



# ACdlerum

March 2019

Newsletter of the  
Archbishop of Sydney  
Circular No. 2/2019

## A Message from Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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

We can't help being affected by the recent news of Cardinal George Pell's conviction. It has left many bewildered, angry, demoralised. In a very real sense Lent has come early for the Church in Australia this year, and we may feel somehow contaminated by the darkness surrounding us. The legal process regarding the Cardinal is not yet complete, and so I will not comment on it. I ask that you urge people not to draw any final conclusions until the appeal judges have had their chance to review this matter. Please join me in praying for public calm and civility.

Our next clergy conference and market day is on 3 April, barely a month away! I urge you all to register for this as soon as possible, to ensure you have a place. These conferences are always an important and helpful opportunity to continue to grow in our role as shepherds of our flock, and I look forward to seeing you there.

This month I am celebrating the graduation Mass for the University of Notre Dame Australia, Sydney Campus. I ask you to pray for the graduands as they embark on a new stage in their lives.

Please be assured of my continuing prayers for you all.

+ Anthony

## 2019 dates to remember

### St Patrick's Day Festivities

St Patrick's Church Hill 17 March 2019  
Annual St Patrick's Day Mass, St Mary's Cathedral,  
18 March 2019

### Clergy Reflection Afternoon in Hunters Hill

26 March 2019 (Invitations out soon)

### Clergy Conference and CAS Market Day

3 April 2019

### Combined Regional Conference 2019

6 June 2019

### CAS Annual Clergy Retreat

21 to 26 July 2019  
St Joseph's Retreat Centre, Kincumber South

### Proposed date of Sydney Ordinations

3 August 2019

### All Clergy Conference

and 11 September 2019

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## Please pray for...

### For the repose of the soul of

#### Fr Lauro Rufo CS RIP

6 March 2019

Parish Priest of Mascot Parish

#### Fr Graham Vincent Kings RIP

17 February 2019

Former Parish Priest of Berala Parish

#### Fr Adrian Francis Meaney MSC – RIP


6 February 2019

Director of the MSC Mission Office in Kensington

### Those that are sick in our community

**Bishop Terry Brady, Fr John Flynn LC, Fr John Langtry, Fr Anthony Simari, Fr Michael McCarthy, Fr Reg Wilson** and **Fr John Snehadass** who are currently unwell.

### Special anniversaries occurring in April

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

## Parish Vacancies

I believe it is often good for parishes to experience the ministry of different priests, and for a priest's gifts to be shared around the Archdiocese. Hence where practicable, priests should be open to a new appointment after 12 years in a parish.

This principle would not apply if an older priest is planning to move to lesser duties in the next few years – in which case he would normally be reappointed on an ongoing basis. When a parish is advertised on the completion of a 12 year appointment, the current parish priest is of course free to apply to continue in the parish.

There are a number of parishes, which are likely to require a new Pastor over the coming months. This is because several priests are moving to lesser duties, other priests have expressed a willingness to move to a new appointment, and some parishes currently under administration are looking to the appointment of a Parish Priest. Because of some likely changes following the Parish 2020 project, I am asking all priests appointed at this time to be open to undertaking different responsibilities should this be necessary in the future.

I would also note that, depending on the availability of suitable priests and the various needs across the archdiocese, some priests in the parishes listed below may be asked to continue in their current appointment.

I am providing an extensive list of parishes now both to give you a fuller picture of what might be available and to assist me to plan ahead for the rest of this year.

Accordingly, I now invite expressions of interest in relation to one or more of the following parishes:

- **Parish of St Aloysius of Gonzaga, Cronulla**
- **Parish of St Michael, War Memorial Catholic Church, Daceyville**
- **Parish of the Good Shepherd, Hoxton Park**
- **Parish of St Patrick, Mortlake**
- **Parish of St Mary & St Joseph, Maroubra Bay/Beach**
- **Parish of St Michael, Meadowbank**
- **Parish of St Christopher, Panania**
- **Parish of St Patrick, Revesby Heights**
- **Parish of St Finbar, Sans Souci**
- **Parish of St Peter, Surry Hills**

For more information, please contact the **Vicar General**. Please contact **Maureen Fairbairn** on **9390 5185** at the Chancery for a copy of the Parish Profile for the above Parishes.

## CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

### I recently made the following appointments:

#### Rev Lewi Barakat

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Committee from 22 April 2019 for a term of three years.

#### Rev Mgr John Boyle

Reappointed as Rector of Domus Australia from 30 April 2019 for a term of one year.

#### Rev Laurence Foote OP

Appointed Chaplain to the University of Sydney from 1 February 2019 for a term of three years.  
Appointed Part Time Assistant Priest to the Parish of St James, Forest Lodge/Glebe from 1 February 2019.  
Appointed Chaplain to the Hungarian Catholic Community from 1 February 2019.

#### Rev Alberto Jaejun Kim

Appointed Migrant Chaplain to the Korean Catholic Community from 1 February 2019 for a term of three years.

#### Rev Seungryong (Pius) Kwak

Appointed Senior Migrant Chaplain to the Korean Catholic Community from 1 February 2019 for a term of three years.

#### Rev Kene Onwukwe

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of St Anthony, Austral from 1 March 2019 for a term of three months.

#### Rev Peter Smith

Reappointed Parish Priest of the Parish of St Columba and the Holy Souls, North Leichhardt from 1 February 2019 for a term of six years.

### Rev John Ssemaganda

Appointed Assistant Priest to the Parish of St Luke the Evangelist, Revesby from 1 March 2019.

## NON CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

### Mr Eugene Choi

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 26 March 2019 for a term of three years.

### Mr Steve Christie

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 26 March 2019 for a term of three years.

### Ms Rebecca Davies

Reappointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 1 November 2018 for a term of three years.

### Mr Stephen Newton

Reappointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 10 November 2018 for a term of three years.

## ONGOING FORMATION NEWS

### Reflection Afternoon at Villa Maria Parish Centre, Hunters Hill

Please find attached an invitation from Bishop Terry Brady to join him in a Reflection afternoon at Villa Maria Parish, Centre on Tuesday 26 March 2019. The reflection will be led by Fr Michael Whelan SM. For more details click here.

### Clergy Conference and CAS Market Day 2019

The next Clergy Conference and CAS Market Day will be held on 3 April 2019 at the Waterview Function Centre, Bicentennial Drive, Bicentennial Park, Sydney Olympic Park.

The programme has been finalised, and I am happy to announce our speakers for the day:

- 9.30am CAS Market Day Opens
- 10.00am Morning Tea
- 10.30am Welcome and Morning Prayer
- 10.45am Rev Dr Ormond Rush – Sense of the Faithful, Synodality and the Plenary Council
- 12.00pm Break
- 12.20pm Deacon and Priest Panel - Ministering Together in Parishes
- 1.30pm Lunch

- 3.00pm Market Day closes
- 3.00pm Bishop Emeritus Eugene Hurley – The Cardinal Pell Verdict – an open discussion
- 3.50pm Archbishop's Closing Speech
- 4.15pm Closure

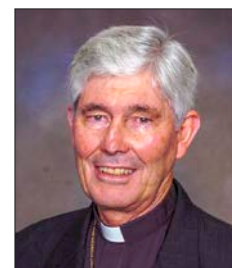
### Conference Speakers



**Fr Ormond Rush** is a priest of the diocese of Townsville, Australia, with a doctorate in theology from the Gregorian University, Rome. Elected President of the Australian Catholic Theological Association for three terms from 2007-2010, he is currently associate professor and reader at Australian Catholic University, Brisbane campus, and is a member of the Plenary Council Executive Committee.

### Bishop Emeritus Eugene Hurley

Bishop Hurley was a speaker at our Live In Clergy Conference in July 2018. He recently retired from his appointment as Bishop of Darwin. He previously served the Diocese of Port Pirie as Bishop of Port Pirie from 1999 to 2007, having worked there as a priest since 1964. He has served as Army and Industrial Chaplain and worked part-time at the University of South Australia during the 1990s, lecturing in Australian Sociology, Philosophy and a post graduate program in Counselling. Bishop Hurley oversaw the implementation of a Catholic Pastoral Care Team in Woomera at the inception of the Woomera Immigration Detention Centre in 1999 and was a regular visitor at the Baxter Detention Centre in Port Augusta, and more recently at Wickham Point and Blaydin in Darwin. For several years Bishop Hurley has been a member of the Federal Minister's Council on Asylum Seekers and Detention.



### Priest/Deacon Panel



**Rev Erick Niyiragira CP** was born in Burundi in 1988. He is one of nine children and experienced war from the age of five and was a refugee for twelve years. In 2005 at the age of 17 he and his family arrived in Adelaide. After learning English and completing senior studies at a Christian Brothers' College he joined the Passionists. He has a Bachelor of Theology and Philosophy with a Masters of Theology. After his ordination to the Diaconate in 2015 he was appointed as Dea-

con of St Brigid's Marrickville and ordained a priest in June 2016. He became parish administrator in early 2017 following the sad sudden death of Fr Timothy O'Toole CP, former PP.

**Interesting fact:** *We found our dad 14 years after having lost him during the war! I think every day is a chance to live my life to the full while I still have it. I am lucky to have survived and to be living in such a safe and caring community.*



**Rev Mr Christopher Roehrig** is a Deacon who has been married for 30 years to Kristen. They have two sons, Lynn (married to Damia Maklouf, with son Laurent) and Peter (soon to be married to Taylor Eyre) and daughter, Annaliese. He was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corp. and holds an A.A.S. Degree in Arch. Drafting from TAFE Ultimo, B.Sc. Arch Degree from UNSW, M.Herit.Cons. from The USyd. Currently completing BTh from CIS. He says that he is blessed to be currently serving with Father Erick Niyiragira CP at St. Brigid's Parish Marrickville.

**Rev John Doherty** was ordained for the Archdiocese of Sydney in 1974. After appointments to Miranda, Penhurst and Liverpool parishes, he was assigned to the Tribunal in 1982, working in the Tribunal until he resigned as judicial vicar in 2006. While at the Tribunal, he was assigned as an assistant priest to the parishes of Mascot, Forest Lodge and Rockdale. In 2002 he was acting chancellor of the Archdiocese and lived at the Cathedral. He gained degrees in canon law at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, in 1988 and 2002 and has taught canon law at the Catholic Institute of Sydney for many years. Fr Doherty's first appointment as parish priest was Oatley in 2002 and he was appointed to his present position as parish priest of Riverwood in 2006.



**Deacon William Fernandes** migrated from India in 1986 and lived in Penhurst before getting married in 1990 at St Brendan's Annandale. After working as an Engineer for about two decades I changed to counselling. My wife Dorothy and I have two children: Luke 27 and Pippa 22. I joined the diaconate program for the Archdiocese of Sydney in 2014, while I was at St Jeromes Punchbowl. I was installed as an acolyte in 2016 and served at St Joseph's Riverwood. I was ordained on November 9, 2018 and appointed Parish Deacon at St Joseph's Riverwood.

**Fr. Andrew James** was born in Penrith NSW and grew up in Springwood in the Blue Mountains. He completed degrees in Economics and Law at Sydney University and worked for three years at the Australian Taxation Office when it was located in Market St. Sydney. He completed a Masters degree of Taxation at the University of New South Wales during this time. He commenced studies for the Priesthood in 2002 and in 2005 he was sent to the North American College in Rome. He completed his Bachelors degree at The Gregorian University and his Licentiate at the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family In Rome. After ordination Fr. James has worked at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Cronulla, St. Christopher's Holsworthy, St. Joseph's Moorebank, and was also Rector of the Domus Australia in Rome. Fr James is currently administrator of St. Paul of The Cross Dulwich Hill, he is also completing his doctoral studies, is a sessional lecturer at the Catholic Institute of Sydney and has also taught courses at the University of Notre Dame Sydney and Campion College.



*Deacon Paul Naggar*



*Deacon Paul Naggar was ordained on 23rd August 1997 and has ministered in the Parishes of Liverpool, Carnes Hill/Hoxton Park, Bossley Park and is currently at St. Joseph Parish Moorebank. He enjoys all aspects of the diaconate ministry and his hope is that one day every Parish in the*

*Archdiocese will have a deacon serving the people of God.*

## ACU Course

Once again, the Archdiocese is partnering with The Australian Catholic University to offer a Graduate Certificate in Management of Not-for-Profit Organisations. This course has been designed for Clergy and senior leaders in the Church to prepare them for the administrative and people management challenges that are now part of parish ministry. Topics covered are:

- Governance in Not-for-Profit Organisations
- Human Resource Management
- Accounting for Decision Making
- Change Management.

This course aims to help support clergy in their growth as effective managers and leaders of parishes, chaplaincies, Church agencies and institutions.

The first cohort of clergy from Sydney and some other


dioceses graduated last year and the current cohort are halfway through their course and are about to commence the Accounting for Decision Making unit – feedback from participating clergy has been very positive and the course has been viewed as beneficial to Parish ministry. I will be asking a number of Sydney priests who have or will have important leadership roles to undertake this course, and I invite others to consider taking up this valuable opportunity.

The course will be delivered at the North Sydney campus of ACU, over a two-year period. Each unit will be led by Faculty experts with extensive experience in the Not-for-Profit sector. The program will commence on 24 September 2019.

If you are interested in this course please contact **Edward Duffy** in the Parish Support Office on [edward.duffy@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:edward.duffy@sydneycatholic.org).


Download the brochure for more information. 

## Canon Law in Parish Life – CIS


Learn about Canon Law in Parish Life at CIS in 2019. Four Day Long courses at the Catholic Institute of Sydney Facilitated by Priest and Civil and Canon Lawyer Fr Richard Waddell with guest speakers. For more information please click on the link below. 

## Institute for Continuing Theological Education

### Pontifical North American College – Rome

Please click on the link to find out what the PNAC is offering for Sabbaticals in 2019 and 2020. 

## Tantur Ecumenical Institute

Please click on the link  to find out what Tantur is offering for Sabbaticals in 2019 and 2020.


## Italian Institute For Classical Studies

### Lingua Ecclesiae is the first intensive summer Latin course specifically designed for ecclesiastics.

Students will be hosted at the Casa per ferie *Mater Mundi*, run by the Augustinian Sisters of Divine Love. Pedagogical activities are accompanied by the daily celebration of the Liturgy.

To favour the students' rapid and solid learning, all courses are conducted directly in Latin, just like all other daily activities: Latin is the only language of communication within the residence throughout the entire month of stay.

Pedagogical activities are subdivided into those that are part of the *curriculum* (where participation is required) and those that are optional.

Click here  for more information.

## Other Matters

### Parish Lenten Activity – 24 Hours for the Lord

Since 2014 Pope Francis has invited the universal Church to participate in 24 hours for the Lord on the weekend leading up to the 4th Sunday of Lent. 24 Hours for the Lord is an initiative whereby parishes offer Reconciliation in the context of Adoration. Each year since 2015 many Sydney parishes have responded by offering some hours of Adoration and Reconciliation. They report good attendance rates and positive parish feedback.

We invite your parish to participate in *24 Hours for the Lord* in 2019 on Fri 29 to Sat 30 March. Your participation can range from a Holy Hour, 2, 4 or 6 hours right through to a full 24 hours, depending upon your parish resources.

We will promote your event in the Catholic Weekly and on a dedicated page on the Archdiocesan website that includes an interactive map of all parishes involved. Please send the details (include the times, venue, Confession availability, and any other devotions that may be planned during the time) via email to [encounter@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:encounter@sydneycatholic.org) or call us on **9307 8477**. Details are required by COB Wednesday, 13 March.

To help structure the hours of prayer at your parish, the Archdiocesan web page will include simple online resources including downloadable recordings and printable reflections on merciful encounters with Jesus in the Gospels, psalms and parables with the theme of mercy, and printable refresher sheets on Confession and an examination of conscience.

## Chrism Mass

I invite you to join me in celebrating the Chrism Mass, and for lunch following the Mass at Cathedral House.

Mass is scheduled for 10.30am, with Lunch to follow. Please bring White Vestments.

Please RSVP via this link 

For more information please contact **Tim Goonan**, Events Manager on **9390 5322** or [tim.goonan@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:tim.goonan@sydneycatholic.org)



## ANZAC Eve Mass

All Priests and Deacons are invited to concelebrate the annual ANZAC Eve Mass of Remembrance. This Mass is held at the 5.30pm mass at St Mary's Cathedral. Please bring white vestments.



Please RSVP via this link 

For more information please contact **Tim Goonan**, Events Manager on **9390 5322** or [tim.goonan@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:tim.goonan@sydneycatholic.org)

## 2019 St Patrick's Day Mass Initiation

Please find attached invitation from Bishop Terry Brady to join him for the Annual St Patrick's Day Mass on 17 March 2019 and 18 March 2019. The Masses will take place at St Patrick's Church Hill  on Sunday, 17 March 2019 commencing at 12.00pm and in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney  on Monday, 18 March 2019 commencing at 10:30am.

## Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Annual Clergy Retreat

The CAS Annual Clergy Retreat will be held from 21 to 26 July 2019 at the St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre in Kincumber South. The Emmanuel Community will conduct the Retreat. Please click on the links below to find out more and to register.  

## Mass For Interculturality

The Mass Celebrating Interculturality on Sunday 17th February, 2019 filled the Cathedral with life, colour and music. It brought to life the words of Jesus, "Go and make disciples of all nations." Eight months of preparation from the Catholic Immigration office was rewarded one hundred fold, seeing people from all cultures and nationalities come together and share faith. This annual event of the Archdiocese aims to draw together the richness of our Multicultural Church.



## Participation in Preparation for Sacraments

One of the matters frequently raised with Chancery staff concerns parents' participation in Sacramental Preparation Programmes for First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

I understand that Priests and Team leaders are anxious to ensure that candidates are suitably prepared for the sacraments and that their families are supportive; priests often rightly insist that candidates attend Sunday Mass and preparation classes with their parents or carers. Issues arise, however, when a family is ambivalent, or fails to attend a particular session, or lives in another parish, or seeks to enter the programme late... Illness and other family emergencies can also prevent people from attending classes. Then as pastors we must balance challenge and compassion. It is good to challenge families to engage more conscientiously with their faith and with the religious education of their children. It is also important that we show pastoral compassion and flexibility when people find it difficult to meet all our expectations. And, as clergy, we know all-too-well how difficult it can be to adjudicate between conflicting commitments and responsibilities. The old rule, that sacraments are for people, not people for sacraments, should guide us at all times.

## CHANCERY NOTE: Sacraments and Eastern Rite Christians

As more Christians come to Australia from the Middle East, complex questions often arise about the celebration of the sacraments. There are some common scenarios about which with the law of the Church is clear. For example: a Latin rite priest may **baptize** a child whose parents belong to an Eastern Catholic rite. However, the child in this situation belongs to the Eastern Rite and this should be noted on the Baptismal records. (If the parents belong to different Catholic rites, the child is registered in the rite of the father.) If a person over 14 years of age is requesting baptism, they are free to choose the rite in which they will be baptized.

For a **marriage** in the Latin rite where one party belongs to an Eastern Catholic rite, permission should be sought from the Eastern rite Ordinary (and likewise, our Archbishop may give permission for a Latin rite Catholic to marry in an Eastern rite church). Note that in all these cases, the appropriate Ordinary to give the permission is determined by the person's place of residence.


Some Eastern rite Churches are not in communion with Rome – these are the **Orthodox** churches, whose sacraments we recognize. Our Archbishop may give permission for a Latin rite Catholic to celebrate their wedding in an Orthodox church. While we may also give a blessing to such a couple, it is never permissible to celebrate two weddings. If an Orthodox Christian wishes to receive the sacraments in the Latin church (e.g. reconciliation or holy communion),

this may be permissible where there is a genuine spiritual need. However, it may be appropriate to invite the person to contact their own Pastor in the first instance.

If parents who are Orthodox Christians request baptism in the Catholic church, the child would be baptized as a Catholic. In some cases, if parents request that their child, who has been baptized in an Orthodox church, may receive the sacraments in the Catholic church, it may be appropriate for the child to be formally received into the Catholic church. This should be noted in the Baptismal register – though the child is not to be baptized again. In all these matters, we need to be sensitive to the fact that some Orthodox churches do not want their members to receive sacraments in a Catholic church.

Many more complex scenarios may also arise – in these cases, please seek the advice of the Vicar General or the Marriage Tribunal.

## PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

The beginning of Lent marks the close of the Plenary Council 2020 Listening and Dialogue stage. Submissions can still be made to:  until this time.

However, a number of parishes that have held listening and dialogue sessions or are still in the process of doing so, have indicated that they may not conclude their responses before Ash Wednesday. Consequently, the National Plenary Council facilitator has confirmed that late submissions will be accepted via email ([plenary.council@catholic.org.au](mailto:plenary.council@catholic.org.au)). These will be delivered to Chairs of the Working Parties that will develop papers for the first Plenary Council session on the themes discerned from analysis of the data submitted in this first phase.

In the February edition of Ad Clerum I reflected on the importance of laying the foundation in our communities for prayer and reflection in preparation for Easter. This Lenten season also provides a valuable opportunity to prepare our communities for the next phase of the Plenary Council - 'Dialogue and Discernment' (to be launched on Pentecost Sunday).

A wonderful segue is offered by Lent Cycle C, as we recall or prepare for Baptism, recognising the passing from death to life that we celebrate in Baptism. Reflection on Baptism can provide a catalyst for all Christians to grow in their faith journey, to demonstrate their sharing of the life of Christ and to respond with humility, courage, compassion and love to the extraordinary challenges we currently face.

Among the strongest themes emerging in responses received by the Archdiocese to the Plenary Council are desires for clearer, more detailed faith formation, more fulfilling prayer lives and greater emphasis on the Sacraments. The Lenten period opens the door to enabling and strengthening our communities in response to their call for greater spiritual formation.

The Sydney Archdiocesan Plenary Council team is pre-

paring a simple resource that will focus on the Sacrament of Baptism and on awareness of Baptism as part of our preparation for all Sacraments. The resource is a guide for engagement, prayer, reflection and discussion that can be used in parishes, schools, homes, agencies and other communities. It will be distributed in time for Easter and can also be used to prepare for the second phase of the Plenary Council, between Easter and Pentecost.


In anticipation of this, during Lent we may be able to encourage a deeper understanding of Baptism by:

- Including in the Prayers of the Faithful in weekday and Sunday masses, a prayer for those who are preparing for Baptism this coming Easter and for all who are journeying this part of the catechumenate with them.
- Inviting Parish Pastoral Councils, liturgical and sacramental teams to meet to reflect on how Baptism is celebrated in the parish. This group could also consider how knowledge of Baptism is incorporated in preparation for all sacraments in the parish.
- Preaching on Baptism as the continual call to conversion. As Pope Francis reminds us: "Received only once, the baptismal cleansing illumines our whole life, guiding our steps to the Heavenly Jerusalem" (April 11, 2018, General audience St Peter's Square).

The gift of grace we received at baptism is evident in the extraordinary response of over 68,000 people who have committed time to engage with the Plenary Council across Australia. We must continue to enable our communities to nourish their faith through prayer, reflection and knowledge.

*Bishop Terry Brady*


## Plenary Council Website

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



**DUE NOW**

## Annual Parochial Return 2018

The Annual Parochial Returns for 2018 need to be filled in. Please click on the link for the required Annual Parochial Return. 

There are two ways by which you can forward your response:

1. You can print off the attachment and complete the details by hand and then return the form via fax, email or post, or
2. You can complete the form electronically and return by email to: [maureen.fairbairn@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:maureen.fairbairn@sydneycatholic.org)

**A number of returns are still outstanding. The due date was 28 February 2019.**

**Please return via:**

Email: [maureen.fairbairn@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:maureen.fairbairn@sydneycatholic.org)


Fax: **02 9261 8312**

Post: **Mrs Maureen Fairbairn  
Polding Centre  
133 Liverpool Street  
Sydney 2000**


## Important News about WWCC renewal

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

### Personal details must be updated

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

### Office of the Children's Guardian

For information and to renew your WWCC number click here 

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

With my best wishes.  
Yours fraternally in Christ



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



# THE LAST WORD: WORK HEALTH & SAFETY

Remember to carry out your  
Parish Inspections bi-annually.  
The inspection checklist is available  
on the Parish Internet site.




***Your Parish WHS A Team***

See the Parish Intranet Site  
for all your WHS needs:  
[sydarch.org.au/parish](http://sydarch.org.au/parish)




# Agency News

## From the Liturgy Office

Please find the Bishops Commission for Liturgy Guidelines on Reverent Reception of Holy Communion, which was published last year. 

## From Life, Marriage and Family Centre

Originally designed by Fr. John Flader, Of Life and Love gives particular emphasis to the spiritual and sacramental dimensions of marriage, while also paying due attention to the practical elements as well. It highlights the importance of God's grace and human love in building a happy relationship and it suggests ways in which married love can grow over the years. Topics include the beauty of Christian marriage, openness to life, family of origin, communication and finances. This is the course previously offered by the Catholic Adult Education Centre now under the care of the Life, Marriage and Family Centre. Any inquiries please contact **Chris Gordon** on **9307 8402** or **christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org** or for registrations: 


## From CCD

### Catholic Special Religious Education (SRE) in public schools Catechist meetings

CCD recommends that parish clergy attend their Parish SRE Catechist meetings where these take place and/or meet with their Catechist SRE Coordinator regularly. This practice enables further opportunities for clergy to get to know their Catechists whom they authorise to teach on behalf of the Archdiocese and to receive school updates.

Catechist meetings are usually held once per School Term: in Term 1 before classes commence and, generally, either during school holidays before Terms 2, 3 and 4, or in the second week of these Terms.

### Training courses

The Government requires that your Catechists & Helpers be trained so as to be authorised as SRE Teachers. The CCD provides 3 levels of training courses for them to pray with and hand on the approved Catholic SRE curriculum to children in age-appropriate ways. To see the training course outline and descriptions, please click. 

Thank you for sending forth your Catechists from Mass each week out into our local public schools to support our Catholic families with school-aged children, half of whom are enrolled in Government schools.

## From Anti Slavery Taskforce

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Free samples of SHOP FOR GOOD products.

On St Bakhita's Feast Day 8 February Archbishop Anthony Fisher launched the ethical purchasing program for parishes called SHOP FOR GOOD.

The first products to be made available, as part of the SHOP FOR GOOD program are Fairtrade tea and instant coffee by Spout.

To request a free sample pack of Sprout tea and coffee, SHOP FOR GOOD brochures and catalogue please contact the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Anti-Slavery Taskforce:

**antislavery@sydneycatholic.org**

**P: 02 9307 8464**

**www.sydneycatholicantislavery.org**

**Facebook@ShopForGood8.7**



SHOP FOR GOOD is your pathway to purchase ethically sourced products recommended by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. Choose SHOP FOR GOOD products from the catalogue and place your order by phone or email or online.

Support SHOP FOR GOOD to make a difference in the fight against modern slavery.



- 40.3 million People are estimated to be trapped in some form of modern slavery in the world today.
- 15,000 victims estimated in Australia (Global Slavery Index 2018).
- Modern slavery describes slavery-like practices including forced labour, child labour and human trafficking.
- High-risk consumer products include tea, coffee, sugar, seafood, electronics, clothing and footwear.

- Constant cost cutting creates an environment where slavery-tainted goods and services are everywhere.

## Parish Support Office

### Credit Card Giving –


In December 2016 tax deductibility for parishioners donating to our parishes ceased and the anecdotal evidence as a result of this change is that it is affecting our collections. After some analysis of Parish Financial Reports across the Archdiocese submitted to Chancery to date, envelope collections and loose collections are down on average by approximately 8% on 2017 collection amounts. (Eleven parishes record a decrease of more than 20%). This is a sizable difference year on year and is one that needs to be addressed and solutions found to turn the trend around. While a number of factors are at work, one is the fact that people now carry less cash with them.

The Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia has been quoted recently to say, “cash will become a niche payment sooner than we think and cheques will be phased out”. In fact, according to the Reserve Bank, the proportion of cash payments made by Australian consumers dropped from 70 per cent in 2007 to 37 percent in 2016. Meanwhile Westpac CEO Brian Hartzler has predicted that 95% of payments would be electronic within a decade.


What does this mean for Parishes? It means that Mass attendees say in the 18 to 50 age range will soon be unlikely to carry any cash whatsoever. Therefore, unless Parishes offer and support the means to donate by credit card or direct payment, collections will continue to fall and fall potentially faster than any of us could anticipate.

There are a number of trusted and reliable services already available to our Parishes to accept credit card donations that Parish Support and Development or Catholic Development Fund are able to assist you with.

If you would like more information on the non-cash methods of collecting donations please feel free to call **Peter Wockner, CDF Manager – Lending and Relationships** on **9390 5213** or **Parish Support and Development** on **9390 5233**.

Please click on the link for Parish Support Training for 2019. 

## From CatholicCare

Introducing Marcelo Steimbeisser, the new General Manager of Community Development for CatholicCare. Click on the link for more details. 

## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding 2018 Parish Self-Assessment

The Archdiocese of Sydney is wholly committed to ensuring the safety, well-being and dignity of all children and young people. To this end in September 2018 the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office sent out the 2018 Parish Self-Assessment to all Priests of the parish and Parish Offices.

The Parish Self-Assessment is a tool to assist Parishes in reviewing the safeguarding measures they have in place and to identify further work that needs to take place. We would like to say a big thank you to all of our Parishes who have sent back their Self-Assessment and Continuous Improvement Plans, we are overwhelmed with the response rate we have had. However, we are still yet to receive a small amount of the 2018 Self-Assessments back. If you have not yet submitted your 2018 Parish Self-Assessment we would greatly appreciate you doing so. Please email it to [rebecca.king@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:rebecca.king@sydneycatholic.org). If you would like further support or information on the Parish Self-Assessment, please contact **Rebecca King 9390 5813**

### CAS Policy Change to Working With Children Check (WWCC) Requirements


The Safeguarding Office is committed to doing all we can to ensure our church environments are child safe environments and to do so we update our policies and protocols and introduce new initiatives as required. Recently, a decision was made by the Safeguarding Office to include five additional Parish volunteer roles that now require a verified Working With Children Check before commencing in the role or will be required to obtain one retrospectively. The roles are:

- Ministers of the Altar
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Ministers of the Word
- Parish Counters/Collectors
- Ministers to the Homebound

This decision has not been made lightly as we do understand that we are asking many of our current volunteers to undergo checking they were not required to undergo previously. However, there are compelling reasons for this. Firstly the roles mentioned above are considered roles of trust and responsibility in the Parish. Secondly, in the past 12 months there have been two serious incidents relating to volunteers in these roles. In the first incident a parishioner brought to our attention a reader who had been convicted of child related offences and in another incident a collector was observed to be grooming a child whilst his mother was in reconciliation. Both of these people were, through association with the priest, considered to be trustworthy

people by children and perhaps children would approach them should they have a problem as they have been observed to be doing God's work.

It is critical that we undertake appropriate due diligence to ensure that all who volunteer in these roles are suitable candidates for these very important volunteer roles.


Remember: the Volunteer WWCC is free of charge and all it will cost is a small amount of time. To apply for a WWCC the volunteer must go to the Office of the Children's Guardian website at: 

### Safeguarding Training

Most of you will have attended our Level 1 Safeguarding and Child Protection Training that was first launched in 2016. Since 2016 the Safeguarding Office has trained over 450 clergy members in our Level 1 Safeguarding and Child Protection Training.

In the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, recommendation 16.44 states that religious institutions should ensure that candidates for religious ministry undertake minimum training on child safety as well as recommendation 16.47, which states that each religious institution should require that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, undertake regular training on the institution's child safe policies and procedures. Recommendation 16.50 also states that each religious institution should require all people in religious ministry, leaders, members of boards, councils and other governing bodies, employees, relevant contractors and volunteers undergo initial and periodic training. As per the recommendations made by the Royal Commission, the Safeguarding Office is asking that clergy and religious who hold faculties, who are incardinated, or who have an appointment within the Archdiocese attend our Safeguarding and Child Protection Training. We are also asking that all employees and volunteers in the parishes and agencies within the Archdiocese register to complete Safeguarding and Child Protection Training

Attending training will give you a more in-depth understanding of your safeguarding and child protection obligations in line with current legislative and policy requirements.

Dates for 2019 Safeguarding and Child Protection Training have been released and can be viewed on the Archdiocese Website.  Please contact **Anna Sammut** on **9390 5811** or email [safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org) to register your attendance.

We are all on a journey together to help make our Archdiocese a safer environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. We understand this journey will not happen overnight but by attending the Safeguarding and Child Protection Training, we are getting one-step closer to achieving a safer environment.

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is look-

ing forward to meeting all clergy, employees and volunteers at training.

*Anna Sammut*

*Safeguarding Officer Training and Development*

### Safeguarding Online Induction Training

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is pleased to announce the development of our Online Safeguarding Induction Training for all volunteers, staff and youth ministers of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Catholic Professional Standards Ltd (CPSL) have developed 10 National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (the Standards) based upon the 10 Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.


The Standards are designed to ensure that safeguarding practices across the Catholic Church in Australia are consistent and appropriate. The Standards set out the approach, knowledge, practice and professional engagement needed to ensure the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults.


The Online Safeguarding Induction Training strongly supports the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and the 10 Child Safe Standards.

Online Safeguarding Induction Training is comprised of two modules that are twenty minutes long with a multiple-choice assessment at the end of each module. These two modules focus on the following areas:

- The difference between Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Who abuses children
- What is abuse
- How to Safeguard

At the completion of the modules, participants will receive a certificate that they will be able to print out and participants will also have access to a "quick fact sheet" that can also be printed out. The Online Safeguarding Induction Training has the ability to be completed in stages, with the participants being able to stop and resume the training at a later time.

Click here  to register your volunteers for the Online Safeguarding Training. The Safeguarding Office thanks you for your continuous support in helping make our parishes safe for children, young people and vulnerable adults. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact **Anna Sammut** via email [anna.sammut@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:anna.sammut@sydneycatholic.org) or phone **9390 5811**.


Please click on the link (below) for the latest Safeguarding training. To register for training please email [safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org)  you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact **Anna Sammut** via email [anna.sammut@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:anna.sammut@sydneycatholic.org) or phone **9390 5811**.

## Safeguarding Bite No. 24



### Translated Documents

The Archdiocese of Sydney has translated a number of key documents and resources for our community into the following four languages: Arabic, Filipino, Italian, Vietnamese

To download these translated documents and resources go to 

*The Safeguarding Team*

