



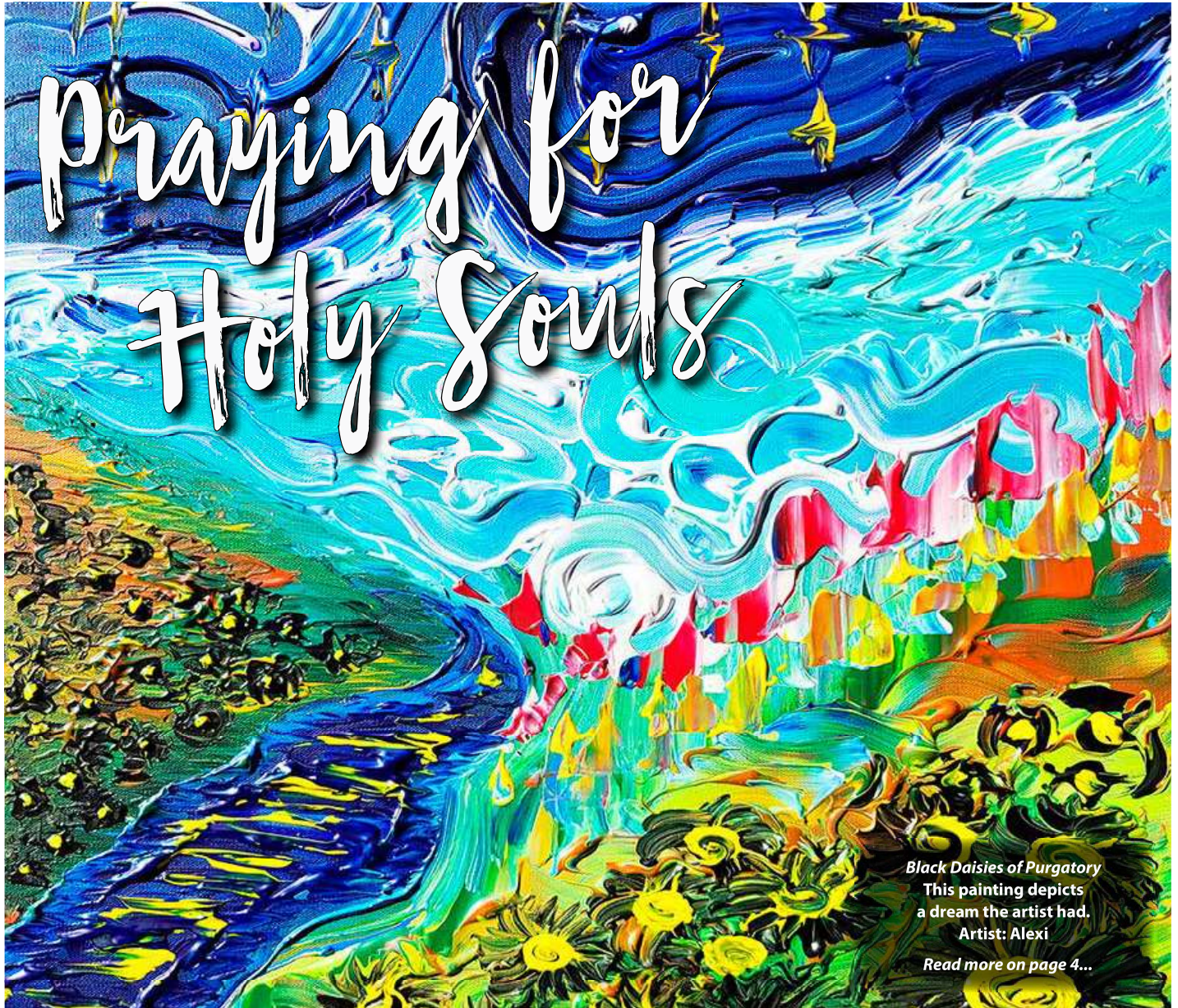
TOGETHER

In the Diocese of *Wagga Wagga*

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NOVEMBER 2022



Black Daisies of Purgatory
This painting depicts
a dream the artist had.
Artist: Alexi
Read more on page 4...

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Bishop's Voice



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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

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Love, communion and presence are not broken by death

Dear sisters and brothers,

When we recite the Apostles Creed, we both recommit ourselves to believe in and trust in “the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.” For us, death is not the end. It has no power to destroy us or to break our union with one another. We are connected with those who have died, and they with us. Love, communion and presence are not broken by death.

Part of the way in which we make our belief in the communion of saints and their purification as a concrete and practical part of our Christian lives, is through praying for those who have died, which we do in a special way this and every November.

Some of us privileged to have held someone's hand as he or she was dying may have experienced that it can be an immense comfort to both the person dying and the people holding their hand. In a similar way, we hold another's hand beyond death when we pray for them. Indeed, in our prayers for our loved ones who have died, our connection with them can be purer, the forgiveness deeper, the perspective wider, and the distance between us less. Death can cut through things that separated us in this life.

As well as making real our communion with the dead, our prayers for the dead offer them real strength and encouragement as they move through the purification of purgatory to heaven. Fr Rolheiser suggests the image of a mother beside the pool as her young child is

learning to swim. The child's mother cannot learn for the child, but if she is present and offering encouragement from the edge of the pool, the child's struggle and learning become easier. Things are more easily borne if they can be shared, he states, even for a person's adjustment to the life of heaven.

“It is an important duty of ours to pray for the dead because although they may have died in grace and in friendship with God, they may still be in need of a last purification in order to enter into the joy of heaven.” (Pope St John Paul 2)

By praying for the dead, we share with them the pain of this purifying as they are cleansed by Christ and choose him over everything else. Each of us can be a means through which God's grace works and through which they can be saved by Jesus Christ.

You might like to join me for the rest of November in this prayer which can be said daily for the dead

*O Lord God Almighty, I beseech you,
by the precious blood
which your Divine Son, Jesus, shed in
the garden and on the Cross,
deliver the souls in purgatory,
and especially that one which is the
most forsaken of all;
and bring it to your glory,
there to praise and bless you forever.
Amen.*

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord;
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and the souls of all the
faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen.*



COVID 19 Diocesan Protocols
Effective 14th October 2022

Return to normal protocols Diocese of Wagga Wagga

1. Normal pre-Covid practices resume.
2. Hygiene - Over the past two years we have learned much about hygiene precautions, and I encourage you to stay safe.
3. If you are experiencing symptoms of Covid, flu, or any other contagious illness, stay home.

M Edwards

Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI
Bishop of Wagga Wagga

Prayer Intention for November - Pray with Pope Francis

For children who suffer.

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

Visit this link to hear the Pope deliver his monthly prayer:
<https://thepopevideo.org/>



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<https://www.popesprayer.va/>

Children offer us hope and belief in the future. They are innocent, full of goodness and joy. One of my favorite sounds is the laughter of little children, especially my own grandchildren! Sadly, in many places, children are not living lives of laughter. Rather, they bear the burdens of others' sins, and their childhood is taken away.

Pope Francis is asking us to pray for all children who suffer and that they be given basic needs, including family affection and education. Many of us take simple things for granted in our own families, right? But many children are not receiving these simple things due to situations beyond their control. They have no way of keeping themselves safe and protected, no recourse, no voice. For most people, the natural inclination towards children is a desire to care for and protect them from

harm. However, this is not true in all parts of the world, and we have seen many ways in which children are not taken care of well.

We can help children who suffer in many ways. Prayer of course, is where we begin. And then, ask God how you can help in more tangible ways. I think it is best to start in your own local community. Let me offer a few ideas to get you started: donate clothes, food, and school supplies; offer to tutor or advocate for abused children.

We are called to pray for and care for those in need. This intention focuses on children who carry heavy burdens. Together, let us unite our prayers with those of the Holy Father as we pray together for children who are suffering.

The importance of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement

This year, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Social Justice Statement 2022-2023 confronts the scourge of violence and abuse, and encourages individuals, organisations and ministries to reflect on the roles they play addressing them.

BY BRIGID MENEY - Director of Strategy & Mission, Catholic Health Australia

The need for action is clear; on a daily basis as we see governments, communities and families grapple with responding to domestic violence, elder abuse, and recently, the death of 15-year-old Noongar Yamatji boy Cassius Turvey, beaten to death walking home from school.

The prevalence of violence, is particularly relevant for the Catholic health sector, given the work we do every day.

All too often carers working for Catholic health providers are at the coal face of this scourge, treating and healing as best they can those who have suffered violence, and they are often the victims' first point of contact. This includes but is not limited to family violence, child sexual abuse, youth violence, elder abuse, criminal violence, and neglect.

For years Catholic health, by virtue of its mission, has run programs to address the results and causes of community violence, through family shelters, women's mental health units as well as inclusive health and behavioural change programs. These programs, many inspired by the radical founders in Catholic health, take seriously our vocation as Catholics to always look for those most in need,

and prioritise their care.

This requires constant assessment and adaptation, to ensure we are always advocating on behalf of emerging vulnerable demographics.

For instance, the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety found that more than 39 per cent of people living in Australian aged-care facilities had experienced elder abuse. And that figure does not include financial, social or sexual abuse. Elder abuse can make frail, aged people see their lives as redundant and worthless. And sadly, it reportedly comes mainly from family members.

The Australian Institute of Family Studies reports that it is likely that up to 10 per cent of older Australians experience elder abuse in any given year and that this increases with age. The prevalence of neglect is possibly higher.

From Catholic Health Australia's perspective this was only exacerbated by the passing of assisted dying laws in every Australian state, laws that in many instances exist with limited protections against coercion.

CHA and its members have played a significant and vocal role advocating on this issue both before and after the



laws were passed and will continue to do so as part of our calling to protect the vulnerable against acts of violence, even when legal.

Catholic health system workers are also occasionally subject to violence. NSW Bureau of Crime statistics show assaults against healthcare workers have risen 55 per cent since 2016. In Queensland, violent assaults are up 50 per cent in the same period.

The World Health Organization estimates that up to 38 per cent of healthcare workers have experienced physical violence at least once during their careers, and that many more have reported experiences of non-physical violence, such as verbal abuse and harassment.

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated instances of violence being present to CHA members' health and social services programs.

Loss of income and work, increased isolation of people and families, and the pressures of closed childcare centres and schools created an environment that led to more violence within communities and families.

A survey of 15,000 women in May 2020 showed one in 12 experienced physical violence from their live-in partner in the first three months of the pandemic, when most Australians were locked down. This led to an increase in demand for the services Catholic health providers have offered over the past two years.

While multiple factors play a part in the prevalence of violence (including poverty, addiction, culturally and linguistically diverse community backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity, mental health, and gender) it exists everywhere, including in our Catholic community.

Catholic health providers often deal with the impact of violence, and much of this assessment and ability to direct appropriate care rests on the trust individuals places in their healthcare provider and the institutions they associate with.

Sadly, the prevalence of abuse within the Catholic Church and its entities, as revealed by the Royal Commission, damaged this trust.

The Royal Commission was a very public reckoning with the Church's failures.

But in time, through decisive action and rightful reconciliation, we can rebuild the community's trust, and in doing so lift our social standing to advocate on health issues affecting the vulnerable and increase our capacity to influence change within governments and communities.

Parish priests and others community leaders are ideally placed to educate, inform and support the victims of violence and assist on the ground, addressing systemic issues in line with our faith and providing a pathway to professional assistance.

As part of the call of the Social Justice Statement 2022-23 we can and should reflect on how ministries can work together with the broader Church to combat the source of violence (not just the outcomes) in our parishes, through professional resources and support.

Our faith community, and the vulnerable, will be better served by a stronger, more vocal and more proactive practice of collaboration.

You can read CHA's submission to the ACBC at:

https://www.cha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Social-Justice-Statement-2022-CHA_final.pdf



Brigid Meney - Director of Strategy & Mission, Catholic Health Australia appearing on The Drum in 2019.

6 ways to honor the Holy Souls this November

This is the month we remember the dead. Here are some easy ways to do it this year.

BY ANNABELLE MOSELEY

For Catholics, November is the month of the Holy Souls. The Catechism teaches: "All who die in God's grace and friendship but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death, they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." (CCC 1030)

Those suffering but hopeful souls whom our prayers assist will someday be in heaven and will pray for us as we journey. And so, November is an ideal time to help the Holy Souls through prayer and acts of love and charity. It's also a good time to remember that we are sinners and must strengthen our own souls so that we may enter heaven. Continuing our monthly series on ways to showcase each month's Catholic theme in your life, here are 8 ways you can honour the Holy Souls this November:

1 MAKE A HOLY SOULS RESOLUTION THIS MONTH

It is commonplace to make a resolution for New Year's in January, deciding to give up a vice or adopt a virtue. There is no better time than the month of the Holy Souls to make a resolution that helps our own souls and those we love get a little closer to heaven. An example of a Holy Souls' Month resolution: Resolve to pray the Rosary every day to help strengthen your own soul; and also add the "Eternal Rest" prayer at the end for the Holy Souls:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the

perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

2 PRAY FOR THE SOULS WITH ST. GERTRUDE'S PRAYER

Here it is: *Eternal Father, I offer You the most precious blood of thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, for those in my own home and in my family. Amen.*

3 PERFORM ACTS OF CHARITY AND SACRIFICES FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Whatever you do in the spirit of this month, why not offer it up for the suffering Holy Souls?

4 VISIT A CEMETERY AND PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

What a wonderful month to go to the cemetery and offer prayers, even for those you didn't know personally. For your departed loved ones, why not plant some mums, ornamental cabbage, or lay a wreath at their headstone and pray while you plant? You could probably say a whole Rosary for them while you till, weed, plant and water. When you're finished, take a walk and continue praying for those buried there.

Don't forget the "Eternal Rest" prayer (see



above). This is an excellent way to become more comfortable in cemeteries, and become aware that these are not places to fear or avoid, but hallowed ground on which to pray for those who have gone before us.

5 REQUEST AND OFFER MASSES FOR THE REPOSE OF SOULS

We can and should help the souls of the departed after death by requesting Masses for them. Another option: Offer the next Mass you attend for all the Holy Souls, offering up your reception of Communion and all your prayers and good works of the day.

6 REMEMBER YOUR DEPARTED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AROUND THE DINNER TABLE

At grace before meals, when we proclaim our blessings and share our bounty, let us also recall, by name, those in our family who have died and whose influence we still celebrate and count among our greatest gifts. Pray for their soul and in gratitude for their love. Place photos of your beloved deceased in a place of honour. Serve a food your loved one was known to cook or to enjoy. **Tell stories of that loved one, play a song they liked, and most importantly, pass down their wisdom and wit.**



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Pope announces that synod on 'synodality' will be extended

Pope Francis announced that his ongoing Synod of Bishops on Synodality will be extended for an additional year to allow, as he put it, more time for discernment and a greater understanding of the concept as a key dimension of church life.

BY ELISE ANN ALLEN

As things now stand, bishops and other participants will gather for an initial meeting of the synod Oct. 4-29, 2023, in Rome, to be followed by a year of reflection with another culminating meeting set for October 2024.

Though notoriously difficult to define, "synodality" is generally understood to refer to a collaborative and consultative style of management in which all members, clerical and lay, participate in making decisions about the church's life and mission.

Speaking to pilgrims following his Oct. 16 Angelus address, Pope Francis noted that the first stage of the synod, "For a synodal Church: Communion, participation, mission," opened last October. Since then, the process has been moving forward "in the particular churches, with listening and discernment."

The pope voiced confidence that this decision will "foster understanding of synodality as a constitutive dimension of the church, and help everyone to live it in a journey of brothers and sisters who bear witness to the joy of the Gospel."

Formally opened by Pope Francis with an Oct. 10, 2021, Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, the synod, typically a month-long meeting of bishops at the Vatican, has been reconceived in this instance as a

multi-stage process beginning with a local consultation carried out among pastors and faithful around the world.

The diocesan phase lasted from October 2021 to April 2022, and was designed as a consultative process that took place according to certain guidelines issued by the Synod of Bishops. A second, continental phase, began in September and will last through March 2023, when continental bishops' conferences will coordinate and evaluate the results of the diocesan consultations.

A final, universal phase was set to conclude the process during next year's Oct. 4-29 gathering in Rome, but with Pope Francis's announcement Sunday, that universal phase is now extended to 2024.

The Synod of Bishops was launched by Pope Paul VI during the Second Vatican Council in 1965 as an attempt to broaden the involvement of bishops from around the world in the governance of the church.

Since then, ordinary synods have taken place every three to four years in Rome, gathering the world's shepherds to discuss a topic of particular relevance. In addition, "extraordinary" or "special" synods can be and have also been called prior to the ordinary gathering, when a pope determines a certain topic merits



Pope Francis waves to faithful from his studio's window overlooking St. Peter's Square on the occasion of the Angelus noon prayer at the Vatican, Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022. (Credit: Gregorio Borgia/AP)

particular attention and discussion.

Pope Francis has called five synods to date. The first were his back-to-back synods on the family in 2014 and 2015, followed by his 2018 ordinary synod on youth and his 2019 special synod on the Amazon.

The current process marks his fifth synod, which instead of being concentrated during a three-week stretch in Rome, is unfolding over a four-year period throughout the global church.

In addition, the pope has also urged local dioceses and bishops' conferences to launch similar initiatives at both the local, national, and continental scale. The bishops of both Germany and Italy are currently knee-deep in their own synod processes, launched with the pope's request and inspiration.

In a statement released following the pope's Oct. 16 announcement, the Vatican's office for the Synod of Bishops said the pope's decision to extend the Synod on Synodality for a year "stems

from the desire that the theme of a synodal church, because of its breadth and importance, might be the subject of prolonged discernment not only by the members of the synodal assembly, but by the whole church."

This choice is in step with the ongoing synod process, they said, insisting that the synod is "not an event but a process in which the whole People of God is called to walk together toward what the Holy Spirit helps it to discern as being the Lord's will for his church."

Calling the ordinary synod gathering "a journey within the journey," the statement said the extended version will aim "to foster more mature reflection for the greater good of the church."

The Synod of Bishops said they will better define the practical aspects of the 2023 and 2024 gatherings, and the time in between, in the coming weeks, and will communicate the information "in due time."

Pope announces registration open for World Youth Day

The Pope announced that registration was now open for the largest international Catholic youth gathering, World Youth Day 2023, scheduled to take place on August 1-6.

"Dear young people, I invite you to register for this meeting in which, after a long period of staying at a distance, we will rediscover the joy of the fraternal embrace between peoples and between generations, which we need so much," Pope Francis said.

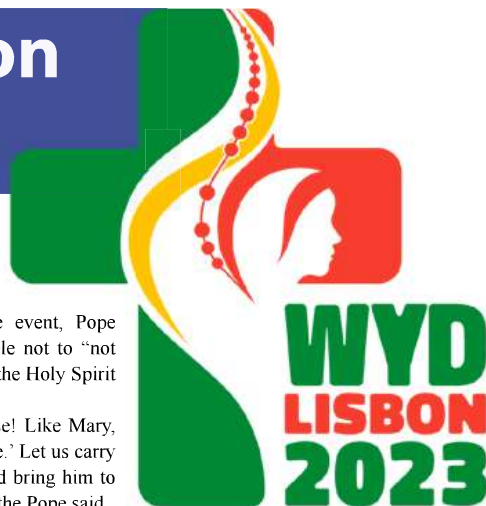
Pope Francis asked young people from Portugal to join him in the window of the Apostolic Palace for the announcement at the end of his Angelus address.

Lisbon, the Portuguese capital set to host World Youth Day 2023, is just 120 kilometres from Fatima, one of the most visited Marian pilgrimage sites in the world. In Fatima, the Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children in 1917 with a message of peace and a request for prayer.

The theme of Lisbon's World Youth Day is "Mary arose and went with haste."

In his message for the event, Pope Francis urged young people not to "not postpone all the good that the Holy Spirit can accomplish in you."

"Now is the time to arise! Like Mary, let us 'arise and go in haste.' Let us carry Jesus within our hearts and bring him to all those whom we meet," the Pope said.



Walk hand-in-hand with communities in Ethiopia

How a grassroots approach is helping communities build brighter futures.

In October, Catholic Mission celebrated World Mission Month and the incredible life-giving work of missionaries around the world. To celebrate and share this moment together, we invited you to walk hand-in-hand with the Church of Ethiopia and the local communities, towards providing life-changing opportunities to those most in need.

As this year marks the 200-year anniversary of the founding of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, known in Australia as Catholic Mission, we are celebrating the people who are at the centre of our work, the people without whom it would not be possible to carry the work of mission on the ground.

"It is thanks to the missionaries' dedication, that we are able to be a missionary Church and commit to supporting life-giving mission development projects around the world." Says Fr Brian Lucas, Catholic Mission National Director.

As reminded by Pope Francis, in his 2022 World Mission Sunday Message, we are all invited to answer the call to be missionary, sharing that "Mission is carried out together, not individually...".

And so, together, we are answering the call of Christ to be missionaries

and have the opportunity to build brighter futures for communities in need around the world.

By supporting projects at a grassroots level and working closely with local communities, we aim to find sustainable solutions to bring hope to those in most need. This year, Catholic Mission's mission development programs in Ethiopia are aiming to address malnutrition, the lack of access to education for young children, and the vulnerable position of women in society.

"The grassroots approach has a significant sustainable impact because it tries to address the core of the issues, rather than offering a quick fix. We work in solidarity with communities, they are active participants and claim ownership over the projects to make them meet their needs. Therefore, our aim is to support the communities in accessing the right tools so they can break away from the cycle of poverty and injustice they are embedded in." says James Loneragan, Program Officer at Catholic Mission.

In the rural area of Emdibir, Ethiopia, 70 percent of the families struggle to put food on their tables due to inequitable local economic dynamics, which create a lack of access to land and employment, a cycle reinforced by



Fr Habte and the local community members working together to build a brighter future.

a drought that has severely impacted rural areas of the country.

By supporting the local community to build a goat rearing centre, Catholic Mission is helping families to sustain themselves in the future. The resources produced through the Centre will directly help to fight malnutrition, a phenomenon that contributes to 50 percent of child deaths. A project led directly on the ground by Fr Habte, a local priest, who dedicates his work to raising the local community out of poverty by creating employment, sustainable food resources, and bringing hope.

On the Ethiopian ground, Catholic Mission is also involved in projects to support education and women's empowerment.

We thank you for your support in

making this World Mission Month special, and for helping us to reach out and give life. We look forward to seeing your generosity extended and seeing you answering the call to be missionaries by joining us in carrying the life-giving work of mission around the world.

To learn more about the projects Catholic Mission is currently supporting visit catholicmission.org.au/worldmissionmonth



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Capturing the fascinating origin story of ErinEarth

25 years ago, ErinEarth was two asphalt tennis courts and a dumping ground for a nearby school.

Then two local Presentation Sisters, Carmel Wallis and Kaye Bryan, had the audacity to dream big and take action. This is the story of how Carmel and Kaye galvanised the local community and turned a local wasteland into a half-hectare native garden demonstrating sustainable living to residents of Wagga Wagga and beyond.

25 years on, the incredible story of how ErinEarth became a beacon of biodiversity is set to be told in a new 3-part podcast series, officially launching on November 21, 2022.

The podcast was produced by A Lasting Tale, a production company based in Albury, specialising in capturing engaging audio stories. It features the

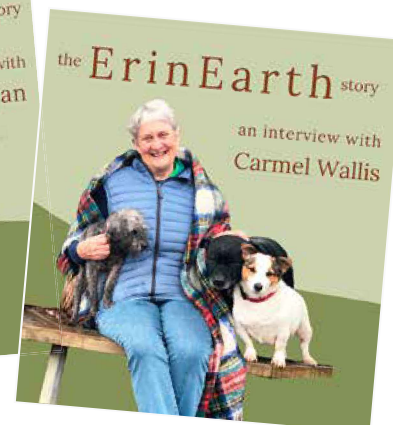
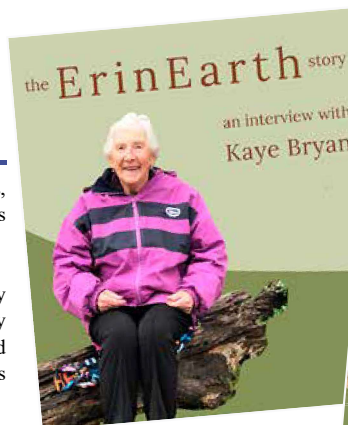
real life stories of ErinEarth's founders, the Presentation Sisters Carmel Wallis and Kaye Bryan.

Episode 1:

Sister Carmel Wallis talks passionately and with great insight into the philosophy underpinning ErinEarth. Her love and commitment to ecological justice shines through this fascinating origin story.

Episode 2:

Meet Sister Kaye Bryan, the "yin" to Sr Carmel's "yang". Hear her story about the early days of ErinEarth, the work both sisters spent in getting the Wagga community on board back in the mid to late 1990s, and the love and passion Kaye still brings to the space and its broader placement within sustainable living and ecological justice.



Episode 3:

The final episode brings Carmel and Kaye together to reflect on their time at ErinEarth. Laugh along as they reflect on the early days of community engagement, be inspired by their driving ethos, and ultimately, be filled with hope

for the future. Really, these women are inspiring!

The podcast launch will take place at Kildare Catholic College as part of a Presentation Day liturgy on Monday, 21 November, from 8.45am - 9.45 am.

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Reflections on COVID and Mass



Last month, Bishop Edwards invited readers to share experiences or reasons that have been integral to their ongoing faithfulness to the Eucharist. Following is a selection of responses received.

The first act of worship is to get up and go...

I am responding to your invitation in "Together" to share my reasons for my ongoing faithfulness to the Eucharist, during the difficulties of the past 2 and a half years. Firstly, it is to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy, and to observe the first precept of the Church that was founded by our Lord, but on a more personal level it is because I love my faith and want it to be nourished and strengthened by the blood of Christ, in the company

of other believers. I look to you and your fine young priests as a source of inspiration and guidance. Mass at the Cathedral is for me a beautiful mixture of awe, reverence and joy, a glimpse of the transcendent, an encounter with the Divine, Christ being truly present among us, and in us! It's always good to see the familiar faces at 5.00 pm Saturday, some I'm only on nodding terms with, others I know only by first name, others I have become friends

My feeling of being able to go back to Church was one of gratitude. My "normal" Sunday morning was returning, starting the day with the 9 o'clock Mass.

A feeling of seeing my congregation again, to be part of a community, to be able to connect through inquiring how people were, before and after Mass.

And praying together for a better

world. I felt more connected in prayer with others to the whole of the church or what it means to me.

Not alone anymore, being there for one another....

During the closure I missed being together to pray and, being connected.

I am glad, relieved and happy that we can celebrate Mass together again and feel, that I am part of a community, praying, hopefully, for a better world....

I don't go to Mass because I am Catholic. I am Catholic because I go to Mass.

The following are my thoughts on aspects of how we handled the whole Covid program.

1. The application of the exemption from attending Mass on Sundays was good decision.

- There are probably 2 groups of Catholics effected by the Covid ban;
- The first group said I'm not going to Mass to risk contracting the virus and I don't care what the church says.
- The second group were torn between their obligation to attend complying with the church rules, and the thought of catching the virus in the church.
- The second group were much relieved by the exemption.

2. I was greatly disappointed that the Christian Churches of all denominations, seemed to roll over and accept the ban on attending services, clergy and laity alike. The Covid pandemic was a time for more prayer not less, and what greater prayer

can we offer than the Mass.

3. We could /should have continued with Eucharistic Adoration, we could have restricted attendance to 1 person at a time, and alternated adorers where we have two on the roster if that were deemed necessary.

4. The decision not to discriminate between vaccinated and not vaccinated was the correct one, attending Mass when allowed, but we should have been in our churches all along.

However the banning of teachers and people generally from going to work was wrong, discriminatory, and caused a lot of hardship and distress.

5. I did not agree with the ban on receiving communion on the tongue.

6. We could /should have held prayer gatherings in open spaces, after all we were allowed to go shopping.

7. I'm not a great fan of the use of face masks as many people repeatedly used the same one day in day out.

with. I pray for everyone else present during silences in the liturgy. Sacred silence is an important and profound part of the Mass for me.

I will admit to being shocked and saddened by the announcement of church closures and the suspension of Mass for ten weeks at the start of Covid-19. I remember you describing that decision as grave and sad, and it certainly must have been for you. It was helpful to me to remind myself

of the great difficulties of persecuted Christians in less fortunate areas of the world. I will always remember the telecast of Easter Mass at St Mary's in Sydney, with Archbishop Anthony Fisher.

My experience of the return to Mass- well surely you have noticed- nobody wants to touch anyone for the Sign of Peace! I wonder if this is something that has now become redundant? A Vatican 11 idea that has had it's day perhaps...

The closure of Churches is something that happened so suddenly, as a response to the COVID epidemic to evade loss of life and serious illness, it caught many off-guard, which gave way to a mixed response.

I found myself during this time, in deep reflection about how much I have taken for granted in having the Mass and Sacraments so readily available to me for as long as my memory serves me. The world was suddenly thrown into chaos, and we were given a situation before us that we had not encountered before here in Australia. I am grateful that I belong to the Catholic Faith, one that has guided many people of Faith throughout history in the most difficult of situations. It was a time to reflect upon what my Faith truly meant to me, and how I can become more deeply in Love with Christ and His Church, it is how we respond to what is put in front of us that matters most through humility, obedience.

I was very touched that you mentioned Margaret Clitherow in your article. She was a woman of courage during her time who saw the importance of the

Priesthood and most importantly the Sacrifice of the Mass that they offer for us.

I was always comforted that Priests within the diocese and worldwide were still offering Mass, even if we could not attend for a time. I knew all this would pass, but am very grateful for the efforts Archbishop Anthony Fisher and all the Bishops to upgrade the status of the Church as essential with civil authorities, it was a very stressful time. Going back to Mass as our Churches reopened was received with much joy. Although families and communities were divided with the Covid response and much misinformation, it was Christ Himself that bought us all back together through the Sacrifice of the Mass. Christ desires unity, to do this we must place our Trust and fidelity in Christ and His Church, to hold fast to Him and His teachings. To remember the challenges that She, the Church, has endured throughout history and take comfort in knowing She still stands as Christ said She would. Charity in all things, to realise that we are sinners and not perfect, but to strive for perfection.

I certainly agree that "If you want to go far, go together." But the obligation of going to Sunday Mass I think it is not necessary. The people who have continued to go to Mass, have gone because they realise what the Mass is, and often also go during the week.

Others do not go to Mass for whatever reason, and it will not mean anything to them. I believe we and the Priests have to love and show these people what we receive from going to Mass.

Communion is 'food for the journey'. Then, for me, every celebration of the Eucharist, every Mass, provides viaticum – food for my journey through life. It would be impossible for me to travel without this nourishment.

David Enever's Second Album: *Be the Hope*

From COVID, to depression, to having videos go viral on TikTok, Wagga Wagga Catholic School teacher and singer-songwriter David Enever's second album, *Be the Hope*, is set to release after nearly three years in the making.

After releasing his first album '*Be the Light*' at the start of 2020, David Enever decided to take a day off each week from his Primary School teaching load and devote this day to musical missionary work, establishing his business DEMusic which provides scripture based music concerts and resources for schools and youth ministry. After starting to get a few bookings, these best laid plans were sidelined when COVID hit, with many of his shows needing to either be postponed or cancelled.

As many musicians did during these times, he turned to social media to try and establish a presence and could often be found performing via Facebook or Instagram LIVE. With some extra free time, David also skilled up with some training in music marketing and started curating a playlist on Spotify called '*Upbeat Christian Kids*' which

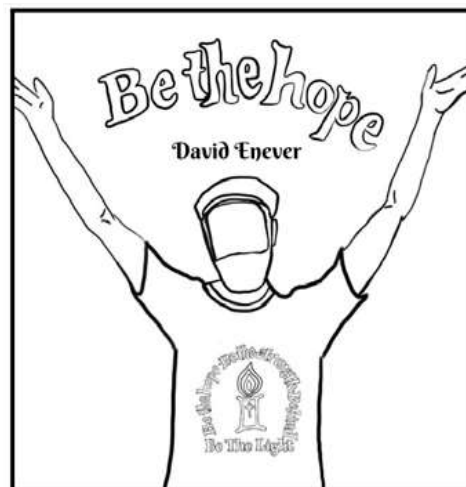


David Enever

included a mixture of his music, some more well known Christian hits and other music from Christian independent artists. He also challenged himself to regularly upload videos to his YouTube channel which originally started as just lyrics videos, but has evolved into dance along, drum along and a lot of YouTube Shorts, which has seen his subscriptions grow to around 4000. The silver lining from COVID for him was moving from predominantly 'sing along' concerts to 'dance along' concerts as restrictions didn't allow communal singing for many months. Now his concerts encompass both singing and dancing, which further engages schools he performs at.

Unfortunately, midway through 2021, David suffered a bad bout of depression which sidelined him from teaching for most of the second semester. At a tough time for him mentally, God showed him He was there along the journey with him, with Dave's single '*Rise & Walk*' (which was prepared months earlier and is Song 6 on the upcoming album), coincidentally being released around the time of his depression, helping him to '*Rise and Walk*' through it. Another song stemmed from this experience too, with 'Sing that Praise' (Song 13) being written after David's mother, Catherine Enever, told him that a good way to battle depression was to sing praise. So after listening to '*Garment of Praise*' by David Ingles a tonne of times, a new praise song emerged.

Towards the end of Term 1, 2022 schools were able to have live performances again, so David's Fridays began to become busy again, with 26 schools from a variety of dioceses booking him for this year. It was also around Easter time where he dabbled in the world of TikTok to try and promote his music. With limited success initially, particularly making videos around his original music, a simple lip syncing video of '*What A Friend We Have in Jesus*' went viral, with over four million views. With the success of this, a few other videos have reached the one million view mark and TikTok is now Dave's most popular social media, with him having currently over 135K followers at the writing of this.



David's second album, '*Be the Hope*', celebrates songs written and recorded through a time of COVID, with the first fifteen songs all being based from scripture, usually written between 2am to 4am from bouts of insomnia (again). There are also two Christmas classics included along with a special song for mothers in the mix this time.

David was helped with the album by: Grant Luhrs in the studio, Matt Swan on bass, Colin Anderson on lead guitar, Riley McPherson on the drums, Marie Dewhirst and Amanda Watson singing backings, along with Caleb Richards who played the violin for two tracks. A big thank you also to Caitlin Enever (David's wife) who designed the cover art for the album and many of his singles. And gratitude to CEDWW who have been such a great support in helping David get out to so many primary schools in our diocese the last few years.

God willing, it is Dave's hope that the songs serve you well. With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and strength '*Join the Dance*' with '*Be the Hope!*'

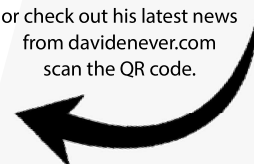
Be the Hope is set for release on Friday the 18th of November, 2022 on most music streaming platforms. **A limited supply of CDs were also printed and can also be purchased through David's website:**

www.davidenever.com

For schools and youth ministry groups that are interested in Dave performing or working with them, please also contact him via his website.



To follow Dave on his socials or check out his latest news from davidenever.com scan the QR code.



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What happens at your local Serra Club?



The Serra Club works with Bishop Mark Edwards and the Vocations Director of Vianney College, Fr Sean Byrnes, as well as the vocation directors of religious orders to encourage and support vocations.

What do we do?

Serrans pray daily for new vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate, and the consecrated life, for the perseverance of existing vocations and to encourage others, through the "31 Prayer Clubs" to attend an extra Mass each month for vocations and to pray daily for vocations.

Other Activities

These include visits to seminaries, arranging guest speakers on topics of importance for Catholics, appreciation dinners for priests, deacons and consecrated men and women, celebrating milestones with seminarians and support for retired priests.

On the last Saturday of each month Serrans around the world pray the Rosary especially for vocations. Some clubs have provided Rosary prayer rings for members and friends of Serra who like to walk and pray the Rosary.

Our Objectives

- To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood of the Catholic Church as a particular vocation to service and to support priests in their sacred ministry.
- To encourage and affirm vocations to the diaconate and the consecrated life in the Catholic Church and
- To assist its members to recognise and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

Future Plans/Activities

- Continue to work closely with Bishop Mark Edwards, the Vocations Director and Vianney College to encourage and support new and existing vocations
- Encourage increased membership of Serra to do more in support of vocations
- Encourage the appointment of Vocations Coordinators in parishes to:
 - * Increase participation in adoration and prayers for vocations
 - * Increase support for Vocations Awareness Week activities
 - * Encourage regular featuring of vocations prayers in the prayers of the faithful

* Encourage priest to speak about the love of their vocation

* Support the introduction of Priesthood Sunday activities

Our Name

A Franciscan missionary Saint Junipero Serra was the 18th century founder of a string of Californian mission stations. Like Father Serra, the Serrans of today put faith into action. Whether through meetings, vocational programs, or personal involvement in school, parish and diocesan activities, Serrans accept the challenge of fostering vocations and encouraging spiritual growth.

Our Inspiration

Father Serra's missions were established along El Camino Real, which linked his Church-centered communities up and down the California coastline. By linking clubs throughout the world, Serra International supports all clubs in their mission. Father Serra's motto was:

"Always go forward and never turn back"

Saint Junipero Serra 1713-1784, was canonised in Washington DC by the Holy Father Pope Francis, on 23rd September 2015. His feast day is celebrated on 1st July.

When did Serra start?

The first Serra Club was established on the 27 February 1935 in Seattle, Washington USA and there are now over 1,100 Serra Clubs in 46 countries on six continents with around 20,000 members. The first meeting in Australia was held in February 1968 with Clubs formally Chartered in Sydney and Melbourne in January 1970. Our Club was Chartered on the 24th October 1981.

When do Clubs meet?

Serra Clubs usually meet once each month although some meet more often. A typical Club meeting includes Mass, a light meal and refreshments, a short formal meeting, guest speaker followed by a topical discussion and adjournment with prayer.



Andrew Kennedy (front) with members of the Serra Club.

Membership of Serra

Membership is open to all practicing Catholic men and women and permanent deacons. As we all share the responsibility of providing ordained ministers for our communities, membership can help us to fulfil our obligations.

How can I find out more about Serra and the life of Saint Junipero Serra?

Please visit these websites:
www.scanzspac.org
www.serrainternational.org

How can I join Serra?

You can join Serra by contacting your local Serra Club. Details are as follows:
andrewkennedy615@gmail.com
 or phone Andrew Kennedy on
 0428 475 869

All vocation enquiries are to be directed to Fr Sean Byrnes, Vocations Director at:

frseanbyrnes@gmail.com
 Telephone: (02) 6959 2080

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we praise You for Your goodness and thank You for Your gifts

Help us respond to and live out our mission in the Church. Assist all Your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to prepare for it

Call many to be priests, deacons and consecrated men and women for Your greater glory, and for the service of Your people

Give those whom You call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

Spiritual Growth in Christ
Encouragement in Church Vocations
Religious Education of the Laity
Responsive Lay Leaders
Association in Christian Fellowship

CEDWW trainee teacher scholarships announced

Hard work, resilience and dedication have paid off for five Catholic school students who have been awarded scholarships in the 2022-23 Scholarships for Teacher Education Program by Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga (CEDWW).

BY MATT HUMPHREY

The scholarships of up to \$20,000 per person are offered to current high-achieving Year 12 Catholic students who intend to commence an undergraduate course in teacher training in 2023. In addition, each recipient will be provided with a high level of support and targeted placements during their studies and guaranteed employment in a diocesan school on completion of their studies.

One recipient, Ava Mallise from Kildare Catholic

College in Wagga Wagga, said the scholarship is an opportunity to work alongside and be mentored by some of the many talented teachers who have inspired her.

“Teaching is something that I have always been interested in as I have a love for learning which I want to continue to nurture in both myself and future students. I understand how significantly teachers can impact students' lives, and to be a source of support and encouragement for others in the future greatly motivates me.”

Another scholarship recipient, Aryellah Dal Broi from Marian Catholic College, Griffith, is keen to make a difference in students' lives.

“Ever since my younger years forcing my siblings to sit in on my ‘classes’ in our cubby house (complete with photocopied lesson plans and an extremely chaotic whiteboard), I’ve always been compelled to follow a profession that makes a real difference, and I believe teaching epitomises this very principle.”

Director of Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga, Dr Andrew Watson, extended his congratulations to all the recipients saying, “all students are very worthy recipients of these scholarships. They displayed through the application and interview process a real desire to study education and look forward to joining the teaching profession and working within our Catholic schools.”

The Scholarships for Teacher Education Program recipients for 2022-23 are:

- Christopher Iannelli - St Francis De Sales Regional College, Leeton
- Ava Mallise - Kildare Catholic College, Wagga Wagga
- Lexi Salvestro - Marian Catholic College, Griffith



Angelina Barker - Xavier High School, Albury



Christopher Iannelli
St Francis De Sales Regional College, Leeton

- Aryellah Dal Broi - Marian Catholic College, Griffith
 - Angelina Barker - Xavier High School, Albury
- CEDWW Recruitment Specialist, Cherie Lucas, encouraged early career teachers to look into the wide variety of exciting career opportunities available with Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga (CEDWW).

“We are always looking for passionate teachers to join us in our system of 29 Catholic schools. We have a great mentor program that helps Teachers reach their full potential and navigate the early years of their career.”

Catholic Education, Diocese of Wagga Wagga supports a system of 29 Catholic schools, educating over 8000 students across the Riverina and MIA in New South Wales.

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JACKIE

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St Vincent de Paul Society NSW supports key recommendations of new report into homelessness

The St Vincent de Paul Society NSW welcomes key findings of the Parliamentary Inquiry into homelessness amongst people over 55.

“The report found the shortfall in social and affordable housing is the single greatest challenge for people who are at risk or experiencing homelessness in NSW,” St Vincent de Paul Society NSW CEO, Jack de Groot, said.

“This is something that has been clear for some time but this report adds further strength to the call for more social and affordable housing stock to be built.

“The report also makes some good recommendations the Society supports, that if acted upon, would help people in need.

“It calls on the State Government to advocate for an increase in funding for NSW under the new National Housing and Homelessness Agreement, so there are more social and affordable dwellings.

“It recommends increasing funding to the Social and Affordable Housing Fund and examining ways to expedite construction of social and affordable housing.

“It also makes recommendations

focussed on strengthening protections for renters and encouraging the adoption of longer-term leases. “This is all sound policy and would increase people’s ability to access and stay in homes.

“There are good recommendations focussing on the need for the government to fund housing that meets the needs of older women, in particular, and the need for better accessibility in general.

“Older women are the fastest growing cohort of people experiencing homelessness,” Mr de Groot said.

“Additionally, we support several recommendations the report makes recognising the need for more funding for specialist homelessness services.

“Particularly for older people in areas hard hit by natural disasters; in relation to support for culturally and linguistically diverse groups; and strategies to address higher levels of homelessness amongst LGBTIQ+ people,” Mr de Groot said.

“Our members help people affected by homelessness and other forms of disadvantage every day,” St Vincent



de Paul Society NSW, State Council President, Paul Burton, said.

“We know from our own data and observations that the face of homelessness is changing.

“The St Vincent de Paul Society also supports the report’s recommendations for better data on rates of homelessness in NSW.

“This will allow improved and better targeted services and supports to meet people’s evolving needs,” Mr Burton

said.

“Too many people are slipping through the cracks and our services are finding it harder and harder to find longer-term accommodation for the people we support.

“This is particularly noticeable in some communities but it has become an issue across the state,” Mr Burton said.

“We urgently need more social and affordable housing to be built,” Mr Burton said.

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Caritas Australia welcomes increase in foreign aid from Labor Government

Caritas Australia welcomes the Australian Government's commitment of \$1.4 billion towards aid and development over the next four years.

The Labor Government has focused on supporting Australia's region, with an increase of \$900 million to the Pacific and Timor-Leste and \$470 million to Southeast Asia.

"We warmly welcome this increase in the aid budget, which will make a world of difference to countless people in our region and beyond. We commend the focus on the Pacific and Southeast Asia as our closest neighbours, especially as these two regions have been devastated by the climate emergency, COVID-19 and now the cost-of-living crisis," said Kirsty Robertson, Caritas Australia's

CEO.

"Colleagues in the Pacific and Southeast Asia have been calling for support to strengthen their health systems, adapt to climate change, and ensure gender and social equality. We are glad to see that Ministers Penny Wong and Pat Conroy have listened to this, and we hope that this is just the start of a longer-term effort to revitalise the aid program."

However, the increased funding for the Australia Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) in the form of concessional loans has been counted towards climate finance



Women from the Oecusse district in the Hafoti cooperative making virgin olive oil.
Photo: Helen Reynolds

commitments.

"This is a concern, as we don't want to pour fuel on the fire of the debt distress faced by our neighbours, who are already struggling to pay for the increased number of disasters as a result of climate change impacts. These communities can ill afford to become more indebted for infrastructure programs that may not help them face the climate disaster," said Ms Robertson.

Despite the increase in funding for the Pacific and Southeast Asia, hunger hotspots like Africa and the Middle East have only received an additional \$15m for emergency assistance in response to the hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa and Yemen.

"The federal budget has shone a spotlight on the housing crisis, cost of living and the need for cheaper and more accessible childcare and healthcare – all vitally important to Australian families for good reason. But we cannot forget that across the world, families are struggling to pay the bills, forced from their homes by rising costs, and unable to access basic health services as well. Yet they often face these issues in communities with far fewer resources to tackle the problems," said Ms Robertson.

Globally, 50 million people in 45 countries are on the brink of starvation. Right now, Somalia is close to an official famine declaration while in Ethiopia more than 20 million people are in urgent need of food assistance.

"In southern Ethiopia earlier this year,

I met communities where there was no food and no water. I met families forced from their homes by hunger, desperately searching for a new water source to try to rebuild their life. Colleagues in Somalia tell me about seeing children come into their malnutrition clinics with arms the size of a thumb.

Twenty-five plus years in this sector and I have not seen or heard of anything like it," said Ms Robertson.

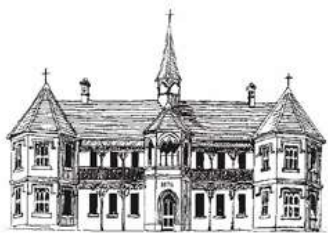
"It is immoral if we fail to respond to this hunger crisis before more people lose their lives. To prevent the deaths of millions of people, the Australian Government must step up and do our part. We advocate for an additional \$150 million to avert catastrophe in the worst-affected hunger hotspots in the Horn of Africa, Yemen, Afghanistan and Syria."

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Kildare's Bronte Stewart has achieved two remarkable results at the 2022 UCI Road World Championships

Wagga's Bronte Stewart has cemented her status as one of Australia's most promising up and coming young riders after achieving two amazing results during the 2022 UCI Road World Championships held in Wollongong.

BY JIMMY MEIKLEJOHN

Originally published in The Daily Advertiser

Alongside nearly half a million other spectators, Stewart's mother Julie watched in amazement as her daughter competed alongside the best riders in the world.

"The atmosphere and the competition that came to Australia for worlds was beyond anything I think she could've wanted," Julie said.

"Just the the experience of racing the people at the top was fantastic."

Stewart finished 17th in the Women's Junior Individual Time Trial on the Tuesday before following the result up with a 28th place finish in the Women's Junior Road Race on Saturday.

While immensely proud of both results, Julie said that the time trial result was beyond even Bronte's expectations after spending her time preparing mainly for the road race.

"In the lead up to it she was working really hard focusing on the road race," she said.

"The time trial result was beyond all of her expectations and on an extremely hard course.

"Being so light and getting up the hill and then on the descent was probably a little bit harder for her with the restricted gearing.

"In the road race I think I saw her quote

that it was like a washing machine because of the intensity of the race was pretty high and they were just absolutely belted after that climb then fly down the other side.

"She had to fight to continually stay in contact with the main peloton."

With so many supporters lining the course, Julie said she was stunned at how much support Bronte got during her events.

"My favourite moment was standing as a mum waiting for Bronte to go down the chute at the time trial," she said.

"Somebody in the crowd saw there was an Aussie kid up there and yelled out Aussie Aussie Aussie oi oi oi and the crowd just erupted.

"As soon as anybody saw one of the Aussie kids on the circuit there was just cheers and encouragement the whole way around.

"She said that she was doing it tough on the climb up the hill and she actually saw her longtime school friend Anna on the course and it just lifted her.

"To hear all of our cycling family and friends on the course just got her around and she was doing it for everyone who has been part of her journey."

After seeing Bronte's progression over the years, Julie admitted that she and her husband Tony were doing their best to



Bronte Stewart of Australia sprints during the 95th UCI Road World Championships 2022 - Women Junior Individual Time Trial a 14,1km race. (Con Chronis) Credit: Con Chronis/Getty Images

not get too emotional when watching her compete.

"Both Tony and I were by the sideline when we saw her at the chute at her first event," she said.

"Wearing the new green and gold kit, it brought tears to both of our eyes and we had to keep it together so that she didn't see us."

Cycling Australia had a brand new kit for the World Championships with the traditional green and gold bands incorporating a focus on Tharawal country on which the races were held.

Stewart is of Wiradjuri and Kamilaroi First Nations and was planning to take one of the brand new jerseys home to frame it as a memento from the experience.

"It's definitely proud to see your child wearing the green and gold and the new kit particularly with an indigenous focus

on Tharawal country was quite a special moment for our family to have that recognition with Cycling Australia," Julie said

"It was very, very special."

After seeing her daughter compete on the world stage, Julie said she was just so proud of how her daughter handled herself.

"I was super proud of how she conducted herself," she said.

"In the lead-up and all through the event, it is a credit to herself and people like Donna who is the main coach there and Matt who she went away to Belgium with.

"They have got a really wonderful program going to support these young athletes to get to their dreams.

"Which is basically to ride in Europe with their peers, alongside Amanda Spratt one day."



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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:
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Project of the Month: November

This month help provide bibles in India.

The far northeast of India is linked to the rest of the country only by a narrow corridor of land, as a result, the region is isolated and remains among the poorest and most underdeveloped regions of India. The great majority of the population live scattered in small rural communities and belong to the disadvantaged ethnic minorities, or Tribal Peoples.

There are 15 Catholic dioceses in this region today. Historically, the Church was not allowed to operate here until around 125 years ago, and even today in many regions it has only been present for a few decades. Nevertheless, it has shown that it has the capacity to unite people of the many different ethnic groups, traditions, and cultures represented here since the Church belongs to no particular ethnic group, but instead is the Church of all the people.

Many of the Catholic faithful here belong to the Khasi ethnic group and live in the remote hill country, which is shot through with vast valleys and dense forests. Originally an animist tribe, they believed in spirits and

practised ancestor worship. But since the arrival of the Catholic missionaries, many have been converted by the Good News of the Gospel and become enthusiastic believers in Jesus Christ. They are eager to learn about and more deeply live this faith and especially to better know and love the Word of God.

Already some years ago, thanks to your support, ACN was able to print and distribute Bibles in the Kasi language to many of the parishes. But the demand continues to be enormous and by now the original printing has been completely exhausted. There is keen interest in the Bible apostolate and many of those families who already possess a Bible love to study and pray with it together. Frequently, several families will gather together in groups to study the Scriptures. And in addition, the local Church organises Bible seminars at diocesan and parish level. Catechetical instruction is likewise focused around the written Word of God.

But there are still many of the faithful who long to own a Bible. And the Church here in this remote and



underdeveloped region is poor, like the people, and has additionally been hard-hit financially by the pandemic. So they have turned to us for help with the cost of printing and distributing 30,000 copies of the Bible in this local language – at a total cost of \$90,800 AUD. Some of these Bibles will also be distributed among people of the same Kasi ethnic group, living across the border in neighbouring Bangladesh.

Archbishop Victor Lyngsdon of the diocese of Shillong, who has also

asked for our help on behalf of the other dioceses in the same region, has written: "At all events, your support will be an immense help to us in our efforts to make the use of the Bible still more popular among the Kasi-speaking people here. May God bless you all!"

To help ACN fund projects like this visit: aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

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Little Drops of Water began in the mind of a little girl named Anna in 2014. Naturally inquisitive, she asked her parents many questions about the Catholic faith and wanted to understand each saint and their story. Anna's parents wanted a way to help make the faith educational and engaging. With her father's help the first saint drawings were brought to life and the *Little Drops of Water* figurines were born.

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Mother Teresa of Calcutta



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ErinEarth Early Years Nature Programs

ErinEarth has been growing its reach within the community by developing nature programs for early years learning centres.

BY JENNY HILL

Garden volunteer, Jenny Hill, has guided Goodstart Early Learning Glenfield Park to start a weekly nature learning program with four-year-olds.

Right next door to the centre are remnant woodlands, the perfect setting for outdoor adventures. ErinEarth's Garden Manager, Eltan, joins in when he can.

Here is a snapshot from one of the weekly excursions, as told by Shannon Daley:

"Today all the Preschool 2 children went out into the bush reserve. Earlier in the week, we took pictures of some arborists trimming many branches from the trees in the Nature Reserve, so there was great anticipation amongst the children in observing the changes.

We initially noticed how tidy the trees looked before observing the number of

seed pods that had fallen on the ground. We collected many of them and placed them in our trolley. One of the students, Daisy, noticed crystal-like sap coming from the tree. Another student, Lucy, enjoyed the feeling of the fluffy pollen stems and we all enjoyed the smell of the newly flowering wattle trees.

The natural resources we found offered material for loose parts construction. Using loose parts in the learning environment encourages growth in all areas of development. Children have the freedom to arrange and rearrange, using the loose parts to create their own rules and designs. The focus of the experience then becomes about the process rather than the product, and the imagination is sparked. Among all the treasures we found, we all enjoyed the seed pods that



looked like witches' noses.

Picking up and grasping small objects helps develop fine motor skills in children. Small muscles in their hands and fingers move and manipulate objects into place, tinkering around to stack and build, pick,

pinch and press."

ErinEarth is looking forward to continuing to grow its engagement with preschools and early years learning centres in coming months.



ErinEarth Student Group Visits

This school term the garden has been full with different groups of school students.

BY BEN HOLT

After the last few years of restricted visits, it's exciting to be sharing the garden again. Recently, we've had groups from Henschke Catholic Primary, Kildare Catholic College, Wagga Wagga Christian College and a group of 68 students, teachers and principals from the Nagle Education Alliance of Australia. As the weather warms up with spring the ErinEarth garden is going to be a spectacular delight of colours

and sounds, sure to inspire even more students. Of special mention is our new self-guided Wiradyuri Wander which students love. It's just amazing to have students excited and engaging with plants in our garden and learning about their cultural uses. **Special thanks to Uncle James Ingram and Local Land Services for supporting us with this project.**



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.



Galileo, the Church and Science

Whenever someone mentions the words "Catholic" and "science" in the same breath, the word "Galileo" is not far behind, as if the mere mention of his name is proof enough that "Catholic" and "science" are incompatible with each other.

BY DEACON ROD LETCHFORD

Galileo was a champion of the Copernican model of the universe where the sun is at the centre, and the earth, all the planets and all the stars revolve around the sun. For his conclusions he was forbidden by the Church to teach publicly this model and was placed under house arrest.

While Galileo's treatment by the Church was less than ideal, his championing of the Copernican model suffered from two great flaws. The first is that his discoveries about the solar system did not mean that therefore the earth must revolve around the sun, despite his sometimes-frantic insistence that they did. They were all successfully explained by a slight modification of the earth-centred system proposed by the well-respected astronomer Tycho Brahe. The second flaw was the simple fact that Galileo failed to prove that the earth moved around the sun. Since there was no proof there was no reason to change the current model of an earth-centred universe. To do so was to fly in the face of the available evidence.

Contrary to popular belief, the Church at the time rejected the Copernican model for scientific reasons.

Galileo realized that if the Copernican model was closer to the truth than even Tycho Brahe's modification of the earth-centred model, then as the earth goes around the sun you should be able to see tiny shifts in the position of the stars. These shifts are known as parallax. It is the same effect you see when travelling on the open road. Things further away appear to move more slowly past than those closer to your car.

In 1611 Galileo received a letter suggesting that the best way to detect this parallax was to look at a double star through his telescope. A double star is two stars that appear close together. Better still what was needed was a double star where one was bright and one dim because it was assumed (often correctly, but not always) that the bright star will be closer and the dim star much further away. Parallax could then be detected by measuring the shift in position of the bright star compared to



the dim star 6 months apart.

Galileo was unable to find evidence of parallax even using his new telescope. There were several reasons for this, but fundamentally his instrument was simply not good enough to measure the minute change in position, although no one knew this at the time. No instrument was good enough for about 200 years. It was Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel, a German astronomer, who was the first to measure the shift in position of 61 Cygni in 1838. With Bessel came conclusive proof that the earth moved around the sun. Even Kepler and Newton's earlier laws on planetary motion and gravity were thought for a long time to be merely

good working mathematical models and not necessarily descriptive of what the solar system was really doing.

The philosopher of science, Thomas Kuhn, wrote: "Most of Galileo's opponents behaved more rationally. . . . [T]hey agreed that the phenomena were in the sky but denied that they proved Galileo's contentions. In this, of course, they were quite right. Though the telescope argued much, it proved nothing."

Deacon Rod Letchford, a lecturer in Scripture at Vianney College, recently received his second doctorate this time in astrophysics, specialising in double stars.

St Michael's Parish Gardens

The lovingly maintained gardens at St Michael's Parish in Coolamon are currently in full bloom and well worth a visit.



Red Hand Files

The Red Hand Files' is the blog of singer/songwriter Nick Cave where he invites members of the public to submit open questions, which the singer then answers, in beautifully written replies that are posted online.

BY NICK CAVE

Originally published online at theredhandfiles.com

I recently learned that there is a sitting Supreme Court Justice, here in the United States, who is a fan of a musician I love. This musician has passed.

The Justice, in my opinion, is dangerous to this country, and holds views I abhor.

I firmly believe, through public knowledge of this artist, that he was not supportive of this Justice either. I feel like this man, whom I loathe, is singing along and dancing to music that wasn't created for him. Funnily enough, it feels like a real injustice.

Do you believe your music is created for everyone? Are you OK with the idea that people you might genuinely see as despicable, are fans of yours? How do you feel about the fact that they listen to

the words and music you work so hard on, that you put all of your soul into, and claim a personal ownership of it? Does it feel like a betrayal of the art you toiled over?

Thanks so much for the music.

- Justin, Fall River, Massachusetts, USA

Dear Justin,

I have racked my brains to think of someone who is undeserving of my music, but no matter how hard I try, I can't bring anyone to mind. Perhaps I've just grown old and fuzzy and can no longer summon that flaming energy of outrage I remember from my youth. These days I'm not sure what position I can rightfully occupy where I can make those kinds of judgements.

I guess, in general, I don't find people



despicable or deserving of hatred and contempt because, as far as I can see, people suffer, and it is suffering that is the underlying cause for much of the wrongdoing in the world. Suffering lies beneath our most destructive behaviour. This is why music is important. Music at its very essence is a force for good. It has an inherent moral magnitude. At its core music has the capacity to improve matters, to reform the condition of the heart by appealing to the better angels of our nature. This is its rightful and sacred duty. Music makes us do better. Be better. It helps release us from our suffering and points us toward the good.

In regard to ownership, I don't feel I personally have any real claim over my

songs. I feel they belong equally to those who love them. These songs have urgent work to do. I send them out into the world, bright emissaries of the spirit, to travel where they are needed, collecting souls as they go – to the joyful and the disheartened, the sick and the well, the grievors and those yet to grieve, the lost and the found, the good and the bad and the somewhere in-between. They become a great whirling conga-line of souls, in all their despicable beauty, frugging to Stagger Lee or shedding a tear to Ghosteen, all the way into the sun. Justin, I'm very glad you are one of them. It's good to have you with us.

Love, Nick



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**The library open hours are:
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Dr Anita Heiss' latest book collates stories of local elders

Diverse stories from some of the region's most respected Wiradjuri elders can now be found in a book aiming to pass down local knowledge to a wide audience.

BY TIM PICCIONE

Originally published in The Daily Advertiser

Award-winning Wiradjuri author Anita Heiss' *Growing Up Wiradjuri* is a junior non-fiction anthology made up of prominent, local community leaders.

Dr Heiss, author of 2012's *Am I Black Enough For You?*, said she wanted to provide a platform for Wiradjuri elders like Uncle Stan Grant Snr, Auntie Isabel Reid and Auntie Cheryl Penrith to share their life experiences.



Auntie Mary Atkinson, CEDWW Aboriginal Community Engagement Coordinator signing copies of the book.

"I wanted to demonstrate the diversity of who we are, where we live, how we speak," she said.

"The greatest vision of the project for me was as a resource that actually helps demonstrate Wiradjuri pride in ourselves and in our community and in our nation.

"That's why I think it's really important for [these stories] to be in the classrooms because you won't find these on curriculum."

The author said she wanted to combat a media image of Indigenous Australians spoken of "from a deficit position".

"Whereas nearly everybody in my world - whether down in Wagga, whether elders or kids in classrooms - they are working from a position of excellence every day," said Dr Heiss.

Contributors also include Uncle James Ingram, Auntie Lorraine Tye, Auntie Elaine Lomas, Auntie Mary Atkinson and Uncle Norman Little - each sharing a unique version of growing up on Country.

The project originated from Dr Heiss' time studying for a graduate certificate in Wiradjuri language, culture and heritage at Wagga's CSU campus four years ago.

"The connection that course provides on top of learning language is extraordinary," she said.



Author Dr Anita Heiss says her new book shares the diverse life experiences of the Wiradjuri community. Picture supplied

"It changed my life.

"I started learning what should have been my first language at the age of 50."

The course wouldn't exist without the restorative language work of *Growing Up Wiradjuri* contributor Uncle Stan Grant Snr.

For Wagga-based elder Auntie Cheryl Penrith, growing up *Wiradjuri* meant sharing stories of her grandmother and her memories as a young girl in Brungle.

"Looking back now, I think that she prepared me for leadership," she said.

"And from an early age, she told me a lot of family history.

"That's why I wrote about my Nan."

Auntie Cheryl shares another connection to the physical book, with son Luke Penrith creating the cover's artwork.

The Wiradjuri elder said many of

her chapter's stories are ones her grandchildren know by heart.

"We were a culture of storytellers and that's how we passed on modern knowledge," Auntie Cheryl said.

"That's how we've got to keep doing it and keep telling stories and being really descriptive and also honouring our old people that went before us."

Auntie Cheryl said she wanted people to understand how diverse Wiradjuri stories were, with storytelling and passing down knowledge to younger generations at the book's core.

"I think it's fantastic not only for the Aboriginal community but for the whole community to look at our stories and how we've all grown up," she said.

***Growing Up Wiradjuri* is now available at all reputable book stores.**

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- Motivational interviewing
- Positive psychology
- Strengths based approaches



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Throughout our lives we are all faced with stressful situations and difficult events, such as relationship problems (including family breakdown and separation), parenting stressors, the death of a loved one, school or work issues, mental health concerns and so on. We know that it can be helpful to talk to someone, such as a counsellor, who can support you through these challenging times.

At Centacare South West NSW we have professional and qualified counsellors at our sites in Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Albury and Mulwala. They work across the lifespan with individuals, couples and families with the overall aim of empowering people to achieve their goals and to improve their functioning and wellbeing.



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Individual Parenting Support

Our Individual Parent Support Services helps parents understand their child's developmental, social and emotional needs by learning to navigate pivotal transitional phases throughout their child's life.

Family Group Conferencing

Family group conferencing aids in the family-led decision making process to develop a plan of support for a child or young person.

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KIDS CORNER

SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard



A Roman virgin who beseeched the angels and saints to protect her virginity. She believed an angel watched over her and once baptised, her husband believed also. With his brother, they buried the martyrs slain by Turcius Almachius.

Her preaching had converted 400 people. She was arrested and sentenced to death. She was buried by Pope Urban and his deacons.

Saint Cecilia



ALL SAINTS DAY

Recipe...



For those of you preparing a bit early for Christmas why not sweeten up the festive season with biscuits that are sure to make Santa and his team smile. **These make a great gift idea** - simply wrap in cellophane and add a ribbon to make a wonderful gift for your teacher, friends or pastor.

Christmas Biscuits



Ingredients:

- 125g butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup (115g) caster sugar
- 1/4 cup (60ml) milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups (225g) self-raising flour
- 1/2 cup (70g) custard powder
- Icing sugar
- Cachous to decorate

Method:

- Preheat oven to 180°C. Line two baking trays with non-stick baking paper.
- Use an electric beater to beat the butter and sugar until pale and creamy. Beat in milk and vanilla extract. Fold in the flour and custard powder.
- Press the dough into a ball and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 30 minutes to rest.
- Divide the dough into manageable portions. Roll out one portion on a sheet of non-stick baking paper to about 1cm thick. Use Christmas cookie cutters to cut shapes and place on the trays. Decorate as pictured.
- Bake for 10 minutes or until light golden. Cool for 5 minutes on the trays before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. Repeat with remaining dough.

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!



NOVEMBER SAINTS & FEAST DAYS

Word Search



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

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

All Saints All Souls

- St. Martin de **Porres**
- St. Charles **Borromeo**
- St. **Leo** the Great
- St. **Martin** of Tours
- St. Frances Xavier **Cabrini**
- St. **Margaret** of Scotland
- St. **Elizabeth** of Hungary
- Presentation of **Mary**
- St. **Andrew**
- St. **Albert** the Great
- St. Andrew **Dung-Lac**
- St. **Cecilia**
- St. **Clement** I of Rome
- St. **Columban**
- Christ** the King

Mini Retreat Guide for Advent

The end of the Ministry year is nearing and the New Year looks to be paving the way for new horizons. *BY GRACE MOREY*



Grace Morey, Prayer Coordinator at Virtue Ministry

The month has been filled with meetings ahead of 2023. From interviews about Virtue Ministry, through to meeting with various offices in Sydney to discuss collaboration and the ways they would like to invite Virtue Ministry to serve in their dioceses. The new year may well pave the way for new horizons.

As a team, we are also nearing the end of our Ministry year. We're beginning to wrap up our formation sessions, podcast recordings and finish off the year with a couple of talks ahead of Christmas. We deliberately take a break from Christmas through to end of to recharge our batteries and lean into Abiding with God, before we can even begin to think about a new year of ministry and mission.

Part of this includes the preparation we make ahead of Christmas, which we would like to invite you into. Each Advent we make available a little do-it-yourself retreat guide that you can pick up and do from home, to help you be immersed in the season of preparing for Christmas.

This season is extraordinarily busy with celebrations at almost every turn, and many things to organize. From family coming together, going on a holiday, and

re-setting for the new year. That's why we make a guide that you can use in as little as 3 hours, especially for those who are exceptionally time poor.

This year's retreat guide has been prayerfully created with love by our prayer coordinator, Grace Morey, and the following is the introduction to the retreat guide.

This mini retreat has been put together to help you pause and draw strength from God, during what is often the busiest time of the year. For most of us, Advent is laden with social functions, Kris Kringles, family commitments, decorating, shopping, work demands...and more. We know we should make time for God and enter into the season 'properly' – reading an Advent devotional, taking up a penance (for Advent is a 'mini-Lent' after all...), praying, and preparing our hearts to receive the Newborn Jesus at Christmas. We know what we 'should' be doing, but actually doing it proves to be a challenge!

Often, the trick is to simply start somewhere. Some is better than none. Remember that God can take the little that we have and use it to bring about amazing things. He is not limited by our littleness.

I ask you to set aside 3 hours (or more if you're able!). Set a time that will have the least number of distractions and get you at your freshest, e.g., on a weekend when you won't be contacted by work or during the morning if you're someone who tends to feel tired in the afternoons. Once you've chosen your time put it in your calendar and stick to it, just as you would an important appointment.

To prepare:

- Switch off your phone and other devices or use something like the 'Off the Grid' app
- Choose a comfortable, quiet, private environment. You may like to set up a sacred space or home altar to focus your attention. Use a 'do not disturb' sign if needed.

- Have a Bible, Rosary beads, journal and pens on hand
- Have some water handy and if you need to, make a cuppa before you start

Now you're ready!

This retreat is divided into 6 parts and each part takes roughly 30mins. It's often helpful to have a clock or old-school watch nearby (not a smart device that can turn into a distraction) to gently keep track of the time. The timing is merely a guide however and you may find that some parts need to be longer or shorter for you.

To find out about the 6 parts, visit the blogs section of our website and read the Advent Retreat Guide.

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Holy Spirit School, Lavington

Holy Spirit School's school captains Jack and Emily represented their school, laying a wreath at the Albury Remembrance Service at St Matthew's.



Holy Trinity Primary, West Wagga

Every year at 11am on 11 November - the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month - we pause to remember those men and women who have served and those who have died in all wars and peacekeeping operations.



Sacred Heart Primary, Wagga



The finale of The Wizard of Oz was fantastic!! A big thank you to Mrs Ashcroft for her enthusiasm and vision and to all of the students who participated. You should all feel very proud of your efforts.



St Joseph's Primary, Wagga

St Joseph's Primary were privileged to attend the National Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial. The Captains joined by representatives from St Michael's Primary School, Coolamon and Henschke Catholic Primary School represented the youth of Australia by laying poppies.



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St Joseph's Primary School, Finley

What a wonderful morning for the Blessing of the Pets liturgy! St Joseph's welcomed many adorable pets who all enjoyed meeting new friends. This is always a highlight of the school year. Thank you to the teachers and students for bringing this together and the students and families for the responsible and loving care you have for your pets. We all know how much support the love and companionship our pets give to us freely each and every day!



St Joseph's School, Leeton



St Joseph's School held a Remembrance Day service with all students showing such reverence and respect. The SRC members placed poppies at the front of the service to represent the poppies placed on the fence by all classes. They heard the poem *'In Flanders Field'*, Mrs Simms recited the Ode and all had a minute of silence following the Last Post. This service just showed the amazing respect of the students. Well done!



Mater Dei Primary, Wagga



Year 5 students enjoyed their time on the goldfields of Sovereign Hill trying their luck panning and staying out of the way of the Troopers. Layla got to hold a gold bullion for her birthday. She had a quarter of a million dollars in her hands for a minute!



St Joseph's Primary, Jerilderie

St Joseph's Primary students participated in Remembrance Day, laying a wreath at the cenotaph. Well done students.



St Michael's Primary, Coolamon

Lest we forget. Anzac Parade and the Remembrance Ceremony in Canberra. We feel very privileged to be able to attend.



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
Sundays - 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 - 9:00am
Mt Erin Chapel
Kildare Catholic College
Edmondson Street, Wagga Wagga
Sunday - 11:30am (Extraordinary Form)
Confessions before and after Mass.

Wagga Wagga - Koorungal

Sacred Heart
Lake Albert Road, Koorungal
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm
Sunday - 9:00am
Filipino Mass (every first Sunday of the month - 2:30pm)
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.
Anointing Mass:
Every second Thursday of the month at 10:00am in the Parish Church/Chapel
Mass at Caloola Court:
Every first Thursday of the month at 11:00am

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 - Friday - 7:00am
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday - 6:00pm
Friday - 10:15am
Sunday - 9:00am, 10:30am and 5:30pm
Our Lady of the Blessed Eucharist Church
Benedict Avenue, San Isidore
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
20 Hartigan Street Thurgoona
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm during Standard Time (approx. April til September)
Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm during Daylight Saving (approx. October til March)
Sunday - 9:30am all year round
Weekday Masses
Monday - 8:00am
Tuesday - 10:00am
Wednesday - 8:00am
Thursday - 5:30pm (with Holy Hour at 4:30pm including Exposition and Benediction)
Friday and Saturday - 8:00am
Confessions
Saturday 4:30-4:55pm (or 5:30-5:55pm during Daylight Saving)
Sunday 9:00-9:25am
Thursday - 4:45-5:15pm (during Holy Hour) Or anytime - just ask the priest.
Baptisms and Marriages by appointment

Berrigan

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

Coolamon

St Michael's
Sunday - 9.00am
Confessions
Saturday - 4.45 - 5.15pm
Masses
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 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
Saturday - 9:30am
Sunday - 10.15am
Weekday Masses
Tuesday - 5:30pm
Wednesday - 12:30pm
Friday - 5:30pm
Holy Rosary before every Mass.
Confessions
Friday - 4:30 - 5:30pm
Saturday - 10:00 - 10:30am

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
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
Sunday - 8:00am
Walbundrie
Sunday - 10:00am
Reconciliation before each mass.

Jerilderie

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

Junee

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

Khancoban

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

Leeton

St Joseph's Leeton
Wade Avenue, Leeton
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm Standard time
6:00pm Daylight Saving time
Sunday - 10:00am (First Sunday of the month is Italian)
St Patrick's Yanco
Sunday - 8:00am
Tuesday - 9:00am
Weekday Masses in Leeton
Tuesday (Yanco) - 9:00am
Wednesday - 9:00am
Thursday - 9:00am
Friday - 9:15am and 5:30pm
Sacrament of Penance
Friday - 4:45-5:15pm
Saturday - 4:20pm-4:45pm
Eucharistic Adoration
St Joseph's Church Leeton
Friday - 4:30pm

Lockhart

St Mary's Church
55 Ferrier St, Lockhart
Weekend Masses
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday (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

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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 Fiacre's Church 5 End St, Urana
Weekend Masses
1st, 3rd & 5th weekends - 8:00am
2nd & 4th weekends - 6:00pm Vigil
Weekday Masses
Posted on church notice board each week.
Oaklands - St Columba's Church
Each Sunday - 10:00am

Confessions
Urana - Saturday 5:00-5:30pm
and 20 minutes prior to each weekend
Mass (Urana & Oaklands)

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 November:

- 1 November 1914** Fr John J Gaffey
- 2 November 1960** Fr Cyril Joseph Cochrane
- 9 November 1977** Fr Ronald Corbett
- 10 November 1998** Fr Leo Francis Wright
- 13 November 1891** Fr Andrew Walsh
- 19 November 1965** Fr John Joseph Byrne
- 19 November 2002** Fr Dennis Allen
- 23 November 1957** Fr Francis Hubert Gallagher
- 26 November 1910** Fr Joseph Dowling
- 26 November 1923** Fr John Gallagher
- 27 November 1997** Fr Frederick Harry Myhill-Taylor
- 30 November 1990** Fr Nicholas Simonazzi OFM Cap.



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.

All welcome!

Come and join Our Lady's Army and help your Priest serve his parish!

Contact:
Caronne 0413 801 616

Erin Earth
1 Kildare St, Turvey Park
9.30am - 11am
4th Saturday each month
Runs Mar - Oct

SoulSpace Saturdays

An opportunity for quiet awareness & sharing in the ErinEarth Garden

Open to people of all religious traditions & beliefs

Free event | Complimentary Tea/Coffee

Family reflections for: Nov/Dec

20th November

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Thirty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Cycle C

Understanding today's Feast of Christ the King may be particularly challenging. While we may not have a direct experience of kings or royalty, we have some sense of what these mean. We know that royalty have sovereignty over their kingdom. We know that those who are subjects to royalty offer them allegiance and honor. Christ is King in a way that is different from traditional understandings of royalty. Christ's kingship extends to all places, all people, and all times. Christ manifests his kingship through his death on the Cross, in which he offers salvation to all.

Recall with your children stories that you may have read about royalty. Talk with your children about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a king. Talk about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a subject.

Tell your children that this Sunday is the last Sunday in the Church Year, and on this Sunday, we celebrate a special feast called the Feast of Christ the King. Read today's Gospel, Luke 23:35-43. Reflect together on how the various people in this Gospel respond to Jesus on the Cross. Who in this Gospel recognizes Jesus as King? (the thief) What does Jesus promise the thief as a result? (The thief will be with Jesus in paradise.)

Talk about how your family will recognize and honor

Christ the King. Pray together the Lord's Prayer and ask God to help your family to act in ways that show you recognize and honor Christ as King.

*2 Samuel 5:1-3 Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5
Colossians 1:12-20 Luke 23:35-43*

27th November

First Sunday of Advent, Cycle A

Many of us feel the pressure early in the holiday season to be ready for Christmas. But today's Gospel challenges us to be ready for something other than the gift-giving of Christmas.

Read together today's Gospel reading. As a family, talk about what it means to be ready for the day of the Lord. One of the roles of the family, the domestic church, is to be a school of faith leading one another to salvation. Reflect together as a family on how your family helps one another to be better Christians. Commit to one thing that your family will do this Advent season to help one another be better Christians. You might choose to write this commitment down and post it in a prominent place in your home, perhaps near your family's Advent wreath.

Pray together that God will help you in this Advent commitment. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

*Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9
Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44*

4th December

Second Sunday of Advent, Cycle A

We do many things to get ourselves ready for our celebration of Christmas: purchase gifts, prepare Christmas cards, decorate our homes. John's call of repentance in preparation for Jesus reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord's coming and our celebration of Christmas. Parish communities often offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent season. Your family might choose to participate in the communal celebration of the sacrament, or you might seek out the sacrament on an individual basis.

Read together today's Gospel. Talk about how John reminds the people that they prepare for the reign of God by reforming their lives. As a family, prepare a simple reconciliation service in preparation for Christmas such as the following: Gather in a prayerful space, perhaps around your family Advent wreath. Read again today's Gospel: Matthew 3:1-3. Invite each family member to pray silently, asking God to forgive their sins. Pray together an Act of Contrition. Then celebrate God's forgiveness by sharing a Sign of Peace with each other.

*Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17
Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12*

#RICARDO PEREIRA | FAMÍLIA CRISTÃ



**WORLD
YOUTH
DAY**

**SEE YOU
IN AUGUST
2023!**

1-6 AUGUST

