



Ad Clerum

June 2022

Newsletter of the
Archbishop of Sydney
Circular No. 5/2022

A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

*Dear Fellow Priests and Deacons
My fraternal greetings to you all!*

Following the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we continue to celebrate with renewed joy and hope knowing that God is truly with us as we spread His Good News!

A special thank you to all of you who joined us for the Clergy Conference and Vianney Dinner on the 19th of May at Homebush. What a joyous celebration it was recognising the achievements of our Jubilarians. A very sincere thank you to all of our presenters at the conference for their insightful reflections on how to best move forward in our pastoral ministry after the challenges of pandemic. May we continue to pray, contemplate and act on the fruitful ideas presented.

Together with the rest of our Christian brothers and sisters, we continue to pray for those facing on-going persecution throughout the world. As well as our prayers for those in war-torn Ukraine, we especially pray for the Church in Nigeria following the massacre on Pentecost Sunday that claimed the lives of 21 people. May the Lord of comfort and peace be with all of those suffering as a result of this unspeakable tragedy.

As always please be assured of my continuing prayers for you all.

+ Archbishop Anthony

2022

dates to remember

Walk with Christ
19 June 2022

Encounter with the Archbishop via Zoom
(Please note date change)
29 June @ 2pm

OFCC Zoom
(Please note date change)
19 July 2022 @ 2pm

CAS Retreat
31 July to 5 August 2022
St Joseph's Spirituality Centre, Baulkham Hills

All Day Clergy Conference
and Market Day
4 October 2022
Rose Hill Racecourse

inside

Ongoing Formation

- ◆ Ongoing Formation
- ◆ 2022/23 Sabbaticals – PNAC
- ◆ 2022/23 – Tantur Ecumenical Institute




Please pray...

For the repose of the souls of all our deceased clergy.

For those that are sick in our community...

Mgr Anthony Doherty, Fr Kevin O'Grady, Fr Stephen Monaghan, Mgr John Usher, Fr Thanh Nguyen, Fr Joseph Aikkaramattam, Fr Peter Christie, Mgr Frank Coorey, Fr John Alt, Fr Peter Maher, Fr Don Willoughby, Fr Noel Short, Fr David Coffey and Fr Michael Kelly who are currently unwell.

For special anniversaries occurring in June, July and August

I ask that you download the attached list  (June),  (July),  (August), and pray for our brother priests who have gone before us and for those who are celebrating their Anniversary of Ordination.

I RECENTLY MADE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS:

Rev Thomas Azzi OP

Appointed Administrator of the Parishes of St James Forest Lodge, St Bede's Pyrmont and St Benedict's Broadway from 3 June 2022 'pro tem'.

Most Rev Terence Brady

Appointed Member of Catholic Cemeteries Board from 19 May 2022 until 30 June 2023.

Rev Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of St Canice, Elizabeth Bay from 30 May 2022 until 30 November 2022.

Rev Liem Duong

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St Martha's, Strathfield from 4 May 2022 for a term of three years.

Rev Mirko Integlia

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parish of the Sacred Heart, Mosman, as well as the surrounding Parishes of Neutral Bay, Beauty Point and Clifton Gardens from 1 July 2022 until 31 August 2022.

Rev Rubin Mandin MI

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St Joseph,

Camperdown and Chaplain to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital from 1 June 2022 for a term of three years.

Rev Danai Penollar

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of Mary Immaculate, Bossley Park from 1 July 2022 for a term of three years.

Rev Maurizio Pettena CS

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St Therese, Mascot from 30 May 2022 until 13 December 2022.

Rev Daniele Russo

Appointed Director of Vocations and Part-Time Assistant Priest of the Parish of St Joachim, Lidcombe from 1 June 2022 for a term of three years.

Rev Renante Sentillas MI

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of St Joseph, Camperdown from 1 June 2022 for a term of three years.

Rev Peter Smith

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

NON-CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS:

Mr Peter Bokeyar

Reappointed Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Danny Casey

Term extended as Member of Catholic Cemeteries Board until 30 June 2023.

Term extended as Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) until 30 June 2023.

Mr Michael Digges

Term extended as Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) until 30 June 2023.

Mr Scott Jenkins

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Michael Kenny

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr John McCarthy

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Paul McClintock

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Christopher Meney

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Ms Alison Rahill

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Gregory Smith

Term extended as Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) until 30 June 2023.

Ms Jennifer Stanger

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Mr Dominic Sullivan

Term extended as Member of Catholic Cemeteries Board until 30 June 2023.

Mr Kieran Walton

Reappointed a Member of the Anti-Slavery Advisory Committee from 27 April 2022 until 31 December 2022.

Sr Maria Wheeler RSC

Term extended as Member of Catholic Cemeteries Board until 30 June 2023.

ONGOING FORMATION OF CLERGY


Clergy Conference and Vianney Dinner, Thursday, 19 May 2022 at Waterview in Bicentennial Park, Bicentennial Drive, Bicentennial Park

Last month, the Clergy Conference and the Vianney Dinner were held at the Waterview Function Centre at Bicentennial Park. It was an informative Conference followed by a great evening of celebration for our Jubilarians.



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1. 25TH ORDINATION – Fr John Hayes and Deacon Paul Naggar
2. 40TH ORDINATION – Fr Servilliano Bustamante OFM, Fr Michael McLean, Fr Chris Slattery and Fr Mani Malana MFMS
3. 50TH ORDINATION – Fr Geoffrey Plant, Fr Gary Rawson, Fr Michael Whelan SM, Fr Brian Wilson SM
4. 60TH ORDINATION – Mgr Neil Brown, Fr John Walter, Fr John Mello CS
5. Paul and Julianne Naggar

To see all the photos of the evening please click on the link:  If prompted, enter this password: **vianney**

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Annual Clergy Retreat

The CAS Annual Clergy Retreat will be held from 31 July to 5 August 2022 at the St Joseph's Baulkham Hills. Fr Aloysius Rego OCD will conduct the Retreat. The cost of the retreat will be \$500 per person for the week. Retired clergy will be fully subsidised by the Chancery.

Please click on the link to register 

A Residential Clergy Seminar organised by the Prelature of Opus Dei

18–21 July at Kenthurst Conference Centre

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER:

Cardinal George Pell - *"The Church and its Future"*

SECOND SPEAKER:

Gerard Henderson - *"Cardinal Pell, the Media Pile-on, and Collective Guilt"*

Fr Paul Grant is inviting priests to attend a residential seminar for clergy on 18-21 July at Kenthurst Conference Centre. It is organised by the Prelature of Opus Dei. Arrival is in the evening of 18 July and departure on the morning of 21 July so it is basically two full days. Cardinal Pell will be the principal speaker, with the topic: "The Church and its Future" and Gerard Henderson will also be speaking about his new book on Pell: "Cardinal Pell, the Media Pile-on, and Collective Guilt".



The Seminar includes three conferences each day as well as more informal activities in the evening. There will be time for reading, reflection, discussion, sport and visits to nearby places of interest. The programme includes concelebrating Mass each morning and the constant and exquisite care by the staff of the Kenthurst Conference Centre.

For priests who are interested, Fr Paul can send them further details.

His email address: frpaulgrant@gmail.com

His mobile: **0479 056 082**

The Cost of the seminar is \$440

Recommended online retreat
Options for clergy who are interested can be accessed here:  and 

The Bollettino from the Vatican

Stay up to date with the latest news from the Vatican 

Cenacles of Prayer for Clergy


You are invited to the Cenacles of Prayer for Clergy It takes about 40 minutes and is followed by fellowship with tea, coffee and snacks.

The priest's cenacle is held on the second Wednesday, of each month at the usual time of 1.30 pm at St. Bernadette's, Carlton and will be hosted by Fr Gabriel Ballawig. **All are welcome.**

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Silent Retreat for Men


Friday 24 – Sunday 26 June 2022

We would like to extend this invitation to any prospective young men who may be discerning the priesthood or religious life to attend the upcoming Silent Retreat for Men. Take this opportunity to immerse yourself in a quiet environment for you to really focus your attention on listening to God. Surrounded by the serene and peaceful bushlands of Benedict BXVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale this weekend will enable you to spend some quality time in prayerful silence with Mass, Rosary, Prayer of the Church, Adoration and much more. This is a silent retreat weekend for young men 18-35 years old 

Registration closes Friday 17 June 2022.

Online registration is available now: 

Priest Retirement Foundation Annual Report

In the last month, our parishes would have received a copy of the 2021 Priests Retirement Foundation Annual Report. Please find a quick link to a copy of it 

Walk with Christ

Walk with Christ is only a few weeks away. We are looking forward to seeing you, your parishioners and all of the Sydney Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi as one community in Christ.

Walk with Christ Event Details:

- Sunday, 19 June 2022
- Meet at corner of Martin Place and Pitt Street, Sydney
- Entertainment in Martin Place from 1:30pm
- Procession begins at 2:30pm (sharp)

Promotional Video

Please arrange for your parishioners to view this video or insert the link into your parish newsletter.

Promotional video and more information, visit

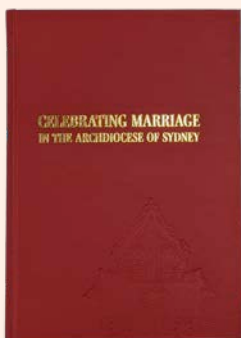
There are still funds available to support parishes to hire buses to transfer parishioners to the Walk With Christ. Further queries, email kathy.campbell@sydneycatholic.org

Request for a spare and unused tabernacle

If any parish has a spare and unused tabernacle willing to be donated to St Joseph Moorebank, please contact **Fr Chris De Sousa CRS** at cdesousacrs@gmail.com who can come to collect.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and God bless you!

Red Book Pastoral Tip No. 15



When annulment is granted the couple are advised in writing by letter. They DO NOT receive the decree of Nullity. This must always be obtained by the priest/deacon from the Tribunal office before booking a wedding. Sometimes there are specific requirements for marriage preparation that should be observed as part of good Pastoral care.

Fr Julian B Wellspring EV JV

Mental Might 13

Actively caring for and sharing stories with others reminds us all that we have a purpose and belong together - excellent for good mental health.

Dr Robbie Lloyd

Research & Project Officer, Justice and Peace Office

PLENARY COUNCIL

News from the Plenary Council/ Synod Working Group

Synod Diocesan Report

The Synod report for the archdiocese was sent to the ACBC and to the Secretariat in Rome. All Deans were sent a copy and asked to send it to the clergy in their deanery.

The report was presented at the pre-synodal meeting on May 14 at Mary MacKillop Place. The report is now available on the Archdiocesan website

Meeting on June 15 to discuss Plenary Agenda

A meeting for Plenary Council members to have conversations with parishioners to discuss the final agenda for the Assembly will be held on June 15 from 5.30 pm to 7.30pm. at St Martha's Leichhardt, 38 Renwick St. Clergy are invited to attend. RSVP to Jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org.au

Light refreshments will be served from 5.30pm.

Framework for Motions (May 2022)

The four-year journey of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will reach the second – and final – assembly in July 2022.

On June 1, the Framework for Motions document that will be considered at the second assembly was published. It contains 30 motions across eight mission areas that the 277 Members – clergy, religious and laity – will vote on next month.

The Framework for Motions “will form the backbone of our reflection, discussion and decision when we gather”, Plenary Council president Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB wrote. Click on the Link

Synod Sunday

Sunday June 12, Trinity Sunday will be used to focus on the Synod. Material will be sent out to parishes to put in the Parish Bulletins.

Plenary and Synod Awareness

Over the next few months parishes will receive short bulletin announcements that can be used to provide a focus for the Synod and Plenary Council as we move closer to the Second Assembly on July 3- 9. These snippets could also be used on a PowerPoint slide.

One Page Explainer


Attached to the Ad Clerum is a one-page explainer for clergy about the Plenary Council, the Synod of Bishops and Go Make Disciples.

It was prepared in response to requests from one of the deaneries. It could also be printed and made available to the parishioners

Thank you for your support of the Plenary Council and Synod of Bishops.


*Sr Jo Brady RSJ, Plenary Council/Synod Liaison Officer
On behalf of Bishop Terry Brady and Sandra Lynch,
Co-Chairpersons, Sydney Archdiocesan PCSWG*

Plenary Council Website


What are we called to do? Who are we called to be? How do we need to change? For all your Plenary Council needs and resources, please go to this website 


Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

Dear Fathers,

Thank you for the positive response to **The Catholic Mass booklet** recently launched by Archbishop Anthony in May and available to parishes, schools and movements for order at  This guide will be of interest and support to sacramental coordinators, RCIA sponsors and teams, liturgical ministries and anyone seeking to deepen their understanding and reception of the Mass. It can also be used by clergy and parish teams in the lead up to and following the Feast of Corpus Christi, as part of ongoing formation on the Eucharist.

This past month, we were blessed to welcome **Fr Mike Schmitz** as our fourth online guest speaker for the *Reclaiming Evangelisation* series. Fr Mike spoke to a large group of enthusiastic participants at the invitation of the Parish Renewal Team, on the topic 'Why Make Disciples? What our Tradition Tells us About Calling and Forming Disciples.' We were encouraged by the number of parish and community groups who gathered in-person to participate in the online event, and to spend time afterwards discussing how they might apply Fr Mike's insights into their own pastoral reality. The video will be placed online at www.gomakedisciples.org.au in due course.

The World Meeting of Families held in Rome will also be celebrated locally in the Archdiocese from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 June. Celebrating the sanctity, beauty and vitality of family life, the celebration begins in parishes with the Feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday and related resources and prayers; followed by family pilgrimages to sites and shrines throughout the Archdiocese on Saturday; and culminating with the Eucharist and a special blessing for families with the Archbishop at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday with 10:30am Mass, after which families can participate in **an inaugural 'Festival of Families'** beside the Cathedral with free food, coffee, music, stalls and activities for children. More information and resources for promotion of these family events in your parish are available at 

In response to requests and the ongoing priority of Catholic adult faith formation in the Archdiocese, Bishop Umbers has begun the first of **our Didaskō short courses**, with an introduction to the Catechism in June. The Didaskō series will continue throughout 2022 with a new topic each month delivered by some of Sydney's finest Catholic theologians. A full program is available at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/ 

We are also pleased to announce our **inaugural Parish Renewal Conference** will be held at the St Mary's Cathedral precinct on 19 –20 August, 2022. The conference program will include an opening address by Archbishop Anthony, in addition to other quality keynote speakers, workshops, panels, Mass, Adoration, a renewal expo, and opportunities to exchange ideas with others from across Sydney. The Conference will provide an opportunity for clergy to bring their staff and key ministry leaders to develop and strengthen their work of building community, and calling and forming disciples as invited by *Go Make Disciples*. Parishes will receive information about the conference in the coming weeks.

Sydney Catholic Youth

In commemoration of the 30 year anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, young adults from across the Archdiocese are invited to attend monthly **'Fidelis'** gatherings. Each Fidelis evening offers participants opportunities to socialise, share a meal together, receive catechetical formation, celebrate mass and spend time in Eucharistic Adoration. Parishes are invited to host monthly Fidelis evenings, which take place on the last Wednesday of every month. The next event will take place at St Joachim's, Lidcombe on Wednesday 29th June from 6-9:30pm. Archbishop Anthony Fisher will be presenting on 'The Creeds'. Details can be found on www.sydneycatholicyouth.org 

Daniel Ang

Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM BOARD NOTICES

CLERGY REMUNERATION AND CLERICAL FUND - AGM NOTICES

Please make a note of the Annual General Meetings of both the Clergy Remuneration System and Clerical Fund scheduled for **Wednesday, 26 October 2022** at **Dooley's Silverwater** (Dooley's Waterview Club), 214 Silverwater Road, Silverwater.


EOI - 1/24 Croydon St, Cronulla

A call out to all retired clergy (or soon to be retired). We are seeking a tenant for our unit at Croydon Street. It is ready to move into, with all new appliances (including air conditioning and a dishwasher), a new kitchen, bathroom and laundry, freshly painted walls and flooring throughout, and a balcony that overlooks a lush green space. There is also undercover parking. In short, it is a very fresh, bright unit, which is a few minutes walk to North Cronulla Beach, grocery stores and cafes. Click on the link to see further information:  [Flyer 1/24 Croydon Street, Cronulla.](#)

Expressions of interest need to be received by the Board prior to **15 July 2022**. Please contact one of the Board Members, or contact the office directly by phone on **9390 5166** or email **clergysy@gmail.com** for more information, or to register your interest.

*Board of Management,
Clergy Remuneration System*

CLERICAL FUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOTICES

The new Claim Form is now available  which allows for direct computer input. The form also allows for 'print and submit' for those who prefer this method. We appreciate those who are able to forward a soft copy of their claim via email to **clericalfund@sydneycrs.org** (*please note our new address*).

The dates for the remaining 2022 meetings are: **23 June, 13 October, 9 December**.

Clerical Fund Management Committee

Supply

To help cover our priests in parishes and to allow them to plan sabbaticals we are in search of men who are able to help out in the parish with supply.

We are also looking for priests who are able to celebrate weddings on weekends all over the Archdiocese.

If you are able to help please fill in the form: 

Can you celebrate Mass in another language?

We often have calls asking for priests who can say Mass or minister to people in a foreign language outside those languages that are supplied by our foreign chaplains. This may be Mass but it also includes visiting the sick, the Last Rites, Marriage Preparation, and general pastoral care. We are currently working on a register of clergy who can say Mass in a language other than English.


If you are able to help please send an email with your name and the language you can say Mass in or fill in the form below.

Google form here: 


Important News about WWCC renewal

Please note this important information from the Office of the Children's Guardian:

PERSONAL DETAILS MUST BE UPDATED

Everyone who holds a Check is now legally required to update their contact details, including any name or address changes, within three months – just like your driver licence. And like your licence, penalties will apply for people who don't update. Updating your details is simple – go to  and follow the directions. You can even find your Check number here if you don't have it to hand.


Office of the Children's Guardian

For information and to renew your WWCC number click here 

Please advise the Chancery when you have updated your WWCC number.

Sabbatical/Formation considerations

Engaging Your Faith

Engaging Your Faith is a series of online short sessions offering an opportunity to explore your faith through a variety of topics presented by lecturers of Catholic Theological College, including: Theology, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Vatican II, Pastoral Studies, *Laudato Si'*, Christian Meditation, *Lectio Divina*, Interfaith Relations, and Science and Religion. 

Institute for Continuing Theological Education

Pontifical North American College – Rome

Please click on the link  to find out what the PNAC is offering for Sabbaticals and formation in 2022/23.

Tantur Ecumenical Institute

Please click on the link  to find out what Tantur is offering for Sabbaticals in 2022/23

**With my best wishes.
Yours fraternally in Christ**

**Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY**

Agency News

For July 2022

Living Well Dying Well Community Forum

Held on 25 May 2022 at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush and during National Palliative Care Week, the Living Well Dying Well Community Forum has already started much-needed conversations about death and dying in our community. Guests who joined the event either in person or via livestream, were able to hear from an esteemed group of panellists and also had the opportunity to reflect on and share their own personal experiences with the group.

Drawing on a wealth of knowledge and expertise, panellists discussed many aspects of Living Well Dying Well including:

- medical and clinical aspects of palliative care from institutional to community
- current policy and advocacy work being undertaken to support those who have a life-limiting illness and their loved-ones
- discussions regarding the academic, philosophical and ethical elements of end-of-life support in the community

Speaking passionately about these topics, the guest speakers; Patricia Thomas - Grief Care, Megan Best - Associate Professor of Bioethics (who joined remotely) and Maria Cigolini - Senior Palliative Medicine Physician and Associate Professor Medicine encouraged us all to play our role as a community in supporting those with a serious and life-limiting illness, and discussed the importance of normalising healthy conversations about death and dying.

“ Each panellist tonight has given me something to reflect upon and reminds me of my own woundedness in this mystery of building a relationship with another who is suffering. ”

Maggie, Community Forum attendee

At the event resource starter packs were handed out with further information about Living Well Dying Well, information about becoming a Companion Volunteer and referral cards for people who might need support.

Living Well Dying Well is asking key members of the community, including priests, to share the information and resources available at livingwelldyingwell.org with people in the community who have an interest, might need the service themselves, or wish to support others through becoming a Volunteer Companion. If you would like a resource starter pack, or to register your details to find out more, please email support@livingwelldyingwell.org or call **CatholicCare on 13 18 19**. A recording of the event is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...> Please help increase the impact of this event by sharing this link with others in your networks.

Thank you to Fr Michael de Stoop for graciously hosting our event at the Seminary of The Good Shepherd.



■ **Left to right:** Monica Doumit – MC, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Patrick O'Reilly - Living Well Dying Well Project Lead, CatholicCare Sydney, Megan Best – University of Notre Dame, Sydney Medical School and University of Sydney, Patricia Thomas – Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria, Maria Cigolini – University of Sydney.



NDIS Support Coordination – central to a successful care plan

Quyen, pronounced Queen, one of CatholicCare’s valued NDIS Support Coordinators, applies her knowledge and skills to assist 19-year-old Stanley, who was diagnosed with Down Syndrome when he was born. The nature of this diagnosis creates challenges in many areas of his life, such as relationship building, education, inclusion, employment, and future planning.

Stanley’s carer is his mum, whose first language is Cantonese. It was vital for her to connect with a service provider with whom she could easily communicate and build a rapport. Quyen was able to fill this need, being fluent in Cantonese herself.



Quyen knows that the support she provides is crucial to the success of Stanley’s life, along with the services he depends on such as Speech and Occupational Therapy for independence in functions such as eating, swallowing, and communicating with his friends and loved ones.

More than a planner, a Support Coordinator makes sure that all service agreements between the family and providers they engage with are fair and in line with NDIS standards and policies. Retaining an experienced and caring Support Coordinator also ensures that a participant such as Stanley has an advocate through complex plan reviews and when requesting an extension of his funds. A Support Coordinator is also able to give assistance to family members with behavioral strategies and resolving issues relating to care and safety.

For Stanley and his family, having Quyen as part of their support team means there is another person to lighten the load and depend on, making his world and theirs, the best it can be.

Quyen says of her support role, “I love what I do for Stanley, I can see that he is more confident in making decisions, and I love to see Stanley achieving the goals that we have set as a team and to witness his inclusion out in the community.”

CatholicCare also offer Life Skills and Work Training through Centacare, based at Belmore and now in its 31st year of operation.

Participants can access Centacare programs through their NDIS plan and take advantage of both the learning and social aspects of the centre through cooking and dance classes, day trips, breakfast and coffee clubs, including how to run your own café, and they will soon also have access to certified training courses. In addition, there may be the option to join CatholicCare’s team of Supported Employees who provide gardening and cleaning services

across Sydney and there is even a special program for School Leavers to help them become work ready.

To find out more about CatholicCare’s NDIS Support Coordination, Centacare, Supported Employees or our School Leaver’s program please call **CatholicCare on 13 18 19**, email us at connect@catholiccare.org or visit our website www.catholiccare.org

*Quyen Diep, Support Coordinator,
CatholicCare Disability Services*

Supporting and empowering young mums

*By Emma Neill, Practice Manager,
HOPE Program, CatholicCare Sydney*

Last month we celebrated all mothers on Mother’s Day. This month I’d like to take some time for us all to reflect specifically on the role of young mums, particularly those who are struggling with circumstances in their lives that are often out of their control.

Mothering is one of the most underrated, undervalued and challenging life choices for a young woman and is made even more difficult through complex circumstantial barriers.

Young women face stigma, judgement, isolation and are at an increased risk of becoming victims/survivors of Domestic and Family Violence.

As the Practice Manager of CatholicCare’s HOPE Program, which assists young women 16-24 years who are pregnant or who have a child under the age of two, I see a myriad of complex challenges that make mothering even more difficult, such as Domestic and Family Violence, child protection issues, homelessness, substance use and Complex Developmental Trauma.

Within the HOPE program, we believe that young women have inherently good aspirations for themselves and their children and it is our role to support them to unlock their own strengths and capabilities and empower them by providing opportunities to be heard and have choices.

HOPE values and amplifies the voices of young mothers by aligning their lived experience with the needs of vulnerable young babies and encourages young women to balance these two needs when making parental decisions.

Young women are empowered to provide safe, nurturing and predictable environments where they can heal from their own lived experiences and build better futures for the next generation. Through ongoing therapeutic complex case management for up to 12 months, the program focuses on early intervention as HOPE can commence working with young women from 20 week’s gestation.

Over the past 12 months, we have seen an increased rate of referrals and the complex risk and safety concerns faced by young women and their children have also increased.

We are seeing young women and their children in volatile, unsafe and unacceptable environments because of the violent and abusive behaviours of their partners. We are seeing young women being forced back into unhealthy home environments because their options for safe and affordable accommodation are few and far between and we are seeing young women being disempowered by structures and systems that don't value their lived experiences, and choices that don't provide opportunities to foster growth as young women and mothers.

At HOPE, we are extremely motivated to empower young women to have safe choices and build upon their own strengths and capacity, so they can provide more for themselves and their children.

How we work

The HOPE team are a group of delightful, highly skilled practitioners that are motivated to support the safety and empowerment of young women and their children. They work with young women by providing insights into attachment and attunement with babies and by providing information about the physical and neurological development of young children.

The work of Dr Bruce Perry, Dan Siegel, Bessel van Der Kolk, Stephen Porges and Patricia Crittenden is pivotal for informing much of what we do when working with young women and their babies and ensuring a trauma-informed approach.

The young women in HOPE weren't necessarily afforded predictability or nurturing, warm home environments, so often we focus on unlearning and relearning for the mums so that they can provide this for their children.

HOPE is fortunate to have a small selection of transitional properties which offers a much-needed opportunity for young women to establish their own safe space in the world to begin developing healthy routines, providing an excellent foundation for building positive futures.



I want to acknowledge all the young mums that are trying their absolute best to keep it all together and taking each day one step at a time. We celebrate the young mums who often don't get celebrated, and we want to say that we hear you, we see you, and we think you are absolutely wonderful! We want to congratulate all the young mums who take moments for themselves amongst the chaos of everyday parenting. The mums who put on a load of washing so they can have clean clothes, the mums who make food so they can nurture their bodies and babies and the mums who so graciously welcome us into their homes and show vulnerability, openness and a yearning for more. We are consistently in awe of your resilience, strength and patience. We thank you for all that you are, and everything that you do.

Supporting young mums in the community

If you know a young mum that might benefit from additional support or you are a young mum facing some additional challenges, we welcome referrals from everywhere. You can email hopereferrals@catholiccare.org for a copy of our brochure or further information about how we can help.

Centacare provides work for people with an intellectual disability.

Our friendly and hardworking team deliver services to businesses across Sydney from Commercial Cleaning, Gardening and more. Contact us to find out how you can hire these services.

Call CCareline to find out more:

CCareline 131819

CatholicCare.org

✉ connect@catholiccare.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

CatholicCare is also currently working to expand HOPE with the aim of doubling resources for the program over the next three years, so that we can support 125 young mums annually to build better lives for themselves and their children.

For further information, you can visit catholiccare.org/hope or if you'd like to assist by making a donation visit <https://fundraise.catholiccare.org/donate-hope>

About the author - Emma is the Practice Manager of CatholicCare's HOPE program and is an experienced child and family Social Worker. Emma is currently undertaking a Master of Domestic and Family Violence Practice and is extremely motivated to empower young women by providing choice, opportunity and restoring power.

From Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services (SCECS)

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care Open Day

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care opened its doors to the local Rosebery community for its first ever Family Open Day on Saturday April 2nd. With over 45 families taking the opportunity to visit the service, the event was a huge success filled with plenty of fun for all who attended. Not only did new families attend, but current families took the opportunity to come along, meet with others and introduce the service to prospective families. It was a real community event.

Our service director, Lidia, and her team of dedicated educators welcomed local families to enjoy various child-friendly activities including storytelling, craft, games, and face painting. Families were also given a tour of the state of the art children's facility, and were provided with many opportunities to learn more about SCECS and how we support the community.

Families showed great excitement as they made their way through the open and airy spaces, appreciating the raked ceilings, exposed timber doors and walls. These characteristics are purposeful; visually and physically connecting the children to the outside natural environment. Families expressed great appreciation for the exquisite outdoor environment featured in the children's outdoor play areas. These features give meaning to the notion of 'the environment as the third teacher.'

If you would like to explore the possibilities of having an Early Childhood Service as part of your Catholic community, please reach out to Franceyn O'Connor, Chief Executive Officer of SCECS (franceyn.oconnor@syd.catholic.edu.au).

Safeguarding

OVERDUE: Child-Related Activity Register's

The Child Related Activity Register (Register) is an electronic tool to record details of the Working with Children Check and Safeguarding Induction and training details of volunteers and paid workers who are engaged in a Child-Related roles such as Readers, Collectors, Youth Ministers, Acolytes and Eucharistic ministers. The Register assists the Parish Priest/Administrator to fulfil his legislative requirements applicable to both the *Children's Guardian Act 2019* and the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.

Child-Related Activity Registers for the period of July - December 2021 were due back to the Chancery Office for auditing in January 2022. The Safeguarding Office would like to say a big thank you to all the Parishes that have submitted their Register. As of the 30 May 2022, following Parishes are still yet to return their Register for the period of July - December 2021:

- Annandale/Stammore Parish
- Ashfield Parish
- Bass Hill Parish
- Bondi Parish
- Broadway Parish
- Campsie Parish
- Central Bankstown Parish
- Church Hill Parish
- Clovelly Parish
- Coogee Parish
- Denistone Parish
- Drummoyne Parish
- Edgecliff/Paddington Parish
- Elizabeth Bay Parish
- Enfield Parish
- Engadine Parish
- Erskineville Parish
- Fairfield Parish
- Five Dock Parish
- Flemington Parish
- Forest Lodge Parish
- Homebush Parish
- Horsley Park Parish
- Hurstville Parish
- Kensington Parish

- Kogarah Parish
- Lewisham Parish
- Lidcombe Parish
- Liverpool Parish
- Lurnea Parish
- Maroubra Bay Beach Parish
- Mortlake Parish
- North Sydney Parish
- Oatley Parish
- Pymont Parish
- Randwick Parish
- Strathfield Parish
- Strathfield South Parish
- Summer Hill Parish
- Sutherland Parish

Can the above Parishes please return their overdue Child-Related Activity registers to the Chancery Office for auditing. All Registers are to be emailed to ministry@sydneycatholic.org

Child-Related Activity Registers for the period of **January - June 2022** are due back for auditing in July. Please email your Registers to ministry@sydneycatholic.org

2022 Child Protection Week Competition - Celebrating Differences in our Community

Child Protection Week is soon approaching and the Safeguarding Office will be developing another Activity Book for the Children within the Archdiocese of Sydney. The Activity Book will provide Children with fun, educative and age appropriate information about celebrating differences within their community. Developing the Activity Book will align with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, 10 National Principles and 10 Child Safe Standards.

We are all different and special in our own way, it is important that we can recognise and celebrate our differences because we are all unique. For example Grace is able to walk with her feet but Jerry has to use a wheelchair to move around. The Safeguarding Office needs the help of the Children to design characters that celebrates differences and fits the following questions:



- There are many different families within our community. Can you draw the different types of families that you know?
- We all look different from one another. Draw as many characters as you can that all look different from each other.

Things to think about: hair colour, skin colour, disability and facial features such as glasses or freckles.

The best and most creative designs will be featured throughout the activity book which will be available to all children within the Archdiocese of Sydney. Designs needs to be submitted by an adult to the Safeguarding Office by **Monday 27th June 2022** either by post or email.


Postal Address:

*Anna Sammut
Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office
Level 16, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street
Sydney NSW 2000*

The Safeguarding Office has emailed Parish Priests, Administrators, Chaplains and Safeguarding Support Officers asking to distribute the **'Celebrating Differences in our Community' activity sheet** to Children aged between 5 – 12 years in the community.


We look forward to receiving submissions for the communities within the Archdiocese!

2022 Safeguarding Training Schedule

Please click on the link  for the 2022 Safeguarding Training Schedule.

*Anna Sammut
Safeguarding Officer - Training and Development*

Safeguarding Bite No. 51



Organising Children's Activities and Events

Remember Risk Assessments, WWCC's, Safeguarding Training, Code of Conduct and Consent forms are important safeguarding measures that are required when organising events or activities for Children.

The Safeguarding Team

