vain. As parents, we know God's kindness when we find evidence for our hope for our children. Does God find such glimmers of hope as he works with us?

Gather your family and show a spring flower in bloom. Recall that in the fall this flower was a dry bulb (if a flower bulb is available, show this as well). Talk about the hopefulness and patience shown by those who plant flower bulbs in the fall in the hope that they will bloom in the spring. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 13:1-9. Compare the parable of the barren fig tree to your discussion about spring flowers. Consider the patience and hopefulness that God has with us as he works with us, calling us to return to him when we sin. Offer prayers of thanks and praise to God for his patience and hopefulness towards us. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 103.

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15 Psalm 103:1-4, 6-7, 8, 11  
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 Luke 13:1-9

**27th March**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C**

**"Hey, that's not fair!" How many times have we heard this spoken in our family?** Family members challenge one another's generosity, operating from the perspective of limited resources. If we have given to one, perhaps there won't be enough for the other. Jesus wants us to understand that this is not how it is with God's mercy and forgiveness. God offers his love to all of us in abundance. The forgiveness of the father in the parable is an image of God's love for us, generous beyond measure in his love for both of his sons. Can we truly believe that God acts this way towards us and accept his mercy without jealousy, knowing that God's love for another does not diminish his love for us?

As you gather as a family, talk about the words and phrases you speak to one another when angry. Identify words or phrases that reflect jealousy towards one another. Talk about why we sometimes feel jealous towards one another. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. Talk about why the older brother is jealous of the younger brother. Identify words that the family members in the parable might say to one another to begin to heal their broken relationships. Make a family commitment to say these types of words and phrases to one another with greater frequency. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 Psalm 34:2-7  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**3rd April**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C**

**There are few people that we know better than the members of our own family.** We know one another's strengths and abilities, and we also know one another's

limitations and weaknesses. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, we may be tempted to focus on the faults and sins that familiarity with one another can sometimes reveal. As family members, however, we also have the ability to see one another's faults and sins within the context of the whole person. When we can keep this perspective, we are more likely to look upon one another with compassion. Family life, then, presents us the opportunity to see one another as God sees us, not with judgment and condemnation for our weaknesses and failings, but with mercy and compassion. When we learn to withhold judgment for the faults we know are there and seek the best in one another, we help one another to experience the depths of God's compassion, mercy, and love.

As you gather as a family, observe that when we know people well we know their faults as well as their strengths. At times, we can be tempted to focus on the faults we see in others. Discuss what your family life would be like if you always focused on one another's faults. Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus refuses to focus on the sin of the woman brought to him for judgment. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 8:2-11. Ask: What did the people who focused on the woman's sin want to do? (stone the woman) What does Jesus say to the people who accused the woman caught in adultery? (that the person with no sin should throw the first stone) Are any of us without sin? (No.) Observe that we can help each other to grow in God's love by refusing to focus on one another's faults and sins. In this way, we can help one another to see ourselves as God sees us: with understanding and compassion. Conclude in prayer together asking God to forgive our sins by praying the Act of Contrition.

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126:1-6  
Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11





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