

ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY CLERGY CONFERENCE

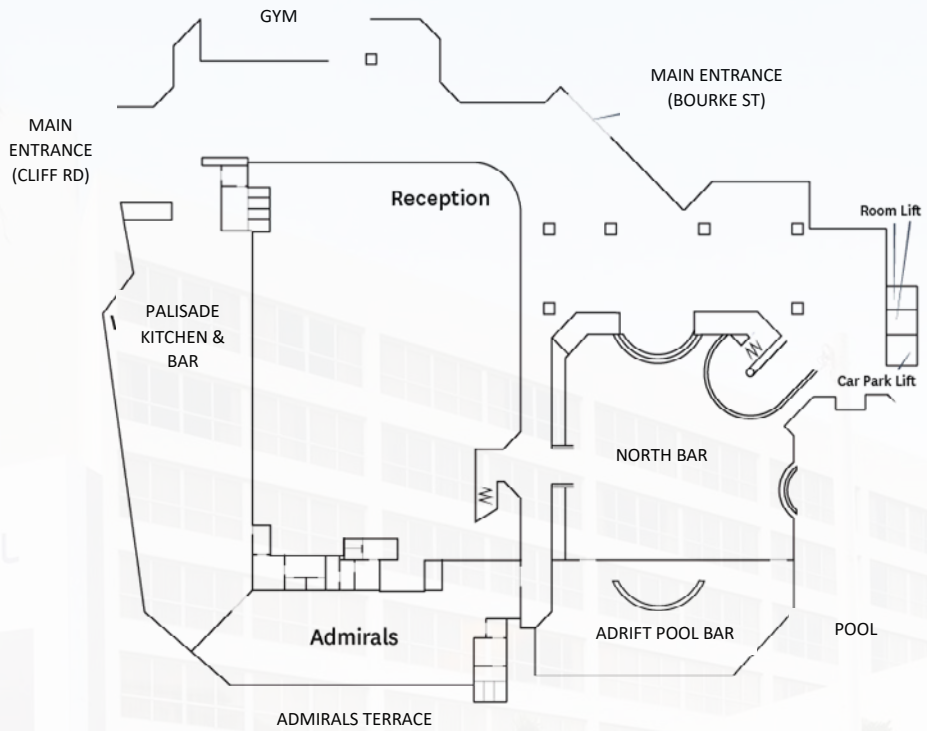
PROGRAM



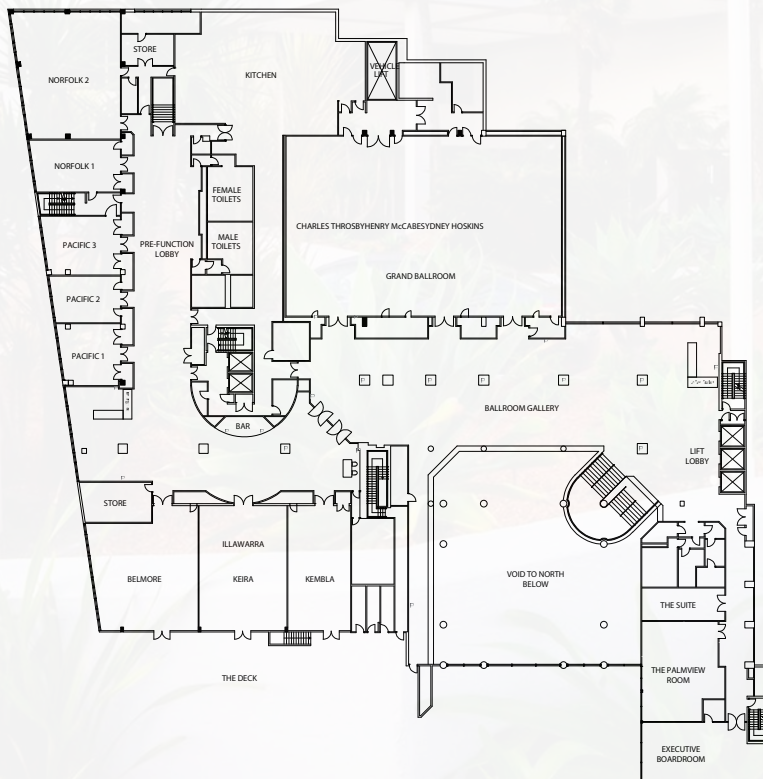
CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY

NOVOTEL WOLLONGONG NORTHBEACH 8-11 APRIL, 2024

LEVEL 3



LEVEL 4



WELCOME



ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY FISHER OP

Welcome to the 2024 Archdiocesan Clergy Conference. I look forward to sharing these valuable days of formation and fellowship with you in this beautiful venue and surroundings.

It's with great pleasure that I welcome our guests who will lead us during the conference: Timothy Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth and President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference; Greg Homeming OCD, Bishop of Lismore; David Ranson, Vicar General of the Diocese of Broken Bay and Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dolours in Chatswood; Janiene Wilson, lecturer at the Catholic Institute of Sydney; Virginia Jackson, Clergy Wellbeing Coordinator of

the Archdiocese of Sydney; Michael King, Priests' Retirement Care Coordinator of the Archdiocese of Sydney; and Brendan Tertini from the Diocese of Broken Bay. We are most grateful to them for their willingness to share their gifts, insights, and time with us, as well as the fruitful conversations they will inspire.

I especially welcome our newly ordained members who are joining us at the Live In Clergy Conference for the first time as well as those on lesser duties or retired. We also keep in our prayers those who are not able to be with us and those who have died since our last extended Conference in 2018.

Our conference theme this year is 'Synodality Serving Renewal: Enabling the Holy Spirit to Guide our Missionary Response to Contemporary Challenges'. The concept of synodality or 'journeying together' is an important one in the life of the Church and the pontificate of Pope Francis. At its heart is the willingness to listen, dialogue, and share so that all of the faithful might assume co-responsibility for the Church's mission. This mission can only be effective with prayer, humility, and above all, the guidance of the Holy Spirit who is the protagonist of synodality.

I encourage you to make the most of these days, to reconnect with familiar friends, and especially, to get to know others with whom you are less familiar. May the Holy Spirit guide us towards fulfilling the evangelising mission of the Gospel and inspire us to live out our vocation more fully as disciples of Christ and ordained ministers of His Church.

With every blessing



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

TIMETABLE

MONDAY 8 APRIL

7am	CHAPEL OPEN	Belmore Room
1.00pm–4.00pm	MARKET DAY	Ballroom Gallery ARRIVAL registrations and settling in
4.00pm	WELCOME	Very Rev Paul MONKERUD Grand Ballroom
4.15pm	CLERGY PROFILE	Rev John PHAM
4.20pm	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: UNISUPER	Mr Justin COLLEY
4.25pm	CONFERENCE LAUNCH	Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP Grand Ballroom
5.00pm	EVENING PRAYER	Rev Roberto KERYAKOS
5.15pm	GAMES	The Deck
7.00pm	DINNER BUFFET	Illawarra Room
8.30pm	DRINKS	North Bar

Welcome to the Clergy Conference

If you have any enquiries regarding the venue please contact Reception.

If you have any enquiries about the event, please contact one of the

Committee members or telephone **0466 486 101**.

Committee Members are:

Fr John ARMSTRONG

Fr Paul SMITHERS

Deacon Louis AZZOPARDI

Fr Michael McLEAN

Ms Kylie CULLEN

Fr Daniel McCAUGHAN

Sr Elizabeth DELANEY SGS

Fr Paul MONKERUD, Chairman

Fr Michael DE STOOP

Fr Chaminda WANIGASENA

PLEASE NOTE: there will be a film crew from the Archdiocese present throughout the conference to record our experience and to create resources from the keynote speakers and workshops.

Presentations will be recorded and uploaded to the app over the course of the Conference.

TIMETABLE

TUESDAY 9 APRIL

7.00am	CHAPEL OPEN Illawarra Room
7.30am	BREAKFAST Palisade Kitchen and Bar, Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
8.00am–4.00pm	MARKET DAY Ballroom Gallery
9.00am	MORNING PRAYER Grand Ballroom
9.10am	CLERGY PROFILE Bishop Danny MEAGHER Grand Ballroom
9.15am	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: CDF Mr Peter BOKEYAR Grand Ballroom
9.20am	PLENARY 1 Archbishop Timothy COSTELLOE SDB Grand Ballroom
10.30am	MORNING TEA Ballroom Gallery
11.00am	PARALLEL WORKSHOPS 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ms Janiene WILSON (Human) Hoskins Room2. Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD (Spiritual) Norfolk Room3. Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP (Intellectual) McCabe Room4. Very Rev David RANSON & Mr Brendan TERTINI (Pastoral) Throsby Room5. Ms Virginia JACKSON & Mr Michael KING (Retired Clergy) Pacific 3
12 noon	ANGELUS
12:30pm–1.30pm	LUNCH BUFFET Palisade Kitchen and Bar, Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
1.45pm	PARALLEL WORKSHOP 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ms Janiene WILSON (Human) Hoskins Room2. Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD (Spiritual) Norfolk Room3. Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP (Intellectual) McCabe Room4. Very Rev David RANSON & Mr Brendan TERTINI (Pastoral) Throsby Room
3.15pm	AFTERNOON TEA Ballroom Gallery
4.00pm	ADORATION AND SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Illawarra Room Presider: Rev Daniel DRUM VDMF
5.30pm	ANNIE CASEY MASS Illawarra Room Presider: Bishop Richard UMBERS Homily: Archbishop Timothy COSTELLOE SDB
6.30pm	PRE-DINNER DRINKS Gallery (Sponsored by the Clerical Fund)
7.00pm	ANNIE CASEY BUFFET DINNER The Deck
7.00pm	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: SCECS Mrs Franceyn O'CONNOR
7.05pm	WELCOME Rev James McCARTHY
8.30pm:	FREE TIME

TIMETABLE

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

7.00am	CHAPEL OPEN	Illawarra Room
7.30am	BREAKFAST	Palisade Kitchen and Bar Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
9.00am	MORNING PRAYER	Grand Ballroom
9.10am	CLERGY PROFILE	Deacon Conti RODRIGUES Grand Ballroom
9.15am	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION	Grand Ballroom
9.20am	PLENARY 2	Archbishop Timothy COSTELLOE SDB Grand Ballroom
10.30am	MORNING TEA	Ballroom Gallery
11.00am	PARALLEL WORKSHOPS 3	
	1. Ms Janiene Wilson (Human)	Hoskins Room
	2. Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD (Spiritual),	Norfolk Room
	3. Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP (Intellectual)	McCabe Room
	4. Very Rev David RANSON & Brendan TERTINI (Pastoral)	Throsby Room
	5. Ms Virginia JACKSON & Mr Michael KING (Retired Clergy)	Pacific 3
12 noon	ANGELUS	
12:30pm–1.30pm	LUNCH BUFFET	Palisade Kitchen and Bar, Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
1.30pm	FREE TIME	
	ORGANISED TOURS	
	1. Headland Distillery (meet in foyer)	
	2. Glenbernie Orchard (meet in foyer)	
	<i>*Bookings are essential and spaces are limited</i>	
	OTHER OPTIONS	Golf, swimming, surfing, walking, catching up with friends
3.15pm	AFTERNOON TEA	Ballroom Gallery
4.00pm	FREE TIME (Continued)	
5.10pm	EVENING PRAYER	Illawarra Room
5.30pm	VIANNEY MASS	
	Presider: Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP	
	Homily: Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD	Illawarra Room
6.30pm	PRE-DINNER DRINKS	Gallery (Sponsored by the the Clergy Remuneration System)
7.00pm	VIANNEY DINNER	Grand Ballroom
7.00pm	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: UNISUPER	Mr Justin COLLEY
7.05pm	WELCOME	Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP
8.30pm	FREE TIME	

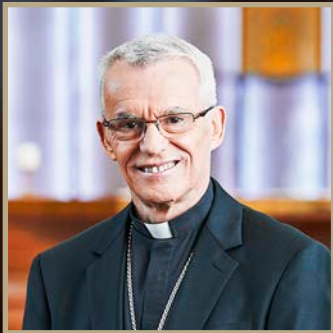
TIMETABLE

THURSDAY 11 APRIL

7.00am	MASS Bishop Danny MEAGHER Illawarra Room
7.30am	BREAKFAST Palisade Kitchen and Bar, Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
9.00am	MORNING PRAYER Grand Ballroom
9.10am	CLERGY PROFILE Rev Chrisantha KUMARA Grand Ballroom
9.15am	SPONSOR INTRODUCTION: CATHOLICCARE Mr Alastair McGIBBON Grand Ballroom
9.20am	OPEN FORUM PANEL Plenary & Workshop Presenters Grand Ballroom
10.30am	MORNING TEA Ballroom Gallery
11.00am	CLOSING ADDRESS Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP
12 noon	ANGELUS
12:30pm–1.30pm	LUNCH BUFFET Palisade Kitchen and Bar, Level 3 (Cliff Road Entrance)
1.30pm	DEPARTURE

PLENARY SPEAKER

Synodality Serving Renewal: Enabling the Holy Spirit to Inspire and Guide Our Missionary Response to Contemporary Challenges



Most Rev Archbishop
Timothy COSTELLOE SDB

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB was born in Melbourne on 3 February 1954, the second son of Francis John (Jack) and Carmel Tasma Costelloe (née Roadknight). He was educated at St Peter's Parish Primary School, East Bentleigh and at Salesian College, Chadstone, from where he matriculated in 1971.

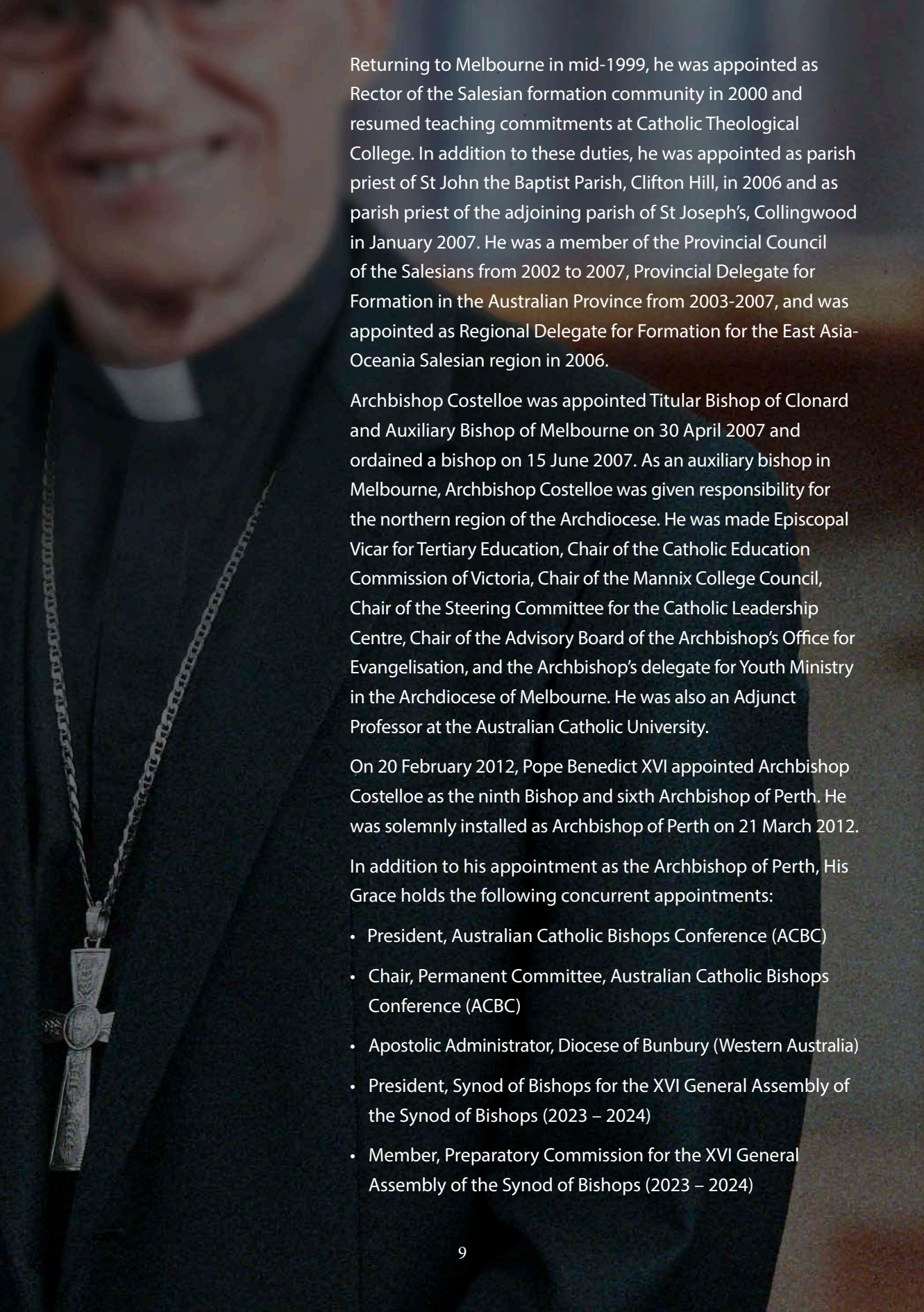
After several positions working in industry, he began his studies in a teacher training course at Christ College in Melbourne, which he interrupted in 1977 to join the Salesians of Don Bosco, an international organisation of Catholic priests and brothers dedicated to the service of the young, especially the disadvantaged and marginalised. He made his first profession as a Salesian on 31 January 1978 and graduated from Christ College at the end of that year.

In 1985, he made his final profession as a Salesian of Don Bosco and was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Sir Frank Little on 25 October 1986.

After three years as Religious Education Coordinator at Salesian College, Chadstone, he was transferred to Rome where he completed a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at the Salesian Pontifical University in 1991. Upon returning to Melbourne, he began lecturing in systematic theology at Catholic Theological College in Melbourne and worked in the area of the formation of young Salesians.

In 1996, he was transferred to Perth where he was appointed parish priest of St Joachim's Parish, Victoria Park, and lecturer in theology at the University of Notre Dame Australia, Fremantle. He completed his doctorate in theology from the Melbourne College of Divinity at this time.

In 1998, he attended the Synod for Oceania in Rome as the theological adviser of the then Archbishop of Perth, his predecessor, the Most Reverend Barry James Hickey.



Returning to Melbourne in mid-1999, he was appointed as Rector of the Salesian formation community in 2000 and resumed teaching commitments at Catholic Theological College. In addition to these duties, he was appointed as parish priest of St John the Baptist Parish, Clifton Hill, in 2006 and as parish priest of the adjoining parish of St Joseph's, Collingwood in January 2007. He was a member of the Provincial Council of the Salesians from 2002 to 2007, Provincial Delegate for Formation in the Australian Province from 2003-2007, and was appointed as Regional Delegate for Formation for the East Asia-Oceania Salesian region in 2006.

Archbishop Costelloe was appointed Titular Bishop of Clonard and Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne on 30 April 2007 and ordained a bishop on 15 June 2007. As an auxiliary bishop in Melbourne, Archbishop Costelloe was given responsibility for the northern region of the Archdiocese. He was made Episcopal Vicar for Tertiary Education, Chair of the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria, Chair of the Mannix College Council, Chair of the Steering Committee for the Catholic Leadership Centre, Chair of the Advisory Board of the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation, and the Archbishop's delegate for Youth Ministry in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. He was also an Adjunct Professor at the Australian Catholic University.

On 20 February 2012, Pope Benedict XVI appointed Archbishop Costelloe as the ninth Bishop and sixth Archbishop of Perth. He was solemnly installed as Archbishop of Perth on 21 March 2012.

In addition to his appointment as the Archbishop of Perth, His Grace holds the following concurrent appointments:

- President, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC)
- Chair, Permanent Committee, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC)
- Apostolic Administrator, Diocese of Bunbury (Western Australia)
- President, Synod of Bishops for the XVI General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (2023 – 2024)
- Member, Preparatory Commission for the XVI General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (2023 – 2024)

HUMAN WORKSHOP

How Synodality Can Help Clergy Grow As Persons, Disciples, and Leaders of Faith Communities Committed to Mission



Ms Janiene WILSON

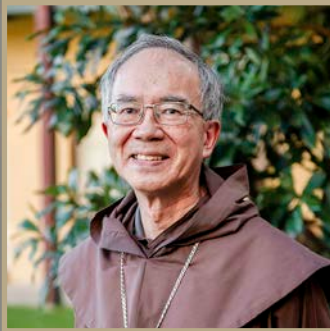
Janiene Wilson is a clinical psychologist of 30 years experience. Originally practising as a lawyer, she retrained as a clinical psychologist after baptism into the Catholic faith in her 20's.

She has taught at the Catholic Institute of Sydney for several decades, and was the Director of Human Formation at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd for 10 years in the early 2000's. Janiene now consults to various Dioceses and is part of the formation staff at the Holy Spirit Seminary, Brisbane. Currently, Janiene also conducts a private psychology practice in North Brisbane.

Janiene is married and lives with her husband in Albany Creek, Queensland.

SPIRITUAL WORKSHOP

Synodality: Informing and Animating Our Relationship with Jesus Christ as Disciples and Ordained Pastoral Leaders



Bishop Gregory
HOMEMING OCD

Bishop Greg Homeming OCD, is an Australian Chinese born in Sydney on 30 May 1958.

He took the degrees of Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws at Sydney University, was admitted as a solicitor in 1981 and worked as a lawyer in Sydney until 1985.

At the end of 1985, he joined the Discalced Carmelite Order, making his first profession on 1 February 1987. He completed his priestly studies at the Yarra Theological Union, Melbourne, taking the degrees of Bachelor of Theology from the Melbourne College of Divinity and Master of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Melbourne.

He was ordained a priest on 20 July 1991 and has held, within his order, the positions of Major Superior, Novice Master, Prior (at Varroville and St Ives), and Director of Retreats – a ministry of particular interest to him. Until his appointment as Bishop of Lismore, he was the Regional Vicar (Major Superior) of the Discalced Carmelites in Australia.

He was ordained Bishop of Lismore 22 February 2017.

INTELLECTUAL WORKSHOP

Intellectual Foundations of Synodality in Scripture and Tradition



Most Rev Archbishop
Anthony FISHER OP

Archbishop Fisher received degrees in history and law from the University of Sydney, before joining the Dominican Order in 1985, and became a priest in 1991. Since then he has achieved a doctorate from Oxford, lectured at several universities including the Australian Catholic University, the University of Notre Dame Australia, and the John-Paul II Institute in Melbourne, Australia, where he was founding Director.

In 2003, he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney; Bishop of Parramatta in 2010; and Archbishop of Sydney in 2014. He currently serves as a Member of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith; Dicastery for Oriental Churches; Council for the Synod of Bishops; and since 2004 has been an ordinary member of the Pontifical Academy for Life. He is currently Vice President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Chair of the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education.

He has published and lectured extensively on ethical, bioethical, healthcare, education, legal, and theological subjects. His interests include cooking, reading, watching movies, and tennis.

PASTORAL WORKSHOP

Being Parish-in-Council: Bringing Synodal Processes to a Local Faith Community in Mission



Fr David RANSON

Fr David Ranson is a priest of the Diocese of Broken Bay, where he currently serves as Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia, and Parish Priest of Chatswood.

From 2001-2015, he was a senior lecturer in the Sydney College of Divinity, teaching in spirituality at the Catholic Institute of Sydney, where he was also Academic Registrar from 2008. He holds a Master of Theology Honours degree from the Melbourne College of Divinity and his PhD from Australian Catholic University.

He commenced his religious life in 1980 as a member of the Cistercian Order at Tarrawarra Abbey, Yarra Glen, Victoria where he was ordained in 1992.

David has written numerous articles on spirituality and pastoral formation. He serves on the Bishops Commission for Professional Standards and Safeguarding, and is Chair of the NSW/ACT Province Safeguarding Community of Practice.

He served as the Secretary to the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia in 2022.

He is the author of *Across the Great Divide: Bridging Spirituality and Religion Today* (St. Pauls Publications 2002), *Living in the Holy Spirit: Elements of Catholic Spirituality* (Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, 2008), *The Paschal Paradox: A Meditation on the Contemporary Challenge of Priestly Life* (St. Pauls Publications, 2009), *The Hospitality of Ministry* (St. Pauls Publications, 2012); and *Between the Mysticism of Politics and the Politics of Mysticism* (ATF Press, 2014).

PASTORAL WORKSHOP

Being Parish-in-Council: Bringing Synodal Processes to a Local Faith Community in Mission



Mr Brendan TERTINI

Mr Brendan Tertini currently serves as an Executive Advisor at the Chatswood Parish in the Diocese of Broken Bay, supporting the Parish Priest and staff on their journey towards becoming Church in the City. Brendan also serves on the Chatswood Parish Finance Committee, the Animating our Future and Growing in Faith Ministry Circles, having developed the 'I AM Jesus' small group faith formation course. His professional experience encompasses strategy, change management, marketing and communications, digital, investment portfolio management, property, consulting and team leadership across family office, large format retail, and professional services industries. Brendan holds a Bachelor of Business from the University of Technology Sydney and a Graduate Diploma of Human Services from Swinburne University Melbourne.

RETIRED WORKSHOP

Health and Wellbeing for Retired Clergy



Virginia JACKSON

Clergy Health and Wellbeing Coordinator,
Archdiocese of Sydney.

VIRGINIA IS AN EXPERIENCED HEALTHCARE professional with qualifications in nursing and nutrition, and is currently undertaking further studies in psychology at Macquarie University. With a background in nursing, Virginia draws on her extensive experience in critical care, chronic disease management, mental health, and care planning to support the Archbishop's goal of supporting clergy with their personal and human needs across the decades of their ministry. Previously employed as the Clergy Health and Wellbeing Coordinator at both The Diocese of Broken Bay and The Diocese of Parramatta, Virginia has spent many years working with clergy and developing systems and structures to preempt and respond to their needs. She is dedicated and passionate about providing effective care, support and education for all clergy. As part of her commitment to provide a high level of support for clergy at the Archdiocese of Sydney, Virginia maintains her nursing registration including regular clinical practice and ongoing professional development, and undergoes regular professional supervision.



Michael KING

Retired Priests Care Coordinator.

MICHAEL HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE retired priests of the Archdiocese of Sydney for thirteen years, the first three years with CatholicCare and the past ten with the Chancery. Prior to his current role, he managed CatholicCare's Home and Community Care programs across South West Sydney for nineteen years, beginning with a Dementia Home Support Pilot project in the Fairfield Local Government Area in 1995. Through his successful tendering as part of a management team, CatholicCare's Home and Community Care programs grew to include Community Options, Neighbour Aid, Dementia Home Support, Emergency Respite, and ComPacs – an initiative from NSW Health to provide a comprehensive assessment and case management to people in the community after hospital discharge. Michael's earlier life included his time with the Order of Friars Minor Conventual. He did his formation at Mount St Francis at Kellyville and his theological studies at UTI at Henters Hill. He was elected to the Definitory and appointed Econome for the Order in Australia before leaving in 1994.



Fr. Chrisantha (Chris) KUMARA

Walking down memory lane, life seems to be an exciting journey full of adventure and crucial decisions, a journey of discovering the best version of myself as a human being and then as a priest. Prophet Jeremiah would say, 'before you were born, I consecrated you, I appointed you a prophet to the nations'.

But I wouldn't perceive that I was born a priest, despite the fact that I joined the minor seminary in Colombo, Sri Lanka when I was just 13, at an age that would be most unlikely to fathom a mystery unfolding in my life.

Surely, joining the seminary was not the most serious decision I have ever made in life but certainly that was the moment when I set out a journey of discernment, while watering the seed of vocation which was unconsciously planted in me under the guidance of my parents. In fact, I'm not only lucky but also blessed to be born to my parents whose simple life and example of faith inspired me

enormously to find my true self. What I am today is just because of the foundational experience I received from the religious background where I was brought up.

It was tremendously challenging as I gradually grew up from teenage to young adulthood passing from Minor Seminary after my secondary education to the Major Seminary to the serious years of priestly formation. We, the young seminarians, were not completely cut off from the world but fully exposed to the ordinary life in the secular world by placing us at different platforms like parishes, colleges, religious institutions and in the corporate world as well. It has been truly a testing time for me personally saying 'Yes' at times to the Call and 'No' at certain other times until a very serious decision emerged within me at the age of 27 and I was ordained a priest to the Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka on the 18th December 2004.

The journey of discovering my best self never ends. The journey of discernment still continues. I started my priestly ministry as a teacher in Catholic schools in Colombo and then got involved in educational administration for fifteen years in a number of Catholic schools in the diocese. But still I felt there was something seriously missing in my priestly life. I started giving life to my pastoral and missionary interests, and found myself placed in the Sydney Archdiocese, getting experience with the Parish life that was the part of my story missing the most. Being 19 years a priest, I still would love to learn and grow discovering the best version of myself firstly as a human being and then as a consecrated individual.



Bishop Danny MEAGHER

I was born in West Wyalong in central NSW. Dad was a farmer, but we sold up when I was a baby and came to the city. Dad went into pubs: Port Kembla, Matraville, Cammeray, Engadine. Early on we lived on top of the hotels, but when I was in about year 3 we bought our first family home at Castlecrag. By then, there were six children and I was up to my seventh place of residence. I was to attend seven primary schools. So, lots of moves but, thanks be to God, our family was loving (though all of us, except Mum, got into trouble a lot).

I have always wanted to be a priest. We always went to Sunday Mass, but I don't really know where my desire for priesthood came from. I thank God for it. I have always been blessed by a love of God, to which I have tried to remain true over the years. I went to a Jesuit high school School and spoke about becoming a priest to one of the priests

there. He suggested I get something behind me first, so I went to university and studied economics law. After three years I joined the Jesuits – I had uncles who were Jesuits. This lasted only six months. I was too immature, I think, and unsuited to community life. I finished law and worked in a city firm, but my desire for the priesthood persisted. I began at Manly in 1989 and was ordained in 1995.

Six years is the longest I have been anywhere – I seem to be repeating my wandering lifestyle. I have had many different appointments, but mainly in the parishes of Sydney. My time as rector of the Seminary was my most challenging and I think I grew far more in those years than any other time of my life. I was ordained a bishop about two years ago – auxiliary here in Sydney. I remember being surprised by the joy of the occasion.

Unlike earlier appointments, I find it hard to find my central focus. In a parish, the parishioners are our focus. In a seminary, the seminarians. Now I have a very diverse number of responsibilities, trying to assist the Archbishop in his role as our shepherd. Each day I pray that I may bring God's presence – light, joy, understanding – to whatever I have on that day. And I am getting used to the fact that an auxiliary bishop probably does not have a central focus to his life. There is considerable prestige attached to being a bishop, and I have an enormous ego, so I also pray to remain true to Jesus.



Fr. John PHAM

Growing up in a Catholic family, including priests and religious, the priesthood was in my head from a young age. However, at 8 years old, what motivated me at first was not serving God and his people, but the beautiful vestments, shining vessels, and 'interesting' gestures of the priest at Mass.

As I grew older, I started to understand the priestly ministry better. I had slowly replaced my childish thoughts with a longing to serve God and his people. I found myself drawn to the quiet reverence of the Church, finding comfort in prayer, hymns, and Scripture. In my late teens, I began to explore this calling by seeking guidance from my parish priest and relatives who had walked this path before me. Their encouragement gave me the clarity and confidence to apply for the pre-seminary programme after high school. These three years presented moments of doubt and uncertainty where I questioned my calling.

In 2007, I moved to Sydney for studies and, in 2008, attended a life changing WYD.

In 2011, I joined Good Shepherd Seminary as a language student and started my first-year formation in 2013. Finally, the day arrived where I was ordained a priest on the 19 of September 2020 at St Mary's Cathedral. Even though my parents could not attend due to COVID, for me, it was a moment of grace and joy following years of prayer, study, and preparation. As I stood before the altar for the first time as a priest, I felt a sense of awe and reverence, knowing my dream and desire had come true.

During my first few years as a priest, I encountered many challenges as well as moments of grace. There were times of sorrow when I walked alongside parishioners in their grief; moments of disappointment and helplessness when I did not know how to advise parishioners. However, there were also many moments of joy and happiness when I celebrated Mass, baptisms, weddings, and other milestones.

I felt consoled and appreciated when I could help our parishioners in their time of need, especially through anointing and home visits. Through it all, I felt God guiding me, sustaining me, and filling me with a sense of purpose that words cannot express.

As I look back, I am filled with gratitude for every twist and turn along the way. Though it has not always been easy, it has been filled by grace.

As I look to the years to come, I am ready to go wherever the Lord wants me, knowing that, with his guidance, there is no journey too daunting and no challenge too great.



Deacon Constantine RODRIGUES

I was raised in India with a strong Catholic upbringing. My four brothers and one sister were taught to pray the rosary daily, attend Sunday mass, and participate in Church activities. I was an altar server from a young age.

St Mary's was a very popular school among the affluent, and Catholics students became a minority in a class of twenty-six. My friends, noticing my faith, would tease me, calling me 'Father'. All this changed when a girl came into my life. We fell in love, and I married her at the age of 25. I left India at 29 to make Australia our new home.

While my business excelled, my life was going astray. After a dream around 9/11, I began to reconsider the path I was taking. In 2002, I joined the parish collection team, and became a catechist and finance secretary.

In 2008 I took care of a homestay program for WYD pilgrims. My wife and I decided to accommodate the priests in our house. At the

end of WYD I asked a priest, 'What must I do for the Church?' He said, 'become a deacon'. I had no idea what a deacon was.

In 2012 I went to see a priest and inform him of my intention to receive orders. He replied 'What! You cannot, you're married. I said, 'I heard of the permanent diaconate'. He went silent, stood up, and said, 'Come here, let me give you a hug'. He called Bishop Porteus saying, 'I have a man for you'. I entered formation in 2012, recommended by Bishop Julian Porteus and (then) Fr Danny Meagher. I had my work cut out.

My studies were difficult, and my earlier degrees were nothing compared to this new way of thinking and studying. I felt humbled by this struggle. I thought of giving up, but my wife kept encouraging me, and many priests assisted me with grammar and writing. Under the guidance of Fr Tom Carroll, I was ordained in 2017. My family were proud of me serving in the cathedral.

To be serving the Archbishop (who also calls us his canonical sons), was the highlight of my early diaconate. But parish life was something else. Encouragement from my superiors kept me going, and serving God in various capacities brought me fulfilment.

While my business brought me money and comfort, the diaconate took me to the broken and the needy. Baptisms, marriages, and funerals have taken me to the unchurched, the disconnected, and those in grief, and I am constantly thinking of ways to connect them with God. I thank Archbishop Anthony for his encouragement and Fr Gerry for putting their trust in me with the chaplaincy. I am in debt to many who have shouldered me to this point, and I thank God for all he has given me.



Dignified funerals organised with discretion and integrity

Our experienced team are committed to providing a personalised and meaningful service for your loved one.



Sydney Catholic
early childhood
services

Partner with SCECS



About Us

SCECS is a proudly Catholic, not-for-profit organisation providing high quality education and care to young children within the mission and ministry of the Church. Contact us to learn more about how we partner with parishes for long-term lease holds that support and benefit our Catholic communities.



Outside School Hours Care

SCECS OSHC services offer a nurturing and dynamic environment where primary school-aged children can engage in a variety of care, play, and learning activities before and after school.

Long Day Care

SCECS Preschool and Long Day Care services provide a vibrant early learning and care program for children aged six weeks to school age that enable them to flourish in all areas of development.

Why Choose SCECS

- We are an agency of the Church.
- We support families in hardship.
- Profits are reinvested in our services.
- Competitive rental returns.
- We cover all operational costs.
- SCECS is an Employer of Choice.
- Promote a sense of community grounded on Gospel values.
- Support working families at the Parish School.

Contact Us



(02) 9568 8628



scecs@syd.catholic.edu.au



MISSIONING AMONG the People of God in Perú

Vicariato Apostólico de Iquitos, Perú

5 March 2024

Dear Archbishop Anthony, bishops, priests and deacons: Peace and Good!

These lines come from John Andersen, at the invitation of the Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee. Thank you. I appreciate very much this chance to share some days with you all.

I grew up in Holy Cross Parish Woollahra, blessed with truly great parents, Bon and Eileen; with parish priests Msgr Richard Collender VG and Archbishop James Carroll; with +David Cremin and +John Heaps among the assistant priests; and with the Marist Brothers Thomas More and Norman Hart amongst those who taught us. Six of us were ordained priests by Cardinal Gilroy in August of 1970. In Sydney, I was appointed

as assistant priest to the parishes of Dulwich Hill, Avalon, Penshurst, and Earlwood, and for six months, to the parish of Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Mt Pritchard, when I returned for a few months to Sydney.

After making a retreat in 1981 to discern whether this call to South America was truly from the Lord, I received permission from Cardinal Freeman to come to Latin America, as an associate priest with the Columban Fathers. I am very grateful to all our archbishops for their blessing and support over these years, together with that of yourselves. After a few months in Cochabamba, Bolivia to learn Spanish, I worked from 1983 to 1987 in parishes in Lima. Archbishop Young walked in procession



with us through the streets one day, and as one of a team, together with Josephite Sisters, in a very large jail on the outskirts of Lima. Then from 1987 to 1990, I worked in the southern Andes, outside Sicuani, which is out from Cuzco. In the parish of Langui-Layo, there had not been a priest appointed for seven years, and in one area, I was the first priest to visit in twenty years. All these years were the years of terrorism in Perú—many thousands of people were killed, both by the terrorists and the armed forces. Perú was in chaos. I returned to Sydney for eight months, and then, in 1991, with the permission of Cardinal Clancy and through an English priest friend, to the apostolic vicariate of Iquitos, in the northeast of Perú, a vicariate in the charge of the Augustinian Order.

Religious Orders are very important in the evangelization of Latin América. The Jesuit Missions of Maynas began in the 17th Century, over a very large area. Then for a time, what is now our vicariate depended on the *Obispado de Quito* and, after independence some 200 years ago, we formed part of the very extensive Diocese of Chachapoyas. At the beginning of last century, three apostolic prefectures were formed: one in the south, in the charge of the Dominicans; another in the centre, in the charge of the Franciscans; and the third, in the charge of the Augustinians. These became in time eight apostolic vicariates, in the charge of the Passionists, Franciscans, and the Archdiocese of Toledo. Our vicariate takes in over a million Catholics, in an area of over 100,000 km², extending, in one of our vast river parishes, to the frontier with Ecuador.

We have been greatly blessed with holy and wise bishops over the years: Bishop Julián García, now retired in Spain; Bishop Miguel

Olaortua, who died suddenly after eight years in office; and now Bishop Miguel Ángel Cadenas, who was ordained here in Iquitos in 2021, during the pandemic—all Spanish Augustinian missionary bishops.

We are twenty-five parishes, five being very extensive river parishes with many communities. We are one bishop, ten priests incardinated in our vicariate (one of whom is studying theology in Bogotá), seven Augustinian priests, four *Fidei Donum* priests, two *Operarios* priests in our inter-vicariate Seminary, two Neocatechumenate priests on loan from a Diocese in Lima, and three priests from a Marian fraternity, one priest and deacon from the *Identes*, a missionary society, two Augustinian deacons, three Augustinian brothers, fifty sisters, among thirteen congregations, a monastery of Carmelite nuns, three seminarians for our vicariate, eleven permanent deacons in their second year of formation, and a great number of catechists, *animadores*, and pastoral agents, on whom we much depend in our city parishes and along the vast rivers. Bishop Miguel Ángel asks us to think and plan for the future, to form small Christian communities who meet, reflect on the Gospel and on our lives, and who seek to pray and to serve others. Our bishop, together with others, works hard for the human rights of our peoples – for example, by gaining a court ruling for the right to water for many who did not have such a basic resource for life.

For over thirty years we have lived and planned a pastoral plan for our vicariate, aiming to form a Church of communion and participation, evangelizing and at the service of unity in the world. Each year we plan the year's work, and the vicariate plan becomes the basis of the parish plan for each parish.

Thanks to the generosity of Cardinal George Pell, Sydney Catholic Schools, and others, it was possible for us to take groups of pilgrims to WYD Sydney, Río de Janeiro, and Panamá. Our young people are very grateful, and these events have been really formative. One former pilgrim from Sydney, José Luis, is in formation to become a permanent deacon in our vicariate.

I had the privilege of baptizing Juan Anderson Pérez Ramírez in my first years in Iquitos, and thanks be to God, he was ordained a priest on 15 July 2018, here in Iquitos. That same night, I concelebrated Mass with Bishop Miguel Olaortua OSA and Padre Juan. Bishop Miguel appointed Padre Juan *administrador parroquial* of the parish of San Juan de Miraflores, a parish of some 80,000 people.



Sr Nora, a Missionary sister of Our Lady of the Angels, is also from our parish. Sr Nora took her final vows in 1992, and after many years in Africa and then Brazil, has just returned to be the Regional Superior in Perú. Sr Lizeth, a Little Sister of the Poor, is also from our parish. She has a master's degree in mining engineering, and while working in her profession, she discerned a vocation in USA to be a Little Sister of the Poor. Sr Lizeth is caring for the aged in a community in the south of Perú. For some thirteen years I have accompanied the altar servers of our ...vicariate. We print

a bulletin each week, with copies for each parish, and a reflection on the Sunday's readings, as well as a reflection on Vatican II, in preparation for the Holy Year.

On the first Sunday in May each year, Bishop Miguel Ángel presides at Mass with the altar servers from the different parishes of our vicariate, in a different parish each year. This photo, taken at the end of Mass, is from the parish of Our Lady of Good Health, a large parish in the charge of the Augustinians, with the regional hospital just opposite. Our altar servers much appreciate this celebration each year with our bishop.

One of the surprises of my life here was being chaplain to the army. My predecessor, Padre Esteban, suffered a stroke and was evacuated to Lima. I visited him in the army hospital and said to the military bishop, Salvador Piñero, that I would help out till the next man came. I thought, for two months – this lasted for fourteen years! I met many people in this ministry and was able to prepare a good number of soldiers and police recruits for the Sacraments.

I have been working many years in the parish of Santa Rosa de Lima, Iquitos, a parish of some 3000 families, which borders the Cathedral parish, which has a military airport going through the jurisdiction of the parish, and a station Church, El Nazareno, on the other side of the airport.

Our parish began in 1970, when one of our previous bishops, Msgr Gabino Peral de la Torre OSA, began to celebrate Mass on Sundays on a small table in a street. In those days, the city in that area more or less ended there.

We have been much blessed with the presence and ministry of congregations of

religious since the beginning of our parish. Franciscan missionaries of Mary ministered in our parish from 1970 to 2003, then two Peruvian congregations, after which we were without sisters for two years, at which point, I went looking in Lima for a congregation of sisters. This is a great blessing in a parish. The Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet then came, and at the same time, our own Josephite sisters, who worked in a school and in another parish for some years and lived in our own.

In 2017 came the Catechist Sisters of Jesus Crucified, a congregation from Mexico, who are doing very great work in our parish and in our vicariate. Sr María de la Luz works in our Catholic Schools, Sr Sandy is vicariate



Each weekend we celebrate four Masses: A vigil Mass on Saturday in our station Church, and in our parish Church, Masses at 8am, 10am, and 7pm. We celebrate the catechumenate, and in some earlier years, we celebrated the



catechesis coordinator, Sr Fátima does much work in our vicariate pastoral team, and Sr M. Virginia works in our parish.

We have twenty-seven zones in our parish, each with some 120-150 families, and teams of messengers distribute the *Carta a los Cristianos*, or parish bulletin, house by house each month.

Sacraments of Christian Initiation with over 100 catechumens during the Easter Vigil! Our bishop normally comes for the Rite of Election in our parish. This year, he had just returned from Rome, so I was his delegate.

We have a parish council, and a smaller group to animate our pastoral care, a parish



Nuestra Señora

economic group, catechesis for people of varying ages, Legion of Mary and a charismatic prayer group, Caritas Parroquial,



youth ministry, care for the sick, Missionary Childhood, four choirs (one of which has served for over thirty years), and (for similar length of time) our altar servers' group. Visiting the sick during the pandemic, I have never seen so many people so gravely ill in all

my life. We would go from sala to sala in the hospitals, visiting and anointing people in the last stages of their lives.

Priests of the Redemptorist congregation have come to give us five missions, over the time I have served here. This has done great good in our parish, and a Redemptorist priest, Fr Jorge, will come to care for our parish in the time that I am in Australia.

Dear Archbishop Anthony, bishops, and brothers in the Lord, I hope these stories give you some idea of the fullness of life here in the Amazon. It is a great privilege to serve here as a priest of our Archdiocese of Sydney. Thank you for your prayer for us.

Fraternally in our Lord,

John



A time to renew your spirit

the genuine pilgrim experience

Mary & the Saints

Fatima to Lourdes



Land only from \$4990

Commences 10 June 2024. 11 Days. With Fr Anthony Mifsud. You are invited to participate in the world's most requested Marian journey as we explore the villages of some of the Church's most renowned graces and saints. Optional Graces of France extension. Also departs 10 September 2024.

Soul of Ireland

With Fr Thomas Stevens



Land only from \$6990

Commences 26 August 2024. 11 Days. With Fr Tom Stevens. Prepare for a unique journey into Ireland's heart and soul. Come to the grace-filled shrine of Our Lady of Knock and witness along the way the unsurpassed beauty of Ireland's monasteries, rugged coastline and historic cities. Belfast optional extension.

Red Centre Pilgrimage

Journey to the Heart. Alice Springs to Uluru



Land only from \$5890

Commences 29 August 2024. 9 Days. With Fr Robin Koning SJ. Something deep and mystical calls all Australians to journey to the heart of our nation to honour its symbols, stories and beauty in a prayerful spirit of awe and thanksgiving. Featuring the Cross on Memory Mountain.

Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop

Melbourne to Adelaide



Land only from \$4590

Commences 10 October 2024. 11 Days. With Fr David Catterall. Set out together on a true Australian Pilgrimage through the life and times of Mary MacKillop, as we rekindle the story, landscapes and spirit of our nations' first Saint. Also departs August 2024 for Feast Day in Penola.

Pathways of St Paul

Greece & Turkey



Land only from \$6690

Commences 18 September 2024. 12 Days. With Bishop Mark Edwards. The Acts of the Apostles come alive as we walk in the footsteps of St Paul to rediscover the faith and struggles of the early Christian communities. Capture afresh the fervour & spirit of the Church's greatest evangelist. Also departs October 2024.

Great Saints of Italy

Rome to Venice



Land only from \$6990

Commences 21 October 2024. 12 Days. With Fr Christopher del Rosario. Stunning landscapes, picturesque towns and peaceful shrines like Assisi, Siena and Florence await. Explore the rich tapestry of culture, faith, art, and history that Italy offers. Also departs September 2024.



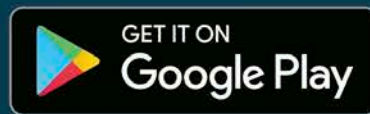
TOLL FREE: 1800 819 156
www.harvestjourneys.com

harvest
journeys

THE SYDNEY CLERGY **WEBSITE** AND **APP!**

- Specially built for Sydney Clergy to access ongoing formation resources
- Featuring daily prayer anniversary reminders
- Download from the App store or link available on website

www.sydneyclergy.org





Strengthening families, connecting communities

Supporting the community in the areas of home care, disability services, family support including child and relationship counselling, chaplaincy, pre-marriage education, natural fertility and allied health services

13 18 19

catholicCare.org

CatholicCare
SYDNEY

CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

The Clergy Remuneration System (CRS) was established in 1972 by the priests of the Archdiocese of Sydney, so that priests could assist each other with day-to-day expenses.

The CRS is an Incorporated Trust that is governed by an elected Board of Sydney incardinated priests and deacons (with the Archbishop of Sydney holding the role as President of the System). The Board manages first collection income and determines appropriate benefits for priests and deacons.

Prior to 1972, the first collection at Sunday Masses in Sydney was considered the personal income of the parish priest. The parish priest would pay for his housekeeper, purchase groceries, pay bills, and contribute something towards assistant priests out of the first collection and pay sustentation to the archbishop. Anything left over was considered the personal income of the parish priest. This arrangement meant that some priests became exceptionally wealthy, while others struggled to pay for meals and could barely afford a bicycle, let alone pay for petrol or have funds for a car or a holiday.

The new system was created following Vatican II changes, which required a more just and equitable structure for the remuneration of diocesan clergy. The result was that all diocesan priests would receive a fair wage (stipend) and appropriate benefits.

All diocesan priests are responsible for using their stipend for their own personal needs (clothing, entertainment,

pets, hobbies), paying for an annual holiday, and for saving for retirement. Since 1972, no priest has become wealthy in Sydney simply because he is in a parish in a high socio-economic area; and, no priest is impoverished because he cares for a financially struggling community.

Income from parishes that have greater first collection income help support parishes with lesser first collection income. After the first collection income is used for approved clergy expenditure, any remaining income (surplus) is forwarded to the Clergy Remuneration System Central Fund. In parishes where expenditure is greater than income, funds are remitted back to the parish for the equivalent of the deficit. This allows parishes with greater income to support parishes with lesser income.

In more recent times, parishes that have a deficit (first collection income is less than expenditure) but the parish has significant other parish income (such as from rental properties), then an appropriate arrangement is made between the parish and the Clergy Remuneration System to equitably cover the costs of the parish clergy.

Income for the CRS is derived from the first collection, stole offerings (baptisms and marriages), special envelope collections at Christmas and Easter (called dues), as well as other income (donations, interest, rebates, and investments).

Fifteen percent of the first collection, stole offerings, and dues are forwarded by the Central Fund to the archdiocese (called sustenance) to assist with the stipend, benefits, and costs for the archbishop, his auxiliary bishops, and clergy working in the Chancery.

Pastoral revenue expenses are only for priests' costs for their residential quarters (food, housekeeping, and utilities), stipends, sabbatical and long-service leave payments, supply priest payments, and reimbursement for diaconal ministry expenses. The Clergy Remuneration System manages and pays for Health Insurance for each incardinated priest and deacon through the Central Fund.

For more information about the Clergy Remuneration System, please contact the Clergy Remuneration Office on **9390 5166** or **administrator@sydneycrs.org**

THE CLERICAL FUND AND THE ANNIE CASEY ESTATE



The Clerical Fund owes its existence to the generosity of Mrs Annie Casey, who, in the 1890s, willed a property in the Sydney CBD as a refuge for sick and needy priests. By the 1920s this purpose faded, the building was sold, and the NSW Supreme Court Equity Court ruled that portions of her estate would be distributed to each diocesan bishop in NSW and to clergy organisations responsible for the care of sick and aged priests in each of the NSW dioceses that existed at the time.

The Clerical Fund, which receives a distribution from the estate on behalf of the Sydney Archdiocese, is currently able to receive claims for out-of-pocket medical expenses from any incardinated priest of the Archdiocese of Sydney, and those for whom the Archbishop has a financial responsibility. (Religious Order priests are normally the responsibility of their respective Order.)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF ANNIE CASEY.
MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

THANK YOU

OUR PRESENTERS

Archbishop Timothy COSTELLOE SDB
Ms Janiene WILSON
Bishop Greg HOMEMING OCD
Archbishop Anthony FISHER OP
Very Rev David RANSON
Mr Brendan TERTINI
Ms Virginia JACKSON
Mr Michael KING

OUR SUPPORTERS

Peter RODRIGUES from the Chancery, who recreated and updated the Sydney Clergy Website and App
Daniel UREMOVIC, Monica BAUTISTA, and Kym NEWMAN from the Chancery;
Anthony MILIC, Videographer for CAS
Darren ALLY, Journalist for CAS
Michael KARKKAINEN from Encore AV
Erin KELLY, Hannah TELFER and the great team from the Novotel Wollongong
THE CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM
THE CLERICAL FUND
THE CLERGY CONFERENCE
LITURGY COMMITTEE:
Fr Michael MCLEAN,
Fr Ben SALIBA,
Fr Roberto KERYAKOS,
Fr John PHAM and Fr Lewi BARAKAT

OUR SEMINARIANS

Deacon Likisone TOMINIKO
Duc Tai PHAM
Daniel O'KELLY
Justin FAEHRMANN
Please pray for them as they continue their journey to Ordination.

OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

UNISUPER
SYDNEY CATHOLIC EARLY
CHILDHOOD SERVICES
CATHOLICCARE
CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

OUR MARKET DAY EXHIBITORS

CHURCH SUPPLIERS
ST KILLIAN'S CANDLES
SULLIVAN'S CHURCH SUPPLIES
HARVEST JOURNEYS
CATHOLIC MISSIONS
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES AND
CREMATORIA: GRIEF CARE
CARITAS AUSTRALIA
CHURCH STORES
CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE
W N BULL
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
AUSTRALIAN CONFRATERNITY
OF CATHOLIC CLERGY

THANK YOU

OUR AGENCIES

DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING OFFICE

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

SYDNEY CENTRE FOR EVANGELISATION

THE VOCATIONS OFFICE

THE MUSTARD SEED BOOKSHOP

PARISH SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

ANTI-SLAVERY TASKFORCE

INTERDIOCESAN TRIBUNAL

OUR ONGOING FORMATION FOR CLERGY COMMITTEE

Fr John ARMSTRONG

Deacon Louis AZZOPARDI

Ms Kylie CULLEN

Sr Elizabeth DELANEY SGS

Fr Michael DE STOOP

Fr Daniel McCAUGHAN

Fr Michael McLEAN

Fr Paul MONKERUD, Chairman

Fr Paul SMITHERS

Fr Chaminda WANIGASENA

JUBILARIANS FOR 2024

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRIESTS WHO ARE CELEBRATING SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS YEAR

60 YEARS (ORDAINED 1964)

Rev Bernard McFADYEN SM

Rev John SULLIVAN

Rev Joseph AIKKARAMATTAM

50 YEARS (ORDAINED 1974)

Rev Peter GUY MSC

Rev Jan CHRZCZONOWICZ

Rev Paul CROWLEY

Rev John MILLIKEN

40 YEARS (ORDAINED 1984)

Rev Janusz BIENIEK CSMA

Rev Francisco REGALA

Rev Paul GRANT Opus Dei

Rev Anthony MIFSUD

Rev John GREIG

Rev Paul HACHEY SM

Rev Thomas ALUKKA

Rev Thomas KURUNTHANAM

25 YEARS (ORDAINED 1999)

Rev Terrence MILLARD

Rev Sebastian SAVARIMUTHU

Rev Roberto CASTILLO

Rev Joseph LU OFM

MAJOR SPONSORS

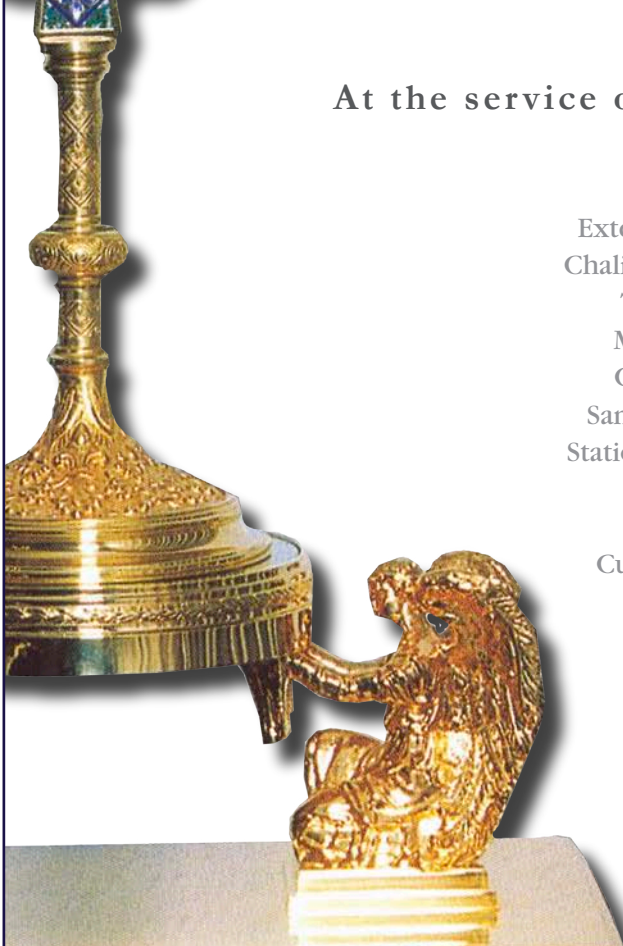




GRANDA.
LITURGICAL ARTS

At the service of Sacred Art since 1891

Extensive range of:
Chalices and Ciboria,
Tabernacles,
Monstrances,
Candlesticks,
Sanctuary Lamps,
Stations of the Cross
Statuary
Vestments
Custom designs



Australian Representative

Mary Roth

P.O. Box 85 - Lane Cove NSW 1595

Telephone: (02) 9427 4299

Mobile: 0419 222 158

E-mail: infoaustralia@artegranda.com

<http://www.artegranda.com>

MADRID - CHICAGO - MIAMI - LONDON - SYDNEY

