



TOGETHER

In the Diocese of *Wagga Wagga*

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FREE

AUGUST 2023

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World Youth Day

The pilgrims' last couple of days in Lisbon were certainly the highlight of their World Youth Day experience. They travelled out to the site of the Vigil and camped overnight with over 2 million other pilgrims. They woke up to a beautiful sunrise and joined with Pope Francis as he celebrated the Commissioning Mass.

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BISHOP'S VOICE



TOGETHER
IN THE DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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World Youth Day Lisbon 2023



Dear sisters and brothers,

The Wagga pilgrimage group has just returned from World Youth Day in Lisbon via the Holy Land and with time in Avila for reflection at the end. It was a privilege to be with our young people who had personal, faithfilled experiences and who shared these. For much of the time, our group of 32 had the joy of being one with 15 Oblate WYD youth pilgrims.

Pope Francis, following on from Pope St John Paul 2 and Pope Benedict XVI, made the most of the opportunity and met with the young people on three other occasions (welcoming ceremony, Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction at the Vigil) which they treasured and valued. One of his constant messages was that there is room for all of them in the Church. He said this many times.

At the heart of World Youth Day, though, is young people responding to the Pope's invitation to come and celebrate Mass with him. This year that Mass was on the Feast of the Transfiguration and 1.5 million young people (and their bishops, priests and other leaders) came to worship our Lord with Pope Francis.

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Above: On July 22 more than thirty pilgrims from the Wagga Wagga Diocese, accompanied by Bishop Mark Edwards OMI, began their WYD pilgrimage by travelling to the Holy Land where they followed the footsteps of Jesus, going from Bethlehem to Nazareth and the Sea of Galilee, before heading to Jerusalem.

They then flew to Lisbon where they visited Fatima before joining the Holy Father Pope Francis and millions of other pilgrims for the 17th World Youth Day. They concluded with a retreat at Avila before heading back to Australia.

Pictured is the first stop on the pilgrimage: Mount Nebo - the place where Moses looked over the Promised Land.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST - PRAY WITH POPE FRANCIS

For World Youth Day.

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

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



APOSTOLIC PRAYER NETWORK
<https://www.popesprayer.va/>

World Youth Day is a technicolor, all-you-can-see buffet. There are flags from all over the world and people of so many different ethnicities. It's beautiful.

There's just one color you don't see: gray. It's practically nonexistent in national flags, and World Youth Day attracts a young crowd.

Pope John Paul II initiated World Youth Day, with the first official gathering in 1986. Since then, the event has taken place every few years in different countries around the world.

World Youth "Day" is technically an entire week of events. There are liturgies, concerts, catechetical sessions, and opportunities to meet pilgrims from all over the world. The week concludes with a Mass celebrated by the pope.

Some WYDs are large, and then some are really large. The closing Mass at World Youth Day in the Philippines in 1995 drew five million people — a world record for a single religious event.

Young people serious about their faith often feel lonely if their friends or classmates do not share the same fervor. At World Youth Day, they see that they're not alone. They can even make

a million new Catholic friends.

The host countries have shaped the four World Youth Days I've attended in different ways, but the positive energy is always the same. People sing and dance and chant everywhere you go. It feels like a little taste of heaven (except for the long lines and portable toilets).

At the opening Mass for one World Youth Day, our group was so far from the ministers of Communion that receiving the Eucharist seemed impossible. One of the students in my group looked at me with puppy dog eyes and asked, "Can we receive Jesus?" We formed a 25-person train so we wouldn't get split up and made our way toward the altar. The same student turned to her friend after receiving Communion and gave a high five. They had encountered Jesus — an experience that continued throughout the week. It's what World Youth Day is really about.

Whether we are participating in World Youth Day or watching from afar, let us pray that we hunger to receive Jesus and experience the universality of our faith.

Fr. Michael A. Rossmann, SJ

Our media seems to notice and measure World Youth Day mainly by the numbers and being in such a large crowd was impressive - especially when it fell totally silent for 15 minutes during adoration. Certainly, one could not think that one was the last young catholic in the world. However, our pilgrims (and I guess all of the others) valued the time for the Christ-centredness of it and for the 'Churchness' of it.

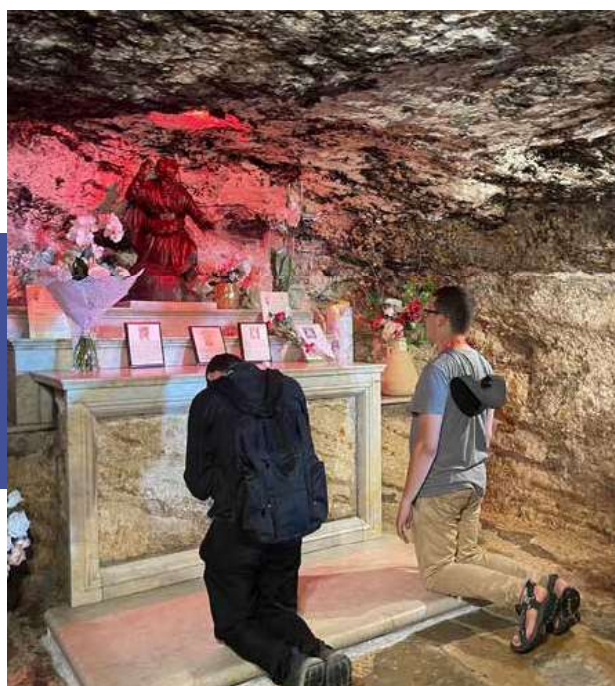
In his homily at the WYD Mass, Pope Francis linked this devotion to Jesus Transfiguration. Pope Francis invited the young people to be "radiant in their youthfulness. The Church, the world, needs you as much as the Earth needs the rain." Taking a line from the Gospel, he warned us to be careful of selfishness disguised as love. "Listen to

Jesus, for he will show you which paths are those of love." "Listen to Him." he repeated.

Using another line from the Gospel, Pope Francis urged the young people to act on the dreams, the hopes, that God has put in their hearts. "Do not be afraid", he reassured us. Jesus is with us. What a beautiful way to be radiant with and for Jesus.

I thank the young people who gave three weeks of their lives and significant funds to travel with us and to Fr Connell Perry, our Chaplain, Andrew Watson and Sandra Harvey, our coordinators, and our nurse Emma. Thank you to you for supporting our fundraising and for praying for us.

**Most Rev Mark Edwards OMI
Bishop of Wagga Wagga**



Above: The pilgrims were able to visit Stella Maris Monastery at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. A holy site for the Carmelites, it is also the place where Elijah is said to have stayed for a time. They also went to the city of Capernaum, the hometown of Sts Peter, Andrew, James, John and Matthew.



Above: Day 3 of World Youth Day saw the pilgrims attend the second "Rise Up" meeting, where Bishop Mark stood in for a missing Bishop during this catechesis session, and he was very well received by over 500 young people from across the world. Bishop Mark then con-celebrated the Mass with Bishop Robert McClory from the Diocese of Gary, Indiana. The day's highlight was attending the Welcoming Ceremony, where some of our pilgrims got to see the Pope's arrival.

Below: Pilgrims visited the Stations of the Cross through Jerusalem. The pilgrims experienced the sorrow of the Passion and the joy of the Resurrection in Jerusalem.



Above: August 2 was the beginning of the official World Youth Day celebrations! Our pilgrims' day began with the Australian Gathering, with over 3000 pilgrims from all over Australia, New Zealand and Oceania gathering together before the WYD Opening Mass.

In the evening, they joined over 1 million pilgrims from across the world for the Opening Mass celebrated by Cardinal Manuel Clemente.



Above: On 8 August they commenced their Post World Youth Day Retreat in Avila. The morning commenced with prayer and reflection in the Avila Cathedral followed by the celebration of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark at St Joseph's Convent, St Teresa's first convent. They were joined for this Mass by other WYD groups in Avila from Brisbane Catholic Education, Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst and members of the Disciples of Jesus Community.

IN MEMORIAM

Fr Ron Donoghue

We give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Fr Ron Donoghue CCS. It is with great sadness that the Diocese of Wagga Wagga announces the death of Fr Ronald Vincent Donoghue CCS, on 23 July 2023.

Ronald Donoghue was born on 1 August 1955 in Kempsey. One of nine children, he attended St Margaret Mary's Primary School in Merrylands, Marist Bros College in Parramatta and Merrylands High School.

Fr Ron was a fine boxer in his day, and also had a black belt in taekwondo. While working as a security guard, he developed a passion for reading the Church Fathers which led him to consider the Priesthood and religious life, and at age 31 he began his seminary studies.

Fr Ron Donoghue was ordained to the priesthood at St Michael's Cathedral Wagga Wagga on 25 April

1998 by Most Rev Michael Malone, Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle.

As a member of the Confraternity of Christ the Priest, Fr Ron served the Diocese of Wagga Wagga in the parishes of Lavington, Thurgoona, Albury and West Wagga. In recent years, Fr Ron has been the caretaker for the Confraternity of Christ the Priest property at San Isidore. He was a steady and wise support to the Confraternity students.

In his later years, the highlight of Fr Ron's every day was Holy Mass which he offered with deep contemplation and heartfelt singing.

Living with heart disease for many



years, Fr Ron passed away at home in his sleep. **Please pray for the repose**

of the soul of Fr Ronald Vincent Donoghue CCS.

Expression of Interest

Membership of the Catholic Education Council and Permanent Committees

The Catholic Education Council (CEC) of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga is established by the Bishop to provide advice relating to Catholic Education in the Diocese according to the Constitution.

The membership of the CEC is a representative group of Diocesan and Professional Bodies both internal and external, linked to Catholic Education.

The membership of the CEC represents a broad spectrum of expertise and experience in a range of fields relevant to the effective oversight of the diocesan education system.

The CEC seeks expression of interest from people across the diocese, particularly parents within CEDWW schools that will enhance the Council's and its Permanent Committees' skill mix and diversity.

In particular we seek skills and experience in the following areas:

- Education (external to CEDWW)
- Legal and compliance
- Finance
- Information technology, particularly cyber security
- Business
- Marketing

The Catholic Education Council meets four times a year across the diocese and members of the CEC may also be a member of a Permanent Committee. These Committees also

meet four times a year.

The CEC has established four Permanent Committees. Each Committee acts as an advisory body to the CEC in relation to the following areas:

- Evangelisation & Religious Education
- Education & Pastoral Wellbeing
- Finance, Audit, Risk & Compliance
- People and Culture

If you are interested in joining either the Catholic Education Council or one of its Permanent Committees please complete the Expression of Interest Form by visiting - bit.ly/cec-eoi-2023 or scanning the QR code.

If you require further information please contact Carolyn Matto or Jenny Wales at cec@www.catholic.edu.au or on 02 6937 0029.

Expressions of Interest close Friday September 1 2023.



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IN MEMORIAM

fr Terence Mahedy

We give thanks to God for the extraordinary life and ministry of Fr Terence Mahedy. It is with great sadness that the Diocese of Wagga Wagga announces the death of Fr Terence Francis Mahedy on 3 August 2023.

Terence Francis Mahedy was born on 4 October 1940 at Lockhart. He grew up on the family farm at Urangeline, near Lockhart, with siblings Annette, Pauline, Catherine and John, and attended Glenara Primary School (near Urana) and St Patrick's College, Goulburn.

In his early twenties, Terence joined the seminary. He left after a couple of years, returning to the farm to help his family after his father died.

In 1979 Terence began teaching scripture and catechetics in Wagga, attaining a Catechetical Diploma in 1981. He was 40 when he reentered the seminary. He believed his life experience helped him relate to people. "I have walked the same path as them," he said. He completed his theological studies in 1984 at St Paul's National Seminary in Kensington.

Fr Terence Mahedy was Ordained at St Michael's Cathedral, Wagga Wagga

on 23 September 1988 by Bishop William Brennan in the presence of 42 priests who welcomed him into their community.

Fr Terence was the Spiritual Director for the Wagga Wagga Cursillo movement for 25 years, leaving the role in 2015, and has been the Chaplain to the Catholic Women's League Wagga Wagga since December 2008.

Since his ordination Fr Terence has served the Diocese of Wagga in the parishes of Albury, Leeton, and Griffith, and most notably, Culcairn since 1997 and Holbrook since 2008. Terence was generously faithful and caring to his parishioners, and at every opportunity actively engaged with the whole local community where he is much loved and respected.

From the booklet for Fr Terence Mahedy's Ordination on 23 September 1988:



*This is what Yahweh asks of you, only this:
To live justly,
To love tenderly
And to walk humbly with your God.*
Micah 6:8
And from the booklet for Fr Terence Mahedy's Eucharist of Thanksgiving

on 24 September 1988:
"To my family and friends, and all who have touched my life in any way, I offer my heartfelt thanks. Terence."
Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.



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REFUGEE NEIL PARA BEGINS HIS 1000KM WALK FOR FREEDOM

Sri Lankan refugee and asylum seeker Neil Para set out on 1 August for his 1000 kilometre walk for freedom to raise awareness of the plight of refugees in Australia and is due to arrive in Wagga Wagga on 20 August.

A large crowd of supporters from his hometown Ballarat and surrounds farewelled him and launched the milestone walk to the Prime Minister's electorate office in Sydney where Neil will deliver a petition.

RAR Supporter Brett said: "Neil is the bravest man I know. At the end of this we hope that one day, we can attend Neil, Sugaa and the girls' ceremony to become citizens, wouldn't that be a wonderful moment. Ten years too long - Neil is very much a part of this community."

Lieke Janssen from Refugee Action Collective said: "Neil is walking 1000km for himself, his family and over 7000 people that are still being left behind under the Albanese's no-one will be left behind government. Politicians there is no need to hide behind this excuse 'we cannot comment on individual cases.' Neil is walking for thousands, every politician come stand behind Neil and the thousands that deserve this.

"1000km is gonna be challenging and hard but it's nothing compared with the challenges these refugees have been living with without a permanent visa for so long, every day they face consequences of living without this security. We need permanent visas and freedom now."

Ballarat city councillor Belinda Coates said: "Neil gives back so much to this community. You are doing this for others to adjust what has been happening in this country for too long. I hope this is the start of the change of that conversation."

The 7000+ refugees missed out when the Federal Government announced in February that refugees who held Temporary Protection and Safe Haven Enterprise Visas could apply for permanent visas.

They are denied work rights, study rights and even Medicare access.

Apart from being granted the freedom to work, Neil also wants refugees to be granted the freedom to vote, become an Australian citizen

and have all the rights that Australian citizens do.

Neil, who will walk from his home in Ballarat to the Prime Minister's Sydney Electorate office, has lived in Australia in limbo for 11 years without a permanent visa, steady job or continuous Medicare with his wife Sugaa and their three young daughters Nivash, Kartie and Australian-born Nive who has Australian citizenship.

They have lived under various immigration restrictions even though they are ambitious to build careers. Neil was a hairdresser in Sri Lanka and wants to be a police officer in Australia, while Sugaa would love to be an aged care worker.

The Federal Government's Resolution of Status (RoS) permanent visa announcement this year paved the way for permanent visas for 19,000 refugees with a pathway to citizenship and family reunion (who were on temporary protection or safe haven enterprise visas at the time of the announcement). Sadly, Neil is one of thousands still missing out. Most of these were maritime arrivals.

Beyond trying to find certainty for his family, for whom return to strife-torn Sri Lanka would be dangerous, Neil is advocating for refugees who've been left behind in similar circumstances to him.

"I'm calling on the government to end the uncertainty for all refugees seeking a safe home. Please grant us permanent visas and the freedom to work," Neil said. "I am also walking so that refugee children can have certainty."

Walking From Home in Ballarat to the Prime Minister's Heartland of Marrickville

Neil will leave Ballarat at 8am on August 1 from the office of Ballarat MP Catherine King and trek to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's electorate office in Marrickville, Sydney arriving in September.

With support from regional refugee advocacy groups, such as Rural Australians for Refugees, Neil



Above: Neil's family farewelling him.

plans to deliver a petition on foot to Mr Albanese's office and later attend a refugee rally organised by Refugee Action Collective. The petition has over 11,000 signatures but many more are needed.

People can sign the petition here: <https://www.change.org/andtheuncertaintyorathttps://www.change.org/walkforfreedom>

In the petition Neil says: "I fled war and persecution in Sri Lanka and arrived in Australia via Christmas Island in 2012. Asylum seekers like me from militarised parts of the world seek safety in Australia. Instead, we experienced 14 months of detention in immigration detention centres that almost broke our spirit. But we are resilient, and we carry the hope that we'll call Australia home one day."

"Australia represents refuge from the turmoil we were escaping. Now I stand with refugees as the founder of the Union of Australian Refugees (UAR)."

The Union of Australian Refugees was formed this year to bring refugees together, create awareness and be their voice. Its motto is "Be Seen, Be Heard" and while they were seen during a four day sit down at Parliament House, he said it appeared they were not properly heard.

Neil says in the petition: "We are tired of living in limbo. It has been more than a decade. We have spent time in detention, the harshest time of

our lives, but there is still no clarity about our status. We cannot return to a country where we don't feel safe and we don't feel at home. We yearn to contribute to the society we now call home."

The family fled Sri Lanka to Malaysia where they remained for four years having been given refugee status by the United Nations. They came to Australia by boat and lived in detention in Darwin, then community detention in Dandenong before they came to Ballarat in 2013 (to seek fast-track visas, after applying for a permanent visa while in detention). Unfortunately, after four months in Ballarat their bridging visas were revoked, leaving the couple almost suicidal.

"We didn't know what we were going to do, we didn't even speak English," Neil said.

Ten years later, Neil's family is still waiting, and the strain of living in limbo has taken a huge toll on their mental health.

The family survives through the generosity of the local community, groups such as Rural Australians for Refugees, friends and allies.

Neil and Sugaa do volunteer work in Ballarat to give back to the local community which has supported them. Both have been continuously involved in community committees.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Neil is a tireless volunteer for the SES and leads a crew, while Sugaa has volunteered for years in aged care (Ballarat Health Services) and at the visitor information centre. Their eldest daughter also volunteers at Vinnies and Ballarat Information Centre.

The couple learnt English through their volunteer roles as their non-resident status precluded them from formal study.

Neil has also arranged local events in Ballarat to raise awareness of the mental health issues that refugees and asylum seekers experience due to being denied residency and the right to work.

The family gives back to their community. Neil raised over \$1000 for homeless people donated to Ballarat Uniting Care and received an award as one of Australia's Best Neighbours in 2020. His wife and daughters have donated their hair at least 12 times (3 times x 4 people) to benefit cancer sufferers, Sugaa has raised more than \$1000 for Ballarat Hospice Care and the children have raised and donated \$602

for a primary school in Ararat. Neil also raised over \$2500 for Australian children with cancer through the Great Cycle Challenge.

In 2018, Neil also received a Refugee and Asylum Seekers Recognition Award from the Friends of Refugees for his community services and in 2017 a Community Service award from local Member Catherine King for service at Black Hill School.

Neil's goals for the Walk

1. Children born in Australia should be given Citizenship with the same rights as other Australian children.

2. All children who go to or went to Australian schools should also be given Citizenship or permanent residency with a pathway to become Australian citizens.

3. More refugees who are now residing in Australia should be included in the permanent visas process announced by Andrew Giles on February 13.2023.

Neil has penned his family's story of fortitude and hope, *A Plight Without End*, supported by Rural Australians for Refugees, and has also written an eBook, *Smiles for Masks*.



Above: Neil begins his journey.

THE RED HAND FILES

I have recently had some difficult news as my father has recently had a stroke. This is his worst nightmare, as a normally free man is restricted to a bed with no movement or speech.

BY NICK CAVE
redhandfiles.com

He can hear well and after putting on Test Match Special his smile grew my next choice for him was 'Dig Lazarus Dig' hoping for some miracle/ biblical come back.

This did not happen (obviously) but the smile and joy of him hearing 'Midnight Man' is hopefully a sign of recovery.

My question is how did you deal with suddenly everyone looking for you as a point of strength, I have gone from looking after myself and being self-absorbed with everyday life to suddenly my whole family looking to me for guidance through this difficult time. I am only a week into this but feel so emotionally drained that I will just implode.

Any tips appreciated.

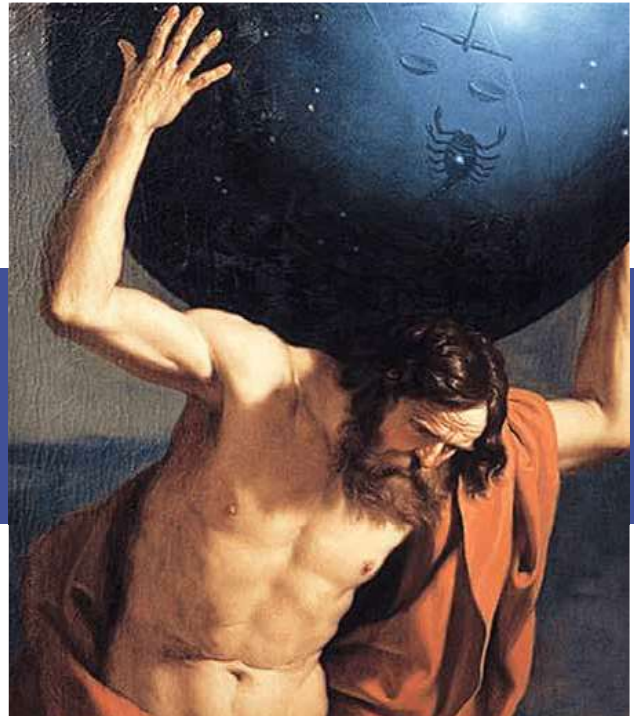
Zack, Leeds, UK

Dear Zack,

I am sorry to hear about your father's stroke, and that you are going through a challenging time,

but I have found that embedded within these challenges there is almost always the opportunity for renewal or transformation. That is the plain but uncomfortable truth. I say this with a much conflicted heart, but it seems clear to me that the heartbreaks that routinely befall us – personally, societally or universally – are, in fact, the necessary gifts of change. These painful upheavals always provide us with the option for self-destruction or for transcendence. Heartbreak can be the engine of obliteration or growth. The choice is ours.

You are being called to remake yourself, to not be the self-absorbed individual you were. You are the one your family are depending upon for guidance, and although this can feel overwhelming and an almost impossible – perhaps even thankless – task, it will be a defining experience for you. True growth comes when we accept the mantle of that which we



Above: Atlas holding up the Celestial Globe - Guccine, 1646

feel is beyond us. If you can grasp it, Zack, and stay steady under the weight of the expectations placed upon you, you'll be able to look back on this, not just as someone who made things better for your father and your family, but from the perspective of a version of yourself you never knew was possible.

I say this as much to myself

as I do to you, but being looked to for guidance is a privilege – uncomfortable, baffling and sometimes overwhelming, but a privilege just the same. We are all being called forth in the service of something.

Zack, please send my love and thoughts to your father.

Love, Nick

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP FEAST DAY

Each year on the 8th of August we celebrate the Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia's beloved first saint.

On this day, we celebrate the important role she played in making education accessible for children in our country. Mary MacKillop devoted her life to ensuring a holistic Catholic education for children from rural, poor families.

St Mary MacKillop's impact on Australian education was remarkable. She was a trailblazer and a leader who passionately advocated for the education of underprivileged

children and children in remote areas where others either would or could not go. For such children and their families, Mary opened a door of hope into the future.

Mary MacKillop was born in 1842 in Fitzroy, Melbourne. On 8 August 1909, she died, having suffered a disabling stroke in 1902. Inspired by a meeting with Fr. Julian Tenison-Woods, Mary MacKillop took her vows at the age of twenty five, and the religious name, "Mary



of the Cross". In doing so, she founded the congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. Soon after taking her religious vows, Mary MacKillop founded several schools. Within five years of taking her vows and founding the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Mary had established over thirty schools in South Australia. By that time, more than one hundred women had joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Mary MacKillop was very conscious of the plight of the poor and needy. She worked with families that lived in isolated areas of Australia. As a result, Mary MacKillop pioneered a new form of religious life in Australia, and commenced a "system" of "Josephite" schools that would provide education, especially for the children of the poor. In 1873, Pope Pius IX gave Papal approval

for the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Even today, many Australians can say that they too have felt the impact of the enormous work started by St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), having been educated or cared for, by the Sisters of Saint Joseph. She was noted for her trust in the providence of God and miracles of healing have been attributed to her. She was declared a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI on the 17th October 2010. In January 2013, St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop) was declared by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, to be the Second Patron Saint of Australia. **This means that Australia now has two Patron Saints: Mary Help of Christians and St. Mary of the Cross (MacKillop).**

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AUSTRALIAN POLITICIANS VISIT CARITAS PROGRAM IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

A delegation of six Federal MPs and Senators travelled to the Solomon Islands to gain a first-hand experience of Australian aid in action.

The cross-party group of Parliamentarians, including Mr David Smith MP and Hon Kevin Hogan MP, was able to witness how local communities are dealing with the impacts of inequality, climate change and natural disasters.

Vulnerable communities are still facing the consequences of Cyclone Harold, which hit the island in 2020, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The San Isidro Care Centre and the DIVIT Rural Training Centre, with support from Caritas Australia Solomon Islands, have helped hundreds of people gain new skills through gender and disability inclusion, vocational training, and disaster risk reduction training workshops.

“When a 7.3 magnitude earthquake

struck the Solomon Islands last year, one of the teachers who participated in Caritas Australia’s program shared the success of the project, acknowledging that her students immediately knew how to respond,” said Dennis Uba, Country Representative Solomon Islands Program, Caritas Australia.

Although the Solomon Islands is a nation surrounded by water, it still experiences drought and water shortages. Around 40% of people in rural areas do not have access to basic drinking water, which can lead to the spread of communicable diseases like cholera and typhoid.

With support from Caritas Australia Solomon Islands, water tanks and rainwater harvesting systems were installed at the San Isidro School and the DIVIT



Above: Federal MPs and Senators travelled to the Solomon Islands.

Rural Training Centre to improve sanitation and food security for local communities for many years to come.

“This is a great opportunity for politicians to develop a deeper understanding of the situation in the Pacific Islands, as well as for local communities to exchange knowledge and experience on key issues affecting their livelihoods.”

The trip was part of the Australian Regional Leadership

Initiative delivered by Save the Children Australia in collaboration with the office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and other NGOs.



COST-OF-LIVING RELIEF FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) welcomes the passage through Parliament of the *Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Safety Net) Act 2023*, which will provide targeted cost-of-living relief to around 2 million Australians that need it most.

CSSA, and other key advocates, have long highlighted the inadequacy of social security payments and the urgent need to raise these payments to at least \$76 a day, which would meet the poverty line.

From 20 September, the base rates for JobSeeker Payment, Youth Allowance, Parenting Payment (Partner), Austudy, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Disability Support Pension (Youth), and Special Benefit will increase by \$40 per fortnight.

Additionally, indexation will be applied to some payments that were

not previously indexed, including the JobSeeker Payment. JobSeeker Payment will be increased by a further \$16 per fortnight, taking it to an additional \$56 per fortnight from 20 September.

The Commonwealth Rent Assistance maximum rates will also increase by 15%, with around 1.1 million households better off by, on average, \$24 per fortnight.

The Interim Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee report, which brought together social security academic experts, business peak bodies, advocacy organisations, and



unions, recommended Jobseeker Payment and related working-age payments as a priority.

Minister for Social Services Amanda Rishworth said, “These changes would benefit close to two million Australians, including 580,000 women, 318,000 young people (under 25), 150,000 First Nations Australians, and 245,000 mature-aged Australians.

Monique Earsman, Executive Director of CSSA, said, “This is very good news for Australians trapped in a cycle of disadvantage; we hope it relieves some of the pressure they are facing. We call upon the Government to continually review their response, listen to the experts and work towards providing a payment that helps people escape poverty.”

SOCKTOBER 2023: UNITING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIA TO SCORE BIG FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TIMOR-LESTE

As the superstars of the FIFA Women's World Cup kick their goals, the launch of Socktober 2023 will have students across Australia kicking their own, and for a good cause.

The schools-based community engagement initiative of Catholic Mission, which launches Tuesday, seeks to show students and their families the injustice of global poverty, especially for young children, through the unifying power of the world game.

"All eyes have been on the Matildas, but Socktober is a reminder for students and their families that there are children around the world who love this game just as much as us, but that is sometimes where the equality ends," said Matt Poynting, the campaign lead.

This year's campaign, which reaches its peak during World Mission Month in October, spotlights the issues of health, wellbeing, and education in the community of Venilale, Timor-Leste, a country still struggling with poverty, health crises, and trauma from their struggle for independence.

Watch Socktober 2023 Launch Promotional Trailer - <https://youtu.be/8TnbtXBIDRc>

"Through discovering the personal stories of young people in need, and what is being done to support them, our students here can better understand the importance of mission in places such as Venilale and the critical role they play in supporting it, even as young people themselves," said Matt.

Last year's Socktober campaign achieved incredible success, raising over \$612,000 for vital projects in Ethiopia and various parts of the globe. This year,



Catholic Mission is rallying students and educators to go one better for the people of Timor-Leste.

"As we launch Socktober 2023, we are reminded of the overwhelming support and generosity shown by the students and schools across Australia last year," said Matt.

"We are excited to see this remarkable enthusiasm, especially in the lingering atmosphere of a World Cup, channelled towards addressing the urgent needs in Timor-Leste, where missionaries are working tirelessly to create sustainable change," said Matt.

One of the highlights of Socktober 2023 is the availability of Catholic Mission's renowned resources for schools, including the highly acclaimed Mission Packs. These engaging educational resources are thoughtfully curated to provide students with an in-depth understanding of global social justice issues, while also igniting their passion for contributing to positive change in the world.

The Socktober 2023 website was officially live from August 1, providing students and schools with a seamless platform to contribute to the cause.

The renowned Mission Packs and other resources for teachers can be found there. Catholic Mission invites students right across Australia to sign up as a Socktober Star in 2023.

To find out more about Socktober 2023 and how to get involved, please visit socktober.org.au

Catholic Mission contributes funding and project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and South America. These include spiritual formation, pastoral care, education, health, sanitation, and agricultural programs. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and act for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.



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BY STINA CONSTANTINE
Founder & Managing Director
Virtue Ministry

We will guide you to find what the root of your wounded tendencies looks like AND discover how Jesus wants to heal you in those very places AND in turning you into a personal witness of his love and mercy uncover pieces of your personal mission as you cultivate the growth of virtues in your life.

This is the first of our courses with a series of presentations. Up until now we've been presenting stand-alone talks and workshops on a variety of topics surrounding human formation in the virtues, relationships, and parenting. Now, coupling my own practice as a Christian Counsellor, we bring you a new series uncovering our pain points and bringing them to the healing touch of the light of Christ.

This series has been inspired by the work of Dr Bob Schuchts, a Catholic Therapist, and the founder of the John Paul II Healing Center in the USA. His gift and charisma for healing prayer, coupled with his insight into the psychosocial and emotional realm of the human person, has made him a bit of a rockstar in recent years. His work has taken the Catholic world by storm, allowing people far and wide to feel seen through his words. He writes in a way that is very emotive and he links learnings directly to scripture, to allow the Word of God to guide us as we pay attention to what God wants to reveal to each of us personally. His level of trust in the divine physician, and abandonment to his healing touch is very evident throughout his work and isn't that something we could all learn to emulate a bit more?

For some, finding psychosocial and spiritual healing can feel overwhelming without knowing where to begin, and for others it can feel like a foreign planet that causes aversion. Yet, Jesus Christ came to this earth for this very reason to heal us and to restore and redeem our brokenness,

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uniting us to God. This 4-week course on wounds and healing, will allow you to begin to unpack your own wounded story that have either never been touched by the light of Christ before, or you're all too familiar with and is still in need of healing. This is an opportunity to bring the unhealed parts of you to Jesus for healing so that you can then better live out the mission he has placed on your heart as his disciples.

The 4-week course will include:

Unpacking what we mean by healing, and the beliefs we hold - we propose a 'Whole-istic' way of looking at health and healing which our

current health care system lacks.

The anatomy and impacts of a wound - be able to see a wound for what it is, its identifiers, and the way it operates in our lives, and to be empowered to make an informed choice toward healing.

Identifying the root of our pain and suffering, and its fruits - be able to see what ties we have to ongoing pain and suffering that continues to keep us rooted in unhealthy soil, producing undesirable fruits.

7 indicators of healing from our personal wounds - be able to identify when you're moving towards healing, shifting our mindset from doomed to

hope as we can witness God's healing grace working in your life.

Using our healing story to draw us deeper into our personal mission in Christ - be able to name your healing story and identify the way you are personally being called to make a gift of yourself in service to another and the church, all for the Glory of God.

This 4-part series will become available to parish communities from September 2023. **If you're interested in hosting this series for your community or at your parish, please get in touch with us at Contact@VirtueMinistry.org.au**

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ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

The ErinEarth Board of Directors unanimously voted to accept the invitation from our First Nations sisters and brothers to walk with them in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

BY ERINEARTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS



This invitation is in the Uluru Statement from The Heart.

The wording of the motion that was carried is: ‘That ErinEarth Ltd Board take on an active role in advocating for the adoption of the Uluru Statement in the Australian Constitution’.

The passing of this motion has implications for Board members only and does not oblige any staff members or other volunteers to have the same view. Board members recognise that it is the right and obligation of every Australian to educate themselves about what the Statement is asking for, and what the Referendum is asking us to agree or disagree with.

Some of the reasons for Board members coming to this decision are:

- The oldest continuous culture in

the world (at least 65,000 years) deserves recognition in our country’s constitution. It is the only civilisation to survive the Ice Age. It is something of which every Australian should be proud of.

- There is a generosity in the statement, an invitation to join a shared story. It shouldn’t be the responsibility of 3% of the population (First Nations Peoples) to educate 97% of the population.
- The statement doesn’t call for separation of Australians. They are seeking acknowledgement.
- We have been walking apart for 250 years. Surely it is time to walk together. First Nations Peoples are asking us to walk with them.

- It is an opportunity for all Australians to Dare to be more than we are today. For 250 years, the First Nations Peoples have been told by the rest of us what is best for them, what they need. It is time to seriously listen to them now as to what they think their needs are.
- The Government’s (both Labor and Coalition) failed efforts to ‘Close the Gap’ over 17 years is proof a new answer or way of doing things is needed.
- The Presentation Sisters have a long history of working for social justice issues, for supporting those most vulnerable and in need in our society. Board members see our decision as supporting that long commitment, a commitment that goes way back to Nano Nagle’s work in Ireland hundreds of years ago.

Accepting the invitation of the Uluru Statement is not a party-political matter, although there are some who are trying to make it so. The Statement isn’t addressed to politicians. It is addressed to the Australian people. The only political involvement should be putting in place the mechanism for the referendum to be held. Once this is done, it is up to each of us individually to accept the invitation, or

not.

As I have said, this is the position of the Directors of ErinEarth and is not binding on anyone else involved in ErinEarth. However I do urge each member of the ErinEarth family to give this moment in history serious thought and to make every effort to understand the issues involved. “If you don’t know vote no” is a catchery of some in the community and is a terrible abrogation of our responsibility to make sure each of us make an informed decision.

John Goonan

Chair, ErinEarth Board of Directors

Resources to find out more:

- <https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement/>
- <https://yes23.com.au/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/yes23au/>



ErinEarth 2023 EVENTS		
Aug	26	SoulSpace
Sep	16	Open Day - 'Students for Sustainability' Student-led sustainability projects
	23	SoulSpace
Oct	28	SoulSpace
	28	25 Year's Celebration Dinner With key note speaker
Nov	21	Presentation Day
	25	Open Day 'Cosmic Walk' Cosmic Walk in the ErinEarth garden


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MAJELLA DAY NAMED IN THE UNDER 15 GIRLS ALL-AUSTRALIAN TEAM

Kildare Catholic College student Majella Day stamped herself as a star of the future with a dominant performance at the under 15 national carnival.

BY MATT MALONE
The Daily Advertiser

Day was one of just four NSW players to be named in the All Australian squad at the conclusion of School Sport Australia's under 15 girls Australian Football Championships in Ballarat on Saturday.

NSW defeated South Australia for the second time to grab the bronze medal.

Day was a standout for NSW and was rewarded with All-Australian selection.

NSW coach Andrew Doherty praised Day's efforts.

"Majella played through the midfield and centre-half-forward and she was really good," Doherty said.

"She's really skillful. She can bounce the ball on either hand, kick off both feet,

she's massively skilful. She's a gun."

The NSW team were treated to a visit from Harry Perryman during the carnival after he arrived for Greater Western Sydney's game against Western Bulldogs in Ballarat.

Perryman and Day are from nearby properties and he was thrilled to see her doing so well.

"We had Harry Perryman come and talk to them on Friday. Their farms nearly adjoin each other and he sent her a text before the bronze medal game," Doherty said.

Mater Dei Catholic College student Zoe Curry was also part of the NSW team and impressed Doherty with the way she went about it.

"She played in the midfield, she was



Above: Majella Day won All-Australian under 15 selection after the national carnival in Ballarat last week. Picture by James Wiltshire

a big part of the engine room," he said.

"She was tough and hard at it."

St Francis de Sales Regional College Leeton's Evie Henley, who hails from Ungarie, rounded out the local contingent.

"Evie's underage, she'll go around again next year. She took a little while to warm up but she was great in the last few games," Doherty said.

Doherty was happy with NSW's campaign.

"We played Vic Navy in the semi-

final and got done by about five goals. A bit of lack of footy knowledge in the wind, and the Victorians, they had training camps for about six weeks and we trained for about half an hour before the first game," he said.

"Our quality of girls is getting massive. The hard thing for Riverina girls is with football netball clubs, they don't play as much footy as the other girls. They certainly have the skills."

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An advertisement for Jackie's clothing store. The background shows a clothing store interior with mannequins wearing various garments. The text is overlaid on the image. The store is located at 202 Baylis Street, Wagga Wagga, and the phone number is 0435 838 654.

BUILDING RELIGIOUS LITERACY DURING VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 2023

How do you explain the vocation of religious life to young people in a secularised culture like Australia?

One resource that can assist is *Our Stories, Our Lives, Our Mission: Catholic Religious in Australia*, a new book by Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) and St Pauls Publications, launched on 3 August 2023 at the National Assembly.

A year in the making, the idea for the book arose as CRA's response to World Day for Consecrated Life, celebrated by the global Catholic Church on 2 February each year.

CRA President, Peter Jones OSA, commented, "On this day, the Church celebrates our way of life as integral to the life of the whole ecclesial community. *Our Stories, Our Lives, Our Mission* provides a tool for connecting the stories of religious congregations with the teaching agenda of schools and the formation of the young. It offers a kaleidoscope of fascinating insights into religious life, be it the education of children in outback Australia or an ecological ministry of the twenty-first century, a Sister's 19th century shipboard diary, or the artistic symbolism of a religious insignia."

In 136 pages — along with a digital version and accompanying online teacher notes — over 60 Catholic Religious Institutes and Societies of Apostolic Life in Australia provide a compact two-page insight into their charisms, gifts and ministries.

Each congregation identifies its founder, historic turning points, notable writings, quotations of interest, as well as the meaning of its insignia. An accompanying 500-word story then elaborates on an historical aspect, often the founding story or the congregation's beginnings in Australia. Links in the online version take the student to relevant congregational web pages and the free online Glossary that accompanies the book explains over 200 Catholic terms in a brief sentence or two.

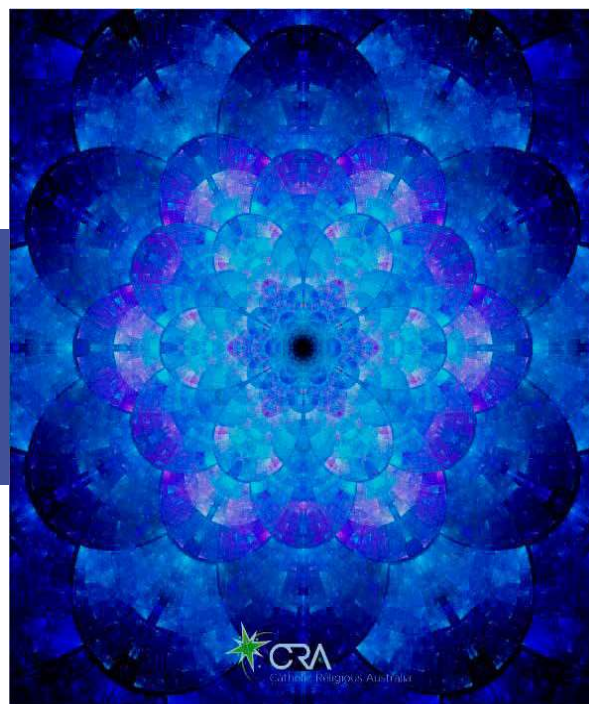
Anne Walker, CRA National Executive Director explains, "If a teacher, parent or youth minister is seeking to awaken Generation Z or Alpha to the beauty of religious life as a sister, brother, or religious priest, then this resource provides a valuable starting point. Having parented children through their school years of religion assignments, I wish I had a copy of this publication for its accessibility, information and heart!"

Anne continued, "The significance of this resource is that, in affirming the gift of religious life, it's also sowing seeds of learning and insight for a new generation of Catholics. The resilience of Religious from their beginnings in Australia to now, is made clear."

Our Stories Our Lives Our Mission—Catholic Religious in Australia includes a short history of Catholic Religious Australia as well as a Foreword by Fr Richard Lennan, Professor of Systematic Theology in the School of Theology and Ministry, Boston College, USA.

This resource can be purchased as a printed book from the website of St Pauls Publications with further information online at Catholic Religious Australia.

The image of the kaleidoscope chosen for the cover design illustrates elements of "Religious life", which explodes with differences according to the creative energies of each founder and his/her founding partnerships - reflecting different historical periods, societal needs, ethnicities, cultures and personalities. Meanwhile, the charisms and paths of congregations continually intersect and interweave; now separating, now converging; now expanding, now contracting; responsive to new circumstances and the Spirit's lead, all joining through their prophetic voice.



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Catholic Religious in Australia



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MATER DEI CATHOLIC COLLEGE GIRLS IN STEM HIGH TEA A SUCCESS

Young ambitious students at Mater Dei Catholic School attended the Girls in STEM High Tea on Thursday, gaining vital insight into the various career pathways that are available to them after school.

BY TAYLOR DODGE
The Daily Advertiser

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program is in its second year and is held by the school, with organisers hoping to expand in the future.

Mater Dei Catholic College Leader of learning, digital technology and STEM Courtney Freebody said the event was attended by 32 mentors, as well as presenters from different STEM industries.

"The students and mentors work together on different challenges, we've also had different presenters talking to the girls about their journeys so that our girls get the experience of what the diversity is like with STEM," she said.

Ms Freebody was made aware of the staggering low statistics of female students engaging in STEM subjects

in years 11 and 12 across the state, and further research showed a similar trend at the school.

"Our female students are tending not to choose those subjects. When I looked at that I thought well how can we open up those doors so the girls could not be afraid to choose those subjects," she said.

"I wanted them to connect with someone who could give them insights into those STEM career pathways that weren't a teacher."

Attending the program has been game-changing for some students like year nine student Naha Jissoy who said the program has given her the push she needed to choose chemistry as one of her electives.

"It's been good, I didn't know how many jobs there were," she said.



Above: Year 9 Mater Dei Catholic College students Neha Jissoy, Gypsy McDonnell and Natasha Lajdes 'drop test' their balsa wood plane with architect Gioia Gianniotis. Picture by Madeline Begley

"I had thought STEM was just scientists and mathematicians."

Fellow year nine student Gypsy McDonnell said the day was an eye-opener to all of the STEM careers pathways there are.

"One girl said she wasn't good at maths and now she's an engineer," she said.

Natasha Lajdes, also a year nine student, said it was empowering to meet all of the women who have been successful in their roles.

"It's guided me to see that not all jobs are difficult for women to attain in male-dominated fields," she said.

"I loved hearing from those who said they had built themselves up from minimum wages to now being in super successful careers."

Architect and business owner Gioia Gianniotis was among the presenters at the event who said she wanted to do something about the declining numbers.

"Over the years I have seen the numbers aren't changing, we're not seeing as many women taking up the kind of roles within STEM," she said.

"They need to be able to see the potential of so many different careers."

NATURAL FERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

Join us for a free webinar Monday, 21st August 2023
Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective.

This year, 2023, marks the 70th anniversary of the start of Dr John Billings' work in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples.

Many Billings Ovulation Method® teachers from Australia and around the world attended the recent WOOMB (World Organisation Ovulation Method Billings) Conference in Rome, Italy in April this year in honour of the work of Drs John and Evelyn Billings.

In Australia, in Natural Fertility Awareness Week in August 2023, we will be holding a special webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings'

work as well as highlighting the male perspective on using the Billings Ovulation Method®.

We will hear the male perspective from a number of couples who have used or are using the Billings Ovulation Method®, and how it has helped them in understanding couple fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life.

The free webinar titled, *Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective*, will be held on Monday evening, 21st August 2023 from 7:30pm - 8:30pm (AEST - Sydney time).



Everyone is welcome to attend, and although we will be focusing on the male perspective of couple fertility, it will be an informative and insightful session for all.

Register now to secure your spot!

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-free-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtcreator>

WOOMB INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, ROME 2023

A personal message from His Holiness, Pope Francis was a stirring beginning to the global conference: *“The Billings Revolution” 70 years later: From Fertility Knowledge to Personalized Medicine* held in Rome recently.

The 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Billings Ovulation Method® was celebrated at the University of the Sacred Heart in Rome with a two-day Conference followed by Billings Ovulation Method® Teacher Training Programs. Over 430 participants attended the Conference – 355 in person in Rome and 75 through live stream, representing thirty-five countries from throughout Europe and the rest of the globe.

The Billings Ovulation Method® was pioneered in 1953 by Australian physicians John and Evelyn Billings to enable couples to live their marriages according to Church teachings. WOOMB International is the Australian-based organization, founded by the Drs Billings bringing together the many

where four members of the global Billings family met the Pope and Dr Paola Pellicano presented him with a thank you letter signed by all who attended the Conference.

The Conference program gave an excellent balance between scientific, medical and philosophical aspects. Speakers presented current research in fertility including women’s and men’s reproductive health, cervical mucus and the effectiveness of the Billings Ovulation Method® in various parts of the world. The most moving presentations were those by speakers who had personally worked with the Doctors Billings as well as with Professor James Brown and Professor Erik Odeblad, the two eminent scientists who validated the clinical work of the Drs Billings. The John J Billings



Above: NZ teachers Alicia Reeve and Dr Cathy Black, Rick and Maria de Leeuw, NSW, Joanne and Douglas Widdup ACT, Gillian Barker VIC and Bernadette Davies SA.

Dr Paola Pellicano and Dr Aurora Saporasi. These three outstanding women have devoted much energy and love spreading the authentic Billings Ovulation Method® throughout Italy and beyond. Their continuing work is an inspiration to many as shown by their important presentations during the Conference.

Following the Conference, 107 participants attended the two concurrent Billings Ovulation Method® Teacher Training Programs. New Italian speaking teachers were excited to begin their journey, while more experienced teachers from all over the globe, expanded their skills and knowledge.

The first meeting of the Billings Research Group was also held during the Conference. Twenty-two researchers from Europe, Africa, North and South America and Asia, met with the WOOMB Directors. The purpose of this meeting was to review current studies and facilitate communications and future research projects. The group will continue to meet online.

Thanks must go to the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Rome and the Research Centre for the Regulation of Fertility in Rome for the success of this incredibly insightful event.



Above: Chinese, Ukraine, NZ, Australian and Malaysian teachers.

Below: Inaugural Billings Research group meeting.



Billings Ovulation Method® teaching centres throughout the world. It ensures global authenticity of the Method and offers Teacher Training Curricula. Two of the Australian Directors, Gillian Barker and Bernadette Davies attended this Conference along with Joanne Widdup and Maria de Leeuw Area Directors from the ACT and NSW.

The Conference began with His Excellency Mons Claudio Giuliodori, Ecclesial Assistant of the University delivering the message from Pope Francis. Participants of the Conference were able to thank the Pope personally at the Wednesday General Audience,

Memorial Lecture was given by Dr Paola Pellicano, Director of the Study and Research Centre for the Regulation of Fertility in the University of the Sacred Heart, and long-time friend and colleague of the Drs Billings. Gillian Barker presented the work of Professor Brown, with whom she worked for many years in Melbourne. Dr Micaela Menarguez from Spain presented her continued research on cervical mucus which she began when working with Professor Odeblad decades ago.

The prestigious John and Evelyn Billings Award was presented by the WOOMB Directors to Dr Elena Giacchi,

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Psychological Services are available in Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Albury and Mulwala. We specialise in areas including:

- Learning difficulties
- Autism spectrum disorders (ASD)
- Anxiety / Depression
- Family issues
- School refusal
- Grief and loss
- Trauma
- Social, emotional or behavioural difficulties.



THERAPEUTIC Depending on the individual's needs and preferences, our team use a variety of evidence-based approaches including:

- Cognitive behavioral therapy
- Mindfulness
- Acceptance and commitment therapy
- Narrative therapy
- Motivational interviewing
- Positive psychology
- Strengths based approaches



OUR GENERALIST COUNSELLING SERVICES

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.



PARENTING & CHILDREN

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

Parent Education & Coaching

Helping parents understand their child's developmental, social and emotional needs by learning to navigate pivotal transitional phases throughout their child's life.

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.

Children & Youth Support Services

Children and Youth Counselling and Support for children to better manage emotions and difficulties with interpersonal relationships with families and peers.

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GOLDEN APPLE SUPER STORE AWARDED THE 2023 IRRIGATOR ROLL OF HONOUR

Long term supporter of *Together*, Leeton's Golden Apple Super Store, has been awarded for their hard work, dedication and commitment.

BY TALIA PATTISON
The Irrigator

The tears were flowing when a popular Leeton business was awarded a lifetime honour.

The *Irrigator* Roll of Honour award has been part of the Leeton Business Awards program for many years and is similar to a life membership.

This year's award went to Leeton's Golden Apple Super Store and the Fiumara family for their decades of hard work, dedication, commitment to the community and business success.

Family member Franky Fiumara accepted the award at the event on Friday, July 21 on behalf of his family, visibly emotional by the recognition.

The family was also given a standing ovation, which Mr Fiumara said was something he would never forget in his lifetime.

"It means so much to our family," Mr Fiumara said.

"There is a lot of hard work and dedication that goes into running a business every day and over many



Above: Elena Obst (left) and John Worland (right) celebrate the honour with Rebecca Pearse, Franky Fiumara and Maria Bradshaw from the Golden Apple. Picture by Allan Wilson

years, so something like this just highlights that and the value people place in it.

"Really though, this award is for our whole family going back to the early days.

"For those who started it (the store) to everyone who has been here since and who is here now.

"Our staff also deserve this recognition because there is no way the business could have kept going without them over the years."

The cost of chocolate is soaring due to floods in major production areas with the forecasted El Nino drought conditions expected to keep prices high.

The Golden Apple is a staple of the Leeton shire community, known for its high-quality produce across the entire store, its generosity when it comes to supporting charities and organisations, friendly service and its

continued focus on striving to provide what residents want and need.

Director Tony Fiumara said it was an overwhelming feeling to receive *The Irrigator* Roll of Honour accolade.

"Every day we work hard at what we do, we're always trying to improve on quality, on service, on everything," he said.

"Without our staff, we wouldn't have received this award.

"Our staff are so important to us and to the community as well.

"You have to have good staff behind you to help you achieve. We're just so grateful for this recognition."

The Golden Apple continues to be one of the longest-running family businesses in the shire and all involved said they hope to see the business continue going strong for many decades to come.



Above: Franky Fiumara and the wider Fiumara family were given a standing ovation at the Leeton Business Awards on Friday, July 21. Picture by Allan Wilson

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SCHOOLS IN OUR DIOCESE

St Mary's Primary, Yoogali

The K - 6 students went to Griffith City Library to listen to the amazing Jacqueline Harvey, one of Australia's most popular children's authors who wrote Alice-Miranda, Clementine Rose, Kensy and Max, and Willa and Woof series. They had a great time!



All Saint's Primary School, Tumbarumba



Vivienne, Charlotte and Maddelyn represented All Saint's Primary at the Todd Woodbridge Cup. They had a great time playing tennis all day, making new friends and honing their tennis skills. They also got to meet one of Australia's great doubles tennis players, Todd Woodbridge himself.

St Mary's Primary, Corowa



The St Mary's Primary School Choir participated in the Albury Eisteddfod recently. All students enjoyed the experience and did an amazing job.



Xavier High School, Albury



Girls interested in physics were given a great opportunity to meet professionals in the field and engage with other year 10-12 students with an interest in Physics at a Girls in Physics breakfast.

The event was held at Wodonga TAFE and organised by the Victorian Physics Association. It had an excellent guest speaker, Natalie Clements who is a senior Medical Physicist at GenesisCare. She took girls through the application of Physics in cancer diagnosis and treatment and ways of entering a Physics career.

Students pictured with Natalie Clements - Avery, Rhiannon, Ellora, Leah, Alex and Kadence.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

All schools enrolling now

St Joseph's Primary, Junee



Stage 1 St. Joseph's Primary School, Junee students have been learning about the weather and how it's always been an important consideration for Aboriginal people.

Recently students investigated gnyahs before moving outside into the sunshine to build their own.

Students remembered to return unused materials to the environment afterwards.



Mater Dei College, Wagga Wagga

Congratulations to the Year 9 iSTEM students who competed in the Melbourne Regionals for RoboCup Junior Australia. Students created robotic soccer plays to compete in the Standard Soccer competition. They had a mixture of wins, draws and losses throughout the competition, improving their robots as the day progressed.



St Joseph's Primary, Culcairn

A fun day was had by students and staff for 100 Days of Kinder Celebrations.



St Brendan's Primary, Ganmain



Thank you to everyone who attended the St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain playgroup.

Playgroup provides a nurturing environment where imaginative play and laughter come together. Watch as friendships blossom and young minds flourish, all under the guidance of our capable and enthusiastic stage 3 mentors.



St Patrick's Parish School, Albury

St Patrick's Parish School recently held the Todd Woodbridge Cup Trials for Years 3-4 students.



SCHOOLS IN OUR DIOCESE

MASS TIMES IN OUR DIOCESE

WAGGA WAGGA - CATHEDRAL

St Michael's Cathedral
Church Street, Wagga Wagga
Monday - Friday 7:00am, 12:45pm
Weekend Masses
Saturday - 12:15pm
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm
Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am and 5:30pm
Confessions
Monday - Thursday 12:30pm - 12:40pm
Friday 12:00-12:40pm & 6:30pm-6:45pm
Saturday 11:00am-12:00noon & 4:30pm-5:30pm
Rosary times
Monday to Thursday 12:25pm and Saturday 11:55am (before Mass)
St Mary's Chapel
Vianney College, 17 Durack Circuit
Sunday - 9:00am
Mt Erin Chapel
Kildare Catholic College
Edmondson Street, Wagga Wagga
Sunday - 11:30am (1962 Missal Mass)
Confessions before and after Mass.

WAGGA WAGGA - KOORINGAL

Sacred Heart
Lake Albert Road, Kooringal
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm
Sunday - 9:00am
Weekday Masses
Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 5:30pm
Tuesday and Thursday - 7:00am
Saturday - 9:30am
Reconciliation
Saturday - 10:00am - 10:30am
Changes to times will be on the Chapel door.
Anointing Mass:
Every second Thursday of the month at 10am 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
Monday to Friday 6:00pm (Weds & Thurs Syro-Malabar)
Wednesday - 10:00am

Weekday Masses - Calvary Hospital
Monday-Friday - 8:00am (except public holidays)
Aged Care Facility Masses Forrest Centre
Every Thursday - 11:00am

Monthly Masses
1st Tuesday 11:00am Signature Wagga Community Aged Care
2nd Tuesday 10:30am RSL Village
3rd Tuesday 11:00am Nan Roberts - The Haven
4th Tuesday 10:30am Anointing Mass
Henschke Hall
Confessions
Saturday - 10:30-11:30am

WAGGA WAGGA - WEST WAGGA

Holy Trinity Church
Bardia Street, Ashmont
Monday - Friday - 7:00am
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
1962 Missal 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 St, Nth Albury
Saturday Vigil - 6:00 pm
Sunday - 9:30 am
Weekday Masses
Wednesday & Fridays 9.30am or as printed in the weekly newsletter.
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 Sept)
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 - 5:00pm Saturday Vigil
2nd, 4th Sunday - 10:00am
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, Correen,
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)
Henry
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

DARLINGTON POINT
St Oliver Plunkett
Hay Road
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8.30am
2nd, 4th Sunday - 6:00pm (Saturday Vigil)
Weekday Masses
Mon-Fri - 8.30am

COLEAMBALLY
St Peter's
Cnr of Currawong Crescent & Kingfisher Avenue
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 10.30am
2nd, 4th Sunday - 8.00am
Confessions 15 minutes before any Mass or anytime 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: Usually 7:30am or 5:30pm (call parish to confirm)
Saturday: 8:00am (usually in the convent except 1st Sat. in the church).
Confessions:
30 min. before all Masses.
St. Patrick's Matong
6:00pm Saturday
Confessions: 30 min. before Mass

GRIFFITH

Sacred Heart
Warrambool St, Griffith
Weekend Masses
Saturday - 8.00am
Sunday - 7.30am, 9.00am, (Italian), 10.30am, 6.00pm

Weekday Masses
Monday - Friday - 7.00am, 5.30pm
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Confessions
Friday - 4.30pm to 5.30pm
Saturday - 11.30am to 12.30pm
Marian Catholic College Chapel
185 Wakaden Street Griffith
Sunday - 9.00am

HOLBROOK

Our Lady of Sorrows
125 Albury Street, Holbrook
1st & 3rd Sunday - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm
2nd Sunday - 8.00 am
4th & 5th Sunday - 10.00am
Weekday Masses
Phone parish for details
Confessions
Before Mass on weekends
St Francis De Sales Church of the Pioneers
Hume Highway, Bowna
2nd Sunday - 11.30am

HOWLONG

St Brigid's
Hovell St, Howlong
Church of the Good Shepherd
Queen Street, Walbundrie
Weekend Mass Times
Saturday - 6:00pm Vigil Howlong
Sunday - 9:00am Walbundrie

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
Tuesday - 7:00am
Wednesday - 9:00am
Thursday - 7:00am
Friday - 9:30am
Confessions
Saturday - 10:30-11:00am;
Illabo and Junee Reefs Alternate
Sundays - 8:00am

KHANCOBAN

Church of St Joseph the Worker
Contact Tumarumba Parish for Mass times.

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 Sundays - 6:00pm
Saturday Vigil
2nd & 4th Sundays - 7:45am Sunday
Weekday Masses
Tuesday - 9:00am
Friday - 10:00am
Confessions
Before Mass and any time upon request.

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 - 8:00am
Weekday Masses
Refer to parish notices
Confessions Before weekend Masses

NARRANDERA

St Mel's Church,
Audley St
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.30am
Weekday Masses
Tuesday - 5:30pm
Wednesday & Thursday - 7:30am
Friday - 5:30pm
Saturday - 8:00am
(subject to changes announced in the Sunday bulletin)
Confessions
Saturday - 8:30 - 9:30am
Grong Grong
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8.00am
Galore
St Kevin's Church
2nd & 4th Sunday - 8.00am

TARCUITA

St Francis Xavier
Sydney St, Tarcutta
Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm
Confessions
Before all Masses.

THE ROCK

St Mary's
102 Urana Street
The Rock
Weekend Masses
Sunday - 8:00am (1962 Missal Mass)
Sunday - 10:00am
Weekday Masses
Monday - 7:00am
Tuesday - 6:00pm
Wednesday - 7:00am
Thursday - 8:30am
Friday - 6:00pm
Confessions:
Saturday 4:30-5:30pm, and before and after all Masses

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

TUMBARUMBA

All Saints'
40 Murray Street, Tumburumba
Saturday Vigil - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.00am
Weekday Masses
Monday & Tuesday - 7:30am
Wednesday-Friday - 5.30pm
Saturday 9.15am
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 - 10:15am

Confessions

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

YENDA - YOOGALI - HANWOOD

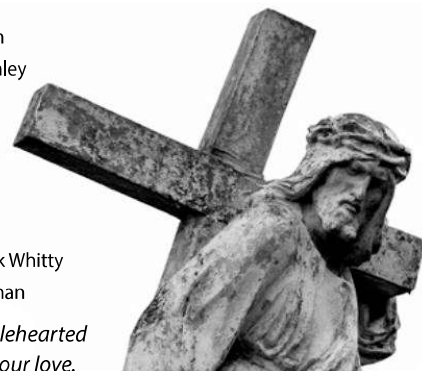
Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii
17 Edon Street, Yoogali
Sunday - 10.00am
St Anthony's - Hanwood
Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm
Sunday - 8.00am
St Therese's - Yenda
Saturday Vigil - 6:30pm
Weekday Masses
Tuesday - 8.00am - Hanwood
Wednesday - 8.00am - Hanwood
Thursday - 5.00pm - Yenda
Saturday - 9:30am - Yoogali (first
Saturday of the month only) - with
Anointing of the Sick
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 AUGUST

- 1 August 1995 Mgr Michael Francis Lane
- 2 August 1975 Fr Norman Duck
- 4 August 2012 Fr Patrick O'Connell
- 7 August 2001 Mgr George M Crennan
- 10 August 1972 Fr Thomas Francis Shanley
- 21 August 1909 Fr Daniel Leahy
- 22 August 1970 Mgr Owen Clarke
- 22 August 2014 Mgr William Fulton
- 27 August 1935 Fr John J Curley CSsR
- 29 August 2012 Fr Francis Clune
- 30 August 1982 Fr Allen Douglas Patrick Whitty
- 31 August 2013 Most Rev William Brennan

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!

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Caronne 0413 801 616

SoulSpace Saturdays
An opportunity for quiet awareness
and sharing in the ErinEarth Garden
Open to all, regardless of religious,
traditional or cultural beliefs
Free event | Complimentary Tea & Coffee
1 Kildare St, Turvey Park
9.30am - 11am
on the 4th Saturday of the month

FAMILY REFLECTIONS

20th August - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

Even when spurned by Jesus, the faith of the Canaanite woman makes her bold enough to argue and ask again for what she needs. Her persistence and great confidence that Jesus could heal her daughter reminds us of the confidence with which our children bring to us their own needs. In their faith and trust we can find modern examples of how we might approach God in prayer.

As a family recall some times when a request for something was presented by one family member to another with confidence and persistence. If the request was denied, talk about why that was so. If the request was eventually granted, talk about what led to the change of heart. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 15:21-28. Was anyone surprised by Jesus' response to the Canaanite woman? Why or why not? What makes Jesus change his mind and heal the woman's daughter? When we pray, God wants us to be as confident in his mercy.

Invite family members to identify the things that they most need from God. Pray these prayers of petition together as a family, confident that God will hear and answer your prayers.

Isaiah 56:1,6-7 Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8
Romans 11:13-15,29-32 Matthew 15:21-28

27th August - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

Today's Gospel reminds us that the Church is built on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ. Peter announces the core of our faith, that Jesus is God's only Son. The family, as the domestic church, has this same faith as its foundation.

As you gather together as a family, talk about people whose faith has helped you to be a member of the Church and talk about what you have learned from leaders in our Church today. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20. Talk about what you know about Peter and his importance to the early Christian community. Talk about what we can learn from Peter and his profession of faith about Jesus. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm or an Act of Faith.

Isaiah 22:19-23 Psalm 138:1-3,6,8
Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

3rd September - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

Peter was expecting a Messiah that would carry out a different plan than the one Jesus had explained. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We too have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more than we can ever imagine.

As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life. Then read today's Gospel, Matthew 16:21-27. Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying? Notice how Jesus reprimands Peter. Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world in the ways that we expect? Pray together that your family will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways

that are beyond our human imaginings. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 63.

Jeremiah 20:7-9 Psalm 63:2-6,8-9
Romans 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

10th September - Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

Conflict and disagreements are a natural part of family life. Yet, within our family, we have an important opportunity to learn how to resolve disagreements fairly by treating people with love and respect.

As you gather as a family this week, discuss the procedures for resolving disputes in your family. What kinds of things produce disagreements in your family? Do children frequently request the assistance of the adults when a disagreement arises? How do the adults respond? In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples the way in which they are to handle conflict within the Christian community of the Church. Read together this Gospel, Matthew 18:15-20. Invite family members to summarize the steps that Jesus proposes for resolving conflict. How might today's Gospel inform your family's handling of disagreements? If you have time, your family might choose to role play how Jesus' teaching about conflict resolution might be applied to a disagreement that sometimes occurs in your household.

In today's Gospel, Jesus also promises that he will help those who pray to him with their needs. Pray together that each member of your family will learn to handle conflict in a Christian manner. Pray together the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis.

Ezekiel 33:7-9 Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027



We now know the location for the next World Youth Day: **Seoul, South Korea**

The announcement was made on 6 August at the end of the Missioning Mass, presided over by Pope Francis and concelebrated by thousands of priests.

Archbishop Peter Chung Soon-taick of Seoul revealed in an interview that the Asian country is facing a major challenge in relation to the dwindling number of young people in 2022. According to official statistics, the nation has the lowest birth rate in the world, with only 0.8 children per couple. Because of this, the number of young people in churches has also decreased.

So WYD "could become an excellent opportunity to bring young people together around a project that makes them protagonists. It would start a process and, once it is completed, it would be good to share with everyone what we have experienced. It would be a missionary opportunity to share the values of the Gospel in our society," he concluded.

Even so, the number of Catholics in South Korea has increased by 50 per cent in the last twenty years. In that time, the percentage of Catholics in the country has gone from 8.3 per cent to 11.1 per cent, reaching more than 6 million Catholics.

A fact to be noted is the peculiarity of the beginning of the Catholic faith: its establishment and dissemination were developed in Korea on the initiative of the people, simple people, and not by priests or missionaries. The scholars, coming into contact with religious books from the West, understood and accepted Catholicism as a religion, not as a study or literature, realising that the sacraments could only be administered by priests. Thus, the Catholic community began to cross the borders with China to bring priests to Korea, even at the risk of death.

May World Youth Day in Korea be an event of grace and hope for young people in Asia and around the world.

Before announcing the location of the next WYD, Francis also invited young people from all over the world to participate in the Jubilee of Youth, which will take place in Rome in 2025: **"I count on your presence in 2025 to celebrate together the Jubilee of Young people".**

See you in Seoul in 2027!

