

A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP


Dear Fellow Priests and Deacons
My Fraternal greetings to you all!

During the month of May, we continue to pray for the intercession of Our Blessed Mother the Virgin Mary and we especially look forward to the feast day of Our Lady Help of Christians on the 24th, patroness of Australia.

I am very pleased to announce that the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has joined a network of more than 2,200 corporate, government and not-for-profit organisations, including other dioceses around Australia, in an important step towards reconciliation with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters.

In an address to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Alice Springs on 29 November 1986, Pope John Paul II emphasised that the Church herself in Australia would not fully be the Church that Jesus wants her to be until Indigenous Catholics have made their contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.

The Archdiocesan Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan formalises our ongoing work of acknowledging and healing relationships with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, seeking justice for those whom we, as a nation, have at times failed to hear.

You can read a full copy of our Archdiocesan Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan here: 

In April I was blessed to be able to join a group of leaders from Sydney Catholic Schools on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Rome, and Assisi. Many of the pilgrims spoke of how their faith was transformed and reinvigorated by the experience. I encourage you to pray for all our school leaders in their important role as missionary disciples, forming our young people and leading them to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I pray that the remaining weeks of Eastertide are a time of joy, may we continue to proclaim Christ's resurrection as we await the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

*As always, please be assured of
my continued prayers for all of you!*

+ Archbishop Anthony

2023

Dates To Remember

Intercultural Clergy Programme for 2023

31–23 August 2023 - S2

6–8 November 2023 - S3

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

Finance B

25 May

Polding Centre

Walk with Christ

Sunday, 11 June 2023

St Mary's Cathedral Precinct

Worklogic Training Courses for 2023

14 June - Conversations that Matter @ Polding Centre

28 June - Professional Conduct in the Workplace @
Polding Centre

inside

Ongoing Formation




- ◆ 2023/24 Sabbaticals - PNAC
- ◆ 2023/24 - Tantur Ecumenical Institute
- ◆ St Augustine's Seminary, Toronto, Canada
- ◆ Pontificium Institutum Altioris Latinitatis, Rome

PLEASE PRAY...

For those that are sick in our community...

Mgr Anthony Doherty, Mgr Vince Redden, Mgr John Usher, Fr Thanh Nguyen, Fr Joseph Aikkaramattam, Mgr Frank Coorey, Fr John Alt, Fr Don Willoughby, Fr Noel Short, Fr David Coffey and Fr Michael Kelly who are currently unwell.

For special anniversaries occurring in May, June and July

I ask that you download the attached lists:  (May),  (June), and  (July) 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 John Armstrong

Spiritual Director to the Seminary of the Good Shepherd from 1 January 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Mr Louis Azzopardi

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Ongoing Formation of Clergy from 24 July 2023 for a term of three years.

Rev Peter Carroll MSC

Reappointed Chaplain to Corrective Services NSW from 30 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Rev Kevin Fiame SDB

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St John Bosco, Engadine from 1 April 2023.

Rev Joseph Gedeon

Appointed Episcopal Vicar for Welfare, and a Member of the College of Consultors and the Council of Priests from 5 May 2023 for a term of three years.

Rev Kim Ha

Reappointed Parish Priest of the Parish of St Joseph, Enfield from 15 June 2023 for a term of six years.

Rev Tom Jose MSFS

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parish of the Holy Family, Menai from 9 May 2023.

Rev Simon Kitimbo

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hoxton Park from 1 May 2023.

Rev George Mankuzhikary

Appointed part-time Assistant Priest of the Parishes of the Sacred Heart, Villawood and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sefton from 4 May 2023.

Rev Ba Kien Nguyen CP

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St Brigid, Marrickville from 19 April 2023.

Rev John Pham

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parishes of All Saints, Liverpool and St Therese, Sadleir-Miller from 9 May 2023.

Rev Thomas Stevens

Reappointed Chaplain to the Australian Turf Club in the Archdiocese of Sydney from 1 May 2023 for a term of three years.

Rev Chaminda Wanigasena

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Ongoing Formation of Clergy from 24 July 2023 for a term of three years.

Very Rev Julian Wellspring

Reappointed Judicial Vicar of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney from 16 November 2023 for a term of three years..

NON-CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS:

Mr Robert Baker

Reappointed a Member of the Catholic Development Fund Advisory Board from 1 May 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Bernard Boerma

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Peter Bokeyar

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Judge Jennifer Boland

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Ms Kylie Cullen

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Ongoing Formation of Clergy from 24 July 2023 for a term of three years.

Sr Elizabeth Delaney SGS

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Luke Geary

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr John McCarthy KC

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Paul McClintock

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Glenn McLachlan

Reappointed a Member of the Catholic Development Fund Advisory Board from 1 May 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Chris Meney

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Mr Michael Salmon

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Professor Zlatko Skrbis

Reappointed a Member of the Committee for Domus 8.7 - Anti-Slavery Taskforce from 7 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Ms Barbara Thompson

Reappointed a Member of the Catholic Development Fund Advisory Board from 1 May 2023 for a term of three years.

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

Ms Krysia Walker

Reappointed a Member of the Independent Safeguarding Advisory Panel from 9 April 2023 for a term of three years.

A SABBATICAL EXPERIENCE

Spring Sabbatical Program

January–April 2023

ICTE - Institute for Continuing Theological Education, Rome

Fr Eduardo Orilla, PP

St Patrick Parish Kogarah

Introduction

Sabbatical Course in Rome has come to an end. Time to return to St Patrick's Parish and School Community, Kogarah. Enriched and re-invigorated spiritually, equipped and updated intellectually, sustained and encouraged by other brother-priests pastorally, I would like to share my sabbatical experience in Rome with my brother-priests in the Archdiocese of Sydney, hoping that they will as well take the most rewarding time in their priestly and pastoral ministry to 'come and taste the goodness of the Lord' through sabbatical studies, not only in Rome (which I highly recommend) but in places / countries offered and encouraged by the Archdiocese.

Brief personal background

I have been ordained 33 years in the Archdiocese of Manila in 1990 - 27 July, feast of St Angela Mirici - by the late (and famous) cardinal of Manila Jaime Cardinal Sin. Then, I spent many years of my priestly ministry as a missionary priest in



the Archdiocese of Honiara, Solomon Islands, until I came to Australia in 1998 during the time of the late Edward Cardinal Clancy, then I was incardinated in our Archdiocese of Sydney in 2002 by the late George Cardinal Pell. I have been assigned in a number of parishes in our archdiocese, and my previous assignment prior to St Patrick's Kogarah was St Joachim's Lidcombe for more than a decade as Parish Priest, establishing the first ever 24/7 Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel (PEA) in the archdiocese and the surrounding dioceses in NSW. Then, I was transferred to the parish of St Patrick, Kogarah, in 2021, hoping to establish another Perpetual Adoration Chapel in the Eastern Deanery, among others. (That's a great challenge considering the geographical location of the parish church and its locality. But God can make things happen even beyond our estimation and comprehension).

Sabbatical course in Rome

Twelve (12) band of priests arrived in the beautiful and well-furnished building called Casa O'Toole at the far-end of the PNAC - Pontifical North American College compound - on the 9th of January 2023. These 'twelve disciples' came from different countries, but the numbers were dominated by the Americans: only one from Canada, one from New Zealand, two from Australia (myself a diocesan and a religious), and the rest were from America. The course began by Opening Mass, officiated by the new Rector of PNAC, followed by Gaudeamus (self-introduction and Italian cocktail). The succeeding days and weeks were spent in daily minimal lectures and bonding with one another as priests of God, having different personal and pastoral background and experiences. However, classes and timetable were not only confined in the four (4) walls of the classroom, but were extended to other parts of Rome, or Italy, and even outside Italy. Classes offered to us were more of a refresher-course in our theological, philosophical and ecclesiastical studies. But more than lectures/in-puts from prolific professors from the different universities in Rome, we shared a great deal about our pastoral and missionary experiences, intertwined by our visits or classes in the actual field - arts and architectures in Rome and Italy. Pranzo (lunch) is usually shared with seminarians at PNAC refectory, while breakfast and dinner in our building (COT). The visits and the pilgrimages were the 'icing in the pudding.' Week-ends were usually free for us, and so it's up to us where and how to spend those free days wisely and fruitfully. Holy Land pilgrimage was one of the highlights of the course, and we went as a class to Israel, Galilee, Bethlehem, Palestine, among others. Personally, on free weekends I visited the place of our very own patron saint -Saint Patrick in Ireland on his very feast day, 17 March, where I climbed or 'ascended' the high mountain of Croagh Patrick, where he allegedly drove all the snakes and serpents in Ireland. And was able to visit

as well the place of our other parish saint - Saint Catherine of Siena in Siena, Tuscany. Athens, Greece was another country that I visited to attend a conference. And the last country to visit was France, spending Holy Week in the French Alps, a place of real physical solitude and yes, snow, not just snow-capped mountain but real snow.

Conclusion

The climax of our course was our 5-days Holy Retreat in Assisi, the sacred place of St Francis. It was there that we had the time to personally and spiritually process not just our sabbatical experience but our life as ordained ministers sharing in the ministerial priesthood of Jesus Christ the High Priest, and preparing to go back to the place or parish or community we are called by God to serve, and to spend gladly ourselves as priests of God.

Recommendation

I highly encouraged my other brother-priests to take leave for a while your pastoral or administrative ministry to 'Come and See' how good and kind is the Lord who called you to the service of the church and God himself. Amen!

ONGOING FORMATION OF CLERGY

Last week, the Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee, ran two inaugural training programmes for clergy.

Intercultural Clergy Induction Programme S1

1-3 May 2023, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre

The Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee in collaboration with the Catholic Immigration Office welcomed twelve priests from around the world who have arrived in Sydney over the past twelve months to take part in session one of three session Intercultural Clergy Induction Programme.

The clergy gathered on Monday afternoon at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre set amongst tall leafy gum trees and peaceful rolling hills, that is so representative of our Australian country landscape. They were welcomed in a welcome to country smoke ceremony, by Dr Lisa Buxton, John and Kelly from the Catholic Aboriginal Ministry, followed by a presentation on Aboriginal history in NSW.

Tuesday and Wednesday were spent meeting some key members of the Chancery and some Agencies, giving those present an overview of how the Archdiocese of Sydney works.

Tuesday, night Deacon Louis Azzopardi introduced the priests to "Aussie lingo" and colloquialisms, which generated much discussion.

Some comments:

“It is a fantastic programme.”

“The welcoming ceremony is very meaningful, beautiful and profound.”

“All programmes ran smoothly and are very helpful.”

“The topics being discussed with facilitators were very helpful to us who just moved to Sydney to work in Ministry.”

“The location of the programme was fantastic and would like to attend future conferences in this area.”

Session 2 of this programme will run between 21–23 August. We look forward to welcoming everyone back.

With many thanks to Fr Roland Maurer, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, Kylie Cullen, Manager of the Catholic Immigration Office, Deacon Louis Azzopardi and all those that presented during these three days.

Finance A

4 May 2023, Polding Centre

The Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee in collaboration with the Parish Support Team, last week provided day one of a two-day inaugural training programme, on parish Finance A for a select group of priests at Polding Centre.

The programme was opened by the Vicar General. The day was attended by 17 priests who have been appointed administrators/parish priests for the first time over the past couple of years. The programme was a resounding success, with strong engagement from attendees, and active participation by our clergy. By all accounts, participants were keen to learn, and took part in the learning exercises accordingly.

The course material was prepared by Parish Support, with the session led by Edward Duffy, supported by the Parish Support Team.

Below are some comments from attendees:

“I found the basic explanation of the balance sheet/P&L distinction very helpful...”

“Sessions was very helpful for me...”

“...got some idea about Church accounting system...”

“Information on parish financial report was very beneficial...”

“For first time learners there is a lot of information ... broken into two...”

“...come to appreciate the complexity of the Parish Finance process...”

“...general journal knowledge increased my understanding of accounts...”

“...explanation was very easy (stet) comprehensible...”

“...(beneficial) assistance from presenters...”

“...we are able to apply training to our actual parishes' accounts...”

Session B of this programme will be presented on 25 May. A second running of this programme has been booked for October 2023.

If you would like to be part of this please send **Maria Cavallaro** an expression of interest to maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org.

With many thanks to Raymond Pak and his Parish Support Team, Edward Duffy, Victoria Gauci, Antonius Gandarasa and Charles Isbester for presenting and preparing this Module.

The next training for clergy will be:

Conversations that Matter

14 June - 10.30am to 2pm at the Polding Centre (morning tea available from 10.15am).

Professional Conduct in the Workplace

28 June - 10.30am to 12.00pm at the Polding Centre (morning tea available from 10.15am).

Registrations on these courses will be out soon.

Fr Paul Monkerud

Chair, Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee

For any enquiries please contact

Maria Cavallaro: 9390 5888

maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org

Licentiate in Theology and Patristic Studies

St Augustine's Seminary, Toronto, Canada

St Augustine's Seminary in Toronto is launching their Licentiate in Theology and Patristic Studies.

The Licentiate has been approved by the Dicastery for Culture and Education. For more information please click on the link.

From Pontificium Institutum Altioris Latinitatis - Lingua Ecclesiae, Rome

Your Excellency,

the Pontificium Institutum Altioris Latinitatis wish to inform you about the third edition of the intensive course of Latin as a spoken language Lingua Ecclesiae.

The course is organized by us along with the Italian Institute for Classical Studies. The course will be held in Rome

in September 2023 and it addresses exclusively to ecclesiastics who will spend the entire length of the course, i.e. one month, living together, guested by an ecclesiastic accommodation, carefully chosen. Beside the studying, the guests could dedicate themselves to several moments of pray that take place during the day.

In the past editions, we hosted almost 200 students who, coming from different dioceses of the Church, are now refining their juridical, philosophical and theological studies, or teaching Latin in their dioceses.

In the morning we hold lessons of Lingua Latina; in the afternoon the time is dedicated to personal study and optional courses of Latinitas Patristica, Latinitas Canonica and Latinitas Liturgica.

Starting from this edition, we are introducing an additional support for the students: in the afternoon it will be possible to attend further lessons devoted to deepen and repeat what has been taught in the morning.

Please note that, in case one is not able to come to Rome, a distinct LINGUA LATINA course will be available via zoom.



For the whole month and in every moment of the day the only communication language will be Latin (in the lessons as in the daily life).

Since day one, the teachers of the Italian Institute for Classical Studies with a deliberated methodology, acquired through years of using the most efficient didactical methodology, will hold the lessons in Latin and guide the students to the acquisition of an active and passive usage of the language.

At the end of the study program, the students, even though the ones who didn't have any previous knowledge of the Latin language will be able to read and understand comfortably Latin texts that constitute the precious treasure of the spiritual and cultural tradition of the Church.

Besides, having passed the exams, the students will acquire a maximum of 25 ECTS, guaranteed by the Pontificum Institutum Altioris Latinitatis of the Università Pontificia Salesiana.

We hope that your kind courtesy will help us in sharing the information with those who might be interested.

Thanking you for your time and attention, we attach some informative material  in order to shed some light on the nature and the goal of the courses. You can also visit the website .

Yours in Christ,

Prof. don Miran Sajovic
Preside-Decano

Pontificium Institutum Altioris Latinitatis

Prof. Federico Pirrone
Presidente

Istituto Italiano di Studi Classici

Recommended online retreat

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

“HOW TO FILL OUR CHURCHES”

Presented by Greg Sheridan

Hello Everyone,

Hope all is well.

We have some good news concerning the priests Seminar. Greg Sheridan is to be our main speaker. This year's seminar follows on from our very successful Priests Seminar last year where Cardinal Pell was the principal speaker.

We have asked Greg to speak on the topic of “How to fill your Churches”. It is related to his two recent books: “God is Good for You: A defence of Christianity in troubled times”. AND “Christians: The urgent case for Christians in our world”. Similar to the 2022 Seminar “The Church and its Future”, the Seminar seeks to come to a better understanding of issues confronting the Church and to offer positive approaches which will enrich the Pastoral Ministry of the participating clergy. This year the seminar is more focussed on the local scene and local issues confronting Priests in their Parishes. Greg is certainly familiar with all the contemporary issues of the Catholic Church in Australia.

In a sense Greg needs no introduction. He has been a high profile journalist and political commentator in Australia for over 40 years. FROM THE SOURCES: “Gregory Paul Sheridan AO (born 1956) is an Australian foreign affairs journalist, author and commentator. He has written a number of books on politics, religion and international affairs and has been the foreign editor of The Australian newspaper since 1992. He is a regular commentator on Australian television and radio, including for the ABC and Sky News Australia. The ABC describes Sheridan as “one of Australia's most respected and influential analysts of domestic and international politics”.

As you are aware the seminar is an annual event and is fairly short, so priests are encouraged to live in, arriving in the evening of Monday July 31 for dinner at 6.30 pm and finishing after breakfast on the Morning of Thursday August 3.

The other speakers will present different aspects of the lives of priests who lived saintly lives. The talks will be looking at “life of virtue” led by certain priests

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 Center.” The Cost will be \$400

THE TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

MONDAY, July 31

5.00 Arrival and registration

6.30 Tea

8.00 Convivium

TUESDAY, August 1

Conferences at 10.00 am, 11.30 am and 4.30 pm

WEDNESDAY, August 2

Conferences at 10.00 am, 11.30 pm and 4.30 pm

THURSDAY, August 3

9.30 am Departure

If you are interested or know of other clergy who may be, please contact me by email.

As always, keeping all in mind

My email address: frpaulgrant@gmail.com

My mobile: **0479056082**

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

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Update regarding Catholic Church Insurance from the Executive Director, Administration & Finance

Dear Reverend Fathers,

As you will have seen, an announcement was sent out from my office last Friday evening regarding Catholic Church Insurance  and the news that it is likely no longer able to continue to operate.

Having served with great faith and integrity, and worked closely with Catholic institutions in Australia for over 100 years, it is very unfortunate that this is likely to be the outcome. I take this opportunity to thank those at CCI for their longstanding service to the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney and Church across Australia.

Ensuring survivors of historical abuse are cared for with compassion and integrity has been CCI's paramount

concern since commencement of the Royal Commission more than a decade ago. Recent bushfires, financial impost of the Covid-19 pandemic, and two consecutive years of rare flood events have compounded the demand on CCI, for whom such operations no longer are sustainable.

I wish to assure all clergy and parishioners, once again, that your current insurance policies will be honoured, and the Archdiocese will work closely with parishes and agencies to ensure continuity of insurance coverage. As the need arises to renew or otherwise take out new insurance policies, the Archdiocese will ensure you are fully supported as we transition to new insurance providers. In particular, we are working actively with CCI on all of our workers compensation policies which are current through until 30 June, and will have a further update next week on this.

At this stage, we have not yet committed to a new insurance provider and will continue to keep you informed as we progress towards reaching this significant procurement decision.

The Archdiocesan Parish Support Team is available to assist with any concerns you might have about your insurance coverage on **(02) 9390 5233** or parish.support@sydneycatholic.org

With prayerful best wishes,

Michael Digges

Executive Director, Administration & Finance

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

Australian Taxation Office Compliance: Know Your Obligations

Please check your portal for your due date of your January to March 2023 Business Activity Statement.

Please note, the ATO is imposing fines of \$275 for each period of 28 days (or part thereof) that the return or statement is overdue, up to a maximum of \$1,375.

For any assistance, with monies held in the ATO Portal or if you have more than one BAS Statement due/overdue, please contact **Parish Support** on **9390 5233**.

Chancery Relocation: New Postal Address

As you are aware, the Chancery is relocating to Leichhardt from September 2023.

In anticipation of that move, there has been a change of postal address.


All mail that would normally be sent to the Polding Centre should now be addressed to:

Locked Bag 5040

Alexandria NSW 2015

That locked bag is already functional and will continue to operate once the Chancery moves to Leichhardt. Please update your address books and contact details to reflect this change.

CAS Chancery Relocation Newsletter

The CAS Chancery Relocation Newsletter has now been released  It contains the latest update regarding the Chancery relocation from the Polding Centre to St Martha's in Leichhardt later this year, and includes details regarding the relocation date, preparations underway, refurbishment, logistics and other changes that will impact the Chancery and related agencies.

Commemoration of Sisters of Our Lady Help of Christians - Mass and Plaque Blessing by His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher


Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP wishes to commemorate the wonderful legacy of the Sisters of Our Lady Help of Christians following the passing of the last of the Sisters.

They were commissioned in 1931 by Archbishop Kelly and served with generosity and care at our Sydney seminaries. The ceremony will be conducted at 11am on Wednesday 31 May 2023 at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd Homebush.

2023 Walk with Christ

The 2023 Walk with Christ event celebrates the Feast of Corpus Christi. In this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we invite all the faithful in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney to unite and honour the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

The walk will take place on Sunday 11th June commencing at 2:30pm from the corner of Pitt Street and Martin Place. It will be preceded by a Festival in Martin Place commencing at 1.00pm.

As an incentive for parishes to attend Walk with Christ, the Archdiocese will reimburse parishes the cost of hiring a bus. Bus logistics should be arranged at the parish level. Once arranged, it is important to register your bus company details on  to assist with logistics during the event. You may forward your bus hiring invoice to Bishop Umbers' office for reimbursement.

All parish priests should have received promotional material that can be used to encourage your parishioners to take part in this event.

For more information see  or contact: bishop.umbersoffice@sydneycatholic.org

Marriage Forms – updated versions available on Sydney Clergy Intranet and Parish Intranet

Please note there have been updates made to the following editable marriage forms:

- Permission for Mixed Marriage/Disparity of Cult
- Prenuptial Enquiry Form

Please delete all previous versions of these forms and download the updated version. Please contact Lynelle if you require further information – lynelle.lembyrk@sydneytribunal.org.au

Terrigal Apartment

Priests are reminded of the availability of the apartment at Terrigal for holidays. This apartment has three bedrooms and is a very convenient distance from the beach. For those wishing to book accommodation at Terrigal please contact **Sebastian Condon** on (02) 9390 5185 or Email: sebastian.condon@sydneycatholic.org

Mental Might 21


Whatever challenges we face with our mental wellbeing, they will always decrease once we share our feelings with others.

Dr Robbie Lloyd

Research & Project Officer, Justice and Peace Office

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,

In support of leaders and volunteers in our parishes, we are offering a number of opportunities for formation in this Easter season. Each one of us is constantly maturing in our knowledge and love of Christ, "following Him on the way" (Mark 10:52) and these opportunities seek to form and equip our people in faith, leadership and charisms from which the fruit of evangelisation flows.

Sherry Weddell

Among these is the opportunity to hear from Sherry Weddell who will visit the Archdiocese and present on the topic: "Charisms: The Power of the Holy Spirit Unleashed." These events will be dedicated to exploring the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives and renewing the Church for mission.


Monday 22 May 2023

6:00pm – 9:00pm, Liverpool Catholic Club

Wednesday 24 May 2023

6:00pm–9:00pm, Australian Catholic University Strathfield

Cost: \$30 plus booking fees.

Places are limited - Register now 

Following from Sherry Weddell's visit in May, the *Catherine of Siena Institute* will deliver a special offering of the **Called & Gifted Discernment Process online** for the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. Commencing in August, and running over several months on eight evenings, this online formation will enable your local parish leaders to discern and discover their charisms, and to begin to exercise them in service of the parish and mission in their everyday lives. Expressions of interest for this upcoming online course can be made at parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org.

"Called to Love" - Marriage Enrichment Events 12, 13 & 14 May

This Mother's Day weekend married couples are invited to a special experience to draw closer together through personal dialogue, reflection, prayer and renewal of vows. The Called to Love events will be presented by highly engaging international author and speaker Chris Padgett, founder of The Holy Centre for Marriage, USA.

Dates and Locations:

Friday, 12th May 6pm - 9pm


at St Thomas of Canterbury Parish – Free registration

Saturday 13th May 9am - 5:30pm

at Holy Cross College Ryde - \$50 per couple


Sunday 14th May 9am - 5:30pm

at St Jerome's Punchbowl - \$50 per couple

Catering included in all events. More information and registrations at 

Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Courses 2023

A wonderful opportunity for engaged couples to join the 'Of Life and Love' marriage preparation course from the Sydney Archdiocese. This will be held on **20 & 21 May 2023** at St Christopher's Parish, Holsworthy. The in-person course will provide opportunity for formation from marriage


experts, time for reflection, couple discussion and reception of the sacraments. Registrations at 

A second Marriage Preparation Program will also be offered in November 2023.

More details will be shared at deanery meetings for the notice of priests, deacons and those preparing couples for marriage.

SmartLoving Sponsor Couples

Married couples are also asked to consider becoming a 'sponsor couple' and accompany engaged couples as they prepare for marriage, through the SmartLoving's Engaged program.

An orientation webinar will take place on **6 June** to 'come and see' with no obligation. Information and registrations at 

Sacramental Coordinator Formation Day




This year's Sacramental Coordinator Formation Day will take place on Saturday, the 15 July.


A renewed program will be launched, along with training in its use.

For more information and to register your interest, please contact Simon Yeak on **0427 536 356** or at simon.yeak@sydneycatholic.org


Theology of the Body Courses in Sydney Archdiocese

In partnership with Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, Theology of the Body Institute online courses are now more accessible locally, with live Q&A sessions with Christopher West and well renowned lecturers. Partial subsidies available to students from within the Archdiocese of Sydney with endorsement from Parish Priests.

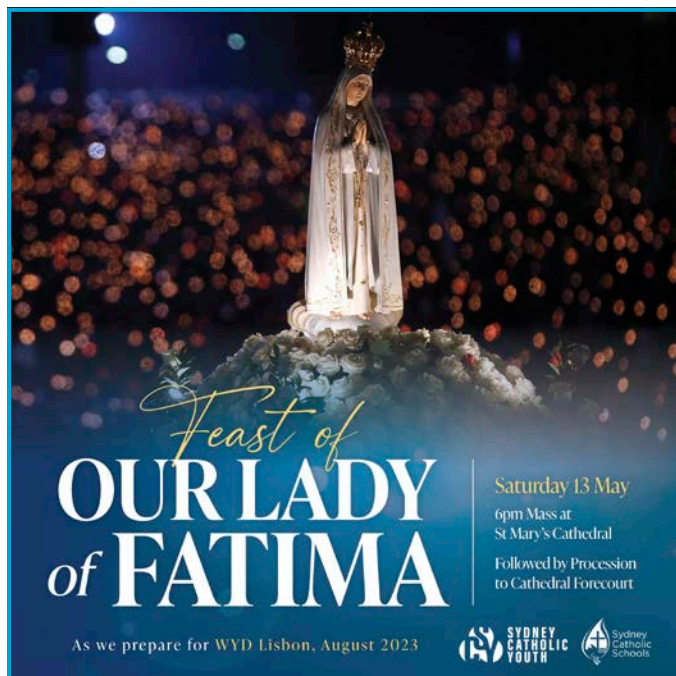
- August 14–15 Theology of the Body 1: "Into the Deep" 
- October 9–10 Theology of the Body 2: "Head and Heart Immersion" 
- December 4–15 Writings of John Paul II 

For more information or to register  or email tobi@sydneycatholic.org

Men's Rosary Crusade at St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt – 1pm every 'First Saturday of the Month'

A movement of men publicly offering reparation and repentance to God on the 'First Saturday' of continues each month in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and Her requests. All are welcome to pilgrimage to St Mary's Cathedral on the first Saturday with confession available from 11am and Mass at 12pm. Information can be found at 

“Join our pilgrims as they are prepare for World Youth Day in Lisbon in August, through the celebration of a very special feast in Portugal, Our Lady of Fatima, on 13 May.



Just as Our Lady appeared to the young shepherd children in the Portuguese town of Fatima, offering them hope for peace at the height of World War One, let us unite again through her intercession in a prayer for peace in Ukraine and other countries struggling with conflict in today's world.

To honour Our Lady on this special feast day, you are warmly invited to a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 6pm followed by a candle-lit procession to the cathedral forecourt. We hope this special event can unite all in Sydney who share a special devotion to Our Lady as well as help our World Youth Day pilgrims in their spiritual preparation for their journey to Lisbon in August. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!"

Daniel Ang

Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

CLERICAL FUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOTICE


ARE YOU OVER 65? All clergy over 65 are encouraged to apply for the *Commonwealth Seniors Health Card*. Sign up via the Services Australia website, which leads you step-by-step through the process. (If you have recently applied

for the Disaster Recovery Payment – this will be an easier procedure – as most of the work will have been done.)

*NB: It is important to note that Exempt Fringe Benefits (eg S57 FBTAA exemption for benefits provided by a religious institution to its religious practitioners) are not **Reportable Fringe Benefits** and, therefore, not treated as **Adjusted Taxable Income** for the purposes of assessing eligibility for the Seniors Health Care Card.*

YOUR CLERICAL FUND CLAIMS: To assist with administration, the Committee appreciate claims being made on an annual basis. Please remember that claims can only be submitted for medical expenses up to 2 years prior.

The next meeting of the Clerical Fund Management Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 13 June 2023.

We appreciate receiving your claims (via the Claim Form)  - by soft copy if possible - two weeks prior to the meeting date. Our new email address is: clericalfund@sydney-crs.org

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: 

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.


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: 

Tantur Ecumenical Institute

Please click on the link:  to find out what Tantur is offering for Sabbaticals in 2023.

With my best wishes.
Yours fraternally in Christ



Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY

THE LAST WORD: WORK HEALTH & SAFETY



The Chancery Property Team has great pleasure to welcome Doug O'Loughlan as our Property & WHS officer.



Doug will soon commence a visit program to parishes to assist with all their facilities managements needs.

For advice please contact Doug via email:
douglas.oloughlan@sydneycatholic.org

Parish WHS A Team

See the Parish Intranet Site
for all your WHS needs:
sydarch.org.au/parish



AGENCY NEWS

For May/June 2023

From CatholicCare

When Love Becomes Permanent

The most challenging aspect of being a foster family is letting go of a child you've come to love according to Illawong's Sale family.

Having fostered 11 children over the past five years, they couldn't bear the thought of giving six-year-old Jade up and decided to officially make her part of their clan.

From the time little Jade arrived, they just couldn't let her go.

"We had always been short-term carers but found the hardest part was always giving them back. And then little Jade arrived and we just fell in love with her and knew we wanted her to stay. She calls me mum and tells people she is just one of my four children, no explanation needed. It's not always easy, she did come with some challenging behaviours, but after showing her love, respect, and care she turned the corner."

The now-family of six is in the process of taking in a six-month-old baby who, if successful, will also stay with them until she reaches 18 and beyond.

Big sister Sam, 25, who is a teacher, said she thinks educators make some of the best foster carers because they are used to dealing with children and challenging behaviours. She said not enough people are aware that long-term foster care means keeping a child until they are 18 and it is a good option for people who for whatever reason, don't have their own kids.

"So many people in Australia who want to adopt look overseas because the waiting list here is so long but don't

realise there are hundreds of kids right here in Sydney looking for someone to love them," she said.

"Recently I told a friend of mine about us taking Jade in long-term and she is now in the process of doing the same."

Making the decision to become a foster carer is a deeply personal one, however, once the first step is taken you are never alone – Family Spirit is walking beside you and there to guide, support, and assist whenever needed. Providing a safe and nurturing home environment for a child not only offers them security and care but also opens your heart to an incredibly rewarding experience.

Taking in a teenage boy in 2020 Kate believes the benefits are twofold – not only has she watched him grow in confidence and self-worth, but she enjoys the company and the opportunity to provide a safe haven.

"To take in a child who is anxious, and fearful and see them blossom as they are meant to be is a reward in itself," she said

"I guess my advice to anyone in a position to become a foster carer, be open in heart and mind, listen to what God is asking of you, and act in accordance with your heart and faith."

Please visit familyspirit.org to learn more about the role you could play in opening your heart and home to help a child thrive in a safe and nurturing home.

Supporting school leaders at risk of burnout

Addressing the results from the Australian Catholic University's (ACU) annual *Australian Principal Occupational Health, Safety, and Wellbeing Survey*, Michael Everett, CatholicCare Sydney's Executive Director for Schools, Practice, Impact, Partnerships & Innovation said schools face the same challenges their communities experience every day and principals are expected to support students, families, their staff, and themselves.

"We are aware that now more than ever principals are more readily contactable by parents than ever before, and their communities expect school principals to have a breadth and depth of expertise and responsibilities far beyond their traditional role as educators," Mr. Everett said.

Become a CatholicCare Companion

CatholicCare is searching for volunteers to be with people as they experience times of change, challenge and uncertainty.

If you are a good listener who is caring, non-judgemental and compassionate, we'd love to hear from you.

To find out more, please call Jacqui Willoughby, Volunteer Co-ordinator on 0426 773 658 or 13 18 19.

To find out more call

131819

Catholiccare.org

✉ connect@catholiccare.org

 **CatholicCare**

“Research confirms that school principals have the second biggest in-school impact on student outcomes after classroom teaching and they are under increasing pressure related to workload and the expanding scope of their roles.”*

Principals and school leaders are facing escalating threats and violence, chronic staff shortages, and punishing workloads according to ACU’s survey, driving school principals towards resignation and early retirement, with the number of principals wanting to quit or retire early tripling.

CatholicCare Sydney’s Thriving Leaders program has been designed to help address self-care, resilience, and confidence in managing complex and challenging circumstances and is available to primary and secondary Catholic school principals and leaders across New South Wales.

One of the key recommendations from ACU’s report calls for employers to introduce wellbeing priorities within performance frameworks for school leaders and seek feedback on how to best support principals to achieve work-life balance and to seek support when needed. CatholicCare Sydney’s Thriving Leaders program delivers on this recommendation, with the service tailored to individuals and delivered in a proactive, strengths-based collaborative manner.

“We are there as a partner, advocating for change and providing the opportunity for principals and leaders to debrief with someone who understands the nuances of working in schools,” Mr. Everett said.

“With over thirty years’ experience providing expert counselling and support services to schools, we understand the unique pressures of leadership roles in education today. Our Thriving Leaders program focuses on assisting those in leadership positions to manage the demands of their roles with reflection and resilience.”

Along with Thriving Leaders CatholicCare Sydney offers a range of programs for school communities, including Beyond the School Gate which provides case management support to families experiencing complex needs, School Counselling in 138 schools across New South Wales, Professional Development Services and Clinical Supervision for school counsellors, as well as Critical Incident Support.

*Education NSW – Effective Leadership 

Giving HOPE to young families

This year more than any other, families need support, particularly young families. Everyday living expenses like food and electricity are rising steadily and affordable housing is at a crisis point. Imagine not having any dinner or a safe and comfortable place to put your children to bed every night.

For too many families it feels like they will never break the cycle of intergenerational disadvantage. But we are refusing to ignore the increased risk of homelessness and trauma, and we need your help to fight against it.

The most recent research from the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling shows that 15 percent of all children in New South Wales live in poverty, with some of the highest rates in western and southwest Sydney. This is where we are working the hardest, giving young families the support they need to give their children a better life.*

CatholicCare Sydney’s HOPE Program helps young families see a brighter future. We are there when they cannot see their way forward – providing access to safe housing, parenting skills, and assistance with education and employment opportunities.



HOPE is not about handouts; it is about helping secure access to the services available including childcare subsidies, family groupwork, and other things needed to help young mums and dads to accomplish their dreams.

HOPE gives young families the skills they need to look after their own wellbeing, manage finances, understand their child’s development and needs, engage with support networks and services, secure safe and stable housing, undertake education/training and/or employment as appropriate, and increase their self-determination.

The HOPE Program has helped more than 190 young families since 2019, arming young parents to provide healthy and loving environments for their children.

Please consider HOPE and make your donation before 30 June to claim this tax time.

Donate by phone: **13 18 19**

Donate online: **catholiccare.org/hope4amelia**


Donate by mail: **CatholicCare Sydney, Philanthropy, Reply Paid 87224, Summer Hill NSW 2130**

*New Research: One Million in Poverty, Older People Hit Hardest, Inequality Deepens - NCOSS - NSW Council of Social Service 

Safeguarding

Office of the Children's Guardian new enforcement powers and penalties

Cancelled Safeguarding Training sessions for 2023

From 1 February 2023, Part 9A of the **Children's Guardian Act 2019**  came into force, which allows the Children's Guardian to take action to ensure organisations such as the Archdiocese of Sydney comply with the Child Safe Standards. This means where organisations do not comply with the Child Safe Standards, the Children's Guardian can:

- issue a compliance notice to the organisation, or
- accept an enforceable undertaking from the organisation.

If an organisation fails to comply with a compliance notice or enforceable undertaking, the Children's Guardian may commence proceedings to issue penalties.

The Children's Guardian will rely on these enforcement powers, where organisations demonstrate persistent, or deliberate non-compliance with the Child Safe Standards.

The Children's Guardian approach to monitoring organisations is strengths-based and focused on what works best for children, not prescriptive compliance. Monitoring may include reviewing an organisation's systems and processes. They might also inspect an organisation's premises, with permission from the head of the organisation. The Children's Guardian also have the power to direct an organisation to complete a Child Safe Self-Assessment.

The Children's Guardian can also issue a monitoring assessment report to help an organisation improve its compliance with the Child Safe Standards. The organisation must respond to the recommendations made in that report.

2023 Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd Audit of the Archdiocese of Sydney

In 2023 Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) will be auditing the Archdiocese of Sydney's Parishes, Chaplaincy Communities and Agencies to ensure compliance with the 10 National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS). ACSL will conduct site visits to a number of Parishes, Chaplaincy Communities and Agencies as well as conduct informational interviews with key staff in those Parishes, Chaplaincy Communities and Agencies.

The Safeguarding Office has been preparing Parishes, Chaplaincy Communities and Agencies for this audit via the annual Self-Assessment and providing information and handy hints through Safeguarding Training and Newsletters.

Below the Safeguarding Office has put together some handy hints in order to prepare yourself and your community for the upcoming audit:

- Ensuring that all relevant clergy, religious paid staff, including volunteers and students (over 18 years) working directly with children have provided a **current WWCC which you have verified** through the Office of the Children's Guardian online portal.
- Ensuring that all relevant clergy, religious paid staff, including volunteers and students (over 18 years) working directly with children have read and signed the **Archdiocese Code of Conduct for Working With Children** and records are maintained to support this.
- Ensuring all lay workers, paid staff and volunteers who hold a WWCC have completed the **Safeguarding induction training program** prior to working with children and records are maintained to support this.
- Ensuring all lay workers, paid staff and volunteers who hold a WWCC have completed the **Safeguarding Refresher training program** three years after completing the Safeguarding induction training and records are maintained to support this.

Safeguarding Bite No. 59



Three things to do in your Community this week:

- Display Safeguarding Commitment Statement Poster.
- Ensure Safeguarding notice is in all future bulletins.
- Ensure Safeguarding is a permanent standing agenda item at all Parish Council or team meetings.

The Safeguarding Team



- Ensuring **Risk Assessments** are completed whenever there is an activity or event where children are present such as children's liturgy, youth groups, sacramental programs and retreats.
- Ensuring **key contact people** within your community are identified and this information is easily accessible to everyone in the community.
- Ensuring the **Archdiocese Child Safeguarding Policy** is published on your website, in the parish bulletin, and newsletter at least once a year.
- Ensuring items from previous years **Self-Assessment Continuous Improvement** Plan have been completed or are in the process of being completed.

Anna Sammut

Safeguarding Officer - Training and Development



THE Catholic Weekly

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