

CATHOLIC Observer

Diocese of Bathurst

Print Post Approved PP 22620/00019

Volume 43, No 4

May 2008

\$1.00



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008



Centacare Sunday 2008

A helping hand when it's needed most

Sunday 25th May 2008 is set aside in the Bathurst Diocese as 'Centacare Sunday'. It's a day for the Diocese-family to celebrate the work done by Centacare and show our support of this wonderful organisation and its dedicated workers.

In Centacare's 2008 Annual Report, Bishop Dougherty wrote.... *"The whole community benefits from Centacare's professional guidance of pre and post-marriage couples, and of parents, children, and entire families confronted with personal or interpersonal relationship crises or ongoing needs. The fruits of expert counselling of individuals or families in need and of those who seek optimum progress for their development and relationships enhance the atmosphere of the entire community's spirit and life. As the official agency and arm of the Catholic church for child, adolescent, marriage and family counselling, Centacare continues to make, throughout the vast Central-West territory of the Diocese of Bathurst, a wonderful contribution to the outreach and effectiveness of the Church's caring ministry"*.

Mr Paul Crennan, Chair of the Centacare Board, reminds us of the many hurdles facing Centacare now and into the future....

"The dual challenges of securing financial resources and attracting professional personnel continue for Centacare Bathurst. The demand for services remains high with often many more clients being assisted than are budgeted for within the funding allocated by programs resourced by Government. It has been through the dedication and enthusiasm from our staff, coupled with innovative management led by the Director, that Centacare Bathurst has attempted to rise to those challenges."

The use of technology such as video conferencing has enabled professional services to be delivered to remote locations and further networking of such facilities will achieve greater coverage for counselling services. An inability to secure ongoing funding has prevented the staffing of some core centres such as Mudgee.

Tendering for Government funding is more and more price competitive which tends to take the focus away from the benefit of local experience and the durability of established organisations. Care has been taken not to compromise the quality of service delivery".

Many new trends are emerging as Centacare continues its vital work amongst the people of our Diocese - some of them might surprise you.....

- Families are in greater financial



commitment which has negative impact on stress levels and the quality of intra-familial relationships. The trend of changes in family structures continue with more and more young families left with very little primary and secondary social support systems. Extended work life and financial commitments for the older population have affected their capacity to provide support to their adult children with young families.

- On the other hand, there is also an increase in the number of grand parents in the role of primary carers especially where young parents' parenting capacity has been severely compromised because of issues such as drug addiction and other mental health problems.
- Young people often enter into de facto relationships with unclear expectations and limited intentionality leading to disillusionment and separation, often leaving them with the task of parenting young children from multiple relationships.
- There is an increase in the number of people who have attended a pre marriage education program self referring for preventative relationship counselling.
- As the rural population continues to reel under the impact of the ongoing drought, the ripple effect on a number

of businesses and enterprises which depend on the rural population is significant. Depression and suicidality continue to be major concerns for the rural population.

- Another challenge is in working with couples who present with domestic violence. Some of the other service providers have policies in place which exclude the participation of the alleged perpetrator in counselling processes, which has meant that these couples can not seek relationship counselling jointly with these providers.
- The intrusion of the internet and other media into relationships is becoming more and more apparent. The number of clients who present with the issues around the unhealthy use of such technology to the detriment of their relationship is on the rise.
- There is an increase in the participation of men in counselling programs.
- 40% of clients have annual family income less than \$40,000 and less than 10% have income higher than \$60,000.
- About 40% of clients live in intact families.
- In terms of religious affiliation, more than 65% of the clients belong to denominations other than Catholic.

Cont'd page 16....



Centacare Sunday
Pages 1 & 16



Diocesan
Panorama
Pages 7 -10



Bishop Writes
Pentecost
Page 2



The First Pentecost and Pentecost 2008

We often refer to Pentecost as the birthday of the Church. It would be more precise to say that the Church was born through the Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary: and that it presented itself to the world community on Pentecost Day.

After Our Lord's Resurrection He confirmed in meetings with His first followers and with the Apostles, the leaders He had appointed, the nature of their mission to all nations. And after His definitive departure from their midst, they prepared in togetherness and prayer, with Mary, His mother, for the moment when they would launch out on that mission.

They certainly needed inspiration, enthusiasm and courage from the Holy Spirit, which Jesus had promised them: for they had not figured very well in zealous allegiance to Jesus at the time of His agony and death: and after that they had segregated themselves, deeply fearful that the enemies of Jesus would seek them out and persecute them.

At the beginning

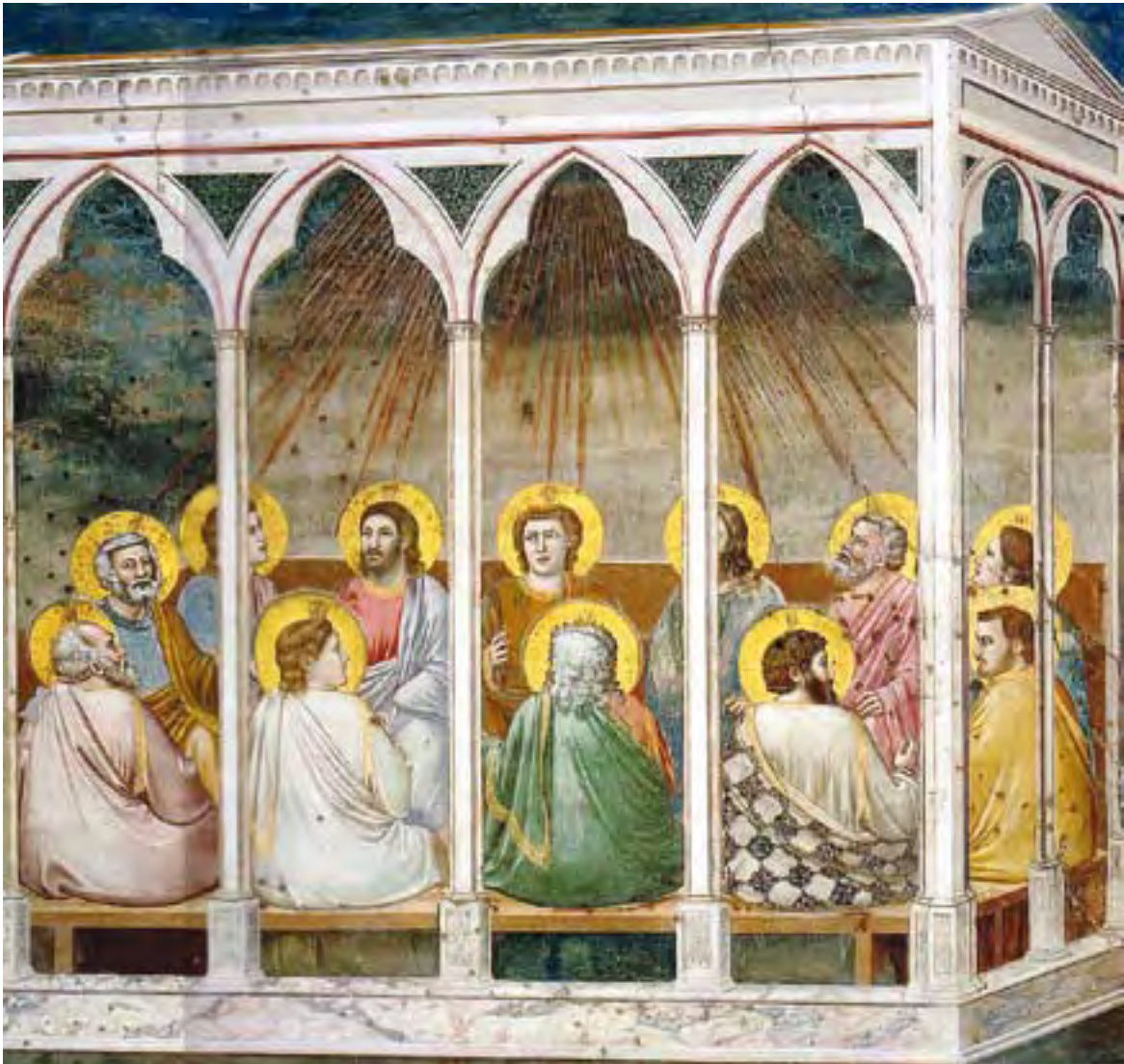
Pentecost brought about a remarkable transformation of their lives. The Holy Spirit changed their frailty into strength, their hesitation into determination, their fearfulness into joy-filled enthusiasm and fearless courage.

And out they went, first into the city of Jerusalem, as a united community to proclaim Jesus Christ and to bid everyone they came across to welcome Him, His leadership, His message and His promises. The voice of St Peter and the

Apostles rang out, as did the witness of the personal and communitarian Christ-centred example of the Church's first members: their fruitfulness for Christ was immediately granted, with their numbers

Pentecost and Pentecost 2008 have seen many ups and downs in the Church-members' response to the Holy Spirit and to the unchanging mission entrusted to them by Jesus Christ.

in the midst of the wider community, the treasuring and communication of the privilege of active participation in the Church's community-life, and the earnest desire to bring others,



rapidly increasing, spurred on rather than diminished by the persecution they were, from the beginning, subjected to.

Twenty-one centuries later

The centuries which have elapsed between the First

The challenge ever before us is to reproduce the post-Pentecost spirit of the Church at its beginning - the unanimous and wholehearted allegiance to Jesus Christ, the joyful and enthusiastic embrace of the Christian way of life, the fearless and courageous witness

by example and words, into communion with Jesus Christ and with us.

Of course, all this will continue to confront us with challenges to keep our ears attuned to the gentle and persistent voice of the Holy Spirit of God, and to keep our minds and hearts intent

on God's Will for us, for the Church, and for the whole human family.

A fully Christ-centred Catholic life will inevitably not cease to come across as counter-cultural: there is a "spirit of the world" which is far from the Spirit of God: and the followers of Jesus Christ can expect that the message they are to the wider community and the message they bring will encounter resistance, sometimes silent, sometimes in the form of open opposition, even persecution. It will ever take courage to follow Jesus Christ and to live out the membership and mission of His Church in faith and trust and generous charity.

And yet, the biblical presentation of the spirit of the Church's initial membership shows what we can be and do. The Holy Spirit of the first Pentecost continues to inspire and challenge, to enlighten and strengthen, incessantly calling and enabling all who in Baptism and Confirmation and Holy Orders have been made His dwelling place, to be convinced and fully committed followers of Jesus in the community of His Church.

+ Patrick Dougherty
May, 2008

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BATHURST IN YOUR WILL



A bequest to the Catholic Bishop of Bathurst for the religious, educational and charitable works of the Church allows funds to be applied where the need is greatest.

Please mail coupon to:

**The Vicar General, Diocese of Bathurst,
PO Box 246, Bathurst NSW 2795
Tel: (02) 6331 3611 Fax (02) 6331 4869**

- ☐ I would like more information about remembering the Church in my will.
- ☐ I have already included the Church in my will and wish to have this noted.
- ☐ I would like to be contacted for a confidential talk about my will, or a gift to the Church in my lifetime.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

'Local Boy' ordained Deacon

The Ryan and Mullen Families, along with friends, travelled to St Bernadette's Church at Krumbach recently for the ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Vincent Michael Ryan by Rev. Michael Malone - Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle.

Vincent is the eighth child of former Canowindra residents Kevin (deceased) and Madeline Ryan and brother to Helen Ryan, Catechist Co-ordinator for the Bathurst Diocese.

Vince attended 'St Eddies' in Canowindra before going to 'Stannies' in Bathurst to complete his schooling.

From there he joined the

Vincentian Fathers in Sydney - but after three years decided the Priesthood wasn't for him. He married Denise Mullen and they have three children - Rebecca, Ben and Jonathan. Denise is the Ministry Co-ordinator at St Clare's High School in Taree, where she also teaches religion.

A Permanent Deacon is someone who is a sacramental sign of Christ within the wider community and the Deacon also serves as a prophetic reminder to all the baptised of their own responsibility to care for others. They participate in a unique way in Mass, are official teachers and preachers

of the Gospel and preside at celebrations of baptisms, matrimony, funerals and other forms of community prayer. Deacons also visit the sick, the housebound, those imprisoned and in need.

If married, they must have the support of their wife and family and Vince says his calling to the Diaconate is very much formed around his marriage and children.

A wonderful celebration followed Vince's Ordination and now he's keen to embark on his work in various capacities within the Northern Region of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese.



Vince with his family and proud mother Madeline

Memorable Mothers' Day Celebration in Cowra

St. Raphael's Ladies Friendship Group held their Inter-denominational Mothers' Day morning tea earlier in the month. A large crowd of women of all faiths gathered in the St. Raphael's hall for a delicious feast and much chatter.

Each year, President Margie Ryan comes up with an entertaining speaker and this year was no exception with the introduction of her friend Maggie May Gordon from Trangie. Maggie is an author and poet who can be heard at 6.30am weekly on ABC radio.

Known as 'The Cocky's Wife', Maggie has many tales to tell of the shock of a young bride, born and bred in Sydney, brought to battle life in the outback.

Full of humour and goodwill, her love of the land is very evident in her prose and poetry which has been widely published and used in Eisteddfod and radio presentations.

Maggie brought with her a large collection of her books which are illustrated by Faye Gardiner.

As well as her poetry, Maggie has composed musicals. 'Eureka' featuring songs such as 'Lest We Forget' and 'Come Tomorrow' ran in Melbourne for three months and her musical connections include Normie Rowe and Barry Crocker.

Of great interest locally will be the September presentation by Cowra's Musical and Drama Society of Maggie's musical 'Swag'.



Jacqui Farrar thanking Maggie Gordon after her inspiring talk

Cootamundra Reunion

A reunion for all ex-students of the Cootamundra Catholic Schools will be held over the long weekend 4th-6th October. Anyone who attended a Catholic School in Cootamundra is invited to come along.

The committee has names of most year 10 classes since mid 1960s, but no addresses or changes of name through marriage. That information is available on request. Hopefully, some may avail themselves of it to contact former classmates.

Please forward names and addresses to be included on the mailing list to:

Margaret Large, 51 Temora Street, Cootamundra
or
phone 6942 1851 or 6943 2274

Meet Orange's new NET Team

A new NET (National Evangelisation Team) of youth leaders has been working in the Orange Parish since mid February.

The team has settled in well and are continuing the youth ministry begun by last year's NET leaders at James Sheahan Catholic High, the two State high schools, parish youth group and the Thursday night 'Coffee Club'.

The Orange pilgrims to WYD Sydney in July will have the company of the NET leaders who will seek to develop ongoing youth leadership amongst the young people of the Orange parish in the latter half of the year.



The new NET team - Paul Buia (Adelaide), Chris Ledwich (Brisbane), Catherine Cipa (Ipswich), Malorie Valliere (Canada), Diana Cwick (USA)

Orange Singers' Swansong

The St. Joseph's Church Choir in Orange retired at the end of January after 35 years of singing together.

Carmel and Ron McMullen have played the organ and conducted the Choir since moving to Orange from Sydney in the mid 1970s.

A barbeque was held at the Presbytery to thank them for their years of liturgical commitment and involvement and presentations of gratitude were made at the early Sunday Mass.



The retiring St. Joseph's Choir

Renshaw's
FUNERAL SERVICE

Michael & Pauline Lyons Proprietors

Providing Sensitive and Professional Care at Times When it is Most Needed

Servicing BATHURST - OBERON - BLAYNEY -
PORTLAND - LITHGOW & SURROUNDING DISTRICTS

Phone: 6331 4265 24 Hours

88 Bentinck Street, Bathurst 2795



Recommended repairer
and stockist for
R.M. Williams
Visit our website:
www.franksmithworkclothing.com.au

**SPECIAL MAIL ORDER SERVICE
for SHOE REPAIRS
• CLOTHING • BOOTS**



FRANK SMITH SHOE REPAIRS & WORK CLOTHING
71 Keppel St, Bathurst Ph/Fax (02) 6331 7544
sales@franksmithworkclothing.com.au

DAWSON'S Removals and Storage



Littlebourne Street
Kelso
(02) 6331 1833

Lot 17, Redfern Street
Wetherill Park
(02) 9609 5131

We treat your
furniture as our own.

Web address: www.dawsons-removals.com.au
Email: dawsons@ix.net.au

KING CAIN SOLICITORS

- ◆ Business Law - (Accredited Specialist)
- ◆ Estate Planning
- ◆ Family Law - (Accredited Specialist)
- ◆ Assistance in All Legal Matters
- ◆ Criminal Law
- ◆ Conveyancing
- ◆ Wills & Probate



ACCREDITED
SPECIALIST
BUSINESS LAW
FAMILY LAW

PARTNERS
Paul Carver
Matthew Oakley

ASSOCIATES
Jane Kensit
Timothy Cain

6331 1499 6332 2322

"THE MEWS" LEVEL 1, ROYAL HOTEL BUILDING
108 William St BATHURST NSW 2795

Keith Philpott Funeral Directors Pty Ltd



Serving Cowra,
Canowindra & districts.

Offering complete funeral service, with quiet
dignity, responsibility and sensitivity to your
needs.

6342 2322

11 Macquarie St COWRA

CATHOLIC NEWS

Budget initiatives will help society's most vulnerable

Increased funding to reduce surgery waiting times in public hospitals, continuation of aged care funding indexation, and a commitment to dental access will provide real improvements to the health and care of Australians, Catholic Health Australia (CHA) said in response to the recent Federal Budget.

CHA CEO, Martin Laverty, welcomed key components of the Budget, which is seen by many as a prelude to potential reform of key areas of the health system.

"We're pleased to see the \$10 billion Health and Hospitals Fund, interest from which will help build and upgrade hospitals and purchase medical equipment, but we need to see detail before we know what impact this will have",

Mr Laverty said.

"The Health Fund was a welcome surprise and the only initiative not predicted, with the other announcements being the fulfillment of election commitments.

"Catholic hospitals have at their heart the purpose of providing just and equitable access to quality health care to all Australians, particularly the most vulnerable members of our community. Providing funds to help cut surgery waiting times in public hospitals around the country will aid those most in need of quality care.

"We also welcome the decision to retain the 1.75% indexation of the Conditional Adjustment Payment for aged care providers. For the 350 plus Catholic operated

aged care facilities, this gives a reprieve amid fears funding for aged care facilities might be cut.

"The new program initiating access to dental care is also welcomed. Many Australian families have had to sacrifice oral care because of cost issues in access to dental services. Improving access to dental care goes some way to fulfilling Government's obligation to ensure a just and equitable dental system.

"We also acknowledge the Government's commitment to closing the gap in Indigenous health".

Catholic Health Australia represents the largest grouping of non-government health and aged care providers in the country.

Caritas opens Burma Cyclone appeal

Caritas Australia has launched an appeal to assist those affected by the cyclone in Burma.

"The affected area of the Irrawaddy Delta is the rice

bowl of Burma, the largest per capita consumers of rice in the world. This will have enormous impact on the supply of rice in Burma for the coming year", said Mr de Groot.



Life was already very basic for the people of Myanmar before the devastation of the cyclone. This community was building a school.

"Infrastructure was crumbling in Burma before the cyclone. Now it is shattered. Reports suggest as much as 95% of buildings along the Irrawaddy River have been decimated. This response will require a long term commitment for international development agencies that could take years to complete. Caritas Australia was worked in Burma for almost two decades and is committed to the long term needs of the people of Burma".

To donate the Appeal you can phone 1800 024 413, donate online by visiting www.caritas.org.au or post a cheque to GPO Box 9830 in your capital city.

Pope to thank volunteers after WYD08

SOCOG chief Sandy Hollway invites all to get on board for another major event

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI will hold a special audience with the 8,000 people who volunteer for World Youth Day (WYD08) to thank them for their hard work and dedication.

WYD08 organisers today confirmed that instead of holding a tickertape parade, all WYD08 volunteers will be invited to an exclusive event with Pope Benedict before he boards his return flight to Rome.

"This will be a wonderful way to thank the 8,000 people who will have devoted their time to become the face of World Youth Day," said WYD08 Chief Operating Officer, Danny Casey.

The Pope's enthusiasm for the volunteer spirit is joined by Sandy Hollway, the man who led the 'best Olympics Games ever'.

The former SOCOG CEO is calling on Australians to once again unleash their volunteer spirit and welcome the world to this happy and peaceful celebration.

"We are still remembered for the generosity and altruism that around 47,000 volunteers displayed during the



Sydney 2000 Olympics," Mr Hollway said.

"I'm keen to ensure that Sydney once again showcases Australia's renowned hospitality at the largest event we have hosted since the Olympic Games.

"With World Youth Day just weeks away, Sydney has another great chance to shine."

WYD08 only has around 8,000 volunteer roles on offer and organisers have already received applications from 5,000 people.

Roles are available in *operations and crowd management; customer service; language and translations; staffing; hospitality and catering; accommodation; production; communications; liturgy and evangelisation.*

"Volunteers will take away

more than just unforgettable experiences and fond memories of their participation, but also the knowledge that they were part of something huge - a significant page in Australia's history," said WYD08 Chief Operating Officer Danny Casey.

Volunteers must be over the age of 18 and be able to work during the event week 15 - 20 July, and will receive a uniform, backpack and assistance with public transport costs and meals.

WYD08 is taking applications now. For more information and to apply, visit www.wyd2008.org/ volunteer or call 02 9390 5997.

Hosted by the Catholic Church but open to all, WYD08 will mark the first visit by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to Australia.

Shalom

June 6th - 9th

Shalom plays host to the Anglican Cursillo Movement (Men) over the long weekend.

Contact Ted Lewis on 6368 7260

June 20th - 22nd

Our Life in Christ

Charismatic retreat directed by Fr John Sullivan, formerly parish priest of St Patrick's, Sutherland, and now engaged full time in retreat work.

A gifted story teller, Fr John brings humour, wisdom and a deep faith to his presentations. This weekend we will parallel

our own lives with that of Jesus.

There will be a prayer meeting on the Saturday night. Retreat commences on the Friday evening at 8pm, and will conclude with Eucharist on the Sunday at 1.30pm.

Residential donation \$120, concessions available. Please book by Friday June 13th.



June 28th - 29th

God, Dreams and You

An exploration of our dreaming that offers important insights for our spiritual, emotional, psychological growth and inner healing. Bring dreams with you, plenty of handouts available. Always a fun weekend.

No sessions Friday night, but stay overnight if you wish.

Donation \$130. Please book by June 20th.

DIARY NOTES

August 9th

Healing the Family Tree

August 10th

Healing of Memories

Diocesan House of Prayer, Carcoar NSW 2797

Tel: 02 6367 3058

Fax: 02 6367 3057

email: shalom@bluemaxx.com.au

Website: www.bathurst.catholic.org.au

Our early history

Extracts from Bishop John Francis Norton's 1938 Diary, written in his copy of The Australasian Catholic Directory for that year. - Edited by Father Tim Cahill



Wednesday October 12 Mass in Oratory. Correspondence. Visited (St Joseph's) Orphanage, All Hallows (Dominican Sisters' Boarding school for Primary boys) and (St Stanislaus') College in afternoon and (St Vincent's) Hospital at night. Carnival at Gulargambone cleared £200. (It was the age of fundraisers such as Bazaars, Carnivals, etc).

Thursday October 13 Mass in Oratory. Correspondence. Visited Saint Joseph's Mount.

Friday October 14 Mass in Oratory. Correspondence. Went to Carcoar by evening train. Fr. (Robert) Searson on board also returning from his doctor. Fr. (Pat) Casey met me at Blayney. (Ship) "Mooltan" sails from London.

Saturday October 15 Mass in Carcoar Convent. Delightful morning. The Presbytery garden looking beautiful. It

would have gladdened Fr. O'Keeffe's heart to see how well his successor is minding it. We went by car to Cowra. Spent the afternoon with Mr. E. R. Green, architect. Agreed with him that it will not be possible now to finish the (new St Raphael's) Church before Christmas. Sent cable to "Mooltan" at Gibraltar. Archdeacon (Denis O'Kennedy, parish priest of Cowra) in Lewisham Hospital. His absence most noticeable. God grant that the dear old man is spared to see the Church finished. This is everyone's prayer. (Also this weekend:) Coonabarabran Mission - Fathers Matthew and Alphonsus, Passionists - faculties sent.

One super fund is above all others

There is one super fund every Australian Catholic should consider joining. Not just for its solid investment performance, low fees and no commissions paid policy. Something more important. Trust.

That's because at CSRF we support and uphold the same values as you. Find out how good management and good people can make a great deal of difference to your quality of life in retirement.

Visit www.catholicsuper.com.au or call 1300 658 776 today.

Live the good life.



Godfrey Smith Funerals Pty. Ltd.

Family Owned and Proudly Australian

FUNERALS

At Need * Pre-Paid * Pre-Arranged

All Districts & Denominations

Available 24 hours, 7 Days

F.D.A of N.S.W.

Head Office & Chapel

182 Piper Street, Bathurst

6331 4084

Branch

32 Adelaide Street, Blayney

6368 2575

Email: gsf@ix.net.au

Proprietors: Karl and Joanne Schroder

Adult Faith for a Planetary People

With Sr Patricia Powell RSM

Evolutionary Action



We are witnessing the Olympic Torch on the move again - a symbol of hope and peace, but this time, also a sign of contradiction. China, the host to the Olympic Games, does not have an unblemished reputation for peace and hope and human rights, particularly as played out in its relationship with Tibet. We who live in a democratic society are used to the idea that people with a cause will use any occasion guaranteed to attract national and international media attention to protest and demonstrate.

Not all of us who live in a democratic society approve of this embarrassing behaviour, especially if it turns violent. But the fact remains, in a democratic society, to demonstrate and to strike are considered legitimate ways to have your voice heard, when normal arbitration channels are not delivering satisfactory results. And often enough, public demonstrations do have a way of influencing public opinion, by getting people to think more deeply about an issue, and by moving it into the public arena for widespread discussion. There's not much point in living in a democracy, if the only time we make our voice heard and our feelings known is in the privacy of the ballot box!

As I often do these days, I've been reflecting on China's claim to sovereignty over Tibet and its ruthless actions to enforce this claim, in the light of our evolutionary story. The human species, like our primate ancestors before us, is very territorial. We witness this in wars over land and resources. The reason our ancestors defended their habitats and raided the habitats of others was all about the survival of the species. Food supply and security to procreate were essential to continuing existence. The capacity over time to adapt successfully to changing environments was also a critical factor in the story of evolution. The phrase "the survival

of the fittest" well describes the struggle of our earlier ancestors to avoid extinction.

So, is our genetic inheritance an excuse for continuing to behave in a manner better suited to an earlier time in our evolutionary history? Or does our evolved capacity for rational, reflective thinking, and compassionate, other-directed feeling give us choice and a viable alternative to aggression and the need to dominate and control in order to survive? I suspect God thought it did, when he sent his Son Jesus, 2,000 years ago, to affirm our species' ability to love unconditionally, and to empower us to "have that mind in us that was also in Christ Jesus".

We don't hear much these days

and discrimination. These would seem to be actions that are in keeping with the evolution of our species and our Christian identity; these would seem to be actions that are worth trying harder to perfect, rather than opting for more sophisticated weaponry that can kill more of them but fewer of us.

Our future on this planet will more likely be guaranteed by co-operation than by competition. So let's trust the Christian values that are the gift of the Spirit of Jesus Christ: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal 5:22). Let's be confident that in



about the values of sharing, generosity, forgiveness and gentleness. These are values Jesus affirms. Our dominant Western culture survives on nurturing individualism, greed, revenge and oppression. But our planet is calling us to tread more lightly, be content with enough rather than more, accept that resources are finite, share the planet's life support systems, not just with our own species, but with all species of plant and animal life. We have made efforts in the past to negotiate between nations rather than go to war. We have made efforts to accept and integrate people from different cultures and places rather than exclude and treat the stranger with suspicion

cultivating them, we are nurturing what is best about what we have become as human: beings with a capacity to choose good over evil, and a capacity for self-sacrificing love. Let's congratulate the Chinese Government on its move to begin talks with the Dalai Lama and encourage collaboration rather than conquest, negotiation with, rather than subjugation of, Tibet's people.

If it's happening on our planet, if it's being done by our species, then it's our business and we ought not draw back from taking an interest and some appropriate action to make our position on such matters clear and public. Let's pray for the gifts of the Spirit, and the courage to live them boldly.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Bathurst Diocese - Head Office

27-31 McNamara Street
Orange NSW 2800



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Helping People To Help Themselves
More than second-hand clothes... every day St. Vincent de Paul is there in the lives of thousands...

- Centres of Charity • Foodbanks • Homeless facilities
- Family centres • care of people with mental illness
- residences for disabled people • disability services
- women & children fleeing domestic violence • care of the aged
- people in prison • rural communities in drought
- victims of disaster & disaster recovery • budget counselling
- overseas development & partnership

TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE SOCIETY, VISIT YOUR LOCAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CENTRE OR
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FOR UNEMPLOYED, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, PENSIONS

YLS. I WANT TO HELP. Please find enclosed my gift of
\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$500 Other \$

I enclose my cheque/money order or credit card:

☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Diners Club ☐ Amex
Card No:

Expiry Date: / /

Signature

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone: (H) (W)

Please send me some information about leaving a gift in my Will.

PLEASE TAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL AND SEND TO:

87 HILL STREET, ORANGE NSW 2800

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. YOUR RECEIPT WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.

Days in the Diocese July 9th - 14th

Over 1,200 Young People from all over the World are coming to the Central West!

Cultural Exchange
International Youth Festival
Service Projects
Major Liturgical Celebrations
Community Gatherings

Hosted by the
Catholic
Diocese of Bathurst

Community Partner
Catholic Church Insurance Limited

www.wydbathurst.org.au

DIOCESAN PANORAMA



When Min Ha-Kyung (Christine) travelled from Korea to Coolah to visit her aunt and uncle for two months, she spent one month studying with the Yr 3/4 class at Sacred Heart School.

It was a great cultural exchange which everyone enjoyed, with Christine teaching the Sacred Heart community a bit about life in Korea while she got a glimpse of life at school in Australia.

LEFT: Christine with her classmates and teacher the day she was leaving to return home

St. Matthew's Principal, Rose Marie van Raad, with the unique Cross Mosaic



Netball comp between Staff and Y10



St Matthew's Central School in Mudgee celebrated Catholic Schools Week with various events. The week commenced with a liturgy which saw the unveiling of the new Cross Mosaic for the school hall. The inspiration for the mosaic came after the Cross and Icon visited the school. It was created using individual photos of all the students and staff from the school.

Other activities during the week included *fruit first*, *Teacher vs. Student sporting competitions at lunchtime*, *Parent seminars*, *Mattfest (Secondary Music Concert)*, *open classrooms* and *twilight tours*. It was a very successful week that was well received by students, teachers, parents and other members of the community.



During Catholic Schools Week recently, St Michael's School in Dunedoo held an Open Day. It began with breakfast for those parents who work and were unable to attend the festivities later in the day.

At noon, the school and wider community joined together in prayer at a Liturgy which was followed by performances by each class group and the school choir. Then there was a luncheon and activities. After lunch, classrooms were open for the remainder of the day.

Special guest was Mr Mark Coulton, the Federal Member for Parkes, who presented the School with a flag and CD of the National Anthem. The school hall was decorated with class displays including an artistic impression of "What St Michael's Means to Me".

DIOCESAN



Nothing to beef about!

The show cattle team at James Sheahan Catholic High School in Orange has plenty to smile about following their most successful Royal Easter Show ever.

The National Steer Show Herdsman championship holders added to their ribbon swag at Sydney taking four animals for the purebred steer competition and returning with 10 ribbons.

"While our steer numbers were lower than in past years, the animal quality was right up there", cattle team coordinator and agriculture teacher Mrs Sarah Eyb said.

"In terms of student talent, we already had three students qualified for the State parading finals before we left for the Show, indicating the depth of the talent among our team".

Of those three, 15 year old Shani Coles placed fourth, with 16 year old Jacob Kennedy leading a steer he prepared himself awarded a highly commended in the under 21 years competition.

The team began five years ago after a long hiatus of the School from the show ring and since then the students have been rapidly

moving up the placings at major shows, taking out the National Herdsmanship title at Dubbo for three consecutive years.

"I believe this represents the extraordinary commitment of both the team, who train every Monday after school, and our main sponsors Neilson and Sue Job of Cumnock who consistently supply us with top quality stock" Mrs Eyb said.

ABOVE: 15 year old Sarah Ewin had plenty to smile about at the recent Sydney Royal Easter Show.

BELOW: James Sheahan Catholic High, had the most successful year to date with their Shorthorn steer team.



Yrs 5 and 6 at St. Pius X in Dubbo went on an excursion with a difference recently.

Firstly they went to St. Brigid's Church where they were met by Fr Paul Devitt. Fr Paul showed the children around the Church, pointing out and explaining important aspects and symbolism there.

Then they went to Mugga Hill to walk the Stations of the Cross with Fr Paul, where they stopped and prayed at each station.

Mollie-anne Gersbach and Anthea McDonald from Y5 report that '...it was very hot and the grass was itchy, but it was a very interesting day!'

Year 3 and Year 5 also presented a very meaningful Holy Week liturgy which explained to everyone the holiness and specialness of this time in our Church year.

LEFT: Fr Paul Devitt leading Years 5 and 6 around the Stations of the Cross.

RIGHT: Mackenzie Cumming, Holly Taylor, Hugh Brennan, Jack Passmore and Joel Coggan presenting the symbols of the Last Supper.

PANORAMA



School Leaders at St Raphael's Cowra for 2008 -Katy Fisher and Nicholas Whiteley - with Parish Priest Fr Owen Gibbons and Principal Mr Michael Gallagher



Staff and students decorating the School Float ready for the Festival of International Understanding Parade



Chileans for the day: St Raphael's students dressed for the street parade



It was a special day for Gilgandra and St Joseph's School on when the World Youth Day Cross and Icon visited on its pilgrimage around Australia. The Cross and Icon began its journey in Gilgandra with a procession through the Church and School grounds with the St Joseph's students forming a guard of honour.

Bishop Dougherty was present and Mr Ralph Naden gave an Aboriginal welcome. The large congregation visited various churches as part of the Stations of the Cross. At the conclusion of the Stations a youth led Mass was celebrated in the grounds of St Joseph's School.

Finally the Cross and Icon were placed in St Joseph's Church to allow the people to spend time with them.

It was wonderful to see so many participating and living the theme of World Youth Day by building bridges of friendship and hope between continents, peoples and cultures.



DIOCESAN PANORAMA



The MacKillop College Bathurst swimming carnival which was held at Stannies was a great day for both weather and participation. All House Captains and Committee members are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm and for the work they put in to ensuring a great day for all involved.

In total this year seven swimming records have been broken - four were broken by Lauren Dove at the Twilight carnival - 50m Freestyle, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Backstroke and the 200m Individual Medley. Three more records were broken during the full-day carnival with Chantelle Dove breaking the Senior 50m Freestyle record and with younger sister Lauren going on to break a further two records, in the 13 Years 50m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle.

Congratulations to Gilroy for winning the House Swimming Championship for 2008.

F to B: Age Champions - 12 Year/Caitlin Parker; 13 Years/Lauren Dove; 14 Years/Jenna Humphries; 15 Years/ Natalie Wood; 16 years/Madden Burns and Bridget Allen; 17 years/Sheridan Frisby; Senior/ Chantelle Dove



The victorious team - Bryce Park, David de Lange, Larissa Pearsall and Jordan Squire - with the Peter Dobson Trophy and a smaller trophy for the School to keep

The small school community of St. Joseph's School at Eugowra was very proud of its 'bush' swimmers when their PP5 Relay Team took out the gold medal at the PSSA at Homebush last month.

Parent Tim de Lange was on hand with his mobile phone and relayed the race via a speaker phone at the School, so the 40 children and three teachers back

in Eugowra could listen to a live 'broadcast' of the race! There were fingers crossed and prayers being said!

This is an amazing result for such a small school. The team had to swim in a non-heated pool in Eugowra and travel a 100km round trip to Forbes three times a week for training. As well as Gold, the team also achieved a personal best time of 2.24.32 for the event. Congratulations!



St. Patrick's School Lithgow held their annual fete recently. The weather was perfect and the crowd of children, parents and local community members gathered early to enjoy the fun. There were all the usual fete favourites - the cake stall, Devonshire tea, arts and crafts and the chocolate wheel.

This year the School's mission project was to raise enough money to buy a family a cow. Through Project Compassion. REC Julia Baird organised a 'cow stall' selling everything from cow mugs to cow soft toys and managed to make over \$500!

Throughout the day the crowd enjoyed dancing displays, rides, various stalls and loads of goodies to eat including a BBQ lunch.



St. Patrick's Lithgow, La Salle Academy Lithgow and St. Joseph's Portland gathered together at La Salle to celebrate Mass for the beginning of Catholic Schools Week.

Mass was followed by a sausage sizzle and tabloid sports afternoon. The children had a wonderful time with the senior students teaching the younger children different games such as hockey, ball games and soccer. Each school continued the celebrations throughout the week with various activities to which parents were invited. Everyone agreed that it was wonderful to get together to acknowledge and applaud the work being done in our schools.





centacare

With Suzanne Carson



When couples request assistance from Centacare it’s because they recognise things are not as they should be. As a result when people arrive for Relationship Counselling they are usually ready to speak regarding their complaints about how their partners are not meeting their expectations. Maybe they feel like they’ve had enough. They’re weary and frustrated by the way things are. It would be understandable if they expected me to ask up front, “*So why are you here? Tell me what troubles you both?*”

I have found some are quite surprised when I don’t - at least not initially.

I had an experience just the other day which confirmed *why* it is I don’t begin with, “*So what is the problem?*”

Belinda and Peter (fictitious names) arrived with, I was later to discover, a complex array of difficulties. They had sadly been confronted with a multitude of challenges in their lives and these demands had taken their toll on the relationship. They described feelings of frustration and isolation in their marriage. As is my practice we began the session with some questions which neither of them was expecting and as it turned out lead them to recall and



reflect on memories and feelings which had been buried by all the grief and dramas in their lives. I asked - “*So how did you meet?*” “*What attracted you to each other?*” “*What qualities did you most appreciate in the other?*” “*How did you decide to commit to one another?*” “*What did that commitment mean to you both?*” “

It was refreshing to see how readily they answered. Whilst one spoke the other was keenly listening as their partner recalled meaningful and precious things the other had been, said or done in their earlier days as a couple. We went on in the session and explored what had brought them to see a counsellor.

They seemed to find the feedback I gave them helpful and decided to attend another session for us to begin work on their difficulties.

They arrived for their second appointment and something quite lovely had occurred for them both.

They spoke of how taking the time to reflect on exactly *why* they were together had lead them to realise just how important the relationship was - and in turn how much they had to lose if they didn’t priorities and rekindle their marriage. In short, they realised their love and admiration for each other *was* still intact, it had just been buried by all the demands and worries of life. By taking the time to look at what they still had, and the commitment they had made to each other, they have a foundation to build on as they do the ‘work’ of addressing their difficulties.

How often do you stop and reflect on the good times, the qualities you admire in our spouse?

Perhaps if you do, the difficulties in life we all face at one time or another may not overwhelm your relationship.

Bathurst Diocese Towards

WYDSYD08

and beyond...



‘Days in the Diocese’ ...getting closer!

Local preparations for World Youth Day and particularly the Days in the Diocese program are coming together across the Diocese.

As far west as Bathurst, the electronic RTA road signs have been counting down the days to World Youth Day from 100 days out. This countdown is a double edged sword for me. On one hand I can’t wait, on the other I have the occasional panic attack then I glimpse the ever decreasing number. I am humbled by all those across the Diocese who are doing their bit - finding their way to share their gifts with the parish co-ordinators and make their program truly unique and characteristic of their place in the world.

It is very exciting to be able to connect all the parishes with the groups they will be hosting. Here is the spread of groups and countries across the Diocese.

Bathurst 50 Ireland, 100 Denmark , 10 Spain, 20 India Perthville hosting 25 Zimbabwe	Eugowra 23 USA, 20 Brazil
Blayney 20 USA, 18 Rwanda	Gilgandra 20 St Lucia
Canowindra 6 Singapore	Lithgow/Portland 100 Sweden, 40 USA
Coonabarabran 10 Canada, 66 Germany	Molong 8 Ireland
Coonamble 22 Germany	Oberon 21 USA
Cowra 20 Italy, 40 USA	Orange 100 Norway, 44 Brazil
Coolah/Dunedoo 100 Germany	Mudgee 33 Canada, India 30
Dubbo 50 Germany, 125 USA, 58 Venezuela, 50 India	Wellington 70 Ireland



A great weekend was held recently at Shalom to help prepare local pilgrims for the World Youth Day experience.



China...the Olympics....and Tibet

It has been said that to every difficult and complex problem there is always a simple solution. It is always and inevitably wrong.

That calls to mind the ongoing discussion on the issues of China, the Olympics and Tibet.

The Olympic Games to be held in Beijing in August have been a constant news item for some time. And with that, as a sub-theme, is the story of Tibet. Because of its location and the status of its exiled leader, the Dalai Lama, Tibet carries a special fascination for many Western people.

Tibet, occupied and ruled by China, has featured in the news because of protests there, which were suppressed by the military, apparently with a number of deaths. As a result, the Olympic torch relay has been disrupted by protesters who seek to highlight the situation of the Tibetan people. Some of these protests have been violent.

Some people have advocated that there should be a boycott of the Beijing games because of Chinese policy in regard to Tibet. That sounds like a simple solution to this complex and disturbing matter.

These events have had me thinking - about dealing with people and cultures of which

we know little - of how we find accurate information, of what kinds of protest are valid and useful.



Despite that in recent years China has been opened up to tourists, most of us know almost nothing of Chinese history and the various regional cultures which make up this nation. It is close to impossible to comprehend a population of over 1.3 billion people.

What we can, hopefully, appreciate is that the history and development of China has taken

place free from many of the ideas and movements that have shaped our history. This also applies to Tibet. Of that country, most know

very little other than that the Tibetans are Buddhists and that Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, lives in exile in India.

These differences between the West and China are important when we come to the question of human rights. Our understanding of what constitutes human rights has been built up over centuries, going back to the Magna Carta in England in 1215. We think of

individual political rights; the freedom from arbitrary arrest, the right to vote, freedom of assembly. The Chinese leadership considers the effort they have made to feed, house and educate the huge population as a massive contribution to basic human rights for their people. When we step back a little, it is not difficult to understand why the Chinese are offended when they are hectored by foreigners who present Western views as the norm.

So, should the games in Beijing go ahead?

If our objections are on behalf of the people of Tibet, it is important to note that the Dalai Lama is not calling for a boycott. Boycotts in the past have not been effective. In 1980 some nations, led by the USA, boycotted the Moscow games because of the invasion of Afghanistan. There was no Soviet withdrawal because of the boycott - only a tit-for-tat boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics four years later.

And if we are concerned about violence in Tibet, the violent disruption of the torch relay in some countries seems a little contradictory. In Canberra, the torch relay became a massive security issue and so something to be avoided. Perhaps it is time



to make the relay, introduced by Hitler for the 1936 Berlin Games, a thing of the past?

In awarding the games to Beijing there was a hope that this would further open up China and provide a basis for dialogue and understanding. And that, of course, is always a two way process. Australia - with a Prime Minister who has a knowledge and appreciation of Chinese language, history and culture - is well placed to be part of the respectful dialogue that is required.

Protest is important as it affirms the hope that there is a name for the nameless, a face for the lost: good news for the poor. For all people, we hope for a responsible identity, the capacity to be self aware agents of their own history. To achieve that for the people of Tibet (and Zimbabwe, Burma, Palestine or West Papua) calls for a well informed long haul.

Unfortunately there's no simple answer in many situations where we see a lack of freedom and identity. Only history will tell if the protests around the Beijing Olympics have achieved anything for the people of Tibet.



CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND



The draw will take place at the Bathurst Office at the beginning of term three and winners will receive their prizes early in Term Three

KATIE KOALA COMPETITION

Closes at the end of this Term!



Sandra Robinson from the CDF in Bathurst congratulates last Term's lucky Winners Mitchell Collins and Molly Robinson from Assumption School Bathurst

So keep saving in your Katie Koala Club for your chance to win one of three great prizes!

QUESTION OF FAITH

Creating New Life

Q: I am a practicing Catholic, and have recently been asked a tricky question. I have a single female friend who is very keen to have a child. A relationship with her is not really an option, nor is marrying her. But she has asked me if I would donate sperm for her to conceive a child with. What is the Church's stance on this?

A: The Catholic Church takes very seriously the gift of life. The Church believes that the best place for a child to be loved and nurtured is within a marriage, with a mother and a father who are committed to one another for life.

Further, the Church teaches that intercourse between spouses has two good outcomes; one is the building of love and unity between the couple and the other is the possibility of new life. The resulting child is seen as the fruit of the love of the couple.

The desire of a single woman to have a child can be very strong, and many women today find themselves in this position, willingly or unwillingly. And no doubt they would love and care for their child.

The Church would express some concern that a child created using donor sperm is being seen as a commodity, an object to fulfill the desire of another human being, that will be achieved no matter what the cost.

The Church teaches that ethically acceptable forms of reproductive technology respect:

1. *The dignity of newly conceived human life.* The human being is to be respected and cared for as a person from the first moment of his or her existence. Forms of RT which involve a willingness to expend or harm human life by discarding, freezing or subjecting embryos to excessive risk are morally unacceptable.

2. *The dignity of human life in its transmission (procreation).* Human life should only be generated in and through acts of sexual intercourse between a husband and wife.

The human person must be accepted in his parents' act of union and love; the generation of a child must therefore be the fruit of that mutual self giving which is realised in the conjugal act wherein the spouses cooperate as servants and not as masters in the work of the Creator who is Love. (*Donum Vitae II, B, 4, 7*)

More information on this can be found on the Life Office website of the Archdiocese of Sydney, www.lifeoffice.org.au under Resources.

Is there something about the Catholic faith you want answered?

Contact: Catholic Enquiry Centre
info@catholicenquiry.com

Ph: 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484)



Liturgy & Life

with Fr Pat O'Regan

Staying connected

Listening to the discussion surrounding the visit of the World Youth Day Cross and Icon to our diocese in February, it was easy to pin-point one recurring theme that people used to sum-up their experience of their visit, namely, that of 'connection'.

People said that they felt a real sense of 'connection' with things such as: *where the Cross had been; with the people who had touched and prayed with the Cross in many parts of the world; with God and their neighbour; with a deeper appreciation of other Christian Churches; with a sense of solidarity with their own parishioners; others said that it gave them some sense of what the whole idea of World Youth Day was about.*

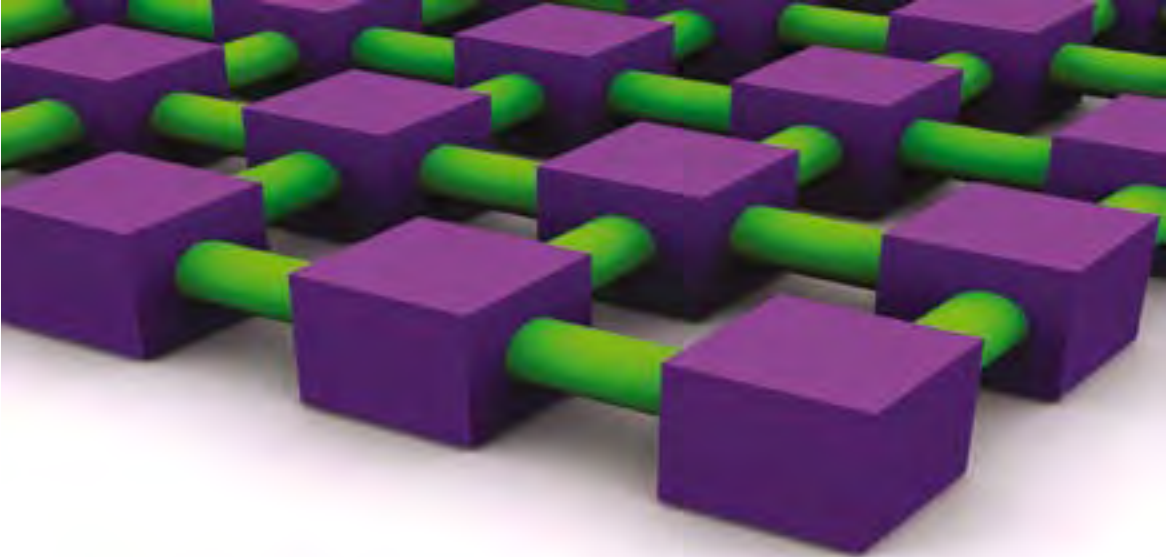
been criticised, in certain circles, for in some way 'taking the mystery' out of the Liturgy. I am sure that looking at and being with those who came to see, touch and venerate the Cross and Icon, I could see that people were confronting great mystery; a mystery somehow made just that bit more intelligible and real by the very fact of them being in contact with it; face-to-face.

Christianity does not take away the powerful awesomeness of God, but rather it emphasises the Divine as something and someone who self-communicates to us. God radically entered the human condition by becoming one like us in all things but sin. The language used by God in this disclosure was that of a human



Eucharist which stands as the powerful mediator of this same self-communicating love of God in Jesus Christ. We are connected with God in the deepest way possible through this gift to the Church.

In this series we have tried to look at some of the prayers that help us stay 'connected' if you like to this central act of worship, and the manner in which we can connect directly to the living God. In knowing the prayers a little better, it helps to deepen the connection that God seeks to make through the Eucharist - both with God and with ourselves and



While many words were used, and songs sung, the most touching part of the Cross and Icon's presence amongst us was the opportunity for them to be simply carried, touched or venerated. Here we had something of manageable size, easily touchable, or just there to be looked upon. Both items were heavy, and needed co-operation to be carried. There was no time for solo performances, it was a combined effort.

The reforms of the Liturgy occasioned by Vatican II have

person in speaking God's final word to us in word and deed. In this person, the desire of God and the desire of the human heart that longs, met. Jesus became for us the great connector - the central mediator of God's self-communicating love for all people.

In his 2007 Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, Pope Benedict XVI focuses in Part Two on the Eucharist, as a mystery celebrated. He emphasises that in life of the Church, it is the

with our neighbour.

People are still talking about two pieces of wood and a nice picture of a mother and child, because they connected with them - with words, in silence, or in song. In reaching out to touch them they were seeking to embrace the mystery of this self-communicating love of God. The Liturgy does this each time we celebrate it well and provides us with the words to begin to express this mystery, opening up for us a channel that heart might speak to heart.

Visiting Sydney? Why not stay at Stormanston House

27 McLaren Street, North Sydney

Restful and secure accommodation operated by the Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney.

- Situated in the heart of North Sydney and a short distance from the city.
- Rooms available with ensuite facility.
- Continental breakfast, tea/coffee making facilities and television.
- Separate lounge/dining room, kitchen and laundry.
- Private off-street parking.

Contact: (0418) 650 661 or nsstorm@tpg.com.au

Norman J Penhall Funerals

AFDA

Deidre and Norman Penhall



Established 1962
Head Office and Chapel
33-35 William Street, Orange 2800
For personal attention 24 hours
Ph: (02) 6362 3751

Mrs Vonnie Ryan
21 Marsden Street, Blayney 2799
Ph: (02) 6368 2180

• Locally owned and proudly Australian • Prepaid and Pre-arranged Funerals
Servicing Orange, Blayney, Molong, Manildra, Canowindra and surrounding districts

Our family caring for your family

International Congress on Evangelisation - A Hope and a Future

Fr Carl Mackander, Parish Priest of St Mary and St. Joseph's in Orange, was very grateful to Bishop Dougherty for the opportunity to attend the International Congress on Evangelisation in Budapest, Hungary last year. Over the next few months, Fr Carl will be giving readers a bit of an insight into the Congress and what he learnt there.

The 1990 encyclical letter of John Paul II 'Redemptoris Missio', on the permanent validity of the Church's missionary mandate, was used as a means of preparation for the 26 Australians and New Zealanders whom I joined in Poland for four days of pilgrimage to Auschwitz, Czestochowa and places significant in Pope John Paul II's life.

We then travelled by coach through Slovakia to the Congress hosted in the Basilica of St. Stefan in Budapest. As the Pope says in the introduction to 'Redemptoris Missio', *"the mission of Jesus Christ the Redeemer is still very far from completion. An overall view of the human race shows that this mission is still only beginning and we must commit ourselves wholeheartedly to its service. It is the Spirit who impels us to proclaim the great works of God, 'For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel' (1 Cor. 9:16)".*

The Budapest Congress was the fifth to happen in Europe in the past five years, other host cities being Vienna 2003 'Open the doors for Christ', Paris 2004 'Who will show us happiness?', Lisbon 2005 'Christ is Alive!', Brussels 2006 'Come and see...'. All made as responses to John Paul II's call for a new evangelisation. The whole city was caught up in the programme of the Esztergom-Budapest Archdiocese for mission. Esztergom, north of Budapest on the Danube River, has been the cathedral church of the Hungarian primate since 1000 AD when St. Stephen I was crowned as the first Hungarian king by Pope Sylvester.

Since the beginning, the Hungarian Church has a rich history of saints and martyrs, including those who suffered for the Christian religion during the Muslim Ottoman occupation of the 1500s and 1600s. We saw photographs and read brief biographies of the witnesses to the faith of last century beginning with Ferenc Kucsera - priest and martyr of 1919, aged 27; a priest, catechist and martyr of 1945 aged 38; a lawyer, journalist and martyr of 1951 aged 32; an auxiliary bishop

and martyr of 1953 aged 61; Blessed Sara - a beatified Sister of Social Service and martyr of 1944 aged 45; a Salesian priest, printer and martyr of 1953 aged 39; and the world renowned cardinal, primate and martyr Jozsef



L to R: Hungarian woman, Eva - now living in Sydney since fleeing the Communists in 1956; Fr Carl's hosts for the Congress - Katlin and Csorba Zoltan and Fr Carl MacKander.

Mindszenty (1892-1975). These individuals, as well as the tens of thousands of Catholic laity, priests and religious who were sent to the Russian gulags to be tortured and/or executed, give Hungarians a conviction and strength as they live and witness to the Catholic faith today in a post-communist, yet still difficult, political climate.

Maybe we lack a certain conviction and strength of faith in Australia because we don't have the same history of struggle and oppression, and also because our stories of the difficult years for the Irish Catholic convicts sent to the colonies of Sydney and Hobart in the late 1700s and early 1800s have not become part of the fabric of our very being.

The event known as the New Evangelisation consists of four major components.

1. International Congress of New Evangelisation involving 1,200 to 2,000 participants from all over the world, but mainly Europe. Speakers presented at the Basilica in the morning with headsets for simultaneous translations and Holy Mass was celebrated at midday followed by lunch at the Catholic university campus. In the afternoon, workshops and seminars were available, options being limited to those offering English translation.
2. Missionary programmes in the parishes of the city, including public squares and streets, church and

secular institutes. The parishes organised most of these activities, so it was crucial for them to be well prepared.

3. Missionary stages built in the central parts of the city malls. A youth festival was

ceremonies of the missionary week. There was a candle-light procession to a city park on the Friday night for an open air Mass with the five host city Cardinals presiding and the relics of St. Therese, patron of the missions,

with him through community life in the Church. Indeed the theme of this Budapest Congress was - "varosmisszio" - "I give you a hope and a future" (Jer. 29:11).

In greeting the Congress participants, Cardinal Schonborn of Vienna wrote; *"the Church is not an out-of-date institution because it announces Jesus Christ's good news that gives us hope and a future. It is with trust based on Jesus' teaching, 'go to all people and make them my disciples' (Mt. 28:19), that we should go everywhere in the world and talk to all people about God's love without fear and lack of faith. Christ wants us to announce his message and his love to everyone. But this evangelisation cannot be successful without our personal conversion, because even our faith is often weak and tepid.*

"Our churches are becoming emptier and our Christianity is less and less convincing for the younger generations. It is why we have to deepen our faith and all of us - parishes and their different groups, priests, lay people, religious communities and bishops - must be renewed".

There aren't large cities in our Diocese, yet the human conditions described above can be found amongst the people in our parishes.

To be continued

held each night in one square and a 'Soul and Gospel' festival on a city terrace car park roof-top. Young priests and Religious were part of these.

4. All citizens of the city and guests were invited to the opening and closing

also present. An estimated 15,000 participated in this Holy Mass.

The most important message which the Congress in the cities has tried to express is the possibility of personally experiencing Christ, and the renewal of our relationship

Contemplating retirement?

Get the right advice

As a Financial Planner, I can help you choose the right solutions to maximise your income in retirement. I can advise you on:

- How to maximise your income in retirement
- How to pay less tax on your retirement income
- How to qualify for a Centrelink Pension or allowance
- Using the right investment strategy for your monies

For advice on how to make your money work for you in retirement, contact me today.

James Campbell CFP Dip FP
114 Piper St, Bathurst N.S.W. 2795
Ph: (02) 6331 4456

Email: james.campbell@ampfp.com.au
Web: www.jamescampbell.amp.com.au

James Campbell is an Authorised Representative of AMP Financial Planning Pty Ltd, ABN 89 051 208 327, AFS Licence No. 232706.

ORANGE FUNERAL SERVICES

Servicing the people of Orange and District Community

"Offering helpful advice and care"

Proudly and Locally owned by John and Cath Murphy

1 Cameron Place, Orange NSW 2800

Phone: 02 6360 1199 Fax: 02 6360 2999

Centacare Sunday 2008

A helping hand when it's needed most

The spectrum of needs catered for by Centacare is indeed broad. Just some of what they offered in the last 12 months....

Family Relationship Counselling

Giving assistance with a range of issues such as parenting, family conflict and breakup which has impacted on relationships. Government funding for these programmes had a target of 140 clients but in the last reporting year, Centacare saw 596 clients!

Family Dispute Resolution Programme

This programme had a contract target of 200 - but it was necessary for Centacare to actually see 326 clients. A co-mediation model is used - one mediator with a counselling background and another with a background in law - and the need for this service continues to grow.

Men and Family Relationship Programme

In addition to counselling and group work for men, a weekly column written by one of the Centacare psychologists appears in local papers. Many readers refer themselves to counselling and other programmes at Centacare.

Drought Counselling

150 clients received counselling through the Drought funding initiative. Despite the fact that for the greater part of the reporting period these programmes were under-staffed, the commitment of the respective teams to these programmes made it possible for Centacare to do significantly more than the target set by the funding bodies.

Education programmes

Continue to be high on the Centacare Agenda and last year saw a significant growth in those delivered. Efforts are concentrated on meeting the identified needs and gaps in services within the

Wisdom programme has been facilitated in several centres. This programme attracted good participation and plans are in place to develop a similar programme for men.

Transition to High School - this



community and this has resulted in the delivery of programmes to outlying communities and marginalised groups as well as regional centres.

Other initiatives included.....

The implementation of an **Anger Management programme** has been widely accepted across the region to the point where Centacare now receives referrals direct from Corrective Services prior to inmates being released from custody.

An **Indigenous Community Educator** and three part time facilitators are employed which has enabled Centacare Bathurst to further meet the needs of the Community.

The 'tried and tested' **Harnessing**

programme focuses on challenges, issues and situations that may face students as they move through the educational system.

Working in partnership with organisations enables Centacare to access clients with already identified common needs related to their service, and to tailor their existing programmes to meet this need.

New programmes were also created in response to approaches from organisations eg. *Self Care for Phone Counsellors, Pastoral Training for Parish Volunteers and Anger Management* for specific client groups.

123 Magic - the programme of choice for parenting skills.



Debra's Story

Debra came to Centacare to participate in the 'Harnessing Wisdom' programme. When she joined us on the first day was at her lowest. She was suffering from a broken relationship, money was tight, she had no income, didn't believe in herself or anything else and she felt that she was nearing the bottom of the bucket.

Before the programme she was also attending counselling, in which her counsellor had suggested to her that she join the Harnessing Wisdom programme. In her first two sessions she was teary eyed - but she was also coming to terms with her life, by the end of the four sessions she started to turn her life around. She took control of her life and she was able to see that she did, in fact, have a future.

We watched her walk into the programme quiet, withdrawn, unsure of herself and with damaged self confidence, very little self esteem and lots of negative self talk. Each week as she entered, her stance improved - she was standing taller and her outward appearance was becoming more positive and confident.

By the fifth session, she started in a job that she wanted. She had to compete with another 39 people who had applied for the job, even though they only needed five people. Her life was starting to head upwards. She didn't come back to the program once she started work, as work hours clashed with Harnessing Wisdom, but she kept in touch with some of the others in the group and she continued to follow the workbook that had been provided to her.

This is the reward that the staff of Centacare receives every time they run the Harnessing Wisdom programme. We help to put joy and knowledge into peoples' hearts and we see people grow each day.

Like you, I am a human being filled with joys, fears, frustrations, and hopes. And, like you, I want to be understood, accepted, and appreciated.

Eric Harvey and Steve Ventura



Centacare's financial resources are constantly stretched by the growing needs of the community it serves - and that community includes each and every one of us.

Please be generous at this year's Centacare Sunday Collection as a way of showing your support.