



Ad Clerum

February 2021

Newsletter of the
Archbishop of Sydney
Circular No. 1/2021

A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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

In our last issue of the Ad Clerum I spoke of the easing of restrictions that allowed me to lift the dispensation from attending Mass, and looked forward in hope to large gatherings at Christmas. As if for the punchline of some cruel joke, less than 7 days before the Nativity of Our Lord, restrictions tightened once again.

Yet, as I said at the time, Christmas has always been a time of struggle, right from the very first. And now, acknowledging the very low rates of transmission of COVID-19 in our region, authorities have at last lifted the cap on numbers attending places of worship, while retaining the 4m2 rule. Unfortunately, of course, it makes little difference at all for ordinary churches. We continue to pray that this new year of grace 2021 will be a healthy and secure one for our world, and we pray especially for those countries, such as Britain, that are faring the worst.

This year also marks the 200th anniversary of Catholic education in Australia, a shining beacon of faith that has shone even in our darkest times, when funding was non-existent, and staffing difficult. We give thanks for the many religious who dedicated their lives to providing accessible and faith-filled education for many years, and we rejoice that their work continues today in the many thousands of lay men and women teaching our three quarters of a million students. I ask that you pray for the continued growth of this essential aspect of the parish-family-school trio that forms the backbone of the faith in this country.

*As always please be assured of my continuing prayers
for you all.*

+ Anthony

2021

dates to remember

Catechist Sunday
7 February 2021

Feast of St Bakhita
8 February 2021

All Day Clergy Conference
23 March 2021
Le Montage, Lilyfield

Bicentenary Mass
2 May 2021
St Mary's Cathedral

**Twilight Clergy Conference with
Vianney and Bicentenary Dinner**
19 May 2021
Le Montage, Lilyfield

inside

- **The Last Word from WHS:**
Mask Wearing in Church
- ◆ **Ongoing Formation**
 - Venerable English College, Rome
 - 2021 Sabbaticals – PNAC
 - 2021 - Tantor Ecumenical Institute
 - Latin Course in Rome

Please pray...

For the repose of the soul of ...

Rev Barry Swift - RIP

22 January 2021

Very Rev Isidore Anantharaj - RIP

20 January 2021

Bishop Geoffrey Robinson - RIP

29 December 2020



Paul Sheeran – RIP

December 2020 - Founder of Clare Communications

For those that are sick in our community ...

Fr Janus Bieniek CSMA, Fr John Alt, Fr Peter Maher, Fr Don Willoughby, Fr Noel Short, Fr David Coffey, Fr Michael Kelly, Fr Anthony Simari, Fr Michael McCarthy, and Fr John Snehadass who are currently unwell.

For special anniversaries occurring in March and April

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

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

I recently made the following appointments:

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

Rev Thomas Alukka

Appointed Administrator of the Parishes of Mater Dei, Blakehurst and St Raphael, South Hurstville from 12 February 2021.

Rev Francis Bertagnolli SDB

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of St John Bosco, Engadine from 18 January 2021.

Rev Edmund Budzilowicz SChr

Reappointed Chaplain to the Polish Catholic Community from 1 February 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Allan Casquejo

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of Holy Family, Maroubra from 15 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Lawrence Cauchi

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall from 28 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Reginald Chua OP

Appointed Chaplain, University of Notre Dame from 18 December 2020 for a term of three years.

Rev Gustavo Criollo

Reappointed Part-time Chaplain to the University of New South Wales from 1 February 2021 for a term of one year.

Rev Mr Stephen Drum FMVD

Appointed as Deacon to the Parish of St Charles Borromeo and Our Lady Queen of Peace, Ryde-Gladesville from 19 July 2020.

Rev Mr Anderson Gallego Rodas

Appointed Deacon of the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima, Caringbah from 21 January 2021.

Rev John Hayes

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of St Martha, Strathfield from 28 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Marlon Henao Perez

Reappointed as Dean of Studies at Redemptoris Mater Seminary from 12 February 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Paul Hilder

Reappointed as a Member of the Archdiocesan Motor Vehicle Plan Committee from 20 March 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Daney Irudaya Doss

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of Our Lady of the Annunciation, Pagewood from 15 January 2021 for a term of one year.

Rev Joosun Kim

Appointed Chaplain to the Korean Catholic Community from 21 January for a term of three years.

Rev Joseph Kolodziej

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of All Hallows, Five Dock from 28 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev John Knight

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parishes of St Andrew, Malabar and St Agnes, Matraville from 28 January 2021 for a term of six years

Rev Samuel Lynch

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parishes of St Patrick, Summer Hill and St Thomas of Canterbury, Lewisham from 1 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Appointed a Member of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 17 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Rev Darryl Mackie

Reappointed Part Time Chaplain for St Vincent's Hospital from 1 February 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Daniel McCaughan

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of St Patrick, Sutherland from 28 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Graeme Malone SSS

Reappointed Chaplain to Concord Hospital from 3 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Rev Gerard McCormick MSC

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parishes of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick and St Margaret Mary, Randwick North from 1 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Joshua Miechels

Released for service in the Emmanuel Community, Paris from 15 January 2021 for a term of two years.

Rev Gregory Morgan

Appointed Assistant Priest to the Parishes of St Augustine of Hippo, Balmain and St Joseph, Rozelle from 8 February 2021.

Rev Tan Van Nguyen MSC

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Erskineville from 1 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Pierluigi Passoni

Reappointed Administrator of the Parish of St Anthony of Padua, Clovelly and as Part-time Chaplain at the Randwick Campus of Hospitals from 1 February 2021 for a term of two years.

Rev Gerard Prindiville

Reappointed Spiritual Director of Redemptoris Mater Seminary from 27 April 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Anthony Robbie

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parishes of St Patrick, Bondi and St Anne, Bondi Beach from 21 January 2021 for a term of six years.

Rev Daniele Russo

Appointed Chaplain of Sumner House of Discernment from 1 January 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Mr Rafael Silva Galicia

Appointed Deacon of the Parish of Our Lady of the Annunciation, Pagewood from 15 January 2021.

Rev Christopher Slattery

Reappointed as a Part Time Chaplain to the NSW Police Force from 1 January 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Joseph Sobb SJ

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney, Lavender Bay and Kirribilli.

Rev Petrus Suroto MSC

Reappointed as Chaplain to the Indonesian Catholic Community from 20 February 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Tro Tran SJ

Reappointed as Chaplain to the Vietnamese Catholic Community from 12 January 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Richard Waddell

Appointed a Member of the Council of St John's College from 30 November 2020 for a term of four years.

Rev Chaminda Wanigasena

Appointed Administrator of the Parish of St Ambrose, Concord West from 1 January 2021 for a term of one year.

NON CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

Ms Lisa Bartak

Appointed a Member of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 17 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Ms Rebecca Davies

Appointed a Member of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 17 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Ms Loretta Di Mento

Appointed Chair of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 17 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Mr Michael Digges

Appointed a Member of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Risk Committee, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 17 November 2020 for a term of three years.

Sr Dr Mary Julian Ekman RSM

Appointed a Member of the Council of St John's College from 30 November 2020 for a term of two years.

Ms Karen Larkman

Appointed as a Member of the Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services (SCECS) Board from 1 February 2021 for a term of three years.

Professor Zlatko Skrbis

Appointed a Member of the Committee of Domus 8.7 from 15 December 2020 for a term of two years.

Mr Kieran Walton

Reappointed as a Notary for the Archdiocese of Sydney from 11 March 2021 for a term of three years.

ONGOING FORMATION OF CLERGY

Clergy Conference - Go Make Disciples 23 March 2021 - Le Montage

Our first Clergy Conference for 2021 will be held on 23 March 2021 at Le Montage, 38 Frazer Street, Lilyfield. It will follow the pattern of recent gatherings.

The two sessions before lunch will unpack the Archdiocesan Mission Plan, *Go Make Disciples*. Daniel Ang, Director of the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation and Elizabeth Arblaster, Parish Renewal Manager, will help us discover how the Plan can become a practical resource for our leadership of parish renewal. The sessions will unfold as follows:

Session 1 – “Foundations of Go Make Disciples” – will examine the background and principal insights of the Plan. It will include discussion on how the Plan can bring new vision and energy to the realities of parish life.


Session 2 – “Parish Renewal in Practice” – will identify resources that *Go Make Disciples* provides for us, outline practical steps for its implementation and respond to questions.

Dr Robbie Lloyd, Research and Project Officer from the Justice and Peace Office, will lead Session 3 after lunch. He will identify simple ways for us to benefit from the Australian Catholic Bishop's Social Justice Statement 2020-2021: *To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today*. He will suggest ways by which *Go Make Disciples* can assist pastoral care, mental health and overall wellbeing.

Robbie is a professional educator, mental health worker, writer and reform agent in community health, disability and ageing support, alcohol and other drug reforms. The Justice and Peace Office offers practical assistance for clergy, parishes and schools for improved social and emotional wellbeing.


The Clergy Conference starts at 10am and concludes at 4pm. Morning tea will be available from 9.45am. The cost of the conference is \$70. The Chancery will pay for retired clergy.

*Fr Paul Monkerud
Chair, Ongoing Formation of Clergy Committee.*

Please click on the link below to register 
We look forward to seeing you there.

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Sabbatical Questionnaire

In order for the Archbishop and Diocesan Vicars to be aware of clergy who have taken leave since ordination, either as a Sabbatical, Long Service Leave or studies completed in relation to your ministry we ask that you fill in the form before 28 February 2021. Please click on the link below to access the form 

A copy of the Archdiocesan Policy on Clergy Leave is available by clicking here 

The information you provide helps the Archbishop and Vicars to respond to clergy who may be in need of taking these necessary steps in renewing their ministry, and in keeping with the Archbishop's Ten Point Plan for Clergy Well-being detailed under Point Three as 'Sabbatical formation.'

*Kelvin Lovegrove
Vicar for Clergy*

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE)

Start-of-school-year SRE Catechist Coordinator meetings are being held. Main points for parishes:

Catechist Recruitment Videos

To help parishes recruit SRE Catechists, new 90 second videos are available for download 

When the first of these three videos was uploaded to the Archbishop's Facebook page, it was viewed over 5,500 times on its first day.

Catechist Sunday 7 February

For Catechists who marked 20, 25, 30, 40 and 50 years of service in 2020, the Archbishop will confer awards in the Cathedral on Catechist Sunday afternoon. Parishes are being asked to recognise any long service awardees who cannot attend, as well as awarding 5, 10 and 15 year service awards in parishes as usual.

Catechists who completed the full 3 Levels of training in 2020, as well as our 551 Catholic High School Student Catechists, will be mentioned at the Cathedral Mass and recognised more fully in due course.

Authorisation and Compliance

- **New recruits:** new Application Form and Letter of Appointment template.
- **Parish Letter to Schools:** new SRE Authorisation Letter template to list Catechists.

These updated forms and templates are available to download

SRE classes continue in Term 1

- NSW Department of Education (DoE) has supplied a Term 1 reminder to enable SRE classes to continue as it did for Term 3 and Term 4 last year – see 20 Jan 2021 update
- DoE will help ensure SRE classes start back “at latest” by Week 5 in Term 1.
- Catechist Coordinators have also been advised to refer SRE Catechists to the CCD’s Return to SRE Handbook that outlines the DoE’s COVIDSafe advice.

Children’s Preparation for Sacraments

To help parishes run online groups and/or guide parents to pray and work through the Gratia Series Children’s Activity Books with their children at home, PowerPoints with voiceovers/scripts and practical recommendations are available to download



On behalf of your CCD team, thank you for supporting your Parish Catechists and families with school-aged children.

Doug Mawhinney, CCD Parish Catechist Support
P: 9307 8330 E: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

From the Vocations Centre

‘COME & SEE’ SEMINARY OPEN DAY

THINKING ABOUT PRIESTHOOD?

A Seminary Open Day will be held at on Sunday 14 February 2021 at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush starting with Morning Prayer at 9am and a public Mass at 10:00 AM. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided. Please download the attached flyer

For registration or more information, please visit us at <https://www.vocationcentre.org.au/> or contact us at the Vocation Centre on **02 9307 8424** or email **vocations@sydneycatholic.org**.

Registration is essential.

2021 New National Response Protocol

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) has released the new National Response Protocol which comes into effect 1 February 2021. The National Response Protocol provides a national framework for Catholic entities to be able to respond in a consistent manner to people who bring forward concerns or allegations of child sexual abuse.

The Safeguarding Office welcomes the new National Response Protocol as it will provide a trauma-informed response within the Catholic Church in Australia to survivors of abuse, as well as furthering the promotion of a culture of preventing harm to children and adults at risk.

The National Response Protocol does not override existing statutory requirements but sits alongside and complements the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Policy and Protocols by providing high-level principles for Catholic entities to follow. This not only provides a process of transparency but also drives continual improvement.

To view the National Response Protocol, please click the following link

The Safeguarding Office is very positive about the future of safeguarding in the Church and its accompaniment of survivors. We are all on a journey together to help make our Archdiocese a safer place for children, young people and adults at risk, and through the National Response Protocol, we can help to achieve this for the whole nation.

200 Years Celebration of Catholic Education in Australia

This year marks the bicentenary of Catholic education in Australia. For the first half century of colonization, Catholics in Australia were denied priests and sacraments, churches and church schools. Though there are gaps in the historical record, it seems that some Catholics ran and taught in little local schools but these did not survive. A watershed moment for Catholic education in Australia came with the arrival of the first official Catholic chaplains, Phillip Connolly and John Joseph Therry in May 1820. Fr Therry’s first decision was to open a school in Parramatta. This was the first “official” Catholic school and it was in operation by January 1821. The present St Patrick’s Primary School in Parramatta and Parramatta Marist High School both claim descent from this first school.

Planning for the celebration of the 200 years of Catholic education in Australia has been extensive. Each Diocese has been involved and from time to time during the year a Parish Notice will be sent to you for inclusion in your bulletin.

National Mass - Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians 24 May 2021


The plans for these celebrations include a National Mass on the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. Each diocesan Cathedral will celebrate this Mass and many of the local parishes across will also celebrate Mass for their local Primary school students, parents and parishioners (depending on COVID restrictions at the time).

The Mass from our Cathedral will be live streamed so that students, staff, families and parishioners who cannot attend a Mass can participate in the National Mass via the live stream.

It is hoped that every parish in Sydney will also celebrate a Mass at 10.30am on 24 May to coincide with the Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. Sydney Catholic Schools will be asking the local school Principals to discuss this with you in the coming weeks.

Your support of the celebrations throughout the year will be very important to the success. Each school will be sent a fence banner to display for the year. Prayer cards for every student and staff member will be sent to schools this month.

The National Launch of these celebrations will be held on 18 February, at this I will launch a Pastoral Letter on Catholic Education "200 years young" from the Bishops of Australia. This event will be live streamed nationally.

For full details please see the website: 

Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

Parish Renewal Team

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

Greetings to you in this new year. I pray 2021 will be a spiritually fruitful year for your parish as we seek to live and proclaim the Gospel in these extraordinary times.

Over the months ahead the Parish Renewal Team will be offering the following opportunities for you to explore Go Make Disciples in greater depth, and to support you as you make plans about how to engage your parishioners in its vision for the renewal of our parishes.

1. *Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion*

As you seek to open up the mission plan for your staff and parishioners, a helpful first step can be to provide opportunities to prayerfully contemplate the foundations of spiritual renewal discussed in *Go Make Disciples*. To support you in providing such an opportunity, one week before Ash Wednesday you will receive copies of *Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples*.

This Lenten Companion is a means for your staff and parishioners to meditate upon foundations of spiritual renewal as individuals and communities, and to ask for the grace to grow where growth is needed. This practical resource includes the Sundays Gospels, reflection questions, devotional resources such as the Stations of the Cross, and also a spiritual reflection on foundations of the Christian life as explored in the Sunday Gospel, with reflections by Prof Tracey Rowland, Peter Holmes, Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Mother Hilda Scott OSB, Fr Kelvin Lovegrove, Fr David Braithwaite SJ, and Dr Paul Morrissey. The resource can be used by individuals or in a face-to-face or online Lenten group.

The Parish Renewal team will offer an online workshop on how to use this resource in a parish Lenten group; and will also host a weekly Lenten group online for anyone who wish to join.

Details of these will be available in the upcoming Parish Notices email from Catholic Communications.

2. Fr James Mallon session for Clergy – Date Claimer

The Committee for Ongoing Formation of Clergy in collaboration for the Parish Renewal Team will be offering a practical online workshop with Fr James Mallon on leadership and parish renewal. The session will take place via Zoom on Tuesday, 16 February 10am-12pm. Please save the date. Next week you will receive an invitation via email with details of how to register for this workshop.

3. Clergy Conference

Daniel Ang and I are looking forward to joining you at the Clergy Conference on 23 March. Our sessions will be focussed on the practical situation of parishes and how Go Make Disciples can support you in your ministry and parish renewal.

4. Formation for Seminarians

In coming weeks Daniel Ang and the Parish Renewal Team will be offering formation for our seminarians on parish renewal.

We are thankful to the past and present rectors of the Seminary of the Good Shepherd for their support for this initiative, and we would be most grateful for your prayers.

Introducing our new team member, Barbara Perry

I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Barbara Perry** to the role of Community Engagement Manager in support of the work of the Parish Renewal Team. Barbara brings significant experience in serving the Church in Sydney and in recent years has been Liaison Officer to the Plenary Council for the Archdiocese, where she has lead numerous community consultations in our parishes and the wider community. Barbara has also served the Church through her work with CatholicCare, and her service on a number of boards and committees including the Australian Catholic University Senate and the Marist 180 Board of Directors.

The role of Community Engagement Manager has been established to support parishes implementing the recently launched Archdiocesan Mission Plan, Go Make Disciples, particularly those parishes undertaking a review of their resources and structures to better support their life and mission. Barbara brings to this new role a passion for supporting the local community, engaging with groups and individuals at all levels. Her significant experience in community engagement includes 14 years' service as a Member for NSW Parliament including 8 years as a Minister and Shadow Minister, 14 years as a lawyer and 4 years as Local Councillor with Auburn Council.

With prayers for you in the year ahead,

*Daniel Ang
Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation*

*Elizabeth Arblaster,
Parish Renewal Implementation Manager,
Sydney Centre for Evangelisation*

Archives Trash or Treasure

Records are helpful to tell us **what, where** and **when** something is done or why a decision was made. They also tell us **who** was involved and under what authority. In other words, records provide evidence of what activity did or did not take place. Poor recordkeeping can easily result in inefficiencies later on and poor decision-making by successors.

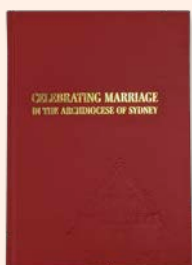
Some easy steps to improve your recordkeeping include:

- Remember to create records that tell us **when, where, who** and **what** happened; dating of documents you create is particularly important.
- Create comprehensive records routinely, especially meeting notes or minutes of meetings.
- If there is a database or physical register make use of it. Don't be tempted to hoard records in your own private store/drive or write notes on paper with the good intention to update the register later (an intention which usually is unrealised).
- Prevent unauthorised access. Use password protection on your computers and lock away physical material each day. In some circumstances the need may arise for you to affirm that unauthorised access was not possible.
- Treat your records with care. Prevent loss and damage of physical records by storing them away from hazards and dampness. Stored digital records should have secure backups.
- Ensure approved destruction only. No records should be disposed of without approval and occasionally records of destruction may be required. Further advice can be obtained from **Archives on 9390 5430**.

Acknowledgement State Archives NSW

*Lienntje Cornelissen
Archives Services Manager*

Red Book Pastoral Tip No. 4



Dispensations

Please note that when a Dispensation is granted, it is given for the specific couple on the date and place nominated on the Marriage Forms.

If ANY of the wedding details (i.e due to Covid) are changed then a Dispensation with the new details must be obtained.

Please send the original forms with the Dispensation and Decree that was granted to dispensations@sydneycatholic.org for reissue.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact Paula Mortel in the Tribunal.

Fr Julian B Wellspring JV

2021 Calendar of Events

Please find attached a copy of the Calendar of Events for 2021

PLENARY COUNCIL

With the foundational and invitational theme of the Fifth Australian Plenary Council, 'Listen to what the Spirit is Saying' we gathered at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 31 January, for the blessing and commissioning of delegates from our Archdiocese who will represent all Catholics in Australia at the Plenary Council Assemblies. Due to COVID -19, the first Assembly (October 3-10, 2021) will be conducted using a combination of video-conferencing and in - person delivery in diocesan, inter-diocesan or provincial groups, while the second (July 4-9, 2022) will be in Sydney.

During the service, the delegates were presented with candles lit from the Plenary Council candle, reminding us all that the Holy Spirit is at the centre of this journey, accompanying each of the delegates as they listen to what the Spirit is saying or asking of the Church in Australia at this time. Deep faith, humility, prayer and discernment is required to be able to genuinely respond to this, to be able to listen to one another. Archbishop Tim Costello, describes the undertaking of the delegates as a “delicate and demanding task”.

Over the months ahead the delegates will meet together for prayer and spiritual reflection as they prepare for the first Assembly.

The first reflection day will occur mid-February 2021, with spiritual direction and input from Fr Aloysius Rego.

The task of the delegates on behalf of all the faithful and the whole Church requires your support and that of your parish community by keeping the delegates in your prayers. Joining 278 delegates from across the country, the Archdiocese of Sydney delegates are:

Archbishop Anthony Fisher	Bishop Terence Brady
Bishop Richard Umbers	Ms Jacinta Collins
Dr Rohan Curnow	Fr Michael de Stoop
Fr Gerald Gleeson	Ms Selina Hasham
Professor Renee Kohler-Ryan	Mr Christopher Lee
Fr Kelvin Lovegrove	Fr Michael McLean
Fr Paul Monkerud	Professor M Isabell Naumann ISSM
Professor Dermott Nester	Mrs Francine Pirola
Professor Hayden Ramsay	Professor Michele Riordino
Professor Zlatko Skrbis	Fr Eric Skruzny
Fr Maurice Thompson	Mr Gabriele Turchi
Mr John Watkins	Fr Julian Wellspring

On another note, Barbara Perry has taken up a new position within the Archdiocese as the Community Engagement Manager in the Parish Renewal Team. I thank Barbara for all her work in support of the Sydney Archdiocese Plenary Council Working Group.

We are privileged that Sr Josephine Brady will be joining the Archdiocese and continuing to work in the liaison role which is so integral to engaging with the broader faith community, particularly in this year of the first meeting of the Plenary Council.

Sr Josephine is a member of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and brings significant broad experience in working in communities and Catholic education (for many years at secondary and tertiary level as a teacher and principal in Tasmanian Catholic schools).

Sr Jo has also been a senior lecturer and the national director of secondary teacher education courses at Australian Catholic University. In 2015, Sr Jo accepted a position


as foundation Vice Rector Academic to assist in establishing the Jesuit Secondary Teachers’ College (ISJB) in Timor Leste. On returning to Australia she became Head of Mission at Caritas Australia.

Sr Jo completed her doctorate in 2005 on the foundation of the Sisters of St Joseph Tasmania 1887 -1937 and is currently involved in writing a biography of one of the founding members of the diocesan Josephites. Sr Jo is a member of St Mark’s Parish, Drummoyne where she is a lector and spiritual advisor to the Catholic Women’s League.

Thank you for continuing to walk the journey towards the Plenary Council Assemblies and for your encouragement and support of your parish communities.

In Christ
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 



CRS NOTICES

JOBKEEPER: Phase 3 (Extension 2) is now in operation. As previously mentioned, phase 3 will be insufficient to fund all the remuneration of clergy. Please provide many opportunities for parishioners to contribute generously towards Pastoral Revenue so that the System can return to viability as Government support is reduced.

Please refer to the latest advice to clergy with changes, including those listed below:

- Supply payments to assist with Annual, Sabbatical and Long Service Leave will be reintroduced for all parishes from 1 January 2021.
- Sabbatical and Long Service Leave will be paid at the same rate as the current monthly stipend.

All efforts to increase opportunities for parishioners to contribute to the First Collection are now urgently encouraged.

CLERICAL FUND NOTICES

Please submit your claims to the Clerical Fund for approval and processing. We would appreciate, where possible, electronic submission to clergy@gmail.com

Clerical Fund Management Committee Meetings for 2021:
 25.02.2021
 03.06.2021
 02.09.2021
 14.10.2021
 09.12.2021

Claims should reach us two weeks prior to the meeting date, otherwise they may be held over until the next meeting. Please email or phone the office (**9390 5166**) with any query in regard to claims.

Supply

To help cover our priests in parishes and to allow them to plan sabbaticals we are in search of men who are able to help out in the parish with supply.

We are also looking for priests who are able to celebrate weddings on weekends all over the Archdiocese.

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

Can you celebrate Mass in another language?

We often have calls asking for priests who can say Mass or minister to people in a foreign language outside those languages that are supplied by our foreign chaplains. This may be Mass but it also includes visiting the sick, the Last Rites, Marriage Preparation, and general pastoral care. We are currently working on a register of clergy who can say Mass in a language other than English.

If you are able to help please send an email with your name and the language you can say Mass in or fill in the form below.

Google form here:

Important News about WWCC renewal

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

PERSONAL DETAILS MUST BE UPDATED

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

Office of the Children's Guardian

For information and to renew your WWCC number click here

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

Sabbatical considerations

Please find below some Sabbatical options that may be of interest. Please click on the link below for a full list of recommended Sabbatical options for you to consider, both locally and overseas.

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 favor 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.

The Lingua Latina course is structured in three classes: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced.

The students will be required to take an entrance test in order to be placed in the more appropriate group.

Click here: for more information or here to download the brochure.


NEW

Venerable English College, Rome

The Venerable English College prepares men for the Catholic priesthood.


The seminary was founded in 1579, as a place for preparing priests to serve on the "English Mission", but there has been an English presence on via di Monserrato since 1362, when the site was acquired by a confraternity of Englishmen living at Rome. The English Hospice, as it came to be known, offered a welcome to generations of pilgrims.

As well as seminarians and formation staff, there are also priests doing further studies living at the College. There are currently about fifty people who live and work at the seminary. Mgr Philip Whitmore, of the Archdiocese of Westminster, is the present Rector.

We welcome many people in the course of the year: groups and individuals can make pre-arranged visits for a tour of the College or simply turn up for one of our regular Masses or other advertised events. For more information click 

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 2021 

Tantur Ecumenical Institute

Please click on the link  to find out what Tantur is offering for Sabbaticals in 2021.

Considering a pilgrimage for one's Sabbatical

It is a common occurrence in today's world that Priests undertake a Sabbatical at some point during their time of service to the Church. Generally, a Sabbatical can best be described as "a period of leave granted for study or travel". Traditionally it is one year for every seven years worked.

It is not just an opportunity for another holiday but is taken as an opportunity to pursue an active service relevant to one's spiritual life. It should be life changing!

In this context, one of the best opportunities for refreshing one's spiritual life would have to be to travel with like minded pilgrims on pilgrimage. Being an effective Religious necessitates continual spiritual growth and a pilgrimage has all the elements necessary for this to occur. A pilgrimage journey can lift the heart, evoke emotions that are beyond words, and give us peace that "the world cannot give" (John 14:27). "Whether it's immersing oneself in the

healing waters of Lourdes, 'praying with your feet' along the Camino de Santiago, joining with thousands of pilgrims in St Peter's Square, touching the rock of Calvary in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre – pilgrimage has many forms and destinations, all with the same purpose – stepping out towards the sacred or seeking an encounter with our loving God." As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said: **"To go on pilgrimage is not simply to visit a place to admire its treasures of nature, art or history ... To go on pilgrimage really means to step out of ourselves in order to encounter God where he has revealed himself, where his grace has shone with particular splendour and produced rich fruits of conversion and holiness among those who believe."**



■ Pilgrim path: The Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.

Thinking about doing a pilgrimage on your Sabbatical? Harvest Journeys is Australia's leading expert in catholic pilgrimage tours. Harvest has been the trusted name in pilgrimage travel on behalf of the Catholic Church in Australia for over 30 years, having served various appointments over many years.

You can visit **Harvest** at: 

With my best wishes.
Yours fraternally in Christ



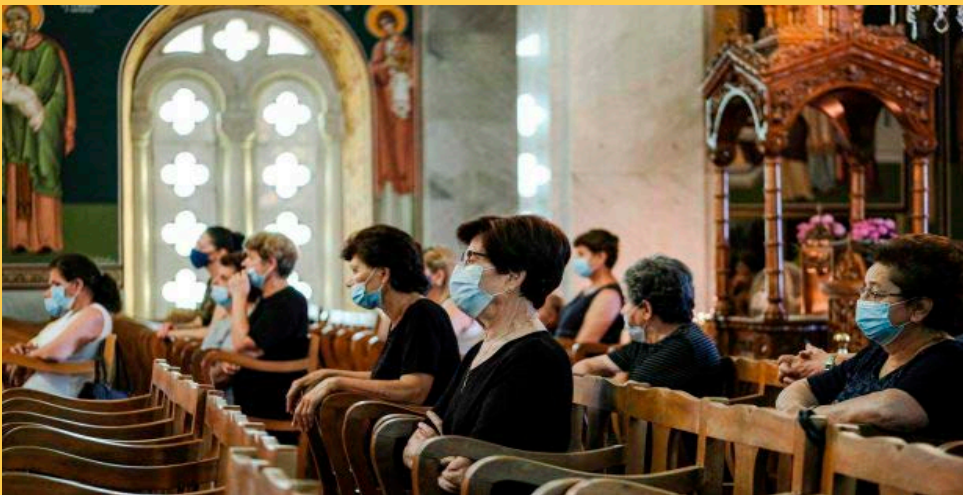
Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY

THE LAST WORD: WORK HEALTH & SAFETY



It is a NSW Health Requirement that anyone attending a church **must** wear a face mask. Children under the age of 12 are exempt from this rule.

Clergy are also asked to wear masks when meeting people before and after Mass, while distributing Holy Communion and while administering other sacraments



Failing to abide by the rules can impose a \$200 fine.

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



Agency News

for February 2021

8 February 2021 St Bakhita Feast Day

St Josephine Bakhita is the Patron Saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking and the Patron Saint of Sudan and South Sudan. The Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita is celebrated each year on 8th February. On this day, Catholics are encouraged by Pope Francis to pray for all those affected by modern slavery and human trafficking, and for the people who volunteer and work to eradicate modern slavery in our generation.



Download a newly designed St Bakhita Prayer Card that includes space on the back to add your crest for distribution to parishioners and schools [📄](#)

Commemorating St Bakhita on 8 February is a way to raise awareness about anti-slavery action by the Church.

From CatholicCare

Spreading the Gift of Goodness

In 2020 Catholic Schools right across Sydney participated in CatholicCare’s Gift of Goodness program, which supports families in need. Unfortunately, during COVID many Sydney families are in need of help more than ever.

Generous support from more than 50 schools in 2020 meant CatholicCare was able to over \$20,000 for CatholicCare programs and services as well as providing fresh food hampers to people at Christmas. Services support families in need and help them get through hard times.

To donate or get involved in Gift of Goodness go to www.giftofgoodness.org/

Couples able to prepare for life-long commitment



With Valentine’s Day coming up on February 14, love is in the air.

SACRAMENTAL RETREAT DAY OUT AT BENEDICT XVI

Sacramental Preparation Retreat Days

Considering a retreat day for sacramental preparation recipients? The Benedict XVI Retreat Centre is host to a stunning 40 acres of bushland, approximately 70 minutes from Sydney’s CBD. Contact our Centre Managers Phillippe & Paula Sanders-Agius today for more information on our day packages (02) 4572 2899.



CatholicCare Sydney provides professionally run sessions for couples prepping for the sacrament of marriage.

The in-depth sessions focus on: preparing couples for a life-long commitment to each other, how to communicate effectively, and how to show and receive love from their partner. The sessions also include a sacramental session with a priest and a session from Natural Fertility Services.

The majority of our bookings come from referrals from priests and enable couples to share stories and personal experiences from each other, as well as the facilitators.

When a couple comes to you seeking marriage, please feel free to encourage them to book in for a session by calling **CCareline on 13 18 19**. They can also email **mre@catholiccare.org** with any questions.

CatholicCare's Annual Report 2020 now available



CatholicCare Sydney's Annual Report for 2020 is now available. CatholicCare, the Archdiocese of Sydney social services agency envisions a society in which we all feel supported and valued.

You can read about this important work with those most vulnerable in our community at **www.Catholiccare.org/annual report**

*Roza Vukovich
Community Engagement Manager*

Safeguarding

2021 Safeguarding and Child Protection Training

The Safeguarding Office takes the safety and well-being of all clergy and training participants very seriously and with current health and safety concerns, the Safeguarding Office has deemed it too high risk to commence face-to-face training in 2021.

However, we are pleased to announce that the Safeguarding Office will still go ahead with delivering a full year of training, with training packages being presented online

using Zoom. This will help ensure the safety and well-being of clergy and training participants.

As I know you are aware, safeguarding training is mandatory within the Archdiocese and a requirement in terms of meeting our obligations under the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (Standard 7). We are aware that there are still a few people needing to complete Safeguarding training and to make things simpler we will send you a letter in the coming days if you have yet to complete Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 Safeguarding Training.

We are also asking that all Parish Priests and Administrators ensure that their employees in the parish have completed at minimum the **Level 1 Safeguarding Training for Parish Staff**.

Dates for 2021 Safeguarding and Child Protection Training will shortly be released on the Archdiocese Website <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>

Please contact **Anna Sammut on 9390 5811** or email **safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org** to register your attendance.

We are all on a journey together to help make our Archdiocese a safer place 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.

*Anna Sammut
Safeguarding Office - Training and Development*

Safeguarding Bite No. 38



Visiting Clergy Register and Child-Related Activity Register

Visiting Clergy Registers and Child-Related Activity Registers are now due to be returned to the Chancery Office. Please send a copy of your Register to **ministry@sydneycatholic.org**

Next Register reports are due in June 2021

The Safeguarding Team

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