

Horizons

FREE Publication of the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba



ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL OPENS THEIR DOORS TO MERCY



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Fundraising
Efforts
Recognised



Ordination
Milestones
and Birthdays
Celebrated
by Clergy



Concannon
Oration
inspires to
get M.A.D.

HORIZONS is a quarterly magazine produced by the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba. Grateful acknowledgement to the Catholic Schools Office for their contribution to production costs, as well as to our advertisers for their support. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily held by the editor.

Please direct any enquiries to:
Ingrid McTaggart, Communications Office,
PO Box 756, Toowoomba QLD 4350.
Phone: 07 4632 4277.
Email: horizons@twb.catholic.org.au

Front Cover: Prep and year 1 students at St Anthony's participate in the Teddy Bear's hospital.

Graphic Design:
The Catholic Design Company 1300 883 454
www.thecatholicdesigncompany.com.au

DEADLINES
Editions will be quarterly.
Deadline for the February Edition 2017 is **27 January 2017.**

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FROM THE EDITOR

By Joe Thorley

Time goes very quickly. This is the third and final edition of Horizons that I am in the position of acting editor. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the great support you have shown me during this time. I have noticed that you are a very special diocese, very passionate and very focused on your call and the mission entrusted to you. I think that is why you've always made me feel a part of the team, which for me is the best way to work. This edition has really given me a send off I won't forget. To my horror, near the beginning of assembling the layout, my computer decided it needed a trip to the hospital for a new motherboard. Needless to say losing a week at such a critical time was very frustrating and triggered many problems. As you can see we



triumphed and delivered a great edition that I feel reflects the many celebrations in the diocese. I realise a publication like this is a little like my sons telling me how they are doing, they tend to report all the good things! I do the same, we all do. But I know just like my computer issues, it's not all fun times. Like me, I know in the midst of your celebrating there are also difficulties. I am sure my computer was not the only IT issue in the diocese in the past few months. If our problems were only related to IT maybe it would not be so difficult. But I know you have also experienced real pain, like severe illness and the loss of loved ones. Wars in the middle east come to mind and also the terrible tragedy at Dreamworld. Life is not easy at times, every

now and then it's not fun at all and we do get sad and down I know I do. I would actually like to leave you with something encouraging. Hope, no matter how bad things get Jesus is our hope, no matter how much we try to ignore Him, He is our hope and if we seek him He will allow us to find Him. There is not always an answer, a strategy or a solution other than handing the situation and ourselves over to Him and trusting in the truth that we will be with Him in eternity. In this year of Mercy remember there is much you can do. Love your family, friends and the members of your parish just by giving them your time and listen, no need to critique, judge or start thinking about the amazing advice you are going to give them. **Just listen.** I wish you all many blessings. 



CONTINUING A LIFESTYLE OF MERCY TOWARDS OTHERS

From Bishop Robert McGuckin



While representing the Oceania Bishops at the European Bishops Assembly, Bishop Robert McGuckin met Prince Albert of Monaco.

With November upon us, we all know that the year is drawing to a close. Have you given any thought to what you plan to do over Christmas and the holidays? As 2016 nears its end, so also is the special Jubilee Year of Mercy coming to a close. On 13 November 2016 the closing liturgy will be celebrated at the 9am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. During the year, I am sure we have all been re-awakened not only to the Father's gracious mercy towards us but also our need to show mercy. The spiritual and corporeal works of mercy are actions where we show mercy towards others. The closing of the Year of Mercy does not bring to an end our continual need to realise God's mercy towards us. We will continue to receive mercy and our response to the mercy we receive ought be seen in the way we act and show mercy towards others. Pope Francis at his General Audience on 12 October stressed that receiving God's mercy is not enough, we also have to be a sign and instrument of mercy for others..."mercy is not received only for particular moments, but it embraces the whole of our daily existence". Pope Francis in speaking of the seven spiritual works of mercy pointed out that "one that has entered our common language: To endure patiently annoying persons. It might seem to be something of little importance, which makes us smile, instead it contains a sentiment of profound charity; and it is so also for the other six, which it is good to recall: to counsel the doubtful, to teach the ignorant, to admonish sinners, to console the afflicted, to forgive offenses, to pray to God for the living and the dead." In the closing words of Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of Love, " may we never lose heart because of our limitations, or ever stop seeking that fullness of love and communion which God holds out before us." As the year comes to a close may the Holy Spirit guide us as we make end of year plans. May we leave some time for reflection. May we all to continue to grow in the love of the Lord. I thank everyone who has served and assisted in the ministry of the Diocese throughout the year. May we continue to pray for each other.

Bishop Robert McGuckin
Bishop of Toowoomba
November 2016 



Attendees at the Diocesan Inservice held at James Byrne Centre.

DIOCESE REFLECTS ON THE FAMILY AT INSERVICE

By Denis McAleer

I have always been told that the gospels are for yesterday, today and tomorrow. I believe the presenters at the Diocesan In-Service brought

this point out when they reflected on Pope Francis' encyclical "The Joy of the Gospel". They were both lay and clergy, married and unmarried sharing their personal perspectives. They brought home the point that we can't live in the yesterday, but need to live in the today.

The presenters talked about the lived experience, the today. It was refreshing to listen to them all, particularly sharing their personal

journeys. They didn't shy away from difficult topics such as living together before marriage, divorce and same sex union. They followed the example of Pope Francis in coming to terms with the realities of modern life as we experience it.

In sharing their lived experience they encouraged us to engage with the compassionate Christ.

May we all look forward to the tomorrow with great hope.

REMEMBERING MARY LAMBERT

By St Monica's Parishioners, Oakey

Mary Lambert (nee Roche) was born on July 24, 1944. The eldest of an Irish Catholic farming family, she was brought up in a strong faith tradition. Until her death on March 6 2016, her Catholic faith was the core of her life.

Mary came to Australia in the very early sixties as a seventeen year old novice of the Sisters of St Joseph Order. Adjusting to the culture shock, the climate, and the distances would not have been easy. Battling home-sickness too, would have been a major battle.

When very young Mary worked in Nyngan in the mid west of New South Wales, then later at Richmond in the north west of Queensland. Mary was a teaching nun, but none of these hardships dampened her calling to serve.

Later in Life, having left her Order, Mary came to the Toowoomba Diocese where she worked in Catholic Education liaising with U.S.Q. and the students who were doing teaching prac in Catholic Schools. As Religious Education Consultant for Primary Level 1991-1995,

Mary travelled the area of the Diocese supervising and assisting the APRE teachers. Later, she settled in the Parish of St Monica's

Oakey, where she taught at St Monica's School for many years.

Here, Mary married Ray Lambert, a widower with two teenage children-

Vanessa and Jeremy. Life as a wife and mother suited Mary very well, and after the marriages of Vanessa to Aaron and Jeremy to Christy, became a devoted and much loved Nan to Lachlan, Connor, Dylan and Sophie.

Parish life called and Mary became very involved in parish affairs. She will be remembered as one who never failed to meet and welcome everyone as they arrived for Mass. Mary would support a person suffering an illness or the loss of a loved one. Mary, for many years was a member of the Parish Council, stressed the need to be pastoral and led by example.

Mary became well known among the Brazilian, Filipino and Indian Families who came to our parish in search of a better and more secure life for their families.

A liturgist at heart, Mary guided parishioners into lay roles in the working of a Parish Church. Her ardour was instrumental in parishioners attending Diocesan seminars and their completion of Ministry Courses.

When attending Parish Inservice and Development Days with Mary one soon realised that she knew and had close friendships

with so many people in the Toowoomba Diocese.

Mary's health deteriorated throughout 2015. As well as family



Mary's Aunt Kath visited Mary regularly during this time.

Mary intended to spend Christmas at home with the family but this wasn't to be. Mary was hospitalised from that time on.

In January, two of Mary's brothers, Tom and Pat with their sister Bridie, arrived from Ireland to be with her. Sadly, Tom and Pat had to return to Ireland after few weeks. Bridie remained and spent most of her days at Mary's bedside. Parishioners walked with Mary for the duration of her illness and assisted Bridie in many ways during her stay.

Mary's struggle with her illness ended at 5pm March 6 2016.


Mary was farewelled with a well attended Requiem Mass concelebrated by Fr Thomas Areekhuzi, Fr Mick Carroll and Fr Franco Filippetto March 16, 2016.

Mary will always be remembered. 🙏



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Bishop Michael McCarthy.
(on the funeral of his Mother)

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LIFE TEEN VISIT TO THE DIOCESE

By Sarah de Byl




On the 13 October the Diocese was lucky enough to get a visit from two youth ministers Steve Allgeyer and Scott Bagshaw from Life Teen.

Life Teen is a Catholic youth ministry organization and movement originating in the United States. Life Teen believes that "Eucharist-based ministry has the power to transform teens, transform parishes and transform culture. Inspired by

Pope John Paul II's call for a new evangelisation, Life Teen believes that youth are the key to this new springtime in the Church."

Steve and Scott discussed Life Teen and what it offers parishes. They also shared their experiences of youth ministry and some of the tips and tricks they have discovered along the way. The group that attended also got the opportunity

to discuss youth ministry in our Diocese and what the future could look like. With the Year of Youth in 2018 it was great to get together and dream big about what the young church could look like and how that dream could become a reality.

For more information about Life Teen go to www.lifeteen.com or contact Sarah in the Diocesan Youth Office. 

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DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATORS GATHER AS A COMMUNITY

By Kelly Paget, Executive Officer ANDYMC




The Australian Network of Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinators (ANDYMC) was established in 1998 to support and advocate for the specific needs of Diocesan Youth Ministry and those ministering within it. Close to 20 years later the network works throughout the year to share ideas, resources and formation opportunities with its members.

Once a year ANDYMC gathers as a community specifically to share our joys and challenges of youth ministry, to collaborate on fresh initiatives and participate in professional development. This year ANDYMC gathered in early October in the beautiful host diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The 4 day gathering included facilitated ministry sharing and debriefing, presentations from the ACBC Office for Youth and a professional development day with international guests Steve Allgeyer and Scott Bagshaw from Life Teen.

The days also allowed for shared ministry concerns to be raised and time for collaborative strategies and projects to be devised. This year special projects were formulated around developing a standardised Diocesan Youth Ministry Role Description, development of a shared event and formation calendar as well as resources and projects specifically related to the upcoming Year of Youth in 2018.

A highlight of each ANDYMC gathering is the host Diocese excursion, which this year was particularly special with an afternoon tour of the local vineyards in the Hunter Valley allowing time to sample God given gifts of the local environment while also providing time for fellowship among the network.

We look forward with renewed energy to the year ahead, as we all prepare for everything 2017 has to offer, including ACYF, laying foundations for the Year of Youth and looking forward to gathering again at our annual member meeting which will be hosted by the Diocese of Toowoomba. 

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CONCANNON ORATION – ARE YOU M.A.D.?

By Ashleigh Hyland



The Concannon Oration once again provided a platform for a prominent guest speaker to address topics relevant to today's world. On 14 September at the USQ's Allison Dickson Lecture Theatre, Br Damien Price, Coordinator of Developing Nations and Cross-Cultural Engagement at Christian Brothers Oceania Province delivered an address on 'Are you M.A.D. (Making A Difference)?'.

Over the past 20 years, Br Damien has been involved in working with disadvantaged youth, the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers. His approach is simple: doing good work for those less fortunate, but involving those who have rarely, or never, been touched by disadvantage.


Br Damien shared his experiences with the students from Concannon College and our other colleges, which entailed working with the disadvantage and less fortunate to show how important it is to make a positive difference in world. He also

mentioned how working with youth, can make a significant difference within their own community. Testament to these experiences, he has mentored the founders of 'Orange Sky Laundry', which provides the homeless with mobile facilities to wash their clothes. He explains that it just takes an idea, some determination and motivation to create a difference, and most importantly, make sure you find a mentor!

Br Damien urged us to question ourselves and ask, 'If not you then who; if not now, when?'. He reminded us that you don't need to make a dramatic change in your life to make a difference, but rather, it's the little things in life, which make you M.A.D. This can range from smiling to people on the street to volunteering to aid the less fortunate.

Towards the end of the presentation, Br Damien presented us with a little keepsake pebble to remind all of us to make a difference. This pebble was special to me as it was

a physical, constant reminder of the words and the knowledge shared by Br Damien. It reminded me to make a positive change regardless of how small the ripple is made by a pebble thrown into the water.

The presentation motivated us all with the determination to make a difference within our local communities. It also challenged me to be M.A.D. whether it was on a large or small scale and also the importance of storytelling, to share knowledge of each other's experiences, not forgetting the struggles and celebrating the success. Finally, Br Damien mentioned that regardless of your struggles, you can grow and achieve your desired dreams if you are determined to do so and that life isn't about the destination, it's about the journey. As I finish my last university exam this week I have been reflecting on the last three years and anticipating what the future holds, from this I have come to appreciate how true his words are and how closely they resonate with me. 

FROM USQ ALUMNUS TO COOKING SENSATION

By Ashleigh Fearby



Billy Law demonstrates how to cook Cola and Chili Chicken for the crowd

Former MasterChef contestant Billy Law has had a wild ride. Billy grew up with his family in Ipoh Malaysia and moved to Toowoomba in 1996 to further his studies, graduating with a Bachelor of Information Technology (IT). While studying at uni, Billy said "I was living in a house with six other students and we had a roster where everyone took turns making dinner." Which is where his passion for cooking started. He reflected further on how his cooking has improved, "I still remember I was very squeamish handling raw chicken meat for the first time but obviously, I have no trouble with that anymore."


Finding his passion for food, he applied for Series 3 of MasterChef in 2011. Although Billy had not returned to USQ in 20 years, he was very excited

to be back and share his memories and experiences with everyone. Concannon was also excited to have Billy grace us with his delicious cooking!

In late July Billy conducted a cooking demonstration at Concannon College exclusively for Residential College residents. Billy's visit was a part of USQ Bookcase 2016 where he shared his culinary talents. When it was announced Billy was coming to Concannon for a cooking demonstration, I know I was excited – a free lunch cooked for us by a celebrity chef!

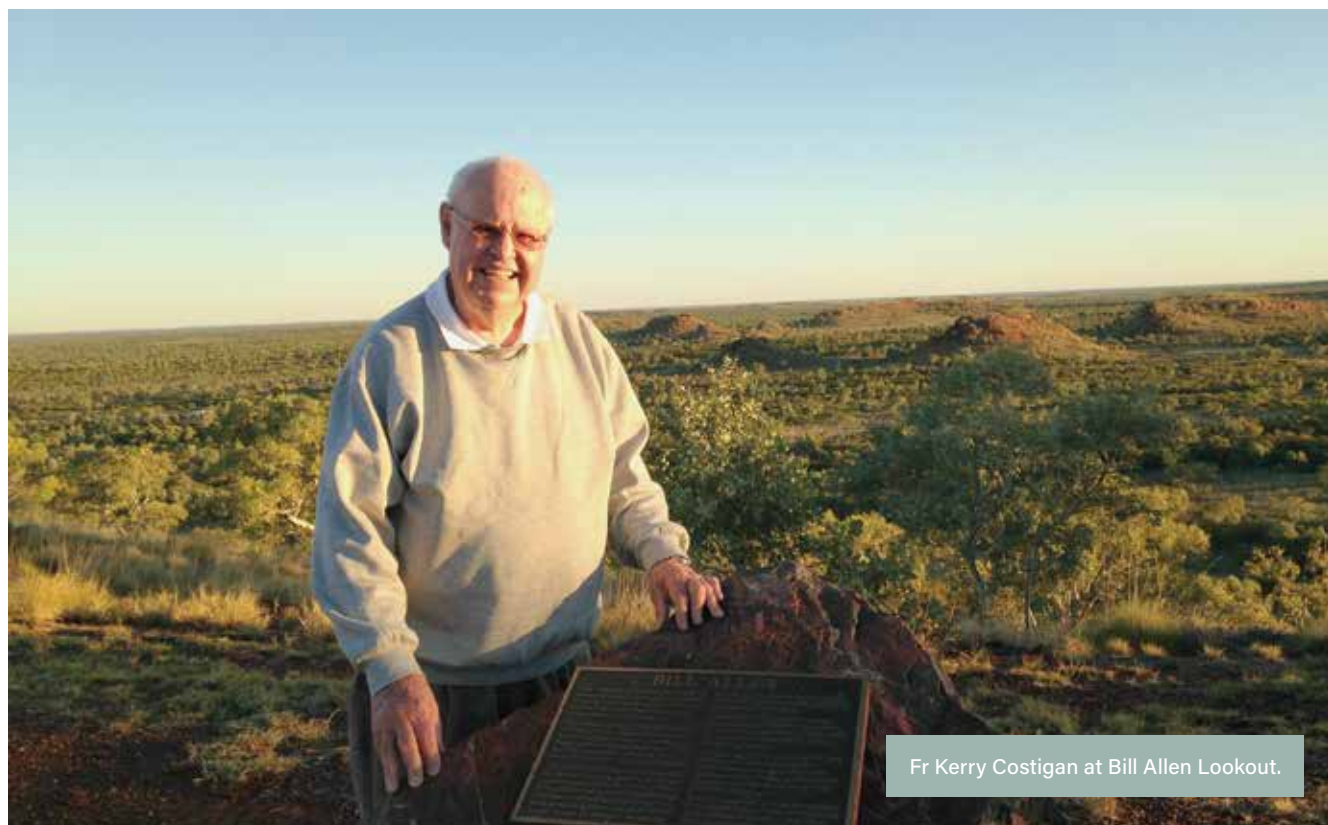
The cooking demonstration was for a Cola and Chilli Chicken recipe which was paired up with rice. Although a little sceptical about chicken being cooked in Coca-Cola, I did try it and boy was

it delicious. During the demonstration, residents were able to hear how Billy came to change his life direction from being in the field of IT to a MasterChef contestant and a successful cookbook and blog writer. I asked him how his application for MasterChef went and he replied by saying you needed to be witty and stand out from the crowd. So he decided to answer one of the applications with 'I want to show you I can cook better than George Calombaris!' who is one of the judges.

Billy has proven to residents that dreams really do come true if you just keep trying and believing. Although Billy didn't attend residential colleges, we decided he did such an excellent job of cooking, that we might just adopt him as a Concannon College Alumnus! 

MUNUNJALI MAN'S MISSION: MY VISIT TO TENNANT CREEK NT

By Fr Kerry Costigan



Fr Kerry Costigan at Bill Allen Lookout.

I visited Tennant Creek in June to renew an old friendship. I volunteered my professional services to the local priest for the two weeks I was there, so he went on a well-deserved holiday. I stayed at the Presbytery which is like an oasis in the desert as the local priest is a keen gardener and a friend of the environment.

The town of Tennant Creek has a population of about 3500, 70% are Indigenous Australians. Most locals live in camps inside and outside of the town. Fifteen different dialects are spoken with some Indigenous speaking four or five dialects, although English is the common language.

I spoke with many in town, asking with respect many questions and listening with attention and sincerity. Many of the Non-Indigenous dwellers in town are involved in community work and service, especially in health care and education of the Indigenous people. These community workers come from a variety of different backgrounds, the commonly African, Indian and Filipino.


The local tribe is the Warumungru although Aborigines from other tribes visit and often there is friction. Overcrowding in homes is a serious problem. Alcohol abuse is common, as is instances of domestic violence. Sadly the Department of Child Services often have to take children from their overcrowded homes because of neglect. The area has also seen natural disasters over the years. In 1988 an earthquake hit Tennant Creek and is considered the largest ever in Australia. The landscape still bears the scars to this day.

Though I am truly proud of my Aboriginal heritage, I have to say that the Aboriginal way of life today, generally speaking, is far from perfect. This of course could be said of any civilisation. However there is hope for the future, a future which centres around the young. There are wonderful attempts to assist the Indigenous community and getting them to help themselves.

Through a love of sport, a natural talent for art, music and story, as

well gainful outdoor employment, many are finding a way of breaking the cycle. Sports clubs on the look out for "stars" select boys and girls for training on the condition they attend school. Government grants are available to encourage expression through art. Incidentally, the lead singer and musician at Mass on Sundays had a relation who was a member of the Mununjali tribe, my ancestors.

I pay tribute to all the different professional men and women who work with, for and among the Indigenous people. I thank God for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment in providing a mantle of safety for the community. There is much to be done in the matter of the welfare and reconciliation regarding Indigenous Australians. Good things are happening.

I went seeking to find something of the real outback - its characters and lifestyle. The outback, the people and landscape, is never boring but vibrant because of its differences in colour and texture, making it a unique and beautiful place in God's creation. 

MISSIONARY JOURNEY COMES FULL CIRCLE

By Fr Darrell Irvine




As I pen some of this article above a brilliantly blue Aegean Sea and the aircraft crosses Greece bound for Italy, my mind drifts to a time which changed the course of my life. Shortly after the death of my wife in 1999, I discovered an old letter that had gathered dust over the years in the attic of our house. The envelope was stamped Missionaries of Charity, New York and the letter inside was signed by the Order's Superior, Mother Teresa. It was giving the address of the Order's Home in New York, where my wife could stop over and serve the homeless whilst on her way to visit her brother in Sweden. This letter would come to change my life forever.

As I read the letter of gracious thanks over and over, I was curiously pricked by a sense of guilt. Suddenly it occurred to me in my darkest hour that I needed to light a candle, not for myself but for others. My relatively comfortable life was over; such was

the power and the pull of this old letter. Over the following seven years, a lot of my time would be spent in the slums and sweltering heat of Calcutta, serving the indigent, the dying, the sick and abandoned under the guidance of the Missionaries of Charity. I learnt many things about the worth and joy of human life when it faces the most appalling adversities on a daily basis.

On early Sunday morning, I joined some fellow priests and we made our way to St Peter's Piazza. Even at 6am there were thousands of people in the square. It was a festive atmosphere under a broiling hot summer sun with many flags fluttering in the light breeze. A portrait of Mother Teresa was displayed on the façade of St Peter's Basilica, showing her in her distinctive blue-trimmed white sari. By the time the Ceremony began at 10am, the crowds had swelled to tens of thousands. When Pope Francis convoked the Holy Spirit

three times and proclaimed her St Teresa of Calcutta, the crowd erupted in sustained applause.

During the Pope's homily he remarked that "We may have difficulty in calling her St Teresa, her holiness being so near to us, so tender and so fruitful, that we continue to spontaneously call her Mother Teresa." The canonization marked a highlight of the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis calling Mother Teresa a "tireless worker of mercy". She was a gentle and determined woman with a deep sense of the sacredness of the human person, even in the most distressing and pitiful condition, seeing every human being as the child of God, important to Him and therefore also to her. A hundred years from now, when people hear about her, they will be wonder-struck that she ever existed. I am so glad to have been able to represent the Diocese of Toowoomba at her Canonization. 

CLERGY HEALTH COORDINATOR ADVOCATES FOR OUR PRIESTS' WELL BEING

By Julie See with Ingrid McTaggart



Fr Pat Hall and Julie See at Vianney Village.

Since starting in February 2015, Julie See has become a highly valued, trusted and important part of the support network for clergy in the Toowoomba Diocese. The Priest's Retirement Foundation employed Julie, a Registered Nurse, as the Clergy Health Coordinator for the diocese. She is part of a group of Clergy Health Coordinators that exist in the majority of dioceses and archdioceses across Australia.

The aim of the role is to support Bishop Robert and the diocese in the care of the clergy. This is achieved by focusing on 3 key objectives – Advocacy, Communication and Education.

"I use these skills to assist the priests to access appropriate resources, support and information," says Julie of her role. "I am a big fan of health promotion and holistic care – caring for the whole person. My personal model of holistic care is Physical, Emotional, Psychological, Social, Intellectual and Spiritual – it's all important when it comes to the health of each individual." Julie brings to the diocese broad nursing experience having previously



Julie See visits with Fr Tom Keegan at Lourdes Home.

worked in a variety of settings, most recently as an Emergency Nurse at Toowoomba Hospital.

It's not only aged care or responding to a health crisis that makes up this role, although it is a major part. Julie has covered everything from helping manage ongoing health problems and chronic disease, hospitalisations, aged care assessments and placements to organising community care to help some priests at home. She also uses education to enhance lifestyle management and improve life balance.

Julie is available as needed to support all clergy, not just retired priests and the clergy have been very responsive to the role and very welcoming of Julie.

Julie is modest, and her concern for the priests of this Diocese evident. "I just kind of work away in the background with individuals making sure they are safe, happy and as healthy as they can achieve. I love my job – I love overall supporting a great group of men who have given so much of themselves and their lives for other people." [\[1\]](#)

APPEAL GENERATES SUPPORT ON FATHER'S DAY

By Ingrid McTaggart

Each Father's Day, our Diocese not only celebrates Dads, we celebrate our Priests as well. For eighteen years the Priests' Retirement Foundation has asked for support through the Fathers' Day Appeal and the Diocese has given generously.

There are currently 15 retired priests supported by the Foundation. Although not in formal parish appointments, many continue to help out in the

mission of the Church as their age and health permits. These men are still very much a valued part of our diocesan life. The Father's Day Appeal assists them by supplementing their aged pension and funding other vital health services and aged care.

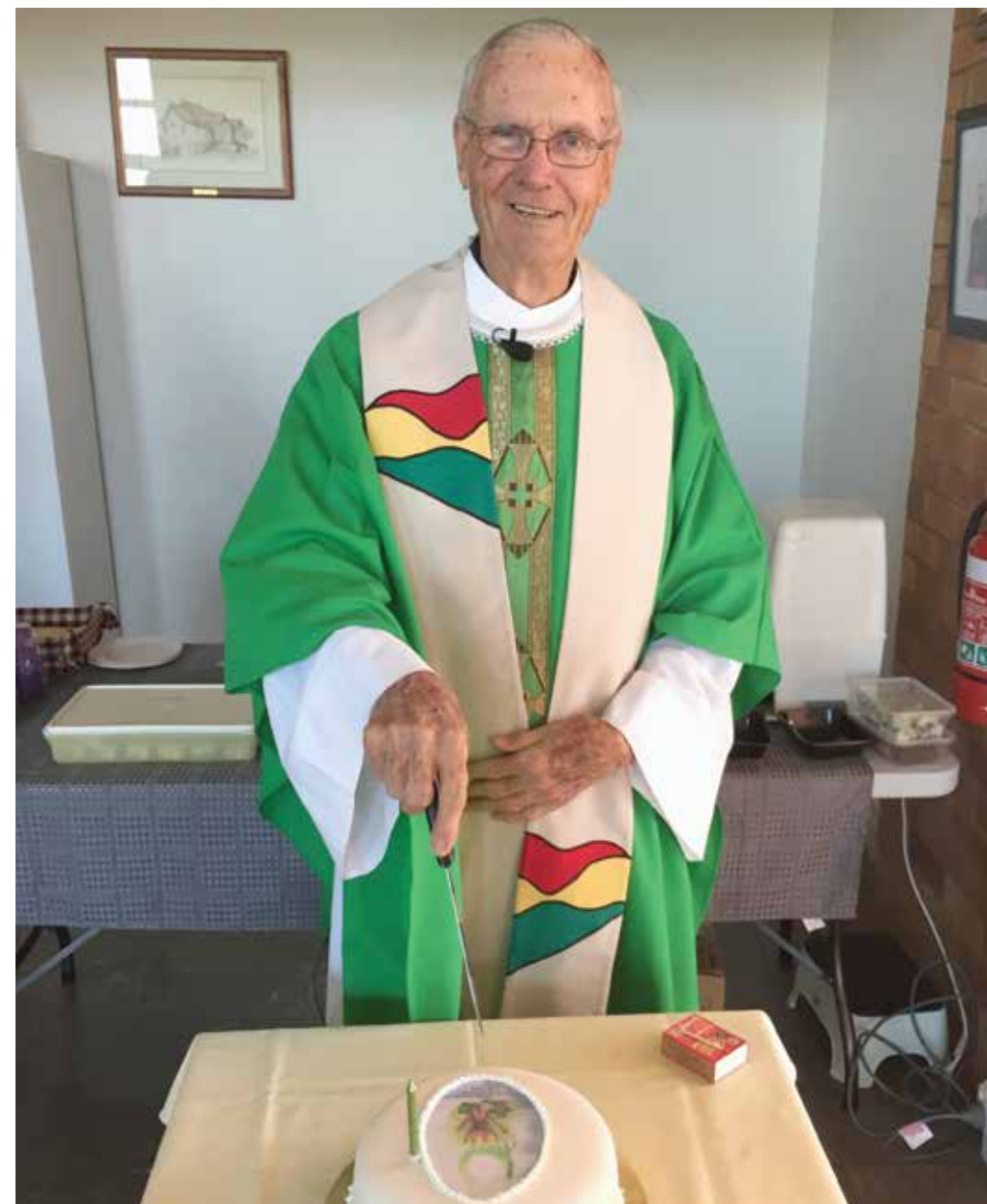
The 2015 Appeal raised \$30,321 and so far for this year's appeal \$20,462 has been remitted to the Diocesan Development Fund. Parishes with

outstanding collections should remit their money and envelopes as soon as possible. If you would like to make your own donation to the Appeal, look for a donation envelope in your parish or contact the DDF on 07 46327589 for details. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

The Foundation appreciates the generosity of past donors and those who have already given this year. [\[1\]](#)

FR MICK CARROLL TURNS 80

Celebration of Fr Mick Carroll's 80th birthday by St Monica's Parish community in Oakey on 11th September. Parishioners presented Fr Carroll with a cake which was enjoyed with a cup of tea after mass.



SUPPORTIV RELAUNCH OF THE MURRI COURT

By Kate Venables



Murri Court Relaunch (Elders Uncle Darby and Aunty Pearl sitting in the front row).

CatholicCare and the Community Justice Group were delighted to be part of the Murri Court relaunch on Friday 19th August, as it once again kicked off this supportive journey with indigenous offenders.

Though the Court has been running in one form or another since 2008, it was wound back when the Newman State Government withdrew funding in 2012.

There is great excitement at the potential the new Murri Court model can deliver with the courts, governments and local communities working collaboratively together, to divert people from the criminal justice system.

The Murri Court was set up in response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody as well as to what was seen as the higher than expected representation of people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent in the State's criminal judicial system.

Murri Court is available to sentence eligible ATSI offenders who have pleaded guilty. It is presided over by a magistrate, and supported by local Elders or



Stacey McCarthy - CJG Coordinator.

Respected Persons who provide cultural advice to the magistrate.

The important contributions of two of our Elders, Uncle Darby McCarthy and Aunty Pearl Hite were recognised at the Launch, as was

our Coordinator, Stacey McCarthy's hard work and commitment over the last twelve years.

If you would like to know more about our services, please call 1300 477 433.

LITURGY WORKSHOP CATHOLIC WORSHIP BOOK II

By John Briffa



As a means of introducing and promoting the new music resource Catholic Worship Book II, the Liturgy Office conducted a workshop

in July to explore the material contained in this recently published hymnal.

Hosted at St Anthony's Parish Toowoomba, the workshop attracted 35 participants representing parishes from Chinchilla, Pittsworth, Crow's Nest, Warwick and Toowoomba. Those who attended were keen to hear and sing various pieces from the new publication, including new Mass settings, new hymns and new options for various acclamations.

The workshop was presented by Mrs Jenny O'Brien, Liturgy Educator with the Office for Worship in Adelaide, a member of the National Liturgy Committee and part of the editorial committee of Catholic Worship Book II.

Participants at the workshop discovered that Catholic Worship Book II is much more than a hymn book. It includes all the sung elements of the Mass; music for Sacraments, RCIA, Liturgy of Hours and Adoration; a wide variety of traditional and contemporary hymnody. All the music is theologically, liturgically and musically appropriate. It has a helpful introduction on Music in the Mass, guitar chords for more recently composed hymns, many works by Australian composers and items for children.

Catholic Worship Book II is available from Morning Star Publishing.



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MERCY VALUES FLOURISHING AT ST JOSEPH'S STANTHORPE

By Robyn-Anne Lovell



Some St. Joseph's students posing in the photo booth after their 20,000 step walk.

A small country school has the honour of being the second largest fund-raiser for Project Compassion 2016. St. Joseph's School at Stanthorpe has put in a massive effort this year in working to assist children and families in developing countries. On a recent visit to the school I was delighted by the commitment of the students, and the maturity and dedication of School Captain Daniel Sims and Student Leader Sarah Saxby. Working from an idea by school APRE, Megan Mahoney, Sarah was the facilitator and motivator of the 20,000 Steps program that netted the largest amount of all the activities that the students undertook during Project Compassion 2016. Sarah said, "Dignity is my Mercy value, and I think that walking is something physical and that adds to the value of dignity". Many students dressed up in wild and colourful costumes and, in teams of 4-6, walked around the oval for 20,000 steps (with sponsorship). There was music from a DJ, a Sausage Sizzle with drinks, and students could then pay to have their photo taken in the Photo Booth. Other fund-raising



Robyn-Anne Lovell with School Captain Daniel Sims and Student Leader Sarah Saxby.

activities included a St. Patrick's Free Dress Day, a coin line, a Fish Friday and general donations to the PC boxes. When asked, some students said that Project Compassion means that they can help other students less fortunate who need real assistance. Others said that the similarities and

differences between their lives and those they help is that every child has a right to an education but sadly many children do not have access to it. Congratulations to St. Joseph's Stanthorpe – what a remarkable school, full of compassionate and inspiring students. [\[2\]](#)

"AROUND THE TRAPS" WITH CARITAS

By Robyn-Anne Lovell



It has been a busy time for me with Caritas, visiting schools and parishes lately, with many visits planned for November and early December. I attended the last assembly for term three at Mary McKillop College Highfields to pick up yet another large cheque, from a wonderful school that has always proven to be a great supporter of Project Compassion. The following photos depict a few scenes from other adventures around the traps!! [\[2\]](#)



TOP Costumed-students from St. Joseph's Stanthorpe walking 20,000 steps.

MIDDLE Celebrating a Caritas Kitchen at my home in July.

BOTTOM Better late than never – the Project Compassion display at St. Thomas More's during Lent. Many thanks to Donna for a great effort.

THE JUSTICE OF KEEPING OUR GRANDPARENTS AT OUR DINNER TABLES

By Mark Copland



We're not getting any younger. The number of Australians aged 65 and over will more than double by the middle of the century. This has been rightly described as 'the great success story of human development'. Increasing numbers of older people will enjoy good health and an active life for many years. In this country close to 75 per cent of men and 85 per cent of women are now reaching retirement age with around 20 years of life ahead of them. This good news for those of us with grey hair is not without its challenges. Last year's Intergenerational Report painted a picture of declining numbers of people of working age and growing numbers of people over 65. Some politicians have coined and repeated phrases such as "intergenerational theft" and "productive workers" vs "burdensome retirees". The Catholic Bishops of Australia turned their mind to this challenge as they released their annual Social Justice Statement, "A Place at the Table, Social Justice in an Ageing Society". In this statement the Bishops highlighted a story retold by Pope Francis.

There was a father, mother and their many children, and a grandfather lived with them. He was quite old, and when he was at the table eating soup, he would get everything dirty:

his mouth, the serviette ... it was not a pretty sight! One day the father said that, given what was happening to the grandfather, from that day forward he would eat alone. And so he bought a little table, and placed it in the kitchen. And so the grandfather ate alone in the kitchen while the family ate in the dining room. After some days, the father returned home from work and found one of his children playing with wood. He asked him: 'What are you doing?' to which the child replied: 'I am playing carpenter'. 'And what are you building?' the father asked. 'A table for you papa, for when you get old like grandpa'.

The message in the story is clear. Elderly people are not an inconvenience to us, nor an embarrassment but are indeed a crucial part of our community. Sadly in many ways we seem to be creating separate tables for the aged. The Australian Human Rights Commission found that one quarter of people aged over 50 experienced some form of discrimination, including being denied employment, promotion or training and being subjected to derogatory treatment. The saddest thing about this is that it has been calculated that it costs the economy around \$10 billion each year through the loss of mature workers. At the same time

keeping just three per cent more people over 55 in work would gain \$30 billion annually. A report by the Benevolent Society recently uncovered the situation where one third of those living on the aged pension are living below the poverty line. Most at risk are older women who rent privately and live solely on the age pension.

And if we want to talk figures, we cannot ignore the enormous contribution that retirees make as volunteers. This has been estimated to be worth more than \$40 billion each year. But these are just numbers.

At the official Diocesan launch at St Patrick's Cathedral Brett Rangiira shared the story of his family and father's journey with dementia. He spoke passionately of the community that has been built around his father who is now in full time care. Bishop McGuckin highlighted the mutual joy that has been brought through students at St Mary's College recording stories from the residents of Lourdes Home over the years. Pope Francis challenges us all to change the way we view aged care facilities. Rather than being places where people are hidden away, he says, they should be regarded as the 'lungs of humanity' in our neighbourhoods and parishes. To find out more go to www.tsjc.org

YOU WOULD LOVE KARL, A MUSICIAN CREATING COMMUNITY

By Mark Copland

You've never met Karl, but I am sure you would like him. In fact I've never met anybody who didn't. He is warm. He is gentle. He has a wisdom about him. He has that Maori thing called "mana". This "mana" that Karl possesses is honour. He has an authority, a presence about him. He embodies respect. He is a proud Australian of Maori heritage and he loves this country dearly except for when the Wallabies play his beloved All Blacks.

He is an ANZAC through and through, having served in the New Zealand army during the Malaysian emergency.

There are a few other things about Karl that you would like. He loves to joke and he loves to play his guitar and share the gift of music. It's something he has handed onto his children and also to his grandchildren. Wherever he goes Karl creates community.

Over the past couple of years things have changed for Karl. A thing called dementia started to play a part in his and his family's life. His wonderful wife Colleen worked very hard to keep him secure and stable in his home environment.

Respite came when Karl was encouraged to visit a local centre with his guitar. He quickly struck up some



friendships and spent some time each week entertaining the 'elderly'. It must run in the family. Alex, one of the Grandsons works in an aged care facility here in Toowoomba. Just like his 'Koro' (grandfather) he has found his way into many people's hearts.

On occasions Alex has taken his guitar to work and some of the residents have been known to make special requests for assistance from, "the boy who sings". Karl is now well settled in an aged care facility in Brisbane. He continues to create community wherever he goes.

Another Grandchild, Sophie has now moved down the Range for tertiary study. A few weeks back she came across somebody who had cared for Karl in his new home. This carer was also of Maori heritage. She

shared an inspiring story. She had put out a call through facebook asking any Maori sisters or brothers living in the Brisbane area if they would like to come and sing for an old man.

Close to a hundred people answered the call! The singing went for a few hours and I am told that tears were streaming down Karl's face. Indeed I am sure there were not many dry eyes in the house. None of the visiting singers had ever met each other before. But there he was, creating community again. They and others will be back again.

The American mystic Thomas Merton wrote about the elderly. "They are the ones who keep the universe from being destroyed, they are the little ones, they do not know themselves, but the whole earth depends on them."

MOMENTUM BUILDS TO NAME SECOND RANGE CROSSING MULTUGGERAH WAY

The push to name the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing "Multuggerah Way" after Aboriginal warrior Multuggerah is gathering momentum as community members gather in Toowoomba today to remember Multuggerah and mark the 143 year anniversary of the Battle of One Tree Hill.

Member for Groom Dr John McVeigh acknowledged Multuggerah and the anniversary of the Battle of One Tree Hill in his maiden speech to Federal Parliament. Bishop Robert McGuckin

along with Anglican Bishop Cameron Venables, Vice Chancellor of USQ, Professor Jan Thomas and Member for Toowoomba South, David Janetzki have all endorsed the proposal.

"This is a great opportunity to raise awareness around a local figure of great historic significance," stated one of the proponents of the name, Dr Mark Copland. Dr Copland along with community elder Uncle Darby McCarthy first raised the proposal as part of Toowoomba Regional Council's

Heritage Advisory Committee.

"Multuggerah was a strong leader for his people and a unifying force, bringing together the people of the Lockyer Valley and the Darling Downs. He was admired by first settlers of the district for his leadership and courage.

The fact that he would have led his people along the route of the Second Range Crossing makes the proposed name perfect in our opinion. Many roads in Australia follow ancient pathways laid down by Aboriginal people."

VALUABLE TRIP TO MEEWAH

By Joshua Waters

Students from the Youth and Community Learning Centre in Toowoomba experienced a rich taste of culture in their region during their recent Table Top Mountain Climb.

Accompanied by historian Dr. Ray Kerkhove and Jagera Daran Cultural Heritage Officer James Bonner as well as a host of well-respected community members, the students made their way to the top of Meewah – as it is more commonly known by the Indigenous people of that area. James shared several stories and traditional knowledges and Ray spoke to the young people about the history of Toowoomba and the Darling Downs; including the 'Battle Of One Tree Hill' and the significant people who were involved in the epic clash.

"Multuggerah was one of the leaders in the resistance campaign against the Europeans at the time, he was fighting for his land and trying to protect his way of life – his lore" says Engagement Officer Joshua Waters. "Learning about our history is



crucial to the formation of our identity as a people and as a nation, and it especially helps young people find meaning and purpose in their lives."

This activity was part of a year-long program called Biarah Burrah set up between the school and Paul Carmody, a Teacher at Amaroo Environmental Education Centre. "Paul and his team

have been great for us this year and I can't thank them or the YCLC staff or any of the community members who have assisted with this project enough. It's been a real pleasure for everyone involved" Mr Waters said.

Their next activity in the program is a one-day camp at the Bunya Mountains mid-way through Term 4. [\[2\]](#)

WHO WAS MULTUGGERAH?

By Mark Copland

Multuggerah was a warrior of the Jagera and other related peoples. He led a resistance campaign against the white settlers for close to seven years. He and his father ('Old Moppy') tried negotiating and bargaining with the newcomers in the 1840s but when communication broke down, conflict took place.

Multuggerah and his father united the tribes of the Lockyer Valley, the Scenic Rim, the Darling Downs and Upper Brisbane Valley. He took on some of the best and bravest of Queensland's squattocracy.

This group of prominent men came to be known as the "pure Merinos", the founding fathers of Queensland's pastoral industry. In the 1840s on the Darling Downs everybody would have known who Multuggerah was. His opponents recognised his bravery and he was immortalised in the Poem by John Wilkes, "Raid of the Aborigines".

The Battle of One Tree Hill is

recorded as taking place around the 12th and 13th September 1843. One of the pure Merinos, Downs pastoralist and politician Sir Robert Ramsay Mackenzie wrote, "It was no set of degraded cowards that drove back a party of the best white men on the Darling Downs from the One-tree Battle: it was no coward who, when a party of white men were pursuing his tribe and following each other in single file along the Main Range, stepped in front of them from behind a tree, delivered his spear, killing the first horse of the party, and then made his escape amidst a shower of bullets!

I say that these men deserve as much credit for their courage and devotion as do those who are more civilised..." We might now discuss from our armchairs what Sir Robert meant by "civilisation" but there can be no mistaking the respect that he felt for Multuggerah and his warriors.

Many of Australia's main roads follow ancient pathways, and the route traversed by the highway was certainly a major pathway and homeland for Multuggerah's people.

So if the names Ramsay and Mackenzie are good enough for a street name, why not name a road after a man who regularly travelled from the Lockyer Valley to the Darling Downs. A man who played a central part in our early shared history.

But we don't know how to pronounce it I hear you say? I tender words such as Indooroopilly, Maroochydore, Mooloolaba, Woolloomooloo. Perhaps even, Toowoomba. All Aboriginal names that have found their way onto your friendly GPS.

If you support the Multuggerah Way proposal or wish to find out more go to multuggerahway.blogspot.com.au [\[2\]](#)

HOLY NAME PARISH CONFIRMATION



The children of The Holy Name Parish celebrating their Confirmation with the Most Honourable Bishop Robert McGuckin, Father Ray and Father Matthew. **1st row** – Stephanie Dore, Isabella Horder, Lexi Peachey, Elizabeth Ganly, Tom Campomayor, Nathanael Jorgenson. **2nd row** – Beatrix Dore, Kade Fitzpatrick, Jack Wilson, Vivien Meacle, Kaitlyn Peachey, Anthony Cerqui. **3rd row** – Fr Matthew, Bishop McGuckin, Fr Ray, Basil Dore.

It started when they were first born, continued as they were presented to their relevant parish communities for baptism and now here they are confirmed into the Catholic Church. On Thursday 15 September, the wonderful children of The Holy Name Parish made their Confirmation in front of their family and friends. This culminates many hours of preparation

and commitment made by these children. A massive thank you goes to The Most Honourable Bishop Robert McGuckin for gracing us with his presence. Bishop McGuckin was able to instruct, guide and confirm these children as they received the sacrament which enables them to now profess their faith and spread the 'Good News' of Jesus Christ.

As the night continued, the parishioners had the opportunity to celebrate with the children around some delicious beverages and an assortment of cakes and biscuits. Well done to Fr. Ray, Carol Keutmann and Mary Lynch for preparing the students each week after Sunday Mass. This concludes the Sacramental Program which picks up again in 2017. [\[2\]](#)

ST GEORGE FIRST COMMUNION



Children who made their First Communion were Hunter and Angus Haynes, Benjamin and Dominic Walters, Jake Twidale, Alistair McKay, Ella Sting, Michael Russell, Brigitte Brunner, Rose Eley, Emma and Lucy Cowley, Amdes Saunders, Milly Doonan, Mitchell Lindores, Mary Sevil, Braxton Beardmore, Braydon Bella, Taylah Dohle, Jorja Hersey, William Street, and Ashton Thurston.

22 young girls and boys made their First Communion with their families present at St Patrick's Church, St George on Sunday 16th October.

Fr Salvador Fernandes presided. The children have been preparing throughout Term 3 with their parents for this special occasion. We would

like to congratulate these children on their enthusiasm during the journey leading up to receiving this special Sacrament. [\[2\]](#)

CROWS NEST PARISH CENTENARY

By Margaret Fowler



Fr Terry Hickling plants a memorial tree. Photo courtesy of High Country Herald.



Mr Terry Garrahy, a descendant of Matthew Gleeson who donated the property for the church, planted a time capsule. Photo courtesy of High Country Herald.



Bremhorst nee Meehan, a descendant of Matthew Gleeson, cuts the cake.



Crowds present for the jubilee.

In 1916 Crows Nest became a separate Parish. On Saturday 8 October about one hundred people gathered to celebrate the centenary of that happening. Locals were joined by visitors from Toowoomba, Brisbane, Sydney, Gold Coast, Canberra and Alstonville. Representatives from other local churches also attended. The celebrations started with Mass at 10:30am which was celebrated by Fr Dave O'Connor our Supply Priest with Frs. Peter Schultz (current Priest Director), Michael McClure (previous Priest Director), Don Murray, Ray Johnson (former Supply Priests), Terry Hickling (our

last resident priest), Mick Carroll (Oakey) and Leo Skelly (Brisbane).


The church was beautifully decorated with Australian Native flowers, banners, (flying) doves and stained glass panels. The panels were created by the children in the Senior RI class at the local school and were attached to the church windows. The doves were made by the Junior RI children who have been learning about the Holy Spirit.

After Mass, Mr Terry Garrahy, who has connections to the Gleeson family, buried a Time Capsule while Fr Terry planted a commemorative tree. From there everyone adjourned

to the Parish Centre and a chance to catch up with friends while waiting for the delicious lunch to be served.

At the conclusion of the meal, Mr John Littleton addressed the gathering, giving a little bit of background to when the church was first built. The land was donated by his great grandfather Matthew Gleeson.

The celebration cake was cut by Mrs Pat Bremhorst (nee Meehan) a great granddaughter of Matthew Gleeson.

It was an excellent day, enjoyed by many. Congratulations go to the organising committee of Gloria, Pat and Rita and anyone who helped in any way to make the day such a success. 

CONCERTS AS PART OF OUTREACH MINISTRY

By Bevan Devine

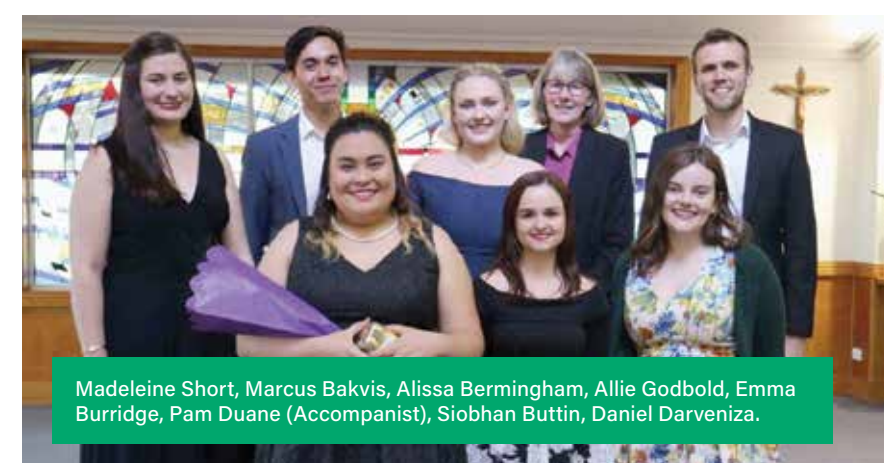


Samoan Dance Group

At St. Thomas More's we recently had two events which combined our Outreach ministry with entertainment. The ongoing Outreach ministry includes the St. Vincent de Paul's many well-known activities; The Care and Concern Group which helps people in time of crisis; The Consolation Team which provides assistance to the bereaved; and the Play Group for mutual support of parents of pre-school children.

The entertainment events came in the form of two concerts. In September some students from Don Bosco Technical Centre, Alfua, Samoa presented a two-hour concert in the St. Thomas More's School hall. The Don Bosco Dance Troupe of forty-six teenage Samoan boys used a variety of traditional and contemporary dances, singing, movement and skits to present insights into the Samoan culture. The importance of faith and hospitality, respect for stories and traditions of the past, the problems faced by young people in the present and their hopes for the future were themes that brought laughter, tears of joy and sadness, much delight and appreciation for the skill and talent of the boys. Perhaps a highlight was their performance of the "Sasa", a traditional Samoan slap dance for which the Don Bosco Troupe is particularly well-known. At the end of the evening the presentations included an "ie toga", which is a traditional fine mat, to Bishop Robert McGuckin. Our Bishop had made the Troupe most welcome in the Diocese and provided accommodation at the James Byrne Centre.

The Samoan Don Bosco Dance Troupe provided other performances in the diocese at St. Mary of the




Madeleine Short, Marcus Bakvis, Alissa Bermingham, Allie Godbold, Emma Burrridge, Pam Duane (Accompanist), Siobhan Buttin, Daniel Darveniza.

Southern Cross Parish, St. Mary's College, St. Thomas More's Primary School and Mary MacKillop College. The visit to Toowoomba was part of "Siva 16" (Dance 2016) which took the troupe over three weeks to Brisbane, Sydney, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania for performances at mainly Salesian schools. They were made particularly welcome at Logan with its strong Samoan community.

Fr. Chris Ford SDB, (Salesians of Don Bosco Order), who has spent many years at the Don Bosco Technical Centre, Alfua, led the group on its Australian tour. Perhaps the fact that his parents, Marie and Kevin, are St. Thomas More's parishioners helped us to receive the privilege of their visit to Toowoomba. The Don Bosco Training Centre in Samoa provides a "second chance" education for boys who have not previously achieved in mainstream schooling. It offers trades training programs in a variety of disciplines. The success of the tour can be measured not just in the cultural exchange and warm friendships made but also in a boost to

the finances of the Centre in Samoa.

Our second concert was a program of classical music on the afternoon of 1 October 2016. The program "Songs for Rosies" provided a useful contribution to Rosies, the volunteer-based not-for-profit organisation which provides help in the form of unconditional acceptance and friendship to those who are homeless, at risk or simply lonely. Seven students of Voice from the University of Queensland at St. Lucia enthralled the audience with their talent and enthusiasm. They presented a program of seventeen solo, duet and trio performances of classical music. The students Alissa Bermingham, (daughter of our Parish Leader, Michael Bermingham), Emma Burrridge, Allie Godbold, Marcus Bakvis, Daniel Darveniza, Siobhan Buttin and Madeleine Short were ably accompanied on piano by the brilliant Pam Duane. The students and their families mingled with parishioners after the performance over afternoon tea which was provided by the Care and Concern Group. 

FAMILY FUN FOR ALL

By Patti McNaught



Some of the Family Group at Hampton.

On Sunday 16th October, Mary of the Southern Cross Parish "Family Group" set out to Hampton, to the park next to the Tourist Information Centre for a fun day. The theme of the day was "Ye Old Style Games". Prior to Sunday, parishioners and friends were encouraged to bring any old style games the group might like to play e.g. quoits etc. The weather was absolutely perfect, and all families who attended, were in for a good time.

The most popular of the old games was "Finska", an addictive, unique and seriously fun log throwing game from Finland. It is a game involving strategy and skill, and is brilliant

for family and friends at outdoor gatherings such as this, barbecues and picnics etc. and proved to be a "hit" with the group. After much laughter and conversation among the group, it was decided that a ton of fun was had by all who attended.

Each family brought something small for afternoon tea to share, and Flavours Café, just across the road was available for coffee or tea if they so desired. A great time throughout the year has been had by this Family Group at the many different functions they have attended. We are now waiting to hear what will be the next exciting venture in the future. [\[E\]](#)



Trish Gall "having a go" at Finska..

CUNNAMULLA CONNECTING

By Sr Maureen Andrews



Air conditioners installed by Paroo Shire Council for church at Thargomindah.



Olive tree planted in response to Laudato Si.



Year six students in front of the National Library of Australia.



More year six students in front of Parliament House.

It is difficult to believe that 2016 is nearly over. We have some inspiring and enjoyable events organised by the Sacred Heart School to look forward at the conclusion of the school term. Firstly, there is graduation, a special time when the students celebrate and the Grade Six pupils look forward to the transition to High School. Secondly, there is the end of the year musical, Madagascar held on November 30th. Students can be seen learning their lines whilst participating in their Family Groups.

However, for the Year 6 pupils the camp was definitely the highlight of the school year. Emily Perry, teacher of Year 6 writes,

"The year six students from Sacred Heart school travelled to Canberra on the 7th of August for a week-long camp. Highlights of the trip included a visit to Mary MacKillop Place in Sydney on the Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day, participating in activities at the Australian War Memorial and

Parliament House in Canberra and a day at the snow on Mount Perisher. The students also particularly liked exploring Questacon, a hands-on science and technology centre, and touring the Australian Institute of Sport to see where our Australian athletes train. The students then enjoyed looking at souvenirs and pictures from the trip before falling sound asleep on the bus ride home."

In the parish we busied ourselves painting the inside of the Sacred Heart Church which also doubles as an Assembly Hall for the school. All the dark areas are now white and the floors are carpeted. The congregation is happy with the renewal and we continue to wonder about how to create an atmosphere of peace and silence in our gathering as we celebrate with gratitude for the many blessings God bestows on us each day. The Thargomindah church has also received a facelift, courtesy of the Bulloo Shire Council. Air conditioners

are now installed and the church entrance refurbished to ensure that it is user friendly for funerals.

In response to the Laudato si document of Pope Francis we have planted a number of olive trees around the labyrinth which was constructed earlier this year. The labyrinth is still a work in progress and we hope that when completed we may encourage people to use it.

The week we hosted the visit to Cunnamulla from CWCI (Christian Women Communicating Internationally). An enthusiastic group of women gathered to hear Joyce speak and Rose play and sing songs she had composed herself. The women left to go to Charleville and were to stay in Moonie overnight before making their way back to the Coast.

We are now starting to think about Christmas. I wonder sometimes whether the excitement, joy and looking forward is more enjoyable than Christmas. [\[E\]](#)

PAPAL BLESSING FOR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

David Bowden married Lynnette Butterfield in St. Mary's Cathedral in Ipswich in 1966. Their Golden Wedding Anniversary was attended by a number of family and friends at their home at Miscamble Street Roma. The Bowden family have now been six generations in the Roma Parish. The Butterfield Family has been in Ipswich for five generations.

The celebrations were arranged by David and Lynnette's son Allan Bowden with his partner Helen McLeod and their daughter Olivia Bowden along with their daughter, Leanda Bowden and her son Dale Proud. [\[E\]](#)



Fr Jamie Collins receives the Papal Blessing from Luanda Bowden to present to David and Lynnette Bowden in the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary at All Saints Catholic Church in Roma.

CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARY OF APPEARANCE OF OUR LADY

The Liturgy Group arranged a public saying of the Rosary on the 15th of October at 5.30 pm. This was part of an Australia wide call for parishes to acknowledge the 99th Anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady to three children at Fatima in Portugal. David Bowden led the opening prayers. The decades of the Rosary were led by Rita Brennan, Cathy Cocks, Margie Cruz, Sister Nora Fitzgibbon and George Mehay. [\[E\]](#)



Roma Parishioners saying the Rosary at Our Lady's Grotto at All Saints Catholic Church.

ALL SAINTS REMEMBERS AND PRAYS FOR SOLDIERS AT VIETNAM REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

By David Bowden

Fr Jamie Collins was invited by the President of the RSL Roma Sub-Branch, George Mehay – a former French Navy Reserve, to be the padre for the 2016 Vietnam Remembrance Ceremony. (George Mehay and his family are parishioners of All Saints Catholic Church in Roma). Corporal Wayne Bryant from the Roma Army Reserve was the guest speaker for the event. Another RSL Member, Bryce Duke, was the Master of Ceremonies.

The ceremony was conducted at the Roma War Memorial in the late afternoon. Several parents brought their children to be part of the crowd to witness the actual ceremony, speeches and wreath-laying.

There are several Vietnam Veterans as members of the RSL Roma Sub-Branch. The Immediate Past President Robert Menz has been heavily involved in the setting up of several Vietnam Veteran ceremonies.



Fr Jamie Collins, from All Saints Parish, offering the prayer at the Vietnam Service held at the Roma War Memorial.

Fr Jamie Collins made special mention of the sacrifice that so many young Australian Soldiers made that day. He spoke of the faith that they showed and encouraged the audience to remember them with prayer.

The function concluded with refreshments at the RSL Hall in Quintin Street, Roma.

For further information please contact David Bowden 042 966 4275. Email nedwob12@bigpond.com [\[E\]](#)

AUGATHELLA NEWS

By Sr Elizabeth O'Keeffe

Congratulations to the members of the St Patrick's Community in Augathella who have taken the initiative and arranged for their church and presbytery to be painted. No small feat for a small community of only about a dozen members. A big thankyou must be given to the members of the Charleville Work Camp who saw it as a great opportunity to give back to the community and undertook all the hard work of cleaning and painting. [\[E\]](#)



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EVENTS IN **CHARLEVILLE****Police Commemoration service**

Piper, Barry Cathcart, Rev Stefan Van Munster, Fr Peter Doohan, and Inspector Grant Marcus

The Police Commemoration service in Charleville was celebrated on 28th and 29th September. The ceremonies began with a very moving vigil

service at the grave of a policeman who died in the 1880s and who is buried in the Charleville cemetery. The following morning a service

was held in St Mary's Church led by the police chaplain, Rev Stefan Van Munster from the Anglican Church, and assisted by Fr Peter. [\[2\]](#)

Father Peter Doohan Celebrates his 70th Birthday and 40th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood.



On the 3rd September St Mary's Parish and School celebrated our Parish Priest, Fr Peter Doohan's 70th birthday and also the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Joining us for the occasion was Bishop Emeritus Bill Morris, members of Fr Peter's family, and representatives from the Cunnamulla, Augathella, and Quilpie communities. Also a number of friends travelled from Roma, Dalby, Toowoomba and Brisbane to be a part of the celebration. Members of the other Charleville Churches also joined us for the celebration. The evening commenced with our

Saturday evening Mass. One of the highlights of the Mass was the First Reading being proclaimed in Vietnamese followed by the Vietnamese community chanting the Responsorial Psalm. After Communion Bishop Bill invited us all to pray a blessing over Fr Peter. As it was also Father's Day our young children presented our fathers and grandfathers in the congregation with a 'very good work' sticker which many of our fathers proudly wore for the evening. The children really enjoyed doing this as getting stickers at school is very important to the younger ones. After Mass we moved across the road

to the Cobb & Co Hall at the school where we all sat down to a 'bring a casserole to share' meal augmented by some of Fr Peter's wine. After the first course Louise Pfingst, the school Principal, spoke on behalf of the community thanking Fr Peter for the person he has been for each one of us. She presented him with a card that contained a message from every child in the school and a travel bag from the parish community to help him in his travels around the Deanery. This was followed by the cutting of Birthday/ Anniversary cake which was then enjoyed with a cup of coffee or tea. [\[2\]](#)



JANDOWAE CATHOLIC CHURCH

By Margaret Atkinson



Jackson Chesterton and Rohan Cartwright after their Confirmation.



Rohan and Jackson cutting thier Confirmation cake.



St Mary MacKillop statue and Margaret (Note how big the statue is!)



Margaret and Heather at Conference dinner.



Heather, Margaret, and Cheryl Cosgrove at Lord Mayor dinner town hall.



Vi Thiess, Cheryl and Heather at town Hall.

In August we once again hosted the annual CWL Catholic luncheon which was well attended and a success socially, Ecumenically and financially.

In September this year four of our CWL members attended the three day CWL State Conference in Brisbane coordinated by President Gemma Courtney and her many hardworking assistants. The first day started with Mass at the Cathedral. Then a stroll through the beautifully restored St Stephen church with the apse devoted to an amazing statue of Saint Mary Mackillop made entirely from wood. The Conference was a most rewarding event with great guest speakers leaving us almost speechless and often moved by the plight of the homeless and needy in communities all around rural areas

and Brisbane. We heard about the wonderful work by Humming Bird a hospice entirely for children and accommodation and counselling for their families. . Good Samaritan Housing for young homeless mothers with children being housed and trained in all life skills including work training and accommodation and employment found after 12 months. A talk on Evangelisation by Sister Kari Hatherell. Mercy Works about the plight of refugees and asylum seekers by Sr. Ailsa Mackinnon. Rob Cosgrove spoke on our responsibility in caring for the earth There were many other speakers and one of our most entertaining and inspirational was Archbishop Mark Coleridge who spoke about the Joy of Love.

We attended a dinner at the Town

Hall at the invitation of the Lord Mayor. Also a great dinner at the Conference venue in the Mercure Hotel .

What is important is to strive to keep CWL going as we are the only formal group of Catholic women who have a voice in the Vatican and if we falter what group can speak for us?

On the 29th September Bishop Robert McGuckin celebrated Confirmation for two local boys. The parish community and families of the boys gathered together after for a dinner and cake in the Church Hall to celebrate the occasion. This was followed up by First Holy Communion Mass celebrated by Father Jim Cronin on Sunday the 16th October and after a Parish BBQ breakfast was served.. Our aging tabernacle has a new life with regilding and looks magnificent! [\[2\]](#)

FR QUINLAN'S JUBILEE

By Cathy Morris



OLOL teacher Mrs Cath Dyson with students Charlotte Morcom, Nicholas Holmes, Brendan Holmes and Eliza Morcom, handing out commemorative bookmarks.

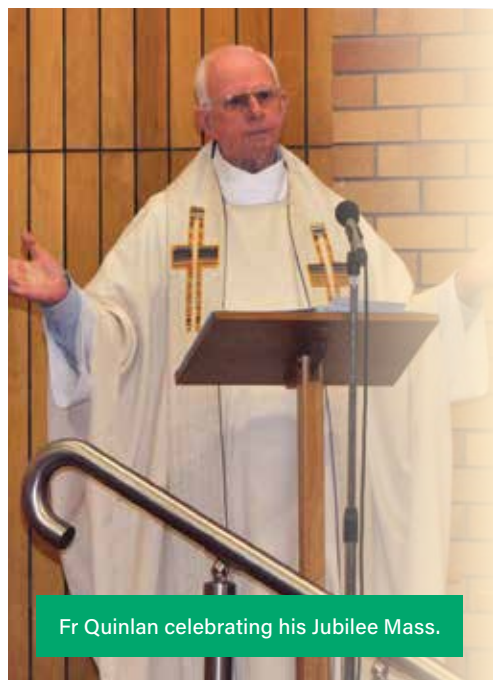
On the 29th June 1966 John Bernard Quinlan was ordained a Priest at St Stephens Cathedral in Brisbane by Archbishop Patrick O'Donnell. His ordination was originally scheduled to be at St Patrick's Cathedral in Toowoomba, but unfortunately the Bishop at the time, Bishop Brennan, was unwell and a last minute change of venue was required.

50 years later it was our privilege to celebrate Fr John's Golden Jubilee of Ordination in his current Parish, Our Lady of Lourdes, Toowoomba, on Sunday 3rd July 2016 with a Celebration of Thanksgiving followed by lunch in the McMorrow Centre. Over 400 people attended including Bishop Robert McGuckin, Bishop Emeritus Bill Morris, clergy, family,

friends, parishioners, school staff and children. Amongst those present were members of the Young Christian Workers Movement, of which he was a member in his younger days.

There was also a Diocesan celebration with Mass and lunch on June 28th at St Patrick's Cathedral.

We congratulate Fr Quinlan on this momentous occasion. <#>



Fr Quinlan celebrating his Jubilee Mass.

My dear friends,

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for the unbelievable celebration. Though I was, as usual in such circumstances, highly embarrassed, the Mass and festivities were just so wonderful I shall cherish the memories till the day I die (which' I hasten to add' I do not intend doing within the next twenty years!!).

While so many people obviously gave of their time and talents I do single out a few very devious people who planned and orchestrated the whole pageant even down to arrange the best day's weather we have had in weeks!!

To the Parish family, the teachers and children of our wonderful school and members of the Parents and Friends thank you for an absolutely splendid day. It is amazing just how much work one man can create for others!!

My sincere thanks for your prayers, friendship and generosity. Every blessing,
Fr John Quinlan

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS IN GOONDIWINDI

By Fr Michael O'Brien



Barry and Shirley Gilbert, seated, celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary with family.



Josie Vetter, Biddy Rose, daughter Shan Purcell, and Father Michael.



Confirmation on the 17th September at St. Mary's Goondiwindi.

St. Mary's celebrated a couple of milestones recently. At Our Lady Queen Church, Weengallon Barry and Shirley Gilbert celebrated 60 years of marriage. The Mass for the month fell on the actual day of their anniversary – 2nd October. All their

family were present to give them a blessing and they received a papal blessing of their 60 years. A lovely community gathering to celebrate the marriage of a couple who have been in the district for many years. Biddy Rose celebrated her 90th

birthday also in October. Biddy has been a wonderful presence in the community with a wicked sense of humour and joyful view of life. Biddy was ecstatic to receive a papal blessing for her birthday from her 97 year old sister, Josie." <#>

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IN AWE OF WHAT GOD MADE POSSIBLE

By Alessia Harris

My first Ignite Conference experience was when I was 5 years old. My parents took my sister, Gabriella and I, who's a year older than me, for as much as was possible for our ages (primary school children do a half day program). I cherish a hand painted Cross from Ignite from 2010. Mum told me I asked her, when it was over, "Can we go back to the noisy Jesus house?"

Ignite's still noisy and exciting but it's also a chance to be reflective and prayerful. This year was the first time Gabriella and I attended the entire conference as part of the high school stream. Parishioners from St Joseph's Stanthorpe helped us get there by supporting two sweet stalls. How grateful we are to them and our parish priest Fr Brian Connolly!

With God's help Emmanuel Community in Brisbane have grown Ignite from a conference of about 100 people in 2001 to 1600 people this year. It was held in the school holidays at Mueller College, Redcliffe, from 22-25 September. About 800 teenagers were among this year's registrations.

The four days were a mix of evening "rallies" with much prayer, singing, dancing and worship, as well



L to R Alessia with Fr Rob Galea and Gabriella Harris from Stanthorpe Parish at Ignite.

as daytime workshops and keynote addresses, time for Reconciliation, Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. My friends and I were very emotional during adoration - there was this amazingly beautiful silence, as we all were in awe of Jesus, truly present among us.

I felt so happy talking to other

teenagers and meeting new people. There were many priests and nuns there too, who were so great to talk to. The fact that young people were free to talk about the God we all love was such a special experience. We will be going to the Ignite Conference 2017 themed "Come" and hope to see other Toowoomba youth there! [H](#)

THE PUZZLE - UNITY IS STRENGTH

By Debbie Bradfield



The completed puzzle.

Themes are a great way of raising school spirits and help the classes and school community feel connected. At St Patrick's School St George our theme for 2017 was "The Puzzle". As

our school motto is Unity is Strength we all came together to create one masterpiece. Each class presented their part of the puzzle at masses and liturgies throughout the year. Each

puzzle piece signified a significant part of the school year. Our last puzzle piece was placed for a mass to celebrate the ending of a journey and a new beginning for all the year 12 students. [H](#)

St Francis De Sales School, Clifton School Centenary 2017



•Saturday Night 18th May 2017
•Sunday 19th May 2017



BRINGING CLEAN WATER TO THOSE IN NEED

By Debbie Bradfield

Since 2013, St Patrick's Primary School, St George has worked towards raising \$1000 each year to donate to Shi-loh Church Ministries. Each year, this money is used to sink a bore in India bringing fresh water to those who would normally travel long distances to fetch their daily water. By December this year, we hope to donate our forth payment of \$1000 and then continue this into future years. Each year we make a donation, we receive lovely feedback from India with their thanks, photos and prayers of blessings. [H](#)




Donna Worboys, Kay Hill, Rani and Raju (Shi-loh Church Ministries) and Craig Cronan (Principal)

EVENTS IN CHARLEVILLE


By Sr Elizabeth O'Keeffe

Under 8's Day

School life can be very busy as this photo of our under 8s can testify as they busily set about enjoying Under 8's Day with their counterparts from the Charleville State School and a number of child care centres in Charleville. Despite the fact that it had rained all night and had to be moved from the Town Hall Park to the Cobb & Co Hall at St Mary's School their spirits weren't in the least dampened. There was much to keep them occupied: biscuit decorating, playdough, painting, building blocks, storytelling, craft, obstacle courses, not to mention a fire engine and an ambulance. Also thanks to our local council, a sausage sizzle. There would have been many tired children in Charleville that night, not to mention carers. 




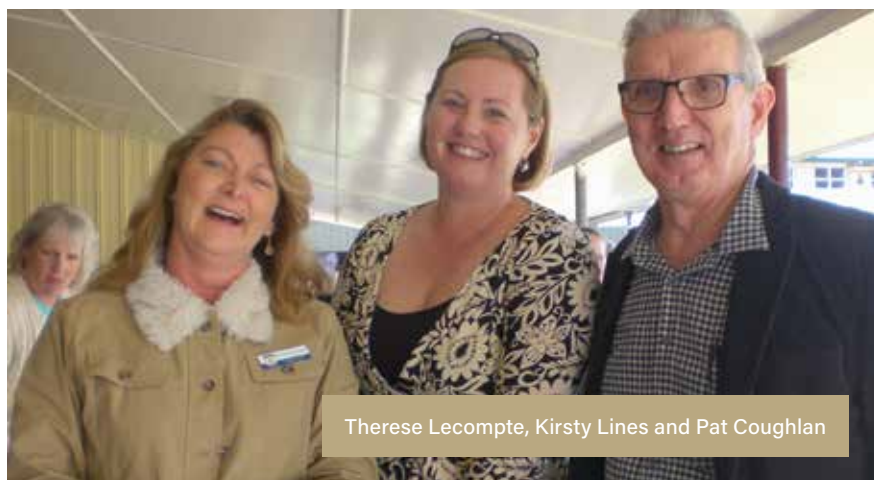
Variety Bash Visits School

This year St Mary's School's P&F provided breakfast for the Variety Bash when they passed through Charleville. It was a very exciting morning for the children as the participants arrived at the school in their various costumes and outfits and loaded with goodies for them. The highlights of the morning for the children was the landing and taking off of a helicopter on the school oval and the performance of a magician. For the teachers and the P&F the highlight was probably the thousands of dollars' worth of resources that were provided to the school by the participants. 



Bishop's Inservice

The Bishop's Inservice was another event on the school calendar. Despite Bishop Robert only having arrived back in the country a couple of days from World Youth Day, he took the time to join the teachers for the occasion. This year it was Charleville's turn to be the host and they were joined by the teachers from Cunnamulla and Quilpie, the Director, Pat Coughlan, and some of the staff from the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office. This year the theme was on Laudato Si and care of creation. 



Therese Lecompte, Kirsty Lines and Pat Coughlan

ST ANTHONY'S EXTENDS
MERCY TO ALL DURING CATHOLIC
EDUCATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

By Karra Nosworthy


The St Anthony's community 'opened their doors' to many during last week's Catholic Education Week celebrations. On Monday, the school launched the week with an explanation into the term mercy. We also took this opportunity to showcase our Catholic Education Week video. Students then wrote an act of Mercy they would commit to during the week and these were then displayed in our assembly hall as a reminder of how we can each be better people.

On Wednesday, we hosted Parent's Day. Parents were invited into classrooms to spend time with the children. This was a huge success. It was lovely seeing so many of our parents in classrooms showing a genuine interest in their child's education. This was followed by a combined morning tea, whereby the school acknowledged and thanked parents for their support.

After morning tea, Our Prep and Year 1 students participated in the Teddy Bear's hospital. Student doctors came to talk to the children about to care for their bears and others. The students thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Showing that we care for others is one act of mercy our Prep and Year 1 students have been working very hard at.



On Friday, the school gathered with members of the Parish to celebrate Mass. During this Mass, each class reflected on their acts of mercy for the week and presented their successful acts of mercy. The doors which were brought in during the mass were not only unique, but contained a wide range of acts that focused on forgiveness, compassion,


understanding and helping those in need. All were beautiful reminders on how we all can make changes in this year of mercy to better ourselves. The week ended with students participating in a Fun Run! Students also attended the CEW launch at St Joseph's and the Catholic Schools Touch and Netball Carnivals which were also great successes. 

ST ANTHONY'S PREPS
ARE 100 DAYS SMARTER!

By Karra Nosworthy

Prep students at St Anthony's have been at school now for 100 days! The students have been counting how many days they have been at school for and have completed a range of activities around the number 100. At a beautiful morning tea, students and staff gathered to celebrate all the wonderful things our preppies can now do having been at school for 100 days:

- Write their name
- Count to 20
- Say the School Prayer without help
- The alphabet and sounds
- Better singers and dancers
- Complete the obstacle course

We congratulate our Preps on their achievements thus far! 



THE ROSARY IS ALIVE AND WELL AT ST SAVIOUR'S PRIMARY



Year 1 students and the "Joey Rosary" they have made.

For the last few years at St Saviour's Primary School, Toowoomba, APRE, Judy Smith has asked all teachers to take the time during the month of October to say a decade of the Rosary each day. Generally it fits in quite well with the school term dates, so that in Term 4, Week One, the Joyful Mysteries are the focus, Week 2 the Luminous, Week 3 the Sorrowful, and Week 4 the Glorious Mysteries.

The younger grades, Prep and Year One take part as well, with a Joey Rosary (shortened version) being said. We encourage any student

or staff member who has their own rosary beads to bring them to school. We have spare rosary beads that we share around the school. Some classes "make" their own rosary beads (one decade).

According to Judy Smith, "What has been lovely this year is that parents are asking where they can purchase rosary beads in town. I haven't had to find the answer to that question before! As one of our parents said "It's lovely to see the Rosary is alive and well. It's equally lovely that parents are interested in supporting the children with this."



DOWNLANDS TO INTRODUCE YEARS 5 AND 6 IN 2017



2017 marks the start of a new era at Downlands College with the introduction of Years 5 and 6 given the green light by the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board (NSSAB) on Friday, 21 October 2016.

For the past 85 years, Downlands has educated secondary boarding and day students from around Australia and abroad. In early 2016, the College made a formal application to expand into Years 5 and 6.

"The introduction of Years 5 and 6 at Downlands was a response to our community requesting we expand our College to include these year groups, and was spurred by the introduction of Year 7 in 2015," Downlands College Principal, Mr Stephen McIlhatton explains.

"During the application process we have been working hard on incorporating all the elements required for the introduction of the new year levels into our College, including curriculum, co-curricular and pastoral care processes."

Mr McIlhatton also states that the classroom facilities used to accommodate the new students will be ready to use in early 2017, with more elaborate building plans to be evolved over the next year. New boarding students will integrate into the existing boarding houses.

The public interest and support Downlands has received for the introduction of Years 5 and 6 has been particularly pleasing, with confirmed numbers allowing, at a minimum, a Year 5 and 6 composite class to commence in 2017. The number of Junior students enrolled is expected to increase during 2018 and 2019.

"Based on our enrolment projections for future years, the intake into Years 5 and 6 will grow substantially. We expect a total of two classes across both year groups by 2019," said Mr McIlhatton.

"After nearly a year long application process we were delighted with the positive outcome and look forward to welcoming the newest Downlanders to our community."

▲ Downlands boarders and siblings, Emma (in College sports uniform) and Ben (in College uniform) from Douglas Daly in the Northern Territory are enjoying their time at Downlands.

Libby and Thomas Butler, day students from Toowoomba



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BBI awarded new status as Higher Education Provider

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WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

By Julieanne Rasmussen

There has been no shortage of anxiety about the presence of Muslims in our city. In the wake of the 2015 twin arson attacks on the Garden City Mosque, on West Street, framed by events in Europe and the Middle East, there have been myriad responses, either sympathetic to our Muslim community or suspicious and fear filled.

St Joseph's College's teachers were challenged to enact the Christian teaching of "love your neighbour as yourself"; to eschew the insincerity of politically-correct platitudes, which implicitly shirk the responsibility to engage and act, and to resist the seductive nature of hatred born of ignorance, peddled by the divisive demagogues of our airwaves and newspapers. Led by Dr Mark Copland from the Diocesan Social Justice Commission and Rev. Dr Patrick McNerney, a Sydney-based Columban theologian specialising in Muslim-Christian relations who has spent more than 20 years working in Pakistan, teachers learnt about, ate with and visited the mosque of their Muslim neighbours.


Under the guidance of Rev. Dr McNerney, staff learnt the Five Pillars of Islam, about the life of the Prophet Muhammad and the centrality of the Qur'an to Islam, identifying the many similarities between Muslims' faith and ethics to those of Catholicism, whilst understanding the essential differences between the faiths. After having been treated to a banquet prepared by members of Toowoomba's Afghan community, staff then visited the



Garden City Mosque, where they were warmly welcomed by the President of the Islamic Society of Toowoomba, teacher, Mr Yahya Anderson, Professor Shahjahan Khan, and other Toowoomba Muslims. Teachers were encouraged to openly discuss matters of faith and practice with members of the Muslim community as a way to build relationships and debunk misunderstandings.

Dr Copland said the inspiration for the day of "building bridges" came from past students of St Joseph's College, who had told him that, following the College's tradition of engaging with and assisting the marginalised elsewhere in Toowoomba – for example, through the College's participation in the Rosie's project to feed and bond with the homeless – something needed to be done to open dialogue with our

Muslim neighbours. "Social justice is all about right relationships," Dr Copland reflected. "In our world, if there's one area in which there is fear, mistrust and a lack of understanding, it's Islam." Education and "putting a human face" on people by meeting them, rather than labelling them, was, according to Dr Copland, an important first step.

Change is inevitable, but hatred is not. Echoing Pope Francis, Rev. Dr McNerney stated: "If there is to be meaningful peace in the world, there must be peace and mutual understanding between Christians and Muslims." In a small, but significant, way it is hoped that this connection between St Joseph's College and Toowoomba's Muslim community might "build a bridge" of mutual understanding so that we might truly love our neighbours. 

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE: CELEBRATING 60 YEARS (1956 – 2016)

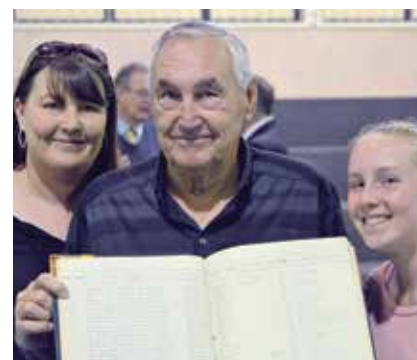
By Christine Cleary



Scott Kuhnemann, Brother Fogarty, Peter Wells and Troy Morgan.



Includes Br Larkin and Br Fogarty.



Cheryl Head, Brian Box and Sophia Head.



Peter Keightley, Jocelyn Smith and Br Vic Larkin.



Troy Morgan, John Morgan, Belinda Willey and child Elijah Willey.


This year St Joseph's College proudly celebrates sixty years of serving Toowoomba and the surrounding districts. This concept all began back in 1955 with the desire of members of the community to provide Catholic education to boys on the eastern side of Toowoomba. A Raffle was organised to raise funds and with generosity of Spirit came the birth of the College.

The Raffle was 'A Silver Teapot'. Tickets were sold for 6 pence each, or three for a shilling! A profit of £300 was made which was enough to purchase a modest home at that time. These funds were used to commence the building of St Joseph's College.

Over the years the College has continued to grow through a collective and shared Faith and Wisdom. As song writer Paul Kelly wrote "From Little


Things Big Things Grow". How true this is of the St Joseph's College story. From humble beginnings founded in the Edmund Rice tradition by the Christian Brothers in 1956 and opening with an enrolment of 116 boys, the College has grown and transformed into a Catholic Co-educational College with a current enrolment of approximately 820 students with equal numbers of female and male students.

The College is indebted to the Christian Brothers, who for 28 years led in the Edmund Rice Tradition, setting the foundations of what exists today.

Recently staff, parents and students, past and present, gathered as community to celebrate the past sixty years. The day was a resounding success allowing all present to reminisce and enjoy each other's company. 

The day commenced with Mass in the Mackillop Centre celebrated by two past students, Fr Ray Crowley DD and Fr Des Holm MSC. This was a special occasion for four 'first day' students from 1956. Also present were a number of 'first day' female' students from 1984 when the College first introduced co-education.


After Mass and formalities everyone enjoyed the entertainment whilst having their barbecue lunch and the past students showed that they still had it when they narrowly beat the current netball team.

Thanks to the organising committee, staff, parents and friends, students and past members of the College for the organisation and attendance. The day was a resounding success allowing all present to reminisce and enjoy each other's company. 

ST FRANCIS DE SALES IS GROWING

By Kathy Doherty

Students, parents and teachers have worked collaboratively to establish vegetable and fruit gardens in the school grounds of St Francis de Sales School in Clifton. Parents have provided tyres, soil, mulch and seeds to build and plant the gardens. Students plant and tend the gardens and teachers promote the sale of

our produce in the wider community. Our first crop of vegetables were successfully distributed with profits launching the fundraising for the school Mini Vinnies group for this year. Pictured are. 

L to R Mini Vinnies members Mitchell Willett, William Auger, Harry Banger and Ryan Gillam.



ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL CENTENARY

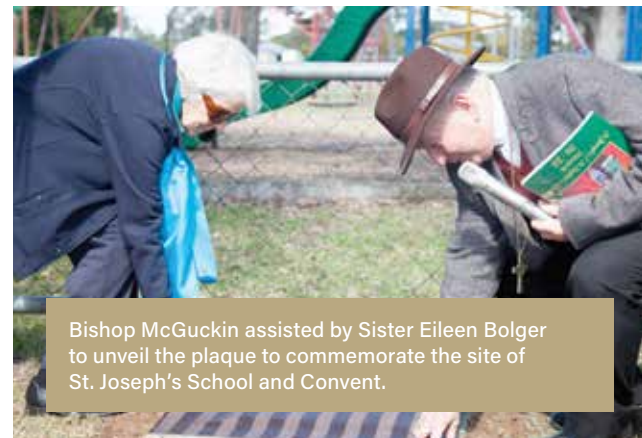
By Lisa Cavanagh



Bishop McGuckin and current Year 1 student, John "Johnny" Robertson after unveiling the mosaic.



APRE Mr Keith Blaikie, Mr George Arnold, our oldest living past pupil, and Mrs Janine Butlin holding the Centenary cake.



Bishop McGuckin assisted by Sister Eileen Bolger to unveil the plaque to commemorate the site of St. Joseph's School and Convent.



Bishop Robert McGuckin, Father Thomas Areekuzhy (Pittsworth Parish Priest) and Father Michael Cooney.



Students of St. Stephen's putting on a dance performance.

On the weekend of the 6th and 7th of August 2016, St. Stephen's School Pittsworth celebrated an incredible milestone. On the 8th of August 1916 the Sisters of St. Joseph started St. Joseph's School Pittsworth. In 1958 a new school was built and named St. Stephen's School.

The weekend began with a celebration on Saturday the 6th, where St. Joseph's/St. Stephen's past and present students, staff and Sisters of St. Joseph's came together to celebrate 100 years of our wonderful school. It was a joyous afternoon of conversations between old friends, with many people returning to Pittsworth for the weekend to attend the event.

For the weekend, we were blessed to have ten Sisters of St. Joseph attend the celebrations including some who taught and lived in the Pittsworth community and Sister Annette Arnold the Josephite Chapter Leader for Queensland and New Zealand. The sisters have been an integral part of the school over the past 100 years and we continue to hold the values of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop close to our hearts.

The current students of St. Stephen's put on a performance of dance for all present. One of the memories shared by past students, was the dances taught to the students by the 'nuns'. To honour this cherished memory,

each class learned and performed dances from across the ages, including; ballroom dances, old-style Rock and Roll, Hip Hop, Disco and Bush dances.

Saturday evening saw the official launch of the school centenary book, "Celebrate Our Spirit" and Art Show. The book was launched by Sister Michelle Shipperley, who gave a moving address in honour of the occasion. MacKillop Hall was transformed, displaying artworks by the current students of St. Stephen's and local artists.

Sunday morning saw a beautiful mass celebrated by Bishop Robert McGuckin, Father Thomas Areekuzhy (Pittsworth Parish Priest) and Father

Michael Cooney. The church was packed to the rafters with past and present school and parish families.

After the mass, all progressed over to the school to continue the Centenary celebrations. The school choir performed an original composition, "There's no school like St Stephen's School" and, after an address by current principal (and former St Stephen's student) Mrs Janine Butlin and APRE Mr Keith Blaikie, the Centenary cake was cut by Mr George Arnold, our oldest living past pupil.

Mr George Arnold also created some beautiful crosses from some of the timber in the old St. Joseph's Convent, collected when it was removed to

another location in 2014. Crosses are still available for purchase (\$10) from the St Stephen's School office.

A mosaic was created by Alain Colfs in honour of the occasion. This was officially unveiled by Bishop McGuckin, whose impromptu invitation to current Year 1 student, John "Johnny" Robertson to assist him unveil the mosaic, ensured a treasured memory for a young boy. Bishop McGuckin was then assisted by Sister Eileen Bolger to unveil a special plaque to commemorate the site of St. Joseph's School and Convent.

At the close of the weekend of celebrations, Sister Annette Arnold presented school principal, Janine

Butlin with a beautiful picture to commemorate the 100 years of the Josephite Spirit in Pittsworth. This is now proudly on display in our prayer space in the office.

Like every event of this magnitude, a large number of people contributed to the smooth running of the Centenary celebrations. It was a magnificent weekend of celebrations with the school community receiving some very positive feedback after the event. Anyone wishing to purchase either the cross (\$10 each), Centenary book (\$20) or order a USB (\$10) or Disc (\$20) of the photographs from the weekend, can call St. Stephen's School office on (07) 46 931627.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE YEAR 12 MOTHER AND SON LUNCHEON

By Mr Andrew Nielsen – Assistant Principal Identity




There is always a special bond which exists between mothers and their sons. Just ask the Year 12 graduating class from St Mary's College, Toowoomba. Each year, our senior young men accompany their mothers to a luncheon where they get their chance to proudly introduce her to their teachers, peers and special guests. It is an opportunity for them to tell their mothers how much they appreciate her love, care and support.

Inbound Restaurant provided the ambience and atmosphere for this special event which included a delightful meal, good conversation and interesting speeches. A highlight speech is always delivered by a

representative of the mothers, and her son, who speaks on behalf of the Year 12 graduating class. This year, Heather Murphy held back her tears as she talked about how proud she was of her son, Jackson, and his development from a boy into a compassionate and endearing young man. She also thanked her son's friends for their friendliness, goodness and brotherhood. In reply, Jackson thanked his mum and expressed how proud he was of her, whilst jovially adding that he was prepared to forgive her for all those cringe-worthy adolescent moments where mum unknowingly embarrassed him.

The Year 12 Mother and Son

Luncheon is one of the 'special' rites of passage, along with the College Formal, Graduation Mass and Dinner and Retreat which prepare the boys beyond the gates of St Mary's College. Special invited guest, Belinda Sanders, ABC Radio Morning Show presenter, reminded the boys of the special role of women in society and their duty to always treat women with dignity and respect.

There were so many photos taken from this luncheon, some which are included with this article. Undoubtedly, common to all photos are huge smiles, a sense of pride and a special loving bond between mother and son. 

TALENT ON DISPLAY MARY MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

By Natalie Otto



Over 50 students showcased their talents in a spectacular display of dancing, acting and singing in Mary MacKillop Catholic College's recent production of Annie Jr. The cast received rave reviews for their exceptional, artistic talents, delighting audiences in a colourful presentation of this much loved story.

The production was the result of months of collaboration between hard-working students, staff and parents. Every student who auditioned was offered a part in the musical, rising to meet the expectation of presenting something outstanding. A huge emphasis was on developing teamwork and confidence, resulting in a wonderful experience that will positively impact students for years to come.

The creative team, comprised of Kate Cadzow-Smith (Director), Natalie Otto (Musical Director) and Rebecca Morgan (Choreographer), worked together with the cast during the rehearsal process to develop the students dramatic, musical and movement skills to an incredibly high level. "Musicals bring the best out in a community, and what was witnessed at Mary MacKillop Catholic College was a tremendous blend of artistic talent and sheer dedication by many students, staff and parents", Natalie Otto, Music Director. "The College has set the bar high for future musical performances." 



RECENT EVENTS AT ASSUMPTION COLLEGE:

It has been a busy Term 3 for the staff and students of Assumption College, Warwick. Our students have been afforded some wonderful opportunities and experiences allowing them to connect as a group and prepare for further challenges academically and spiritually in 2017. We certainly are very proud on the way in which students conducted themselves in some challenging situations and environments.

CAMP KOKODA 2016

By Gina Heidke

In week 9 of term 3, the year 8 students headed to Camp Kokoda situated in the Boonah mountains to attend a four-day long survival camp. The students took part in a range of exciting and exhilarating activities such as canoeing, hiking, abseiling, zip lining, free falling, high ropes, giant swinging and the 'whodunwanga'. The students roughed it by not showering for four days and had to prepare all of their own food, delegate jobs among the team, build their own tents and clean up daily. The camp was entirely run by the students which aided the immense team bonding and growth of the students that was witnessed by the teachers who attended (Simon Mascadri, Tegan Woodbridge, Gina Heidke,



Craig Frattini and Carly Saloman).

The students definitely came back as a united team having demonstrated grit, resilience and a growth mindset which was the goal and intention of the

camp. A huge thank you is in order to the team of experienced professionals from camp Kokoda who made our stay a very enjoyable and rewarding one, it was a huge success! 📷

YEAR 11 LEADERSHIP CAMP

By Alana Martin

On the final week of Term 3 our enthusiastic group of year 11 students travelled to Alexandra Heads on the Sunshine Coast for their leadership retreat. The week was set to be jam packed with activities and challenges such as surfing, high ropes, rock climbing, team building challenges, trivia nights, reflections and bowling to name just a few. A true highlight was the final evening's Black & White dinner where students spent the afternoon preparing arts and crafts and learning the true meaning of etiquette to escort each other to the dinner that evening.

It was a fantastic to see all students pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and to witness



their true leadership qualities shine. A big thank you to all the teachers who helped supervise the camp, particularly, Mrs. Kate Cullen who

put in countless hours to help make the retreat a great success. It can be assured that these young people will be inspirational leaders for our College. 📷

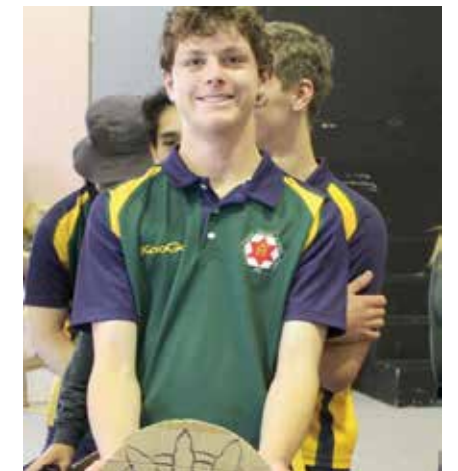
YEAR 10 HIGH SEAS RETREAT

By Kate Cullen

We recently held the Year 10 High Seas Retreat to create an opportunity for Year 10 as a cohort to get together and reflect on their goals, to do some fun activities, compete in the group Boat Challenge as well as participate in a Liturgy of the Word.

As student's boat challenge is about them reflecting on their own strengths and weaknesses and examine the things we need to get us through the next five years to after school life. Students are asked to imagine as a group that they have to "pack" cargo on a boat (which they

eventually make as a group) and discuss as a group the important needs and wants for the journey, as well as challenges they will have to face and what additional resources they will need outside of their own strengths. One of the emphasizes throughout the day was reflection activities, ice breakers and the boat challenge the purpose was the importance of the people we have around us and how we never have to do anything alone if we ask for help, and how important it is for us to be the help for others. 📷



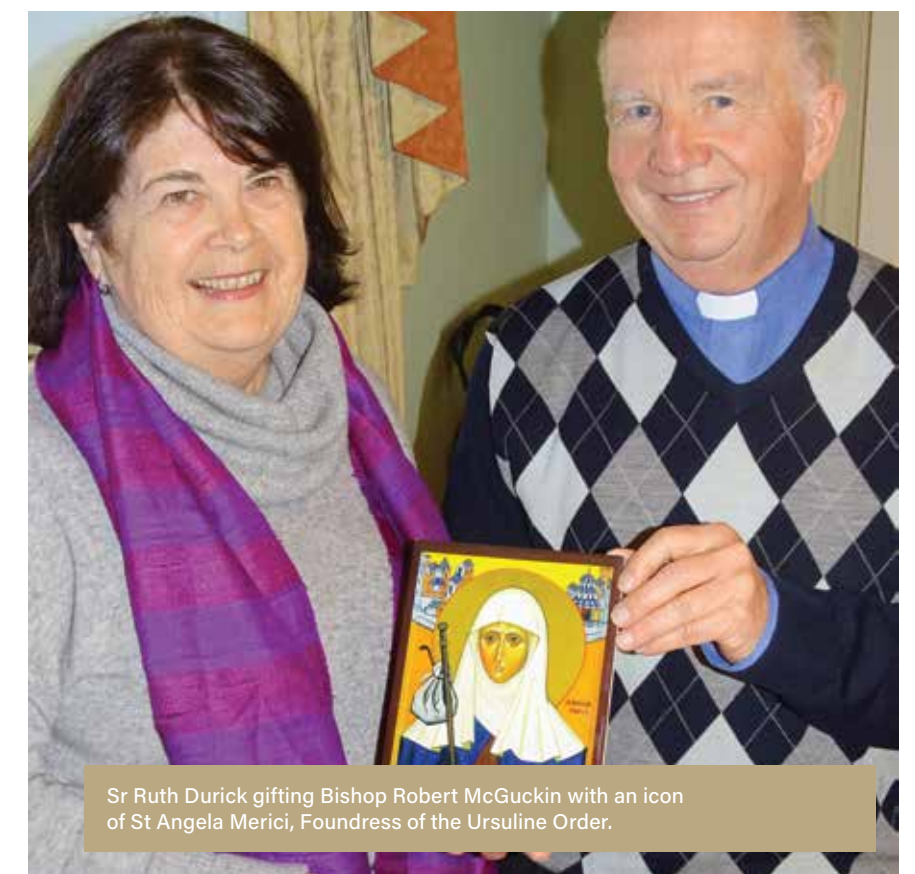
ENSURING THE FUTURE

At the end of August this year governance of St Ursula's College Toowoomba was transferred from the Ursuline Sisters to the Diocese of Toowoomba. The College was founded in 1931 by the Ursuline Sisters and has offered education to young women from Queensland, northern NSW and many other regions since then.

In announcing the change, the Provincial of the Australian Ursulines, Sr Ruth Durick OSU recalled some of the steps which have been taken to ensure a sustainable future for the College. In 2006, the college was incorporated and became a company under the Commonwealth Corporations Act in order to engage the experience and expertise of many lay people who have worked in partnership since then with the Ursuline Sisters for the good governance of the College.

Sr. Ruth further stated that "it is no longer possible for the Ursulines to maintain our role of responsibility as Members (owners) of the Company of St Ursula's College. We wish to ensure a sustainable future for the College and so we are transferring the Membership of the Company to the Diocese of Toowoomba".

Under this transfer, St Ursula's College will continue to be a stand-alone Catholic College in the Ursuline tradition. The current contracts for all employees will continue, as those contracts remain with the Company of St Ursula's College. Mrs Ann Marie



Sr Ruth Durick gifting Bishop Robert McGuckin with an icon of St Angela Merici, Foundress of the Ursuline Order.

Pawsey will continue as College Principal. The Board of Directors will continue to be responsible for the good governance of the college. A major difference is that the Board will now report to and be responsible to the Bishop of Toowoomba rather than the Ursuline Provincial. Mr Niall Coburn will continue as the Chair of the Board. There will be little or no

change in the daily life of the College.

On behalf of the Australian Ursulines, Sr Ruth expressed confidence that St Ursula's College will continue to offer a rich Catholic education experience for the young women of south-east Queensland and beyond, that the spirit of Serviam (I will serve) will remain alive and active in the community and that a wondrous future will unfold. 📷



“Out west near Quilpie” Photo taken by Jennie Blackley.

If you have an image of the Diocese you would like to share please email it to horizons@twb.catholic.org.au with the subject “Views of the Diocese”.

Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba
www.twb.catholic.org.au



BISHOP ROBERT MCGUCKIN DD MCL JCL

68 Lindsay Street, PO Box 756
 Toowoomba Qld 4350
 Tel: (07) 4632 4277 Fax: (07) 4639 2251

VICAR GENERAL

Fr John Quinlan Tel: (07) 4634 1453

CHANCELLOR

Fr Peter Schultz B.Th., JCL Tel: (07) 4632 8835

ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE

Fr Peter Dorfield Tel: (07) 4637 1500

ARCHIVES

Archivist: Gabrielle Saide Tel: (07) 4632 7484

BISHOPS OFFICE Tel: (07) 4632 4277

CARITAS

Director: Robyn-Anne Lovell
 Tel: (07) 4638 7977

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

Executive Director: Pat Coughlan
 Tel: (07) 4637 1400

CATHOLIC MISSION

David McGovern
 Tel: (07) 3336 9239 or 0431 481 731

CATHOLICCARE

Director: Kate Venables
 Tel: 1300 477 433

CHAPLAINCY - HOSPITAL

Pastoral Carer Coordinator: Lyn Cash
 Tel: (07) 4616 6415

ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, TOOWOOMBA
 PUBLIC HOSPITAL, BAILLIE HENDERSON
 HOSPITAL & ST VINCENT'S CARE
 SERVICES:
 Fr Darrell Irvine B.th Mobile: 0429 308 081

COMMUNICATIONS C/- Tel: (07) 4632 4277

ECUMENICAL COMMISSION

Fr Brian Sparksman D.C.L.
 Tel: (07) 4632 7619

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
 AND SAFEGUARDS

Executive Officer George Keryk
 Tel: (07) 4638 1379

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Financial Administrator: Tom Jolley
 Diocesan Development Fund
 Tel: (07) 4632 7589

JAMES BYRNE RETREAT CENTRE

Managers: Paul and Wendy Ladewig
 Tel: (07) 4630 8339

ST VINCENT'S CARE SERVICES

Care Centre Manager: Nancy Mathers
 Tel: (07) 4636 3155

LITURGICAL COMMISSION

Liturgy Officer: John Briffa
 Tel: (07) 4632 0989

SPIRITUALITY AND MISSION

Sr Elaine Morzone
 Tel: (07) 4632 7619
 Mob: 0458 020 906

RCIA COORDINATOR

Mary Otto
 Mobile: 0447 047 807
 Email: rcia@twb.catholic.org.au

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
 RESOURCE CENTRE

Trudi Burgess Tel: (07) 4687 4345

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Executive Officer: Mark Copland
 Tel: (07) 4613 0895

SPRED - SPECIAL RELIGIOUS
 DEVELOPMENT

Coordinator: Loretta Coman
 Tel: (07) 4632 8427

TRAMS - TOOWOOMBA REFUGEE
 AND MIGRANT SUPPORT

(Administered by CatholicCare)
 Settlement Coordinator:
 Hannah Belesky Tel: (07) 4688 3140

TRIBUNAL Tel: (07) 4632 7443

VOCATIONS DIRECTORS

Fr Jamie Collins: Tel: (07) 4622 1075
 Fr Michael Cooney Mobile: 0427 138 547

YOUTH MINISTRY

Coordinator: Sarah de Byl
 Tel: (07) 4632 4277
 Mobile: 0407 495 751

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Horizons

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