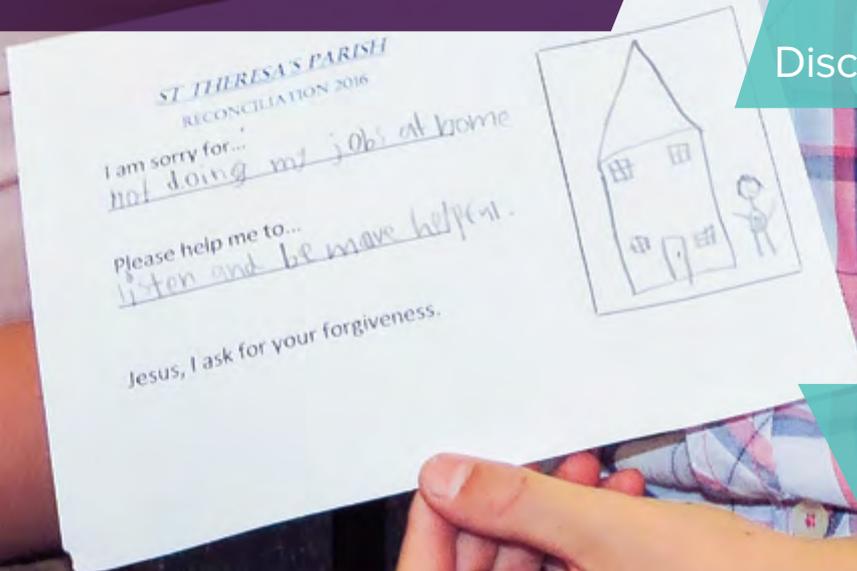


# Horizons

## RECONCILIATION: LEARNING FORGIVENESS AND LOVE



Lenten Reflection:  
Disciples "Re-membering"

Catholic Schools'  
Vision for 2017

Seminarian Speaks:  
What is Pastoral  
Placement

#45  
FEB 17

FREE Publication  
of the Catholic  
Diocese of  
Toowoomba



# Horizons

#45  
FEB 17

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## FROM THE EDITOR INGRID MCTAGGART

*I am inspired by Pope Francis' Message for the 51st World Communications Day – released (as it is each year) on 24 January, the feast day of St Francis de Sales', patron saint of journalists.* The theme this year is "Fear not, for I am with you" Is 43:5: Communicating Hope and Trust in our Time. What a fantastic filter with which to view our world! We can become bogged down and overwhelmed by the glut of news and information, the Isaiah verse is the perfect meditation to calm the mind and give focus. It is not about burying your head in the sand, or ignoring our world and thinking that everything will be alright, but it is a call to action. I AM WITH YOU, what comfort can be found in these words.

In this time of polarising opinions and "sides", never has it been more important for the themes of hope and trust to be present in our lives. We can be caught in a bubble reinforcing our own opinions and beliefs, they become stagnant and no longer trusting or hopeful. We must step outside our comfort zones, our bubbles, what our social media presents to us, what is filtered for us through apps and our circles of friends and family. What is my neighbour's story? What is the marginalised in our society's story? What is the conservative's story? What is

the liberal's story? I may not agree or relate, but the conversation becomes a path to understanding and through understanding comes empathy and hope.

"Hope is the thread with which this sacred history is woven, and its weaver is none other than the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. Hope is the humblest of virtues, for it remains hidden in the recesses of life; yet it is like the yeast that leavens all the dough."

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 51st World Communications Day, 24 January 2017.

I am very excited about this revamped issue of Horizons. Keeping in mind the themes of World Communications Day, my aim for Horizons as editor is to bring not only news from across our Diocese, but thoughtful reflections, fresh perspectives and angles, showing indeed we need not fear, God is with us!

Last year the Communications Office could have been silent for a large chunk of the year, except for those who stepped up to keep the lights on. My sincerest thanks goes to Joe Thorley of The Catholic Design Company for keeping Horizons going, Sarah de Byl for keeping social media active and Colleen Way for keeping up eNews regularly.

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. **Enquiries:** Ingrid McTaggart, Communications Office, PO Box 756, Toowoomba QLD 4350. **Phone:** 07 4632 4277. **Email:** horizons@twb.catholic.org.au **Front Cover:** Brothers, Max and Sam at St Theresa's Parish celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Story page 31. **Graphic Design:** The Catholic Design Company 1300 883 454 **Deadlines:** Editions will be quarterly. Deadline for the May Edition 2017 is 28 April 2017.

## BUILDING PEACE

*As we move into another year* I pray that the joy and peace of Christmas which we have celebrated will remain with you and your loved ones throughout the year. The year 2017 is well and truly underway: the holidays are over and the schools are back.

Pope Francis in his message of 1 January 2017 on the World Day of Peace pledged the assistance of the church in every effort to build peace through active and creative non-violence. He also created a new Roman Department for Promoting Integral Human Development. This department will help the church to promote in an even more effective way "the inestimable goods of justice, peace and the care of creation" and concern for "migrants, those in need, the sick, the excluded and marginalised, the imprisoned and the unemployed, as well as victims



of armed conflict, natural disasters, and all forms of slavery and torture". Pope Francis noted that every such response, however modest, helps to build a world free of violence, the first step towards justice and peace. May we in our part of the world also take some

small steps to help build a world free of violence. It won't be long before we start getting ready for Lent and Easter. Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent,

is on 1st March and Easter Sunday is on 16th April. I wonder whether they have already started selling Easter eggs in the shops?

On Ash Wednesday the liturgy calls for the minister to say these words as ashes are placed on our foreheads: either Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return; or, Repent and believe in the Gospel. Prayer, fasting, some self-denial and works of charity are ways in which we enter into the spirit of Lent. Pope Francis sets a wonderful example for us in thinking firstly of the poor.

May Lent be a time of Grace when once again we move from complacency to action. May our turning away from sin and our fidelity to the Gospel be shown by our actions. In the areas of fasting and self-denial Project Compassion is a wonderful and practical way that will also show that our concern is not directed towards ourselves but gives prior consideration to the other. Caritas Australia wisely handles the projects that will benefit from our contributions. Each week in Lent Caritas will show the worthwhile projects being sponsored here in Australia and overseas. <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>.

Many parishes offer Lenten Programs and I encourage you to again participate in these special groups as a wonderful way to prepare for the great celebration of Easter. I wish you every blessing for 2017.

**Bishop Robert McGuckin**  
**Bishop of Toowoomba**  
**February 2017**



Priests and Executive in attendance at the Priests' Retirement Foundation AGM, January 2017.

# DISCIPLES “RE-MEMBERING” JOURNEYING INTO LENT

SR. ELAINE MORZONE MFIC



Lent invites us to deepen our choice for life through a readiness to go beyond our own concerns for the sake of solidarity with our suffering brothers and sisters.

**ST PAUL REMINDS US THAT OUR DISCIPLESHIP OF JESUS, OUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY, LIES IN THE FACT THAT THROUGH BAPTISM “WE WENT INTO THE TOMB WITH HIM AND JOINED HIM IN DEATH, SO THAT AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD BY THE FATHER’S GLORY, WE TOO MIGHT LIVE A NEW LIFE.”**

(ROMANS 6:3-9)

*The season of Lent, culminating in the renewal of our baptismal commitment during the Easter Vigil, is not simply a call to remember as events of the distant past Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection which won salvation for us. Rather it is a call to embrace and live the Paschal Mystery in our own lives each day, recognizing the many deaths, re-births, grievings and constant calls to surrender the old so as to make room for new initiatives of the Spirit. It is in this process that we are able to remember and reclaim our essential roots and identity as Christian people. This kind of remembering ‘re-members’ us in that it reconnects us with our original life-giving dream and rekindles in us the fire that urges us to become once again intimate disciples of Jesus committed to promoting the values of God’s reign in today’s world.*

Memories play an important part in our lives as humans and as Christians. Corrie ten Boom, survivor of the holocaust, claims that “Memories are the key not to the past, but to the future.” We are, however, susceptible to selective remembering and capable of manipulating memories to protect our image of ourselves or our world and so preserve our comfort zone. This season of Lent offers us another opportunity to put aside the tendency to blame others and to open our hearts and experience to the transforming love of God which alone can heal our memories and enable us to make the journey to wholeness and new life.

How do we recall the event of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection? Do we remember a God, who out of some vague need for retribution or reparation required Jesus to be killed in order to save us? Or do we see

the death of Jesus as the inevitable result of his non-violent opposition to the forces of domination and his unwillingness to compromise with the logic of violence? To what extent is our discipleship of Jesus rooted in our memory of a non-violent God who does not “demand sacrifice” but who identifies with the victims who cry for justice and deliverance from the world of violence, where they are made scapegoats? Is the God we worship in reality violent or non-violent?

Spiritual writers refer to the “dangerous memory” of a non-violent Jesus, “image of the invisible God”, which continues to challenge and scandalize would-be

disciples of Jesus today. What has been our response to the plethora of instances in our world today of revenge, punishment, executions and war? Or have we even batted an eye to the carnage around us, committed in our name and on our behalf?

Lent invites us to deepen our choice for life through a readiness to go beyond our own concerns for the sake of solidarity with our suffering brothers and sisters. In so doing, we bring life not only to our world but also to our parishes and diocese. As we prepare to journey into the season of Lent, let us reaffirm our commitment to the mission of Jesus who came to bring fullness of life to all.



Kevin and Jacaline McGrath (now retired)



Judith McGrath-Colquhoun

## Continuing the Family Tradition of Care...

Judith, daughter of Kevin and Jacki, is proud to continue the family tradition of caring for the Catholic Community in Toowoomba and the region, with compassionate, personal care and service. Contact Judith at Heritage Funerals.

*“I have had 29 years experience with the funeral industry and from this experience Heritage Funerals is the best I have encountered. You are so far out in front. Thank you.”*

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



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# PROJECT COMPASSION 2017 LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

“Love your neighbour as yourself.”

MATTHEW 22:39



Nguyet with her family. Photo: Richard Wainwright.

## FAREWELL FROM ROBYN-ANNE LOVELL

After three years, it is with great sadness that I say goodbye to Caritas in the Toowoomba Diocese. The Lord has answered my prayers – I left it up to him to send me where I can best be recognised for my talents and experience, so I am off on a new adventure in outback education. Thank you to everyone who has assisted me in carrying out my Caritas duties, especially all the lovely staff at the Diocesan Development Fund office in Toowoomba, my group of dedicated volunteers, the priests, parishes and schools that have so freely and kindly welcomed me into their lives, who have encouraged and supported me during my Caritas life. I'd also like to thank all the generous supporters of Caritas and Project Compassion in the Toowoomba Diocese. Until we meet again, may the Lord hold us all gently and safely in the palm of his hand.



## UNCLE RICHARD FROM AUSTRALIA

First Australian Uncle Richard is a survivor of the Stolen Generations, forcibly removed from his family as a child and taken to Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) in NSW. Hundreds of Indigenous boys were incarcerated there between 1924 and 1970, suffering ongoing physical and verbal abuse. They lost every aspect of their identity – their names, their culture and their families.

When Uncle Richard left KBH, he struggled with the legacy of pain, trying to find relief through his work as an artist. But he attributes the beginning of his healing to something even more powerful than his creative work, his reconnection with former KBH boys.

The KBH Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) was established by KBH survivors to reunite with one another and begin healing. KBHAC's Unlocking the Past to Free the Future Program works to restore the social and emotional wellbeing of the survivors and their families. The former KBH boys have realised that their shared suffering has created a brotherhood. They support each other by sharing their stories, and coming to a common understanding of how their experiences have impacted on themselves and their descendants.

Through KBHAC, the men are also opening the door to the wider Australian community, inviting everyone to journey together as neighbours in the healing process. Caritas Australia supports KBHAC and is proud to walk alongside in partnership on the journey to wellbeing.

Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) survivor, Uncle Richard Campbell with one of his paintings.  
Photo: Nicole Clements

## NGUYET FROM VIETNAM

In a small town in Vietnam, a severe disability kept young Nguyet behind closed doors. Constrained by the high demands of her condition, her parents were also isolated from their neighbours. There is a high level of disability in Vietnam, particularly as a legacy of war, but little support for families whose children have disabilities. People with disability have poorer health outcomes, lower educational achievements, lower economic participation and higher rates of poverty than people without disability.

The future seemed bleak for the whole family, until Nguyet's family became participants in a program supported by Caritas Australia. A neighbour kindly introduced the family to the Capacity Building for Parent Associations Supporting Children with Disabilities program, which has given them support on several levels. The neighbour, a teacher, has been able to offer Nguyet home-based education, and there is capacity building for her parents and others in the same situation, through their local Parents' Association. At Association meetings, Nguyet's mother has been able to increase her skills for managing her daughter's condition, and share her experiences with other parents of children with disabilities.

Nguyet has learnt to read and write and better manage her physical needs, and her creative gifts have been unlocked. Now she is increasingly engaging with her neighbours, and she and her parents are more confident about her future.

See your local parish or school for Project Compassion donation envelopes, or visit [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) to donate. Thank you.

# YOUNG CATHOLICS WE WANT YOU!

‘My friends, Jesus is the Lord of risk, he is the Lord of the eternal “more”. Jesus is not the Lord of comfort, security and ease. Following Jesus demands a good dose of courage, a readiness to trade in the sofa for a pair of walking shoes and to set out on new and uncharted paths. To blaze trails that open up new horizons capable of spreading joy, the joy that is born of God’s love and wells up in your hearts with every act of mercy.’

Pope Francis, World Youth Day Vigil with Young People, 30th July 2016



## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL TO LAUNCH YEAR OF YOUTH ACBC OFFICE FOR YOUTH, EDITED BY SARAH DE BYL

*The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC).* It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.

The Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting the next ACYF from December 7-9 2017 on behalf of the ACBC. The 2017 Festival will be held at Sydney Olympic Park with venues including Sydney Show Grounds and Qudos Bank Arena.

The Festival is for Young people from year 9 (in 2017) to young adults 25 years of age and is aiming to gather over 15,000 young people from around Australia.

The Festival will also launch the Year of Youth and its theme *Open new horizons of spreading joy: Young people, faith and vocational discernment.*

The theme draws inspiration from Pope Francis’ address to young people at the Vigil at WYD Krakow 2016, along with the theme chosen for the next General Synod to be held in Rome during 2018. Pope Francis continues to challenge the young people of the world to boldly engage with their faith,

their relationship with Jesus and the world.

The Year of Youth will run from the ACYF until the end of November 2018. The Year of Youth coincides with the ten year anniversary of World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney and the pilgrimage around Australia of the Cross of Christ and the Icon of our Lady. This was an inspiring example of what can be achieved when the church community works in partnership with the power of the Holy Spirit, holding up and empowering young people as a great gift.

The Year of Youth reminds us that young people must be at the centre of any renewal strategy for the Church. We must work in partnership with young people’s passion and energy to assist us to become more fully alive as the body of Christ.

In our preparation for and participation in the Year of Youth, Young Catholics will be taking a diocesan group to the ACYF as well as working with Parishes and Parish Leaders on plans for celebrations and events across the diocese for the Year of Youth in 2018.

If you or someone you know is interested in coming to the Festival (<http://youthfestival.catholic.org.au/>) or getting involved with plans for the Year of Youth please contact Sarah in the Diocesan Youth Office.



## REFLECTION ON MOVERS AND SHAKERS

TRISTIAN BAZANT

*I went into Movers and Shakers Christian Youth Leadership Training with an open mindset to learn and discover more about myself and others.* I didn’t know what to expect when I went into Movers and Shakers and thought it must be a “bible camp”, but within the first few hours I was convinced that it was so much more and it didn’t match my preconceived idea.

During the program, I had the opportunity to develop my faith and encounter Christ in a different way. I also had the pleasure of engaging in multiple activities and challenges to build leadership qualities with people from the Cairns, Newcastle (NSW), Brisbane and Toowoomba diocese. Over the past year since Movers and Shakers different opportunities have been presented to me and the training that I received from this program was invaluable to draw upon.

After the program, I went on to achieve multiple goals using the ideas and teachings of leadership that I learned. What I got out of the program was a simple fact that I am now an open-minded person with the strength to challenge others to do the same. The support I received through the process of the program was extraordinary not only from the facilitators but my peers around me.

My primary goal in life is to teach others about my learnings and support them to grow. My endeavour to learn more can be summed up in a phrase I’ve taken away from Movers and Shakers that lives with me every day of my life, “before you lead others you must first lead yourself – you can only lead someone as far as you’ve been”.

Tristian attended Movers and Shakers in 2016. To register as a participant or SGF, please visit [www.moversandshakers.org.au](http://www.moversandshakers.org.au)



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# NEW COLLEGE, NEW ME!



Concannon Residential Student Club 2017; Front from Left : Jayden Alloway, Robbie Maunsell & Djordja Vico. Back from left: Joe Hayes, Alex Cherry, Jaydon Munchow.

## ROWAN MARSH

**Hi!** I'm Rowan Marsh, the 2017 Senior Resident Advisor (SRA) for Concannon College. I'm in my fourth and final year studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) majoring in electrical & electronic at USQ Toowoomba Campus; and as of 2017 have now lived on all three colleges at USQ. I am looking forward to living at Concannon College. Since residing at Colleges I've been provided with amazing leadership opportunities, met people from diverse backgrounds and the highlight - participated in heaps of events!

Residential Colleges has always been a source of great opportunities and provides a large support network of staff and students. Through these opportunities, I've held numerous student leadership positions such as; President of McGregor College Resident Student Club (RSC), Resident Advisor (RA) at Steele Rudd College and now SRA at Concannon College. University is an exciting adventure and will always have good times and bad times, and Residential Colleges has provided an opportunity to share those times with other students who are in a same college environment. The people you choose to share your adventures with will essentially be the backbone to helping you through your degree; they'll be a source of both enjoyment and solace.

So, what would you expect when you move into a Concannon College room? It has all the essentials (bed, desk, linen, and importantly network access etc.), but to make your room home away from home we have super helpful information on our website relating to 'what to pack'. Residential College is full of great opportunities which has helped me to transition

into a University life that supports my social and academic needs, not to mention they also feed me! My room has evolved throughout the years and now I have an interesting collection of plants, posters, books and many other things added to my room to create an environment that compliments my 'ideal' study environment.

If you do choose to come to Concannon College, you have a few options, from a Single Occupancy (SO) Flat (own bathroom and separate study room) or a shared bathroom with one roommate, which is my preference! When you hit the jackpot of an awesome roommate, these people become like family. The room layouts are the best part of Concannon College and even though our College is the smallest, the community makes it feel just like a family. Our jam packed social events calendar include Semi and Formals, Op Shop Ball, Oration, St Patricks Day, Hero Day, Golf Day and heaps of other events run by our RSC student leaders, there's never a dull moment.

So, if you're thinking of university (think USQ!), I would definitely recommend picking the on-campus college accommodation option. The social, leadership and academic opportunities are boundless along with the amount of people you meet from Australia and overseas. The friendships and memories that I've made will stay with me far past my graduation. As I commence my final year, I look forward to catching a few more opportunities along the way and making the most of my memorable USQ Residential Colleges experience.

# CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

MICHAEL PYKE

## WHAT IS THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL?

Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) is a radical renewal of living faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. Pope John XXIII's prayer in preparation for the Second Vatican Council was: "Renew in our days your miracles as of a second Pentecost."

Pope Paul VI on 12 October, 1966 said: "If we really love our Church, the main thing we must do is to foster in it an outpouring of the Divine Paraclete, the Holy Spirit."

CCR began in the United States in 1967, spread rapidly throughout the world, coming to Australia in 1969.

## WHAT IS A CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING?

A charismatic prayer meeting consists of a group of people from varying backgrounds who meet regularly (usually weekly) in an atmosphere of love and support for one another; in an effort to grow in the love of God and neighbour; also to encourage and affirm people in the use of the spiritual gifts.

Those who attend are predominantly Catholic, but groups are open to anyone. The meeting takes place in a relaxed atmosphere where joy and the love of God are emphasised and God is praised and worshiped with enthusiasm. Scripture readings are often heard and teachings instruct and help people to grow in their life in the Spirit.

**Praise:** God is praised in song and prayer for his majesty, his love and his faithfulness and he is thanked for his grace. This may be in words, songs or through praying in the Spirit.

**Prophecy:** Someone may speak words of encouragement from God through the Holy Spirit. The group discerns this word in the light of Scripture and Catholic Tradition.

**Scripture:** Someone may share a brief Scripture passage (CCR encourages the prayerful use of Scripture as taught by the Church)

**Teaching:** A speaker may give a short talk on a variety of subjects aimed at helping us to grow spiritually.

**Intercession:** There will be time for intercession and prayer for healing during the meeting.

**Witness:** Someone may relate how God has worked in his/her life.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CCR PLEASE CONTACT MICHAEL PYKE (TOOWOOMBA DIOCESE REPRESENTATIVE ON THE QUEENSLAND CCR STATE SERVICE COMMITTEE) ON [michael.pyke56@bigpond.com](mailto:michael.pyke56@bigpond.com) OR MOBILE 0458 300 880

# PASTORAL CARE BIDS FAREWELL TO LYN CASH

Pastoral Care at Toowoomba Hospital began with carers working with meagre means. The efforts of a few saw rooms established with facilities to serve the needs of patients (and their families and friends).

Lyn Cash was a prime mover in the establishment of these facilities, and now, after 25 years Lyn has relinquished her role as Coordinator of the service.

Lyn's retirement is significant in the life of pastoral care in Toowoomba and Region but those who continue to serve will inherit the benefit of her passion and wisdom.

Bishop William Morris has said of Lyn "it is only when she has travelled the twists and turns of the Labyrinth of her own holy mystery that she can be a grace for another in

her ministry and in her presence".

We give thanks for Lyn's commitment to travel the journey of the Labyrinth which provided care and compassion, not only to patients, but their families and, in particular the staff of the hospital.

Among the many speakers at functions marking her retirement Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board Chair Mr Mike Horan has said, "Pastoral Care at Toowoomba Hospital has become a wonderful and valued service that has provided a true humanitarian spirit with the hospital."

Lyn we wish you every blessing. In your own life may you relish the hope that you have brought to so many people in times of distress and loss.



An extraordinary life for a man who was baptized within a few hours of his birth as he was not expected to survive.

# MISSIONARY PRIEST'S DARING LIFE

ADAPTED FROM A PRESENTATION BY FR DENIS MARTIN, BRISBANE ARCHDIOCESAN ARCHIVIST

*William McGoldrick was born in 1889*, the youngest of nine children, at the Club Hotel owned by his parents in Toowoomba. He began school at the North State School and when St Mary's Christian Brothers' School commenced in 1899 he transferred there and his name is to be found among the foundation pupils. William went to board at Nudgee College in Brisbane in 1904 then to St Patrick's College, Manly, to commence studies for the priesthood two years later.

His patron Archbishop Dunne was keeping an eye on his progress so it was not entirely unexpected when in 1909 it was arranged for him to proceed to St Peter Canisius Theological College at Innsbruck in Austria. Fr William was ordained 25th July 1911, the sacrament conferred by the Cardinal Archbishop of Salzburg. Back in Brisbane in early 1912, the young priest was appointed chaplain to Archbishop Dunne at *Dara*. His duties included Masses at St Stephen's, at All Hallows' Convent and chaplaincy at Nudgee College.

As Fr McGoldrick went about his work his mind kept going back to the day he had picked up a magazine called *The Far East*. It had outlined the formations and plans of the recently

formed 'St Columban's Foreign Missionary Society' with China to be the focus of their work. He came to the conclusion that his future priesthood should be devoted to foreign missionary work. Archbishop Duhig's response to his request to join the Columbans was encouraging and generous.

After some corresponding with Fr Galvin (later Bishop) and Fr Blowick, directors of the Society, he sailed from Australia for China in 1923. 'It was a culture shock - poverty, cats and rats', but the Catholic population of the area numbered 14,000. Having experienced missionary life ever so briefly, Fr McGoldrick was asked to go to the United States to edit *The Far East* magazine. In 1928 he returned to China as Provincial to administer the Society's work in the whole Shanghai district. It was a very fruitful area with about 3,000 baptisms recorded annually. Unfortunately it was short-lived for China was being racked by social unrest. From the mid-1920s Communism was spreading and the Japanese began to make inroads until they invaded in 1937. Internment followed.

Fr McGoldrick and the clergy of his area were more fortunate than some others. They were interned in a French

Jesuit College and were well treated, perhaps because the Japanese consul had previously held that post in London and was somewhat 'pro-Western'. As the war progressed conditions deteriorated to near starvation and increased isolation. It was not till October of 1945 that relief came with the American victory.

Liberation was not to last as Communist Russia moved into the vacuum. For a time the Columban missions were overlooked and their work resumed. Fr McGoldrick was transferred to Peking but it was a struggle to keep the Catholics coming to Mass. In 1951 came instructions that all foreigners were to be expelled from China.

Fr McGoldrick was arrested, strip searched and imprisoned until put on a train, then a boat, and eventually getting to Hong Kong. After two months or so he was able to secure a berth on a British ship which landed him in Cairns where he arrived with nothing but the clothes he wore. Thin and emaciated he made his way to the Augustinian residence much to the surprise of Archbishop Duhig and Fr Tom Hunt who were lingering after a meal to discuss the troubles of the diocese.

The start of 1952 was spent at the Mater Hospital where Fr McGoldrick was restored to health. In due course he was appointed spiritual director at the Banyo Seminary where he remained until 1964. Then as age caught up, he felt blessed to become the resident chaplain to the Carmelite nuns at Ormiston where he was much loved as a father figure and an intimate member of the enclosed community. Having celebrated his golden jubilee of priesthood when at Banyo in 1961, he was able to celebrate his diamond jubilee at Ormiston.

Fr McGoldrick spent the last twelve months of his earthly life in the care of the Canossian Sisters at Oxley. He died there on 30th December, 1975. Following a Requiem Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Gerry and a eulogy delivered by Mons. C. Roberts, in accordance with his wishes, his remains were taken to the Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery where he rests with other members of his family.

An extraordinary life for a man who was baptized within a few hours of his birth as he was not expected to survive.



CONTACT TOOWOOMBA DIOCESAN ARCHIVES FOR FR DENIS MARTIN'S FULL PRESENTATION, PH 4632 7484 EMAIL DIOARCH@TWB.CATHOLIC.ORG.AU



YCW conference at Downlands College, Toowoomba 1963, including Frs Peter Murphy and Hal Ranger

# REVIVING THE CARDIJN SPIRIT

FR HAL RANGER

At the Diocesan Priests' Retreat in January, I took the opportunity to say a few words about a Belgian Priest of the 20th Century called Joseph Cardijn, and a remarkable resurgence of interest in his particular ministry in recent years.

The name Cardijn is deeply entrenched in the memories of millions of Catholic men and women across the world. From the mid-1920's to mid-1970's, Cardijn's vision and famous SEE-JUDGE-ACT process led young and not so young Catholic laity to embrace their call to ministry, particularly social ministry within their daily lives and working environment. His life and commitment to the formation of women and men for ministry in the world was an inspiration to thousands of Priests, including many in our own Diocese.

Joseph Cardijn was born on November 1882 in Brussels into a battling working class family in the midst of the Industrial Revolution. His father was a coal miner who died at a young age, leaving his large family who struggled to make ends meet. Joseph was at the Seminary when his father died and at the age of 20 he dedicated his life to ministry among working

people. He began to organise groups of young workers in the industrial suburbs of Brussels from 1912. He explored with them the meaning of their Baptism encouraging them to reflect upon the Gospels, to explore what was really happening in their own lives and in their work places, to discern together what should and could be done to bring justice and dignity, mercy and faithfulness into their own lives and work places and together to ACT! The SEE-JUDGE-ACT process was one he had already read and heard about, but he made it famous.

The movement was originally known as "Trade Union Youth", but then adopted the better known name "Young Christian Workers" in 1924. Cardijn died as Cardinal Joseph Cardijn in 1967. Across the world and in many places in Australia the Cardijn spirit is moving again. Every parish in our Diocese has a more detailed account of the reawakening of Cardijn's vision for ministry in the family and within the work place. Make contact and follow up! There is also a pilgrimage planned to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Cardijn's death. This will move from Brussels to Rome in mid to late August this year.



## MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM

PAULA O'ROURKE

St Maria Goretti School, Inglewood has two new teachers this year. Miss Polly Crawford and Miss Casey Sly have both joined our teaching team from other Catholic Schools in our Diocese, Cunnamulla and Goondiwindi respectively. Polly has also taught in London and Ltyentye Apurte Catholic Education Centre, Santa Theresa in the Northern Territory.

Polly will be teaching Year 4 to 6 and will also have the position of responsibility role of Assistant Principal Religious Education (APRE). Casey will be teaching the Prep to year 3 class.

We look forward to these two great teachers living and working in our community. They both have a positive attitude to learning and teaching that makes students willing learners.

Casey has said "I believe that teachers have the responsibility to create a cooperative environment where students feel safe and secure while learning is taking place.

Students should feel that it is acceptable to make mistakes, as it is a vital part of the learning process. I encourage a growth mindset in my classroom as I believe it is important

**"To provide all students with an exciting and engaging learning environment where all students can strive to reach their full potential."**

for students to understand that they can achieve anything through dedication and hard work... I believe that the role of Catholic educators is to ensure that we are developing a child's moral values. My classroom is supportive, inclusive, stimulating, fun, engaging and provides equal opportunities for all children to succeed."

Polly has this view of education, "To provide all students with an exciting and engaging learning environment where all students can strive to reach their full potential."

This year we have also enrolled our third set of twins. This time though it is twin of boys and they are beginning Prep with Miss Sly.



## TOP 1% IN ICAS COMPETITION

St Mary's College student Patrick Coleman has finished the school year on a high after being awarded a prestigious ICAS Competition Award for outstanding achievement in English literacy. A Year Ten student at St Mary's, Patrick Coleman earned a High Distinction placing in the top 1% of over one million students throughout 6700 schools internationally.

The English Literacy test examines the combined curriculum, and the curriculum documents, of each of the Australian states, New Zealand, Singapore and

Matthew Coleman said Patrick has always been an excellent student who makes him very proud.

United Kingdom, identifying common content, skills and overarching principles. The University of New South Wales (UNSW) independently devises the exam which examines a variety of texts including short stories, novels, poems, play scripts and feature articles, among others.

Patrick was assessed on reading, language skills, comprehension, writers' craft, vocabulary and a variety of genres. Parents, Matthew and Teresa Coleman, travelled to Brisbane with Patrick to accept his award at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Matthew Coleman said Patrick has always been an excellent student who makes him very proud. Patrick Coleman said he was honored to be receiving the reward and was keeping his options open to use these English skills in a future career pathway. "I am very excited and I am looking forward to celebrating with my family," he said.

College Principal, Michael Newman, also attended the ceremony and said he was delighted by Patrick's achievements. "This highly competitive international examination result highlights the English talent Patrick possesses. This achievement is a credit to the St Mary's College English department, his teachers past and present and Patrick's personal dedication and application to his studies," he said.



## SUBSCRIBE TO THE DIOCESAN UPDATE E-NEWSLETTER.

A regular e-Newsletter featuring goings on from across the Diocese keeping everyone up to date on upcoming events, follow up on events already held, topics of interest, dates to remember and more. To sign up simply email [communications@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:communications@twb.catholic.org.au) with "Subscribe" as the subject.

Like us on Facebook "Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba"

## ST FRANCIS DE SALES, CLIFTON, CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

St Francis de Sales School Centenary is fast approaching, and preparations are well under way for celebrating the occasion in March 2017. On Saturday 18th March, the "Celebrating a Centenary Dinner" will commence at 7pm at the FE Logan Hall. Sunday's celebrations will include a Family Mass at 9am followed by BBQ lunch, games and entertainment at the school. There will also be a display of memorabilia and the sale of the Centenary Book and souvenirs. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased through the school or the local newsagent from the 1st February.

## GOONDIWINDI SCHOOLS JOIN TOGETHER IN PRAYER

FR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

Drawing inspiration from St George, St Mary's School Goondiwindi once again invited the Goondiwindi State High School students to a full school Mass to pray for their future. It is a lovely time to gather and show support for those students who complete their studies and move into another chapter of their life's journey. It is a well attended Mass where the students feel very special and feel prayerfully uplifted as they prepare to finish high school. Thanks goes to the Goondiwindi State School, especially Principal Brett Hallett, for supporting this endeavour and encouraging a spiritual aspect in young people's lives. May God bless these and all who completed school last year and bring much joy to their future.





## FIRST DAY OF CLASSES FOR NEW DOWNLANDS PRIMARY COHORT

**CATHERINE MIMS**

*Tuesday 24 January 2017 marked the first official day of class for the Years 5 and 6 cohorts, a memorable occasion for the newest members of the Downlands College.*

The 36 students in two composite classes, along with teachers, Mrs Leigh Lucht and Mr Keith Blaikie, had an enjoyable day completing group activities, research and reading in preparation for Australia Day. The students also participated in goal-setting activities aimed at establishing their personal learning journey for the year ahead.

“What Mrs Lucht, Mr Blaikie and all of us here at the College really want to achieve is the establishment of a positive and respectful educational culture from day one,” Downlands College Principal Mr Stephen McIlhatton said.

“As students left for the day I was pleased to hear how much they enjoyed their time in the classroom.”

After receiving formal approval from NSSAB for the introduction of Years 5 and 6 last year, the College maintenance

team worked around the clock during the school holiday period to ensure the play area and teaching space would be ready for students. The freshly renovated spaces have been well received by families.

With strong community interest in Years 5 and 6 at Downlands, the College expects the number of students enrolled in 2018 and 2019 to increase, with more elaborate renovation plans in the pipeline to cater for the expanding group.

“After our official announcement of Years 5 and 6 in 2016, and the successful establishment of our first cohort in 2017, word has now spread amongst the general public about our offering and we have already seen an increase in new enquiries and enrolments for these year levels,” Mr McIlhatton said.

“The whole College community is excited about this new chapter in the 86-year-old Downlands story and I am personally looking forward to sharing this journey with our families.”

*“...to achieve is the establishment of a positive and respectful educational culture from day one,”*



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# GOOD BYE AND THANK YOU MRS BOOTH

SALLY YIN

*At the end of 2016, Sacred Heart bid a fond adieu to Mrs Maria Booth as she steps into retirement after 46 years of teaching, 30 of which were at Sacred Heart.* In the words of Chris Rosentreter, Principal, "For over 30 years, Mrs Booth has enriched the lives of the entire Sacred Heart Community with her enthusiasm, her caring and her genuine love for the community".

Students, parents and colleagues from the present and the past joined together to honour all that Maria has done for Sacred Heart in her role as teacher and APRE. We also celebrated Jim Booth, Maria's loving husband and right hand man for all he has done in his role as grounds person. The day was filled with a Mass, a special Morning Tea, a concert and ended with a dinner. Maria is recognised in the Sacred Heart Community for her passion, her creativity, her dedication and her sheer hard work

Fr James Byrne travelled to Sacred Heart from Taroom to celebrate a Mass dedicated to Maria and Jim. Gifts were presented to symbolise Maria's deep faith; her heart; her leadership and her creativity. No one can forget Maria's sewing skills used in creating costumes and props. Betty Davison made a dress

for Maria, which was illustrated by Chris Conneely (past teacher). The children drew pictures and signed their names on it.

Past colleagues and Maria's family were invited to join us for a celebration of Maria and Jim's work with a concert: "Maria's Got Talent!". Led by Heidi Phillips, Debbie Menkins, Melissa

## Students, parents and colleagues from the present and the past joined together to honour all that Maria has done for Sacred Heart

Hampson and Ebony Rosier, the school embarked on clandestine rendezvous and secret rehearsals to put together a fitting tribute.

Popular Toowoomba personality and past parent, Peter Roocas, was fabulous in his role as Master of Ceremonies. Past and present students presented songs, dances and skits to express their memories of Maria and Jim. Fun loving past colleagues, dressed in nun's habits, entertained with a medley of "How Do You Solve a Problem like Maria" from

"The Sound of Music" and "I Will Follow Him" from "Sister Act". An energetic and gifted team of Sacred Heart staff members performed a highly polished Cheerleading performance. Ebony Rosier (Music Teacher) sang "Oh Maria", to the tune of "Oh Mickey", focusing on Maria's personality and talents while the staff performed a dance. A fabulous

shadow puppet item saw Maria and Jim heading off around Australia in their caravan!

Judges Ron Rosentreter (past Principal,) Loretta McGill (Catholic Education IESS Team Leader) and Chris Rosentreter (Principal) scored each performance on a scale of 10-10 (yes, everyone scored a most deserved 10!). It was a wonderfully happy day and a fitting send-off for Maria and Jim, with opportunities for everyone to wish them well.

## COLLEGE WINNERS FOR AUSTRALIA DAY 2017

### SARAH LILBURNE

Australia Day is not just a celebration of the fabric that makes our country a special place to live but also an opportunity to recognise people from around local regions and towns who contribute in exceptional ways.

The Australia Day Awards ceremony and celebrations for the Dalby region took place at the Showgrounds Complex and this year, three people from Our Lady of the Southern Cross College were nominated as well as Year 12 graduate William Gillespie who was recognised as the 2016 Dux.

Kaitlyn Hobson, 2017 College Captain, and Angel Tia, 2016 graduate and past College Captain, were both nominated for the Junior Cultural Award for a student under the age of 17 who has shown commitment to cultural activities both at school and in the wider community. Angel was named as the winner of this award and was pleased to step forward to accept

her certificate. Angel was recognised for her participation in community cultural events as well as performing as a member of her family singing group, 'Positive Noise'. Angel also worked with other College staff and students visiting local aged care facilities and volunteering at the food bank.

Katherine Black has been a teacher at the College since 2009 and in that time she has shown dedication to not just her teaching duties but also coaching which is a commitment that she makes outside of school hours. Katherine has been a coach of the Darling Downs under 12 girls Cricket team for the last two seasons and that team won the State Championships. She was also the coach of the Queensland Country Women's Cricket team in 2015 and 2016 and this team were semi-finalists at the National Championships. For Katherine's outstanding achievements in coaching, she was awarded with the

Senior Sports Coach Award.

On a countback of generated polyscores from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, William Gillespie has been named as the College Dux for 2016. The Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards also allows for recognition of the students who have been named as Dux of their school. Will was very proud to accept the Certificate of Achievement Dux Award along with the Dux of Dalby Christian College and the Dalby State High School.

Awards were presented by Councillors Ray Brown and Carolyn Tillman and special guest Scott Stidston OAM who is a dedicated volunteer for Spinal Injuries Australia. The College is very proud to have members of the staff and student body receive Australia Day awards and recognition.





At St Patrick's School, St George end of year Liturgy of the Word, the Preps offer a special send off to the Year 6 class.

## NEW STUDENTS AND NEW STAFF AT CHARLEVILLE



### SR ELIZABETH O'KEEFFE

Our school year has got off to a busy start. This year not only have we welcomed our new contingent of prep students but we have welcomed a number of new staff as well.

Life has come full circle for our new year 3/4 teacher, Mr David Carr, who has joined us from Warwick. David began his schooling here at St Mary's many years ago. Miss Georgia Johnston, a new graduate, has come highly recommended to us after doing her final placement at St Finbarr's, Quilpie and Miss Molly Brooker has joined us all the way from Western Australia. Also joining us are two School Officers, Mrs Narelle Samson and Mr Daniel Ashton. We are sure that they will enjoy their time at St Mary's and their western experience.



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Staff at St Patrick's School, St George take part in Professional Development on Creative Liturgy for the Class with Angela Travers, Toowoomba Diocese Catholic Schools Office. Each staff member made a personalised cross for their classroom.



## LET'S JOURNEY TOGETHER

*The students of Holy Name Primary School welcomed the school year by celebrating the induction of the new school leaders in the Opening Mass on Friday 3 February. The Year Six students received their leadership badges and announced their commitment to the Holy Name community with a promise statement.*

*'We promise to work together to achieve the highest standards in all that we do; we will strive always to have respectful*

*relationships with all that we meet, and encourage each other through all aspects of life.'*

Congratulations and best wishes to the school leaders. There is much that they will learn and, in turn, contribute back to the school over the year in their roles. Thank you to Fr Ray Johnson for presiding the Opening Mass and also the parents and parish for supporting the Year Six students as they take on the additional responsibility of leadership this year.

## ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS AT CUNNAMULLA

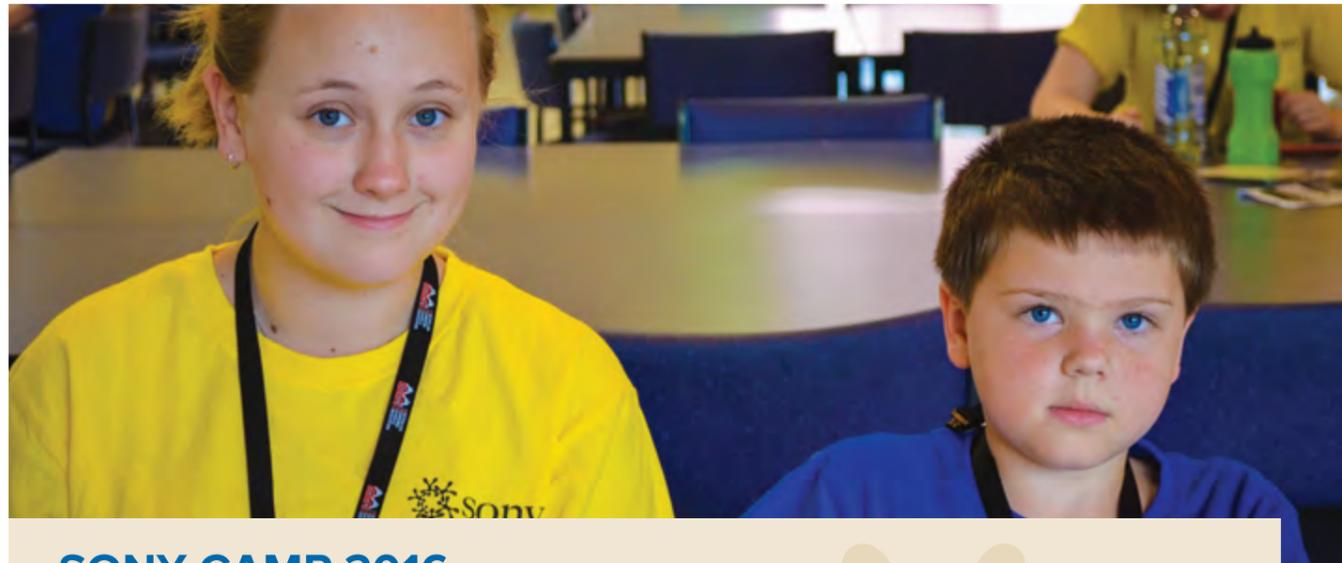
Emily Perry, the teacher of Year 5 and 6 says "Sacred Heart Parish School ended the 2016 year by celebrating the Year Six students' graduation from primary school. A Mass led by Father Peter followed the theme 'Reach for the Stars', which was reflected in the songs and readings, and included a blessing for the Year Six students. An awards ceremony finished the evening, with all students being presented books and certificates while the graduating class received medallions for specific merit awards."

The whole school participated in the play *Madagascar* written by teacher aides, Caitlin and Arnie. Over four weeks the children practised their roles in their family groups. The final performance was a credit teachers and children and provided much enjoyment to family and friends.

In 2017 we welcome Rosemary Curley as Principal in Sacred Heart School for this year and Danni Conway as a new teacher. Rosemary left the white sands of the Whitsundays for the red sand of the south west. Danni is no stranger to life in the outback as she spent some years in Bourke. As I write this I give thanks the noise of the children in the playground.



This is so much better than the thump of the kangaroos as they move around the grounds when disturbed or when they simply stand still and stare!



## SONY CAMP 2016

### ANNA HARDY

During the first week of the school summer holidays, six Assumption College 2016 Year 11 students helped Scots PGC run the annual Sony camp. This involved hosting 19 students or companions from Warwick East State School and Warwick State High School. Students spent three days with the companions and stayed overnight at the Scots Boarding Houses with them.

Activities included a movie night, arts and crafts, a western themed dinner and disco, an introduction to playing the pipes and drums. Students also participated in a special gym Olympics with obstacles.

All students involved took a steam train ride

to Stanthorpe where they were able to pick their own strawberries and make their own desserts at McDonalds. Students also had sessions with the Riding for the Disabled Association, where they helped their companions ride horses.

It was a wonderful opportunity for Assumption College students to be involved with other students in our local community and donate their time back to a worthy cause. All costs are covered by the Sony Foundation and we thank Mr David Proudlove and the Scots PGC community for involving our College in the camp.



# ONE MILLION STARS

### KIRSTY HOGARTH

*The stars aligned for the Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Schools and the Darling Downs South West Queensland Working Party on 19 December, when almost 3,000 stars developed by the students and staff from many schools across the Diocese were handed over for The One Million Stars to End Domestic Violence Project.*

"The Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Schools (DTCS) was approached by Toowoomba Regional Councillor Geoff McDonald to participate in this project," said Joanne Segond von Banchet, (Acting Executive Director) Director Governance and Financial Sustainability.

"Participation in this project had a natural alignment to key

principles of our social action and justice teachings within our 31 schools.

"Our teachings focus on the dignity of people being acknowledged and supported. Situations such as domestic violence are recognised as acts of injustice," said Joanne.

The Million Stars Project showed just what great community spirit our schools who participated in the project have.

Larger Toowoomba schools collaborated with a number of smaller regional schools by producing extra stars to contribute to the project on their behalf.

Students took the time to teach other students, hosted workshops in their libraries at lunchtimes, went to classes as 'buddies' to teach other students. Team leaders of the project, Angela Travers and Tony Worner, led star-making classes at the Assistant Principal, Religious Education (APRE) days to help communicate DTCS' involvement in the project.

Cr McDonald and the Darling Downs South West committee were blown away by the quality and quantity of the stars that students and staff helped produce.

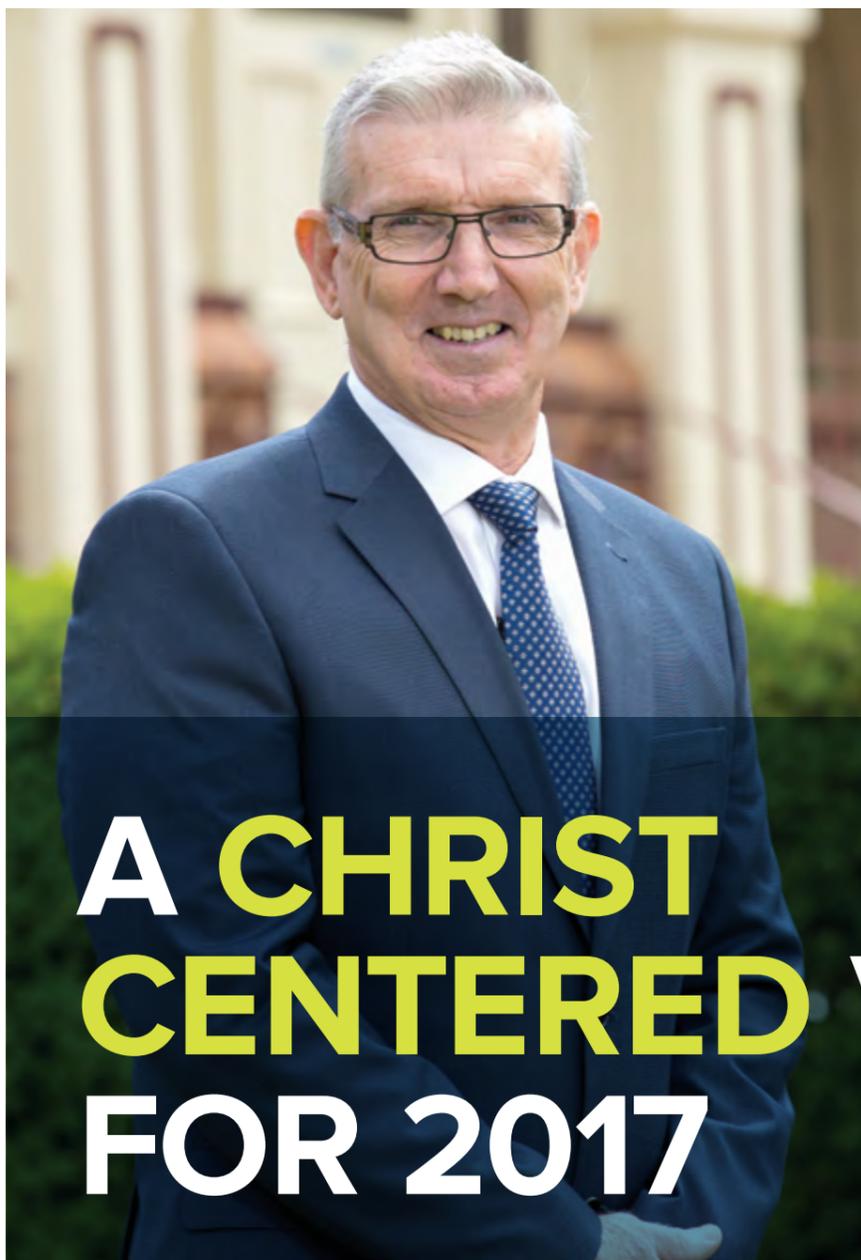
TRC are looking to hold an event to showcase our stars and many others from around the region, before sending the stars to the Commonwealth Games. USQ will most likely be the venue.

There is still an opportunity for schools and parishes to participate in the star-making project.

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CONTACT THE TOOWOOMBA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE TO FIND OUT MORE OR VISIT [www.onemillionstars.net](http://www.onemillionstars.net)



We have two intertwining ambitions for each student. Academic success and a knowledge and experience of the loving presence of Jesus in their life.

# A CHRIST CENTERED VISION FOR 2017

DR PAT COUGHLAN

*Energy, excitement and a sense of anticipation mark the beginning of this new year.* I am delighted to welcome all staff, students and families to the office or one of our Catholic schools in 2017. To the parents/carers I feel deeply honoured and privileged that you have chosen a Catholic education for your child/ren.

Just as your child is the focus of your family, so too is your child the focus of our work in the office, schools and classrooms across the Diocese. We have two intertwining ambitions for each student. Academic success and a knowledge and experience of the loving presence of Jesus in their life. Stretching the mind and nurturing the soul.

Sitting as the foundation of our curriculum is a very powerful and compelling narrative centred on the person of Jesus Christ. Within this curriculum each student is challenged to find their passion in life. That thing which will

demand more of them than they thought possible to give. When you find your passion you find your purpose in life. A Catholic education provides meaning for life.

Catholic schools play an integral role in the educational mission of the Catholic Church. Under the leadership of our Bishop and in partnership with parishes and clergy Catholic schools offer an exemplary educational experience for students. The combined efforts of 1500 dedicated members of staff come together in this endeavour. In fact our staff are the foundation of our success in bringing our mission to life. We are fortunate to have such talented and generous people as role models and teachers for our students.

I wish everyone a rewarding and enjoyable year ahead. Thank-you again for being a part of Catholic education.

*Dr Pat Coughlan is the Executive Director of the Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office.*

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE WELCOMES ITS NEW LOOK LEADERSHIP TEAM

The new look Executive Leadership Team of Toowoomba Catholic Schools is ready and prepared to set the direction and chart an exciting new course in Catholic education for the year ahead.

The team gathered for two days of planning and formation at the beginning of the year to put in place an ambitious plan for the continued growth and development of Catholic schools in the Toowoomba Diocese.

The focus is squarely on students, ensuring that every student achieves academic success and comes to know and experience the loving presence of Jesus in their lives. These are the most important and telling measures of our success and effectiveness as a group of educators.

The make-up of the team reflects the current needs and priorities of the organisation. Each Director brings high-level expertise and leadership to their area which will see TCS emerge as one of the leading Dioceses in Australia in the

provision of high quality Catholic education.

The new leadership team comprises:

- Dr Pat Coughlan Executive Director
- Mrs Joanne Segond von Banchet Director: Governance and Financial Sustainability
- Mr Gerard Hore Director: Mission and Identity
- Mr Jim Midgely Director Teaching and Learning
- Mr Lindsay Hawkins Director: Human Resources and Organisational Development
- Mr Kevin Berry Director: Information Services

The team pledges to work in partnership with parents, parishes and community members to serve, support and lead the 1500 staff members and 9000 students in the office, schools and classrooms across the Diocese.



L - R: Pat Coughlan, Brendan Redinger, Sharon Collins, Bishop Robert McGuckin, Zoe Stewart, Rosemary Curley, Phil McGreevy

## MEET OUR NEW PRINCIPALS

This year Catholic Schools welcomed a number of new principals who accepted the invitation to lead in our schools. Three principals are new to the Diocese and take up the mantle in our rural and remote schools, namely:

- Rosemary Curley (acting) Sacred Heart, Cunnamulla
- Zoe Stewart St Patrick's, Mitchell
- Phil McGreevy St Joseph's, Stanthorpe

Catholic Schools continues to provide opportunities for growth and development of career pathways for employees with four internal appointments and transfers occurring this year.

These were:

- Donagh Shirley (acting) St John's, Roma
- Brendan Redinger (acting) St Patrick's, St George
- Nicholas Lynch St Joseph's College, Toowoomba
- Sharon Collins (acting) St Saviour's College, Toowoomba

Catholic Schools wish them all the best for the start of their new year as they bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise with them to our schools.

## #CATHOLICROADTRIP CONNECTS WITH PARISHES

Newly appointed Communications Officer Ingrid McTaggart decided it was time to get out and about and see the sights of the Toowoomba Diocese. Despite working for the Diocese for nearly 20 years in various roles, Ingrid admits shyly that Chinchilla is as far west as she's been. It was time to try and remedy that and get to at least half way across our large diocese. Ingrid was joined for the journey by Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator, Sarah de Byl in what was dubbed #catholicroadtrip.

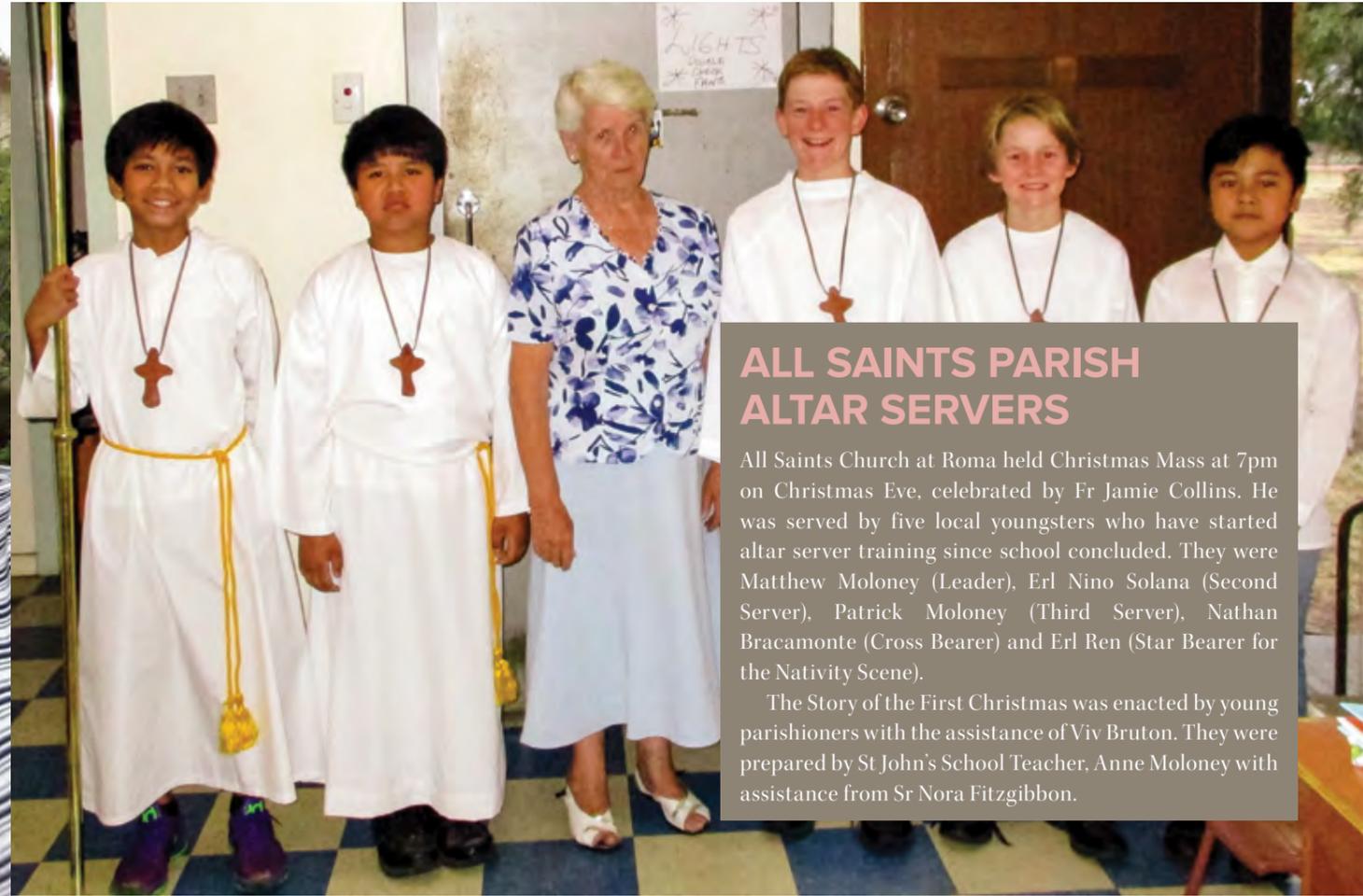
The aim of the journey was to connect with as many parishes as possible in a 6 day round trip with a purpose of gathering material for the Diocesan Website, which is currently under redesign, and the Diocesan Magazine, Horizons. This #catholicroadtrip incorporated round trips to Roma, Stanthorpe and the Toowoomba area. At each stop along the way Ingrid and Sarah posted a selfie to the Diocese's Facebook page with the hashtag so others could follow their journey. The hope is to visit more parishes in the same informal way later on in the year.

A highlight of the trip for both the ladies was meeting with people at their church. "You get to meet people from across the Diocese all the time, but often it's at events in Toowoomba. This was a real treat to meet people at their home, their parish," Ingrid reflected.

Sarah was excited to be able to start the conversation about Year of Youth in 2018 with many of the parishioners and parish leaders. "It was a great opportunity for me to remind people that there are still young people out there in their parishes, despite them not being visible at mass," said Sarah. The visits were laid back with parishioners sharing stories about their



church buildings and their parish. People spoke frankly and informally about the challenges each area faces, as Catholics and as a broader community. It was also an opportunity to highlight positive initiatives and ideas coming from within these parishes.



### ALL SAINTS PARISH ALTAR SERVERS

All Saints Church at Roma held Christmas Mass at 7pm on Christmas Eve, celebrated by Fr Jamie Collins. He was served by five local youngsters who have started altar server training since school concluded. They were Matthew Moloney (Leader), Erl Nino Solana (Second Server), Patrick Moloney (Third Server), Nathan Bracamonte (Cross Bearer) and Erl Ren (Star Bearer for the Nativity Scene).

The Story of the First Christmas was enacted by young parishioners with the assistance of Viv Bruton. They were prepared by St John's School Teacher, Anne Moloney with assistance from Sr Nora Fitzgibbon.

## PERANGA CHURCH BUILDING 100 YEARS OLD

### PAULA ROCHE

Our Lady of the Annunciation Church Peranga will mark it's centenary on Sunday, March 26th. After completion of the Oakey-Cooyar railway in 1913, Peranga began to develop as a small township. At this time Peranga came under the Dalby parish and Mass was celebrated in the Peranga Hotel. Later the hotel burnt down and the Parish Priest of Dalby, Father Nolan, saw the need for a church in Peranga. The building was erected in the township at an initial cost of 630 pounds with many donations for the church furniture. The Church was opened debt free on the Feast of the Annunciation, 25 March, 1917, a wonderful testimony to the faith of these early Catholics.

By 1919 the Peranga Church had become one of the four centres administered from Oakey Parish with Mass celebrated once a month. The road to Peranga, even as late as the fifties, was little more than a dirt track almost impassable in wet weather.

Members of the Peranga community were called to the religious life. Among them Fr Matt Garvey and Archbishop Virgil Copas. When Fr Copas was ordained he celebrated

his first Mass at the Peranga Church and later after serving many years in New Guinea, he returned as Archbishop Copas. Before their respective ordinations Fr Jeff Scully was a teacher at the Quinalow school and Fr John Ryan was a bank teller at the National Bank in Peranga. There were also some young women from the parish who entered the convent – Sr Aelred Garvey and Sr Maureen Schick.

On Sunday 26 March, the centenary day will commence with Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Robert McGuckin and Fr Thomas Areekuzhy at 11am followed by lunch and reminiscences in the Peranga Hall. Please bring a plate to share for lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided to have with the celebratory cake. Everyone most welcome.

IF ANY FURTHER INFORMATION IS REQUIRED  
PLEASE CONTACT LOUISE AT  
peranga100@gmail.com OR PHONE  
DESLEY ON 07 4692 8221

## CENTENARY of the APPARITIONS OUR LADY of FATIMA 13 MAY - 13 OCT 2017



Come and join us at Sacred Heart Parish, Toowoomba – to honour Our Lady

- Novena of Masses followed by the Rosary and Novena Prayer for the 9 days leading up to 13 May. A Procession following 8.30am Mass on Sat 13 May.
- Novena of Masses followed by the Rosary and Novena Prayer on 13th day of each month for the 9 months leading up to 13 October. Commencing Mon 13 Feb

For times and further information, please check the Parish.  
[www.sacredheartparish.com.au](http://www.sacredheartparish.com.au) or contact Sacred Heart Parish on  
P: 4634 8488 or E: [sacredheartparish@westnet.com.au](mailto:sacredheartparish@westnet.com.au)

## ECUMENICAL EVENING ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

KATHY STERNES



On the 4th November at St Theresa's Parish we were privileged to have three wonderful speakers attend our parish for our Ecumenical Evening. The theme for the evening was "Social Justice" with Fr Ray Crowley, Ms Kim Walmsley and Dr Mark Copland addressing the 100 or so people in attendance.

Fr Ray Crowley spoke about it being 500 years since Martin Luther placed his 95 challenges on the door of Wittenberg Cathedral, setting in place a situation for the Churches that has not been resolved to our present day.

Leading up to the anniversary, the Lutheran and Catholic Bishops of Germany are meeting on a regular basis to discern what has been learnt over time. Given that momentous challenge of Christian unity and diverse religious belief that affects us all, it is good that we gather too on local level.

Fr Ray shared a few simple insights that acted as a catalyst for discussion on the subject during the evening. Fr Ray tapped into the shared wisdom of those who gathered – the great things that are working, the pain of those disenfranchised and an honesty around the issues we still need to sensitively work on.

Ms Kim Walmsley is a self-taught artist who started exploring art as a teenager. She is the Director of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Programs at the Kath Dickson Centre, Toowoomba. She said being Aboriginal is a gift and being an artist is her passion. Kim was raised by wonderful people and has lived a life that has taught her to appreciate & respect many cultures & people. Kim believes that wisdom comes with age.

Kim spoke on how people can truly flourish and appreciate their purpose and goals to create happiness from within. Kim's art is about her self-expression through symbolism and connection to the elements, people, stories of fact and dreamtime and most importantly her spirituality.

Dr Mark Copland has worked as a teacher and historian in Queensland and Western Australia. Mark was a founding member of Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support Service (TRAMS) and has worked collaboratively with a number of government and non-government bodies promoting human rights and a respect for and honouring of cultural diversity.

Mark spoke about how he has served as a member of the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council for eight years and is currently working with Bishop McGuckin's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference group to promote the Reconciliation Action Plan for the Toowoomba Diocese. Mark also spoke about justice and peace in partnership with people from a range of faith backgrounds over the past decade.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CELEBRATED

JENNY RYAN

On the 10th November 2016, the Sacrament of Reconciliation was received by many Year 3 students at Mater Dei Primary school. Fr Brian Noonan, the children's parents, families and members of the Parish and school community guided the children in preparation for receiving the sacrament. During the preparation students, Noah Rowbotham and Xavier Lee wrote that they learnt about making choices, forgiveness and love. Noah said that it is important to show love, not just to our family, but a simple smile to others shows love! Congratulations children.

Anne Thomas and Libby Rosentreter co-ordinated the music and singing at the Christmas Vigil Mass at St Theresa's. The beautiful singing, led by Anne Thomas's choir, contributed to a very moving and uplifting Mass. Children also participated and baby Paul Steinberg was the star, playing the part of baby Jesus. He remained very calm and quiet as Fr Brian raised him up for the congregation to see him.

Many thanks to the Parish liturgy team, in particular Mary Otto and Carol Rogan, who prepared the children for their roles and also to Anita McVeigh who added the finishing touches to make the night such a special one. A big thank you, also, to Michael Gatt who showed his expertise with the sound and lighting at the Christmas Vigil Mass. A wonderful effort everyone!

Given that momentous challenge of Christian unity and diverse religious belief that affects us all, it is good that we gather too on local level.

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## SLICE OF PARISH LIFE WITH A SEMINARIAN TWIST

PATTI MCNAUGHT, TOM DUNCAN, EDITED BY INGRID MCTAGGART

Seminarian Tom Duncan has started his pastoral placement with St Theresa's Parish, Toowoomba. Originally from Miles, Tom's parents, Mark and Sheryl, still live in the area. He attended school at the Marist Brothers Catholic College in Ashgrove and entered Banyo Seminary in 2013. Now in his fifth year, Tom has been placed with Fr Brian Noonan at St Theresa's Parish, Toowoomba. Fr Noonan is also Administrator at Mary of the Southern Cross Parish, Highfields and so Tom will experience that community as well. Both the St Theresa's and Highfield's communities have warmly welcomed Tom into their fold. On Sunday 22nd January Highfields welcomed Tom at Mass. We asked Tom what pastoral placement is and what his outlook for the next 12 months was.

### WHAT IS PASTORAL PLACEMENT? IS IT SIMILAR TO DOING "PRAC" (PRACTICE/PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENT) AT SECULAR UNIVERSITY?

Yes it is quite similar to doing a professional internship. The seminarians are sent out in their fifth year of formation to learn from a priest whose life is given to serving a parish. They go and live with the priest, assist him in his ministry, cultivate their own relationships and ministry within a parish, and basically get a thorough taste of life as a priest.

The similarity is that the seminarian is sent out into the environment they are training to work in, to form them and help them to develop the necessary skills. It is also a large part of discerning whether this vocation is for them. We gain a fuller sense of what priesthood is, which will hopefully confirm whether the seminarian wants to continue down this path or not. In this capacity the pastoral placement is an extremely important part of the journey.

One of the major differences to a secular internship is that there is a huge dimension of the ministry that the student cannot perform. Obviously without having been ordained, the seminarian cannot administer the sacraments, and is limited in what he can do.

### WHAT PURPOSE DOES PASTORAL FORMATION SERVE IN YOUR OPINION? WHAT SKILLS/ KNOWLEDGE DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN/IMPROVE ON?

There are four pillars of priestly formation. These are Intellectual, Spiritual, Human and Pastoral. The pastoral year is our opportunity to develop the Pastoral pillar of our formation. It serves to help me develop the skills I need to run a parish, to work closely and effectively with many different people in serving their different needs and concerns, to develop leadership skills and strategies, to develop a style of bringing the Gospel into people's lives and to journey with them into

God. Ultimately I suppose, it serves to help me transition into the person God is calling me to be. Because being a seminarian is not a vocation, it serves to draw priesthood out of me.

How does it feel to be out in a parish starting to put learned knowledge and facts into practical experience?

Having just begun, it feels strange. I am still adjusting to life in the parish, with its ebb and flow and its different pace. I haven't yet had a whole lot of opportunity to put my training into practice as I'm still finding my feet in the place. It will take some time to get to know people and develop a regular weekly involvement in particular ministries. But I suppose the most basic thing I've had to put into practice so far is prayer. This is something that underpins everything a seminarian or priest does. In the seminary there is a regular mandatory schedule for prayer. In the parish, while Mass is regular, there is no such structure. I have to decide when to pray and have the discipline to be faithful to that.

### WHAT KIND OF TASKS WILL YOU BE DOING IN THE PARISH AND AT MASS?

There is a list of 64 different things we need to do throughout the year, but for the most part I will be attending and getting involved with different groups and ministries within the parish. I'll be looking to involve myself with the schools, with a special focus on vocations- to encourage young people to consider where God is calling them. I'll also be looking to go to some of the hospitals to visit the sick. Forming relationships and visiting people in their homes is also a major aspect of the year.

The pastoral year is a major step towards transitioning towards being ordained a deacon, which involves preaching. When you are ordained, you don't magically learn how to give a homily. So while I cannot yet give a homily, this year I will be working on developing my style of preaching by giving regular Gospel reflections at weekday Masses.

### WHAT IS FR BRIAN'S ROLE?

Fr Brian will be my mentor and supervisor. As the parish priest he facilitates my involvement in the parish, but is not directly responsible for it. Ultimately I am the one responsible, it is up to me to get involved and to apply myself to parish life. As my pastoral supervisor he has a formal responsibility to help me reflect on a particular encounter or event. This helps me to identify important learnings about myself and pastoral ministry. He will provide feedback and help point me in the right direction.

### WHAT IS ONE THING YOU HOPE TO LEAVE ST THERESA'S/HIGHFIELDS WITH AT THE END OF YOUR PASTORAL PLACEMENT?

Well I have several learning goals that I had to come up with for the year. One of these is to gain a sense of where the Church in Toowoomba is at, what people's experience of Church is, what they are looking for, what is missing. This involves listening and forming genuine relationships and connections with people. Another goal I have is learning how to preach and developing my style of preaching.

### WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ST THERESA'S/HIGHFIELDS TO REMEMBER YOU FOR?

My hope is that they might encounter Jesus in me. All Christians are called to be conformed to Christ and to mediate and bridge the presence of God to others. I hope to do this for the people of St Theresa's and Highfields and to help them to do the same for others. I also hope to use my particular gift for theology to help people come to a deeper and more authentic understanding of Jesus and their Christian faith.



## A HAPPIER CHRISTMAS FOR FAMILIES IN THE LOCAL AREA

PATTI MCNAUGHT

A wonderful team effort enabled the Mary of the Southern Cross Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society to deliver Christmas hampers to less fortunate families and individuals in the Highfields area. This was made possible by the efforts of the Conference itself and the Mini Vinnies group from Mary MacKillop Catholic College. We also acknowledge their generous parents.

Fr Brian celebrated Mass at the College on 2nd December where teacher Steve Moyle talked about Mini Vinnies and their initiatives like cook outs and sleep out to raise money.

It was nearly 200 years ago that France was subject to considerable strife which included major attacks on

Christianity. Frederick Ozanam, a young 18 year old University student, responded to a jeering group yelling "Show us your works for the poor." As a result St. Vincent de Paul Society came into being, and its members attempt to live their lives in works of mercy.

Thank you to all who contributed. Your generosity was overwhelming and by doing so, you share in the works of mercy. Pope Francis recently referred to mercy as "God's gentle touch". Your gifts have been shared by the poor and they received first hand from you, your gentle touch at Christmas. It also teaches us, both young and old that we are not alone in this world. Giving is more blessed than receiving.

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7am Tuesday – 6.30am Wednesday  
(24 hours with the Lord)

7am First Friday – 8.30am Saturday  
(includes an Hour of Mercy at 8pm Friday)

### HOLY NAME CHURCH, CNR BRIDGE & WEST STREETS

8.30am – 9am Monday – Saturday following 8am Mass  
(includes the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary)  
During school terms Friday morning Mass is 9am.

8.30am – 3.30pm Wednesday

## ANNIVERSARIES AT ST THOMAS MORE'S PARISH

BEVAN DEVINE

The latter part of 2016 saw St Thomas More's celebrate anniversaries of two kinds – Church and Marriage. The current church was built 25 years ago. On 5 and 6 November, 2016 the Parish commemorated this anniversary with a Mass celebrated by Fr Peter Schultz. The twelve wall candles installed at the liturgical dedication of the church were lit as part of the ceremony. After the Saturday Vigil Mass the community came together for wine and cheese, and after the Sunday Mass a morning tea was held.

The church building was dedicated by Bishop Edward Kelly on 3 November, 1981 when Fr Frank Leonard was Parish Priest. This is third building to serve as the Parish Church since the parish commenced in 1960. The first was an old farmhouse and the second a former army barracks. Perhaps the most eye-catching feature of the current church is the vibrant stained glass window behind the sanctuary area.

Each year on Family Sunday the community celebrates milestone anniversaries of marriage. In October the following wedding anniversaries were bestowed blessings at Mass:



- 50 years** - Nev and Sheila Sarquis, Michael and Maria Bourke
- 45 years** - Alan and Sue Keighran
- 40 years** - Henry and Narelle Piotrowski
- 20 years** - Brett and Amanda Parmenter
- 10 years** - Liam and Sarah Holcombe, James and Kristin Doherty.

# Horizons

## HELP MAKE HORIZONS BE THE BEST MAGAZINE IT CAN BE!

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Horizons relies upon your stories to make it relevant and meaningful. We want to know what is happening in your local area so that we can share that good news with the rest of the Diocese. We are looking for local contributors who can write 250 to 350 words about local church projects, initiatives or events. Include a couple of high-resolution photos and your well on your way to being published in Horizons.

For more information about contributing to Horizons contact us at:

[horizons@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:horizons@twb.catholic.org.au)

## CHRISTMAS IN CROWS NEST PARISH

MARGARET FOWLER

The Crows Nest Catholic Community hosted the Combined Churches Christmas Carol evening in December. Well done to the ladies who prepared a lovely Service. The attendance was the best seen for a couple of years. A bring and share supper, held in the Parish Hall after the service, was enjoyed by all.

There were two Masses celebrated in the Parish for Christmas with a good attendance at the Mass at St Matthew's, Crows Nest on Christmas eve. It was great to see a few children dressed up in Christmas costumes. After

Mass toffees were offered to all who attended. The Christmas morning Mass was celebrated at St Colman's Goombungee and was also well attended.

Once again parishioners were given the opportunity to bring a little cheer to some of the residents of Crow Lodge. Tags with a name, size and maybe something that was needed by that person were put on the notice board. Parishioners were able to take a tag and purchase a gift for that person. Crow Lodge is a local aged care residence.



**NO ONE IS BORN A PRIEST...**

"A vocation is a fruit that ripens in a well cultivated field of mutual love that becomes mutual service, in the context of an authentic ecclesial life. No vocation is born of itself or lives for itself. A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people, in the experience of fraternal love. Did not Jesus say: "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:35)?"

Pope Francis, Message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2014

**CONTACT**

FR MICHAEL COONEY  
Email michaelcooney11@gmail.com  
Phone 0427 138 547

or FR JAMIE COLLINS  
Phone 07 4622 1075  
All Saints Parish  
PO Box 119, Roma, Qld 4455

## MERRY CAROLS AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

CATHY MORRIS

On Sunday the 12th December after the 5:30pm Mass, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish held Christmas Carols in the Church. Over 100 people gathered to enjoy a light supper of pizza and sandwiches, followed by beautiful Christmas carol singing. Five of our talented Parish musicians shared the role of entertaining and the children joined in with cymbals, maracas, drums, triangles and spontaneous dancing.

Our Christmas Eve Mass was again held at the Salo Centre to allow for the large number of people who attend (approx. 700). The choir was in full voice and lead the congregation in song and the Parish children re-enacted the Gospel. On Christmas morning we again accommodated a large crowd of more than 250 people in the Church.



## FR McCLURE AWARDED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

SHELBY HENDERSON

On Tuesday 22nd November the Helidon and District Progress Association Inc. gathered to present their annual Citizen of the Year award. This award goes to a member of the local community who generously donates their time and effort to making the community of Helidon the wonderful place that it is. This year the very deserving recipient was our very own Fr Michael McClure. Fr Michael works tirelessly as a quiet achiever providing support and friendship to anyone who needs it. This award was a surprise for Fr Michael and it was a challenge to keep it a secret for several weeks. To make the occasion even more special, some of Fr Michael's family made a surprise journey to help him celebrate. It was a big surprise when he walked through the door and his loved ones were there. On behalf of the entire parish we congratulate Fr Michael, it's a wonderful achievement for someone who is so very generous of time and spirit. We are truly blessed to have you in our community!




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# SERVERS ATTEND ST STEPHEN'S GUILD ALTAR SERVERS CONFERENCE



*Five servers from Sacred Heart Parish, Toowoomba, along with their father, recently attended an Altar Servers Conference run by the St Stephen's Guild. The camp was held at the Sydney Archdiocesan St Benedict XVI Retreat Centre near Richmond. Activities included server training sessions, practice during Masses and other liturgies, and a variety of sports and recreational activities.*

Server training included practical guidelines for serving at Mass and other liturgies. Time was given to learning Divine Office and participating in nightly Holy Hours which Isaac (16) said "included the prayers of the Church with Adoration". Appropriate posture, gestures and actions were explained and practiced. Thomas (10) said one of the best parts of the camp was "Learning how to set the Altar". "Apart from the food, learning how to use the Thurible" is what Owen (8) thought was best. Peter (17), however, indicated that "It was great to be able to play a pipe organ in a Mass at the beautiful Chapel".

Recreational activities included Archery and Flying Fox rides under close instruction. Other more informal

activities included basketball, volleyball, touch, soccer, trampolines and a movie night. "In archery, in the absence of any Queensland seminarians" said Peter, "I took the liberty of representing the Holy Spirit Seminary in a friendly comp between Seminarians who were there as camp leaders. I'm happy to say the Holy Spirit Seminary are the reigning champions!"

Priests at the camp included Fr Danai Penollar and Bishop Richard Umbers. Other leaders included 4 seminarians and several lay volunteers. Between training sessions the seminarians each shared their vocation story. James (14) said this "sort of showed how or where you can go from being a server".

"As a father I also found the camp enriching, informative and enjoyable" explained Paul. "I learned from the faith elements embedded in the training the boys received; I learned some of the skills required so I can provide ongoing support to the boys; and, I had a ball just hanging out with my children, other servers and the camp leaders for three days."

## JOY AND MERCY IN THE FAMILY

The Webb family from Toowoomba joined many other families from across Australia in a family weekend at Mt Shoenstatt in the Paramatta Diocese late last year. The weekend included inputs for adults, programmes for children of all ages, couple and family time, games, fellowship with other families, prayer, reflection and Holy Mass. At the close of the Year of Mercy, during input sessions couples were guided through a series of workshops on making mercy real in family life and beyond.

"It was a great weekend for the whole family. It is great to share the joys and the struggles of faith and family life with other families who have inevitably become good friends" said Paul.

The weekend was part of the ongoing "Time for Us" initiative of the Schoenstatt Movement that enriches and fosters family life through mutual exchange of faith and life experiences.



## BUSH CHRISTMAS

SR MAUREEN ANDREWS

Christmas in the far west has its own unique flavour. The community at Hungerford celebrated with the usual service, marked by the arrival of Santa and a shared meal. For the celebration people come through the dingo fence from New South Wales, although numbers were down reflecting the movement of people away from the country to the city. Santa was late because people, including Santa himself, ran out of precious petrol. To add to the perils of western travels the river kept rising although assurances were given it would not block roads. In the morning, Pam Gill, from Eulo and Sr Maureen Andrews managed to cross the river going out of town.

Christmas celebrations in Cunnamulla began with Reconciliation, where two of the children made their First Reconciliation. Cunnamulla numbers at the Christmas Liturgy were boosted by the interest in Christmas and to see the children participate in the service. Wendy McKellar, the local indigenous teacher aide, had taught several children to play the Djembe drums. At the Liturgy, they played a tune called Listening and we remembered that Jesus said, "Let anyone who has ears listen." This set the tone for the service, one of awe and contemplation.

At the post-Christmas celebration in Thargomindah, Bede, one of the local police officers, played the guitar and the community joined in with gusto. To see the children singing so earnestly made our hearts soar. A new lectern was unveiled for the Church in Thargomindah. The piece was made by Bede and is the centre piece of the church. After Mass the usual shared meal took place with the members of the congregation, hosted by Paul and Desleigh Collins and family who now reside in the new police house.

## CHRISTMAS DOWN UNDER 2016

MARY-ANNE DRIVER

It is a labour of love to organise the annual Christmas Down Under in Warwick but the rewards for those involved are huge. The free activities held over three days are much appreciated and enjoyed by the families of the Region.

The volunteers come together from the local Christian churches and provide face painting, craft, story-telling, puppet shows and a free family photo taken with the beautiful Nativity set, recently donated by Warwick's Rose City Shopping Centre. The activities are all themed to tell the story of the first Christmas.

Not only do the families who come to Christmas Down Under benefit, but it is also a chance for the local churches to unite and for their volunteers to share fellowship.



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## BISHOP ROBERT MCGUCKIN DD MCL JCL

68 Lindsay Street, PO Box 756  
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## SECRETARY TO BISHOP

Colleen Way Tel: (07) 4632 4277  
bishsec@twb.catholic.org.au

## VICAR GENERAL

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## CHANCELLOR

Fr Peter Schultz B.Th., JCL Tel: (07) 4632 8835  
pschultz@twb.catholic.org.au

## ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE

Fr Peter Dorfield Tel: (07) 4637 1500  
peter@stpats.org.au

## ARCHIVES

Archivist: Gabrielle Saide Tel: (07) 4632 7484  
dioarch@twb.catholic.org.au

## CARITAS

Director: Joe Foley  
Tel: (07) 3324 3134 Mob: 0428 259 439  
josephf@caritas.org.au

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

Executive Director: Pat Coughlan  
Tel: (07) 4637 1400  
enquiries@twb.catholic.edu.au

## CATHOLIC MISSION

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Tel: (07) 3336 9239 or 0431 481 731  
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## ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, TOOWOOMBA PUBLIC HOSPITAL, BAILLIE HENDERSON HOSPITAL & ST VINCENT'S CARE SERVICES - (Lourdes):

Fr Michael Cooney Mobile: 0429 308 081

## COMMUNICATIONS

Communications Officer: Ingrid McTaggart  
Tel: (07) 4632 4277 Mob: 0429 489 748  
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## ECUMENICAL COMMISSION

Fr Brian Sparksman D.C.L.  
Tel: (07) 4632 7619  
e.vicar@twb.catholic.org.au

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Care Centre Manager: Nancy Mathers  
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## LITURGICAL COMMISSION

Liturgy Officer: John Briffa  
Tel: (07) 4632 0989  
jbriffa@twb.catholic.org.au

## SPIRITUALITY AND MISSION

Sr Elaine Morzone  
Tel: (07) 4632 7619  
Mob: 0458 020 906  
emorzone@twb.catholic.org.au

## RCIA COORDINATOR

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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE

Trudi Burgess Tel: (07) 4687 4345

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Tel: (07) 4613 0895  
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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  
youngcatholic@twb.catholic.org.au

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