

A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the life-giving mysteries of Easter, we pray especially for those who will enter into the Church through Baptism this Holy Week. We give thanks also to all of those who have assisted them in their journey to the faith.

I joyfully look forward to celebrating the annual Chrism Mass with all of you, as we renew our priestly promises and walk with Christ through his sacred Triduum to Easter glory.

My sincere thanks to those of you who were able to attend the recent workshop facilitated by the Archdiocesan Parish Renewal Team on the topic of engaging and multiplying volunteers in your parish. I also thank those who made their way to the retreat afternoon held by the Emmanuel Community at Engadine.

A reminder of our upcoming Live In Clergy Conference at the Novotel Wollongong from 8th-11th of April. These extended conferences are a wonderful opportunity to come together in a spirit of fraternity. Our theme is 'Synodality serving renewal: enabling the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide our missionary response to contemporary challenges.' We are very blessed to have a group of presenters who will facilitate important discussion on this topic. During this conference we will also celebrate our annual Vianney Dinner recognising the wonderful work of this year's jubilarians. I look forward to seeing you all there.

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

+ Archbishop Anthony

2024

Dates To Remember

Live In 2024 Clergy Conference

8 to 11 April 2024, Novotel Wollongong

Ordination to the Diaconate

Alejandro Giraldo ALVAREZ and Nonie TIBURAN
St Mary's Cathedral, 12 April 2024

Intercultural Clergy Programme for 2024

29 April–1 May – session 1 (Varroville)
12–14 August – session 2 (Mulgoa)
4–6 November – session 3 (Varroville)

Fatima Rosary Procession / 11 May

Walk With Christ Procession / 2 June

Conversations that Matter (Worklogics)

5 June, St Martha's @ Leichhardt

Professional Conduct in the Workplace (Worklogics)

12 June, St Martha's @ Leichhardt

Priestly Ordinations

11th July, at 7:00pm, St Mary's Cathedral

CAS Clergy Retreat

14 to 19 July 2024, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville
Fr Gerard Moran OCD, Spiritual Director

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Ongoing Formation

- ◆ 2024 Sabbaticals - PNAC
- ◆ St Augustine's Seminary, Toronto, Canada
- ◆ Pontificium Institutum Altioris Latinitatis, Rome

PLEASE PRAY...

For the repose of the souls of all our deceased clergy and especially for:

Archbishop Francis Patrick Carroll

14 March 2024

Former Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn.

Mrs Rosa Thi Di Nguyen





18 February 2024

Mother of Fr Van Vuong Nguyen, the current parish priest of Blacktown.

For those that are sick in our community...

Mgr Anthony Doherty, Mgr Vince Redden, Mgr John Usher, Mgr Brian Rayner, Br Pat Hurley, Fr Thanh Nguyen, Fr Joseph Aikkaramattam, Mgr Frank Coorey, Fr Don Willoughby, Fr Noel Short, Fr Brendan Purcell, Fr Witold Brymora, and Fr David Coffey who are currently unwell.

For special anniversaries occurring in March, April, May and June

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

For those preparing for Ordination to the Diaconate

Alejandro Giraldo ALVAREZ and **Nonie TIBURAN**.

Friday, 12 April 2024, at St Mary's Cathedral. Please pray for these men as they prepare for this important occasion in their vocations journey.

I RECENTLY MADE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS:

Most Rev Terence Brady

Term as a Member of the Catholic Cemeteries Board extended until 30 June 2024.

Rev Peter Hearn MSC

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Kensington from 26 February 2024.

Rev Bijoy Joseph

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission from 1 April 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Patrick Njenga

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of St Joseph, Newtown from 19 March 2024.

Rev Danai Penollar

Reappointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission from 21 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Marlon Henao Perez

Reappointed Dean of Studies and Vice Rector of Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary from 12 February 2024 for a term of one year.

Rev Gerard Prindiville

Reappointed Spiritual Director of Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary from 24 April 2024 for a term of one year.

Very Rev Donald Richardson

Appointed Chair of the of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission from 21 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Anthony Robbie

Appointed Inspector of Relics within the Archdiocese of Sydney from 1 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Mr Christopher Roehrig

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission from 15 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Rev Benjamin Saliba

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission from 1 April 2024 for a term of three years.

Non-Clerical Appointments

Mr Danny Casey

Term as a Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) extended until 30 June 2024.

Reappointed a Director of Catholic Cemeteries Board Ltd (Company) from 1 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Term as a Member of the Catholic Cemeteries Board extended until 30 June 2024.

Mr Michael Digges

Term as a Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) extended until 30 June 2024.

Reappointed a Director of Catholic Cemeteries Board Ltd (Company) from 1 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Mr John Leotta

Appointed Chair of CatholicCare Sydney Limited from 1 February 2024 for a term of three years.

Mr Peter Pannowitz

Appointed a Director of the Board of Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic Early Childhood Services Ltd (Company) from 1 April 2024 for a term of three years.

Hon Gregory Smith SC

Term as a Director of Catholic Metropolitan Crown Land Manager Ltd (Company) extended until 30 June 2024.

Reappointed a Director of Catholic Cemeteries Board Ltd (Company) from 1 March 2024 for a term of three years.

Term as a Member of the Catholic Cemeteries Board extended until 30 June 2024.

Mr Dominic Sullivan

Term as a Member of the Catholic Cemeteries Board extended until 30 June 2024.

Sr Maria Wheeler RSC

Term as a Member of the Catholic Cemeteries Board extended until 30 June 2024.

ONGOING FORMATION OF CLERGY

Colleagues,

Our 2024 Live In Clergy Conference is now less than two weeks away. Wollongong 2024 happens Monday 8–Thursday 11 April at the Novotel Wollongong. Thank you to the more than two hundred clergy who have registered so far. The registration have now closed. If you wish to come please contact **Maria Cavallaro** on maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org

ACCOMODATION

Please note that because of the overwhelming response to the conference some clergy will be accommodated off site at the neighboring Sage Hotel. For those at the Sage Hotel, you can either enjoy the relaxing 20 minutes walk to the Novotel or catch the shuttle bus, courtesy of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School, Wollongong, who have kindly offered this service on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and evenings. More details will be sent out closer to the event.

WORKSHOPS

If you have not nominated three of the four workshops can you please do so immediately by clicking on the link below. Those that do not make their choices will have their choices made for them.

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB will present two plenary addresses at 9.20am on the Tuesday and Wednesday

on the Conference theme: Synodality Serving renewal: Enabling the Holy Spirit to Inspire and Guide Our Missionary Response to Contemporary Challenges.

The Workshops will be offered on the Tuesday at 11am and 1.45pm and Wednesday at 11am. They will explore the theme from the four formation perspectives: human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral, offering opportunities to explore the theme more deeply in dialogue between Workshop leaders and attendees. Each of the leaders has expertise in their perspective. The Workshop leaders and themes are:

HUMAN: Ms Janine WILSON – How Synodality can help clergy grow as persons, disciples and leaders of faith communities committed to mission.


SPIRITUAL: Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD – Synodality: informing and animating our relationship with Jesus Christ as disciples and ordained pastoral leaders.

INTELLECTUAL: Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP – Intellectual foundations of Synodality in Scripture and Tradition.

PASTORAL: Father David RANSON and Mr Bernard TERTINI – Being Parish-in-Council: Bringing synodal processes to a local faith community in mission.

RETIRED WORKSHOP: Ms Virginia JACKSON and Mr Michael KING – Health and Wellbeing for Retired Clergy.

**A Workshop for retired clergy will be held concurrently with the other Workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.*

Please register through the link below  and prompts: ... Place “1”, “2”, “3” and “4” against the Workshops you most favour (“1”) to least favour (“4”). It may not be possible to allocate first preferences in all cases.

RETIRED WORKSHOP

If you wish to attend a Retired Clergy Workshop, please click on your preferred day.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

Two tours are available during the free time on Wednesday afternoon:

1. Headland Distilling Company (whisky and gin producers) – limit of 25 – this has now sold out!
2. Glenbernie Orchard (fruit and cider producers) – limit of 50.

Both tours depart from the Hotel foyer at 1.30pm and return about 4pm. If you wish to join a tour, click on your preferred option. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Please click on the link below to make your choices 

PARKING

Please note that parking is available at the Novotel, but it will cost you \$20 per day. The Novotel have kindly dropped their daily rate for us. For those that will be staying at the SAGE hotel daily parking in the hotel will cost you \$25 per day.

There is also free parking available in the park beside the Novotel Wollongong in Stuart Park and in the streets around the SAGE Hotel

If you are having trouble, please contact **Maria Cavallaro 0466 486 101** or **maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org**. Final instructions will be sent out after Easter.

See you in Wollongong.

Fr Paul Monkerud

Chair, Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee

Clergy Formation Training Programme:

This year we started our Clergy Formation Training Programme to help newly appointed Administrators and Parish Priests (and some not so new) understand better their administrative duties and responsibilities.


The modules added in 2023 were Finance and People Management.

In 2024 we continue to grow this programme and have added Governance and Change Management.

Worklogics' Conversations that Matter and Professional Conduct in the Workplace with Samantha Edwards will once again be offered to clergy.


The training dates to put in your diary are as follows:

DATE	CLERGY TRAINING	LOCATION
5 June	Conversations that Matter <i>(Worklogics)</i>	St Martha's Leichhardt
12 June	Professional Conduct in the Workplace <i>(Worklogics)</i>	St Martha's Leichhardt
1 October	Change Management	St Martha's Leichhardt
8 and 9 October	Finance A & B	Venue TBC
12 November	Sacraments: Marriage workshop	St Martha's Leichhardt

If you are interested in any of these courses, please click here  to express your interest.

Other formation opportunities offered this year will include our:

- Intercultural Clergy Programme 2024 (See Link below for dates).

The full calendar to date is attached here  You are invited to take a look and place any of these courses in your diary for 2024.

If you would like to be part of any of these formation sessions please register your interest via the provided links (where available) or contact **Maria Cavallaro: 0466 486 101** or **maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org**

Fr Paul Monkerud

Chair, Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee

CAS Clergy Retreat

14 to 19 July 2024


Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

Fr Gerard Moran OCD, Spiritual Director

The CAS Clergy Retreat is planned for the 14 to 19 July 2024. Fr Gerard Moran OCD has been booked to lead the Retreat. More details will be available soon. Please place this in your diary.

Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation Scholarship Opportunity

The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation is once again offering a scholarship for study in the 2024–25 academic year.

For more details please click on the link 

Intensive Course In Living Latin For Ecclesiastics

1–28 September 2024


Lodging: Pension Mater Mundi

Daily liturgical celebration

Tuition: from € 2120

(includes classes, books, room and board)

How to participate: Lessons in presence

For more information click on the link. 


Pontificia Università Gregoriana

The Pontificia Università Gregoriana is inviting clergy and lay leaders from the Archdiocese to the Renewal Programme for Missionaries in 2024.

Please click here  for further information.


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 

Ancient & Medieval Rome: In the Footsteps of Thomas Aquinas

The TI Ancient & Medieval Rome Program focuses on Rome as the intersection of the great traditions of East and West through the study of ancient and medieval history, philosophy, art, and religion. It will focus on a number of key primary source documents, including texts from ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, classical Jewish and Christian sources, medieval theology and philosophy, and Thomas Aquinas.

Thomistic Institute Study Abroad Program — Rome — Thomistic Institute 

Recommended online retreat

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

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Future Archdiocesan Holy Thursday Visitation to the Seven Churches

Parishioners are invited to prepare for the Jubilee Year in 2025 with prayer. One way of entering into prayer during Holy Week is to visit an altar of repose after the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The devotion of visiting 7 Churches is a centuries old tradition in keeping with this liturgical

practice. Families are invited to tailor their pilgrimage with a resource that will list Churches that will be open across the Archdiocese and provide reflections to meditate.

You can download the resource here  Printed resources will be available at your parishes from Palm Sunday. For more information, please contact **bishop.umbersoffice@sydneycatholic.org**

Day of the Unborn Child

The Feast of the Annunciation is internationally recognised as the Day of the Unborn Child. It marks the day Our Lord Jesus Christ became a tiny unborn child in His mother's womb and it is a day of celebration and remembrance of the dignity of the unborn.

An initiative of Family Life International, on Sunday 14 April 2024 there will be a street procession to follow 10:30am Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. The procession will be led by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP followed by an address at Parliament House by guest speaker Archbishop Julian Porteus.

All welcome and invite family and friends as we process for life!

SAVE THE DATE –

Fatima Rosary Procession – 11 May 2024

To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, the Fatima Rosary Procession will be held following the 6pm Mass on 11 May at St Mary's Cathedral. More details will follow. For queries, please contact **bishop.umbersoffice@sydneycatholic.org**

SAVE THE DATE -

Walk With Christ – 2 June 2024

The 2024 Walk with Christ will be held on 2 June. All parishes and communities are invited to unite and celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. Parishes will be sent promotional materials to encourage parishioners to take part in this event. More details including bus arrangements will be provided soon. For queries, please contact **bishop.umbersoffice@sydneycatholic.org**

PARISH SUPPORT TEAM

Cash In Transit – Are You Protected?

Did you know that under the new insurance arrangement, there is NO cover for 'money' during transit or away from the premises?

Using a licensed security company for banking collections, whilst it will incur an additional minimal cost to Parishes, it is a proactive measure in safeguarding yourself, staff, and volunteers from theft, loss, and potential harm.

There is a limit of cover for 'money' on the premises up to \$30,000, so the frequency of banking collections can be adjusted to each Parish's needs and budget, and whether weekly, fortnightly, or monthly pickups would be required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Parish Support on **9390 5233**.

Would you like to reduce your electricity costs?

As you know, the cost of electricity is continually increasing, and it is being reported in the media that it will increase even more in the future.

To this end, the Chancery Office is planning to undertake an electricity tender process for the parishes of the Archdiocese in an attempt to use our consolidated buying power to achieve better electricity prices for our parishes. Our ability to tender and achieve potential cost savings will be based on as many parishes supporting the initiative.

If you would like to participate in this tender process, please send your latest electricity accounts to **parish.support@sydneycatholic.org**. Once we confirm participation, we can then confirm whether we have sufficient numbers to proceed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Parish Support on **9390 5233**.

CDF Alert - Quest Donation Point Devices (Tap 'n Go) - 3G Shutdown

In coming weeks, the CDF will be providing advice and recommendations to each Parish via email with regards to the Quest Donation Point devices which rely upon the 3G mobile network that is set to be switched off from the end of August 2024. Quest Payment Systems have advised that this will render the old terminals useless. Whilst disappointing, given the initial outlay by Parishes, this opportunity does afford the Parish to avail of the new Commbank Smart Terminal and stand, at no cost to Parishes. It also allows for the saving of \$15 per month, per device in Quest fees by the Parish.

The CDF have advanced communications with the Commbank around the most efficient way of replacing the old Quest devices with new Commbank Smart Terminals. Of course, these will come at no cost to Sydney Archdiocesan Parishes.

Depending on whether your Parish currently uses Quest Donation Point exclusively, or whether your Parish already has one or more of the Commbank Smart Terminals working in tandem with Quest device/s, the CDF will tailor its recommendation to your Parish.

The transition will be a staged rollout so please be patient and keep an eye out for the email communication regarding this important fundraising option for your Parishioners.

Liturgy Office

Dear Bishops, Priests and Deacons,
Recently the Chancery has received a number of enquiries about faculties needed for celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation by priests.

Please be reminded about the following principles, based on canons 882-887 of the Code of Canon Law: The ordinary minister of Confirmation is a bishop. However, in some cases Confirmation can be celebrated by a priest who received a faculty to celebrate this sacrament (can. 882).

When the priest celebrates all three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) for a **non-baptised person** who is not an infant, the priest does not need to ask for a faculty to celebrate Confirmation because such faculty is given to him by the virtue of his office and by the law itself (can. 883, 2).

When the priest admits an **already baptised Christian** (e.g. a Protestant) into full communion with the Catholic Church, the priest also does not need to ask for a faculty to celebrate Confirmation, because such faculty is given to him by the virtue of his office and by the law itself (can. 883, 2).

However, when the priest wishes to confirm a person *who is already a baptised Catholic, the priest indeed does need to ask for a faculty to celebrate such Confirmation.*

In order to ask for this faculty, the priest should contact the Vicar General or one of the Auxiliary Bishops.

Also, please remember that the RCIA program is directed at those who are yet to be baptised. Therefore, baptised Catholics who are not yet confirmed should generally be prepared for this sacrament not through the RCIA program but through a separate preparation.

This note was prepared in consultation with Simon Yeak, Sacramental Life & RCIA Coordinator, and Fr Julian Wellspring, Judicial Vicar from the Tribunal of the Catholic Church Sydney Office. We hope that it will help you in planning your celebrations of the Sacraments of Initiation at the upcoming Easter Vigil and beyond.

Should you have any further questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Liturgy Office, the Vicar General or even the Tribunal.

With every good wish for Holy Week,

(Dr) Mariusz Biliniewicz | Director, Liturgy Office

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

38 Renwick St, Leichhardt NSW 2040

Postal address: Locked Bag 5040, Alexandria NSW 2015

ph. (02) 9307 8363, <https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/>

Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

Dear Fathers,

We are delighted to announce that a Parish Renewal Conference will take place later this year, the second such

Archdiocesan gathering since the launch of Go Make Disciples. At this conference, His Grace will address us on the critical role of the parish in the mission of the Church and as a source of hope, while other keynote speakers will be announced in the weeks ahead. In response to demand for formation, the month of May marks the beginning of a series of formation evenings for Parish Pastoral Councils with opportunities in each region of the Archdiocese. Details of this series and other formation initiatives for your parish team and lay leaders are included below.

With every blessing and good wish,

Daniel Ang

Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

Parish Renewal Conference 2024: For Such a Time as This

Do you want to see our parishes renewed?

Mark your calendar to be at the *2024 Parish Renewal Conference!* Together with your lay leaders, join us for a day of formation, workshops, and networking to be equipped and strengthened for mission. Receive from the Church's wisdom and learn the fundamental tools for flourishing (but imperfect) parishes in 'such a time as this'.

DATE: Saturday, 3 August 2024

TIME: 8:45am - 5:00pm

VENUE: Liverpool Catholic Club


ADDRESS: 424 - 458 Hoxton Park Rd, Prestons NSW 2170

CONFERENCE COST:

\$75 - *Early Bird price* - Book by 31 May (+ booking fees | GST inclusive)

\$90 - Book from 1 June (+ booking fees | GST inclusive)

Registrations close: 19 July

For more information and to register, click here 

Paschal Eucharist Celebration 2024

This year's Paschal Eucharist celebration will be held at 10:30 am Solemn Mass, at St Mary's Cathedral, on Sunday 21 April. Newly baptised and received Catholics entering this Easter are invited by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, together with their RCIA team and clergy. Light refreshments will be made available at the College Hall following the Mass. RSVPs essential by 5 April 

Parish Pastoral Council Formation Evenings

Parish Priests and Administrators, with their Parish Pastoral Councils, are invited to an evening of formation and sharing

on the new Archdiocesan Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines. Don't miss this opportunity to bring your Parish Pastoral Council to one of these engaging and formative sessions!

The formation sessions will be offered on three different occasions, and at different venues, to make them accessible across the Archdiocese. Choose one of the following three options to attend with your PPC:

OPTION 1: Wednesday, 1 May 2024


7:00pm–9:00pm, St Kevin's, Eastwood

OPTION 2: Wednesday, 29 May 2024

7:00pm–9:00pm, St Joseph's, Moorebank


OPTION 3: Thursday, 6 June 2024

7:00pm–9:00pm, St Raphael's, South Hurstville

For more information and to register, click here 

St Joseph's Camino Men's Pilgrimage

The annual Camino of St Joseph, an overnight walking pilgrimage for men will be held on 26–27 April in honour of St Joseph the Worker (1 May).

For more information on locations and registration, please visit: 

Called & Gifted Discernment Process 2024

The path to discovering your charisms!

Once again, the Called & Gifted Discernment Process is being offered exclusively for the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. The process is designed to help Christians discern the presence of charisms in their lives, and to motivate and equip them to participate in the mission of the Church more fully. Participants of last year's course expressed their gratitude for the quality of the formation, and the fruits of discerning their charisms with others. Clergy, religious and lay faithful are welcome!

DATES: 29 April – 15 July 2024 (8 sessions)

MODE: Online via Zoom

COST: \$140 plus booking fees

For more information and to register, click here 

Didaskō Adult Faith Formation

The Parish Renewal Team have partnered with the University of Notre Dame Australia to deliver a series of online short courses. All parishes are encouraged to sign up for this special offer by gathering a parish group in person, either in the parish hall or in a parishioner's home. We encourage the group, after participating in the online session,

to continue the discussion and share some refreshments together, enhancing the learning experience and building community.

The next course, *Christ the Purgative, Illuminative, and Perfective Way: An introduction to Christology* will be presented by Fr Benjamin Johnson OFMCap.

DATES: Mondays 15, 22, and 29 April 2024

TIME: 7:30pm – 8:45pm

MODE: Online via Zoom


The final topic, *Moral Theology*, will be hosted on 9, 16, and 23 May.

COST (per short course):

\$35 per person (plus booking fees)




\$100 per Parish Group - unlimited number of participants gathered in-person (plus booking fees).


See the Didaskō Adult Faith Formation webpage for full details and to register.

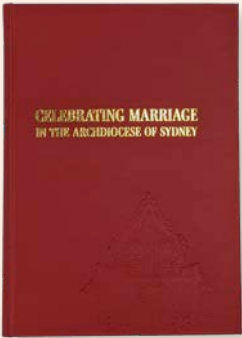
See the Didaskō Adult Faith Formation webpage for full details and to register: 

Theology of the Body Australia

The Archdiocese of Sydney and the Theology of the Body Institute courses are now available. Take advantage of our partnership with the following discount code: AUS-TOBI2023. Please register your interest by sending an email to tobi@sydneycatholic.org or click on any of the courses below:

- 8–19 April – Theology of the Body – Head & Heart Immersion:  (online)
- 6–17 May – Theology of the Body & the Interior Life:  (online)
- 15–26 July – Theology of the Body – Head & Heart Immersion  (online).

All courses can be found here: 



RED BOOK
Pastoral Tip No. 18

Please submit forms early.
Too many clergy are leaving
dispensation requests to the
last minute.

Fr Julian B Wellspring EV JV


Chancery Relocation: New Postal Address

As you are aware, the Chancery has relocated since September 2023 to Leichhardt. 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**

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 

CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM NOTICES

AGMs OF THE CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM AND CLERICAL FUND

Advance notice of the AGMs of the:

- Clergy Remuneration System, and the
- Clerical Fund

Please note in your calendars the AGMs to be held on the Wednesday, 23 October 2024 at Dooley’s Regent St Pavilion, 67 Regent Street, Regents Park. The first meeting will start at 11.00 am with morning tea served from 10.30 am. Invitations will be emailed, closer to the date.

*Clergy Remuneration System Board
and Clerical Fund Management Committee*

CLERICAL FUND NOTICES

- The next meeting of the Management Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 25 June, 2024.
- Please post your claim (via the Claim Form) to: CLERICAL FUND, Locked Bag 5040, Alexandria NSW 2015 or email clericalfund@sydneycrs.org, two weeks prior to the meeting date.


*Clerical Fund Management Committee
Board of Management, Clergy Remuneration System
& 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 below:

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


Tantur Ecumenical Institute

Please click on the link:  to find out what Tantur is offering for Sabbaticals in 2024.


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 2024.

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: 

With my best wishes.
Yours fraternally in Christ



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

AGENCY NEWS

For March/April/May 2024

FROM SYDNEY CATHOLIC EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES (SCECS)

I'd like to express my appreciation for the support given to Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services (SCECS) over the last number of years. We now have established Early Childhood Services in the parishes of Rosebery, Sadleir-Miller, Auburn, Coogee and Caringbah. We have Development Applications in Council, or are very close, in the parishes of Austral, Holsworthy, Lurnea, Annandale, Revesby Heights, Flemington and Marsfield. Many priests will know that we are working closely with their parishes to establish an Early Childhood Service.

We are working to build excellent services:

- We want them to truly support parents in sharing our faith with their children and to work closely with parish priests and parish schools in doing this. We have employed a full-time Faith Formation Officer, Bernadette Bridle, to work with our staff and priests to make our Centres true places of evangelisation.
- With an eye to the marginalised or those in need of support, we have opened Centres in parishes that “for profit” childcare operations would not go to.
- We work with local parish Catholic Primary schools to provide a pipeline of children ready and eager for “enrolment”.
- We work closely with parishes to design Centres which work well with parish and school and provide a market-competitive income stream to the parish in rent payments.

We also operate 46 before and after school care programs, again with a view of supporting the local parishes and Catholic Primary schools. In respect of these programs, we also pay commercially competitive rates and like our Early Childhood Services, we support schools and parishes where purely “for profit” businesses will not go.

We will have some of our staff at the upcoming clergy conference at Wollongong. So please look for us and learn more about what we do.

Finally, please support us. We are part of the Church here in Sydney. We have the same mission as the parishes and schools. We offer so much more than purely “for profit” operations, which can and do seek to take our operations away from parishes on purely financial grounds. We are commercially competitive. But we offer so much more, and I hope that priests will consider the totality of our SCECS and Church mission before choosing to offer parish facilities to “for Profit” operators.



■ Our Lady of Fatima Caringbah

I look forward to meeting with you at the Clergy Conference in Wollongong.


Kind regards

Franceyn O'Connor
SCECS Chief Executive Officer.

FROM CCD

CCD update

Lent-Easter resource hub

For families: Easter activities and craft ideas to print hand-outs, place in your bulletins or provide a CCD webpage link with thanks to our Brisbane colleagues: 

SRE and Sacramental Prep ‘pre-registration’

As many parishes do, I recommend you write a Term 1 Welcome Letter to parents who have chosen Catholic SRE for their children in your local public schools. It can include **Sacramental Preparation dates**, a QR Code to link to your parish webpage and/or a pre-registration form to gain families’ contact details. Contact your assigned CCD Faith Education Officer for templates and advice.

Child protection

Many SRE Catechists are due to have their WWCCs renewed this year for parish to then verify.



Partner with SCECS for Outside School Hours Care



Looking for the right OSHC Partner for your Catholic Community?

Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services (SCECS) currently operates 40+ OSHC Services within the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Our OSHC program is the ideal complement to your Parish Community, providing a safe and enriching environment for all students attending the Parish Primary School.

What We Offer

- An environment that nurtures spirituality
- Qualified Coordinators & Educators
- Engaging and educational activities
- Homework support
- Nutritious snacks
- Safe and supervised play
- Convenient hours for working parents
- Vacation Care Available

SCECS works in synergy with our school community, leading with grace and fostering a service which I am very proud to attest to.

St Brigid's Primary School at Marrickville embarked on their partnership with SCECS in 2020. In our collaboration with SCECS, they have proved themselves to be deeply compassionate and caring of the students in their care. They are keen to foster positive partnerships with parents and students alike. The team at SCECS has dynamism and a passion for quality care, where there is deep respect for voice and collaboration with all stakeholders. They pride themselves on outstanding service whilst respecting the dignity of every child.

**Antonella Mazzucco | Principal
St Brigid's Catholic Primary School Marrickville**




Why Partner With Us


- Promote a sense of community grounded on Gospel values
- Enhance the overall student/family experience
- Support working families at the Parish School
- Boost enrolments and retention

Contact Us

Contact us today to discuss how we can create a seamless partnership that benefits your parish, families, and children. Together, we can provide a safe and caring space for your families to utilise outside of school hours.

 scecs.marketing@syd.catholic.edu.au

 (02) 9568 8628

 www.scecs.nsw.edu.au



Catechist Sunday

Thank you for your efforts on Word of God/Catechist Sunday to call for new SRE volunteers. So far this year just over 100 have been trained to join the 310 new SRE Catechists who were also recruited throughout 2023.

Thank you

On behalf of your CCD team, thank you for your support to enable families to celebrate the hope and joy of Jesus' resurrection,

Doug Mawhinney,

CCD Parish Catechist Support

Tel. 9307 8330 | office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

FROM CATHOLIC CARE

Ageing Well masterclasses

Statistics tell us around 1 in 6 older Australians have experienced elder abuse in the past year, and sadly, the main driver of elder abuse is ageism, which we know devalues older Australians and ignores their rights. Five abuse subtypes are recognised – financial abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, and neglect. The most common form of elder abuse in Australia is psychological followed by financial and neglect.

The Ageing Well Masterclasses run by CatholicCare Sydney in partnership with Catholic Healthcare, Grief Care and the NSW Trustee & Guardian can not only help combat

some aspects of Elder Abuse, but also help older community members to truly live life to the fullest. They include classes on Social Connection and Psychological Wellbeing, Physical Wellbeing, and Financial Planning which also includes tips and advice for avoiding financial abuse. The classes help older Australians maintain a cheerful outlook towards ageing and feel a sense of community connection as well as providing them with information and resources.

The free classes are run over 6 weeks in Parishes across Sydney. Each class includes light refreshments, practical support, and social connections.

MASTERCLASS 1 Social Connection and Psychological Wellbeing

MASTERCLASS 2 Physical Wellbeing

MASTERCLASS 3 Navigating Aged Care


MASTERCLASS 4 Planning for your future – financial and legal decisions

MASTERCLASS 5 Using the internet safely and avoiding financial abuse

MASTERCLASS 6 Ageing gracefully, living fruitfully.

“Ageing Well Masterclasses covered many topics to help me think about the future me as I get older. Exploring the topics made me aware of how to plan for living well - physically, mentally, spiritually & emotionally. I also gained knowledge of My Aged Care and other Government programs available to assist Seniors.”

Kerry Wijngaarden.

Ageing Well Masterclasses information can be found at  For more information about CatholicCare Sydney's work with older Australians call **13 18 19**.

Family Support

Children want connection with their parents, not perfection, but at times it can be difficult to understand how to connect and provide the security our children need. CatholicCare Sydney's Parenting and Child Development courses help parents learn new skills and strategies to build healthy relationships with their children whilst supporting parent/child attachment.

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



We understand you want to be the best parent you can be, and it doesn't necessarily come naturally – it can be exhausting, and frustrating and take you into uncharted territory, but it is also an incredibly rewarding privilege to be a parent and the greatest gift we can receive.

Enrolling in a CatholicCare Sydney Parenting course, run by qualified and experienced professionals, will help you understand your parenting style, explore new skills for talking to your children and understand their emotions and behaviour, learn why difficult behaviour occurs and how to manage it, understand how to resolve family conflict quietly, and how to practice being a calm parent.

Parenting and Child Development courses are suitable for parents of children from pre-school to the teenage years, bookings are essential, and all classes are run online via Zoom.

For more information and to download the course calendar visit catholiccare.org/family-youth-children/ or call **13 18 19**.

Disability Services

Expanding its programs providing the opportunity for people with disability to 'learn, work, connect', CatholicCare Sydney has opened a new centre in the heart of Liverpool, running similar services to those already established at their Lakemba site.

Offering social and recreational programs, supported employment, education and training support, CatholicCare Sydney's Disability Services creates a community where everyone is valued, accepted, and supported.

"The opportunity to experience connection and inclusion in our community is vital for all people. The launch of our new centre creates access to these opportunities for more people with disability, helping them to build confidence, everyday life skills, and a sense of belonging," said CatholicCare Sydney's CEO Alastair McGibbon.

"The centre will deliver School Leaver Employment Supports, Supported Employment Opportunities, and our

Finding and Keeping a Job program along with complex direct supports. We also anticipate running more of our social group programs and look forward to immersing CatholicCare Sydney and our clients into the community."

Employment programs run by CatholicCare Sydney provide people with disability the training and support they need to prepare for and participate in paid employment. Skills development, work experience, time management, and understanding expectations are all part of the training. The programs help participants to develop their self-confidence and ability to build relationships, along with a sense of independence and accomplishment.

For more information about Disability Services visit catholiccare.org/disability-services or call **13 18 19**.

**CatholicCare Sydney Disability Services –
1/112 Benaroon Road, Lakemba and
31 Bigge St, Liverpool.**

SAFEGUARDING

OVERDUE: Child-Related Activity Registers

Standard 9 of the Child Safe Standards, National Catholic Standards and National Principles refers to Continuous Improvement. This Standard's focus is ensuring that there is monitoring and continual improvement of child safeguarding practices and that these practices are reviewed, tracked and reported. The returns and audits of Child-Related Activity Registers helps the Archdiocese and Parishes to meet this Standard.

There are currently 30 Parishes that still need to return their Child-Related Activity Registers for the period of July - December 2023. This Register was due back in January for auditing. Please email your Child-Related Activity Register to safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org



THE Catholic Weekly

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If you have any questions regarding the Child-Related Activity Register please contact **Anna Sammut** on **9390 5811** or email anna.sammut@sydneycatholic.org.

The final cut-off date for Child-Related Activity Registers to be returned is **30 March 2024**, a report will be produced shortly after reflecting which Parish submitted the Register and which Parish has not.

Working With Children's Check Administration Guidance

It is important that every WWCC you have for workers and volunteers is verified by you on the Office of the Children's Guardian employer Portal. You need to ensure that details and contact information are correct and up to date. Below the Safeguarding Office has put together a WWCC Administration Guidance checklist for Parishes and Chaplaincies to use.

CLICK here for the checklist 

Upcoming Safeguarding Training Dates for Clergy

Training dates can be found by accessing the Safeguarding Training Timetable on the Archdiocese Website 

Anna Sammut
Safeguarding Officer - Training and Development

Safeguarding Bite No. 62



Code of Conduct for Working With Children and Adults at Risk

The National Catholic Safeguarding Standards require that clergy who are ministering or working in the Archdiocese sign the Code of Conduct for Working with Children and Adults at Risk.

If you haven't already please sign the Code and return it to the Safeguarding Office safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org

The Safeguarding Team



THE LAST WORD: WORK HEALTH & SAFETY

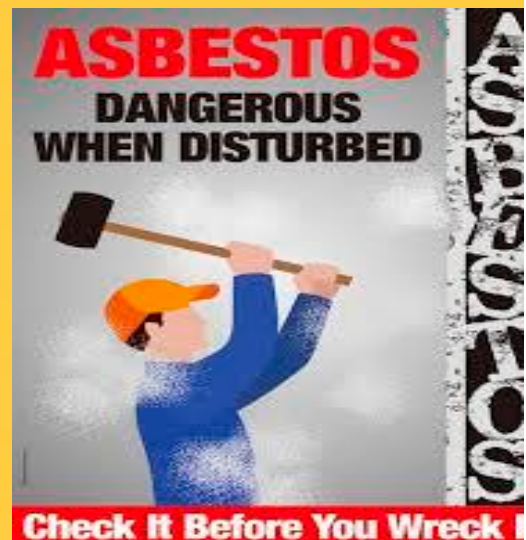


Hazardous Materials Inspections.

The CAS hazardous materials inspection program has been occurring since 2011. Inspections continue in 5 year rotations. We have now commenced our third rotation of this periodical inspection.

We have been working hard to obtain funding assistance for the cost of these inspections and the Catholic Development Fund has kindly offered to cover the full cost for this service and hence this inspection will be undertaken at no cost to the parish.

Please contact us should you not have a copy of your latest parish hazardous materials inspection



CAS WHS Contact: Doug O'Loughlan
Email: douglas.oloughlan@sydneycatholic.org
Mob: 0466 486 731.

Your Parish WHS A Team

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

