



# March/April 2021

Newsletter of the  
Archbishop of Sydney  
Circular No. 2/2021

# Ad Clerum

## A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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

I'm looking forward to our next clergy conference this month, which will give us all a chance to reconnect before Easter. The first two sessions will be focused on unpacking the Archdiocesan Mission Plan, Go Make Disciples, and the final session will be with Dr Robbie Lloyd. Dr Robbie Lloyd will focus on informing and supporting clergy in caring for their own mental health and wellbeing, so they can enjoy their work and be best able to care for others. It will be a great day, I hope to see you all there!

This month we also celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph, the adopted father of Our Lord. It's fitting that we should celebrate his feast day so close to Easter, the feast on which the Son for to whom he cared came into His own glory as the Risen Lord. St. Joseph was a craftsman who belonged to a "working world," which appreciated and respected human work; indeed, Jesus' parables on the kingdom of God constantly refer to human work: that of shepherd, farmer, doctor, sower, householder, servant, steward, fisher, merchant, labourer, mother; they compare the apostolate to the manual work of harvesters, fishermen, or scholars.

Work, then, has been taken up into the mystery of the Incarnation, and redeemed in a special way; at the workbench where he plied his trade together with Jesus, Joseph brought human work closer to the mystery of the Redemption.

Speaking of the Redemption returns us to Easter. Last year's Easter was a very unusual one, with the state entering into Lockdown at the beginning of Holy Week – truly a Way of the Cross for those of us who look forward to this time as the pinnacle of our faith. When Christmas came, it seemed we would be able to come together again, but it was not to be.

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## 2021

dates to remember

**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:

- Happy Easter

### ◆ Ongoing Formation

- Venerable English College, Rome
- 2021 Sabbaticals – PNAC
- 2021 - Tantur Ecumenical Institute
- Latin Course in Rome

**COVID-19 Safe Guidelines for Holy Week  
will be issued shortly.**

So, as we are able to celebrate in person this year – even if with reduced numbers – I hope this will be a time of great reunion between you and your faithful.

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

+ Anthony

## Please pray...

### For the repose of the soul of ...

**Bishop Bede Heather, Emeritus Bishop - RIP**

Diocese of Parramatta  
25 February 2021



**Alieta Mata'afa Autagavaia Salu – RIP**

Mother of Deacon Aisavali Salu  
25 February 2021

### For those that are sick in our community ...

**Fr Reg Wilson, 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  (May)  (June) and pray for our brother priests who have gone before us and for those who are celebrating their Anniversary of Ordination.

### Thank you to Deacon Paul Naggar



After twenty-four years of service as a permanent deacon, Deacon Paul Naggar will soon retire from his parish duties. We are deeply grateful for Deacon Paul's remarkable legacy and contribution, and we pray that he will enjoy a peaceful and joyful retirement with his wife, Julianne.

Paul Naggar was born in Cairo, Egypt, to committed Catholic parents. He was educated by the De La Salle Brothers, and later worked in the Aviation Industry. In 1965, as a young man, Paul migrated to Australia with his parents, and the family settled in Liverpool. Paul and his wife Julianne are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this year, and they are blessed with two children and one grandchild. Paul worked in the telecommunication industry for 35 years, including involvement with international broadcasting of the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

On 23 August 1997, Paul was ordained by His Eminence Cardinal Edward Clancy as a permanent deacon, the first in the Archdiocese of Sydney. The path to diaconal ordination

had presented many challenges for Paul, especially given that he was a trailblazing figure in this area. He pursued his vocation with faithfulness and perseverance throughout his six years of formation, enrolling in theological studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney in 1992, and working under the supervision of three difference vocation directors.

Paul was appointed as Deacon of the Parish of All Saints, Liverpool following his ordination in 1997. He served faithfully at Liverpool for 13 years, before being appointed as Deacon of Carnes Hill Parish in 2010, Bossley Park from 2012-2015, Moorebank from 2015-2020, and Austral from 2020 - present.

Deacon Paul Naggar has been a pioneering figure as the Archdiocese's first permanent deacon. He has served with great generosity and dedication, and as a husband, father, and successful professional he has brought a wealth of wisdom and life experience to his diaconal vocation. His ministry has touched many families in Sydney, through the weddings and baptisms which he has celebrated, the many couples whom he has prepared for marriage, and through the ongoing pastoral care and preaching which Paul has contributed in his parish appointments spanning three decades.

The Archdiocese is blessed to now have fourteen ordained permanent deacons serving in our parishes. For the expansion and the wonderful fruits of the permanent diaconate in Sydney, we owe much to Deacon Paul—for his courage in being the first to pursue this path, and for his exemplary service and commitment as a deacon of Jesus Christ.

## CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

### I recently made the following appointments:

#### Rev Terence Bowman MSC

Appointed Parish Priest of the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Kensington from 15 February 2021 for a term of six years.

#### Rev Christopher De Sousa CRS

Appointed a Member of Sumner House Advisory Committee from 10 February 2021 for a term of three years.

#### Rev John Greig

Reappointed Archbishop's Appointee to the Council of Priests and reappointed a Member of the College of Consultants and as a Trustee of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney from 13 February 2021.

#### Rev Andrew James

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Finance Council from 28 March 2021 for a term of three years.

### Very Rev Kelvin Lovegrove

Reappointed Episcopal Vicar for Clergy and reappointed an ex-officio Member of the Council of Priests, Council of Deans, College of Consultors and as a Trustee of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney from 11 March 2021.

### Rev Samuel Lynch

Appointed a Member of the College of Consultors and as a Trustee of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney from 3 March 2021.

### Rev Ronald Maree

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations from 20 February 2021 for a term of three years.

### Very Rev Michael McLean

Reappointed Episcopal Vicar for Education (Schools) and reappointed an ex-officio Member of the Council of Priests, College of Consultors and as a Trustee of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney from 13 February 2021.

### Rev Salas Muttathukattil MSFS

Appointed Dean of the South West Deanery and a Member of the Council of Deans from 9 February 2021 for a term of three years.

### Rev Andy Nguyen SJ

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parish of Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney, Lavender Bay and Kirribilli from 17 February 2021.

### Rev Van Vuong Nguyen

Reappointed Dean of the Central Deanery and a Member of the Council of Deans from 9 February 2021 for a term of three years.

### Rev Pierluigi Passoni

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

### Rev Shane Reade SDB

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parish of St John Bosco, Engadine from 11 February 2021.

### Rev Emmanuel Seo

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Property Committee from 11 March 2021 for a term of three years.

### Rev Brian Steele MGL

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parishes of St Declan, Peshurst and Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst from 11 February 2021.

### Rev Bernard Thomas OFM

Appointed Dean of the Eastern Deanery and a Member of the Council of Deans from 9 February 2021 for a term of three years.

### Rev Hamilton Ureta

Reappointed Dean of the St George Deanery and a Member of the Council of Deans from 9 February 2021 for a term of three years.

### Rev Brian Wilson SM

Appointed Assistant Priest at the Parish of St Patrick, Church Hill from 18 February 2021.

## NON CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

### Sr Elizabeth Delaney SGS

Appointed a Member of the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations from 20 February 2021 for a term of three years.


### Miss Monica Doumit

Appointed Chair of the Charitable Works Fund Committee from 1 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 next Tuesday, on 23 March 2021 at Le Montage, 38 Frazer Street, Lilyfield. If you have not done so already and wish to attend please click on the link below to register.


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

## St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre


If you would like to attend a retreat kindly complete the Registration form (also attached)  and return to St Clement's at your earliest convenience.

A deposit is optional and not necessary to register to attend a retreat. Please click on the link  to see Retreats offered by St Clement's Retreat and Conference for 2021.

## Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia

The Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Centre offer opportunities to discern What is God's Inviting us to in 2021. Please click on the link to download the brochure .

## Sharingtheword.info

As we all know, it is important for our ongoing formation that we spend some time keeping abreast of theological, spiritual, and pastoral reading. I would like to bring to your attention an e-library with theological material (full text books and articles) freely available to anyone with internet access at .

This resource is the work of former Veech librarian Hans Arns. It is thoroughly catalogued according to subject, keywords and author. It might be useful in sourcing material to expand your reading in subject areas of interest to you.

## IMPORTANT MATTERS

### Making your Will and Appointing a Legal Guardian

It can become quite awkward if, when a priest dies, we do not know who are your executors. For these reasons, I urge you both to **include a priest among your executors** and to **lodge a copy of your will with the Chancery**. I must emphasise that this is not to give me or the Chancery information about your assets etc. It is simply to ensure that, when you die, we know whom to contact and your wishes about your funeral can be known **by a priest of your choosing** who will be able to assist with funeral arrangements, and also assist with the probate process.

In addition to making a Will, it is also important that we appoint someone with Power of Attorney to manage our financial affairs, and a Guardian, i.e. someone who is able to make medical decisions for us – **in case we are debilitated by accident or illness and unable to make our own decisions**.

To assist in preparing your Will, **attached** are a wills checklist and a statement of assets proforma. An information document is **also attached** to assist with the facilitation of Power of Attorney and Guardianship arrangements

#### The idea of these documents is threefold:

1. If you comprehensively complete the forms, this makes preparation of a Will quicker and easier.

2. The forms also assist in ensuring that all assets and relevant matters are considered and that your intentions will be honoured.
3. The information also assists with deciding about allowing someone else to make decisions on your behalf should you be unable to make such decisions for yourself.

The Archdiocese and the Clergy Remuneration System recognise the importance of ensuring that you have these documents prepared and **have agreed to help with the future costs of preparation of your Wills and other estate documentation** (Power of Attorney/appointment of a Guardian).

Please click here to download the documents: 

Chancery and CRS will each contribute \$150 plus GST per priest per will and \$100 plus GST for the costs of preparing the other documents [totalling a maximum combined contribution by Chancery/CRS of \$500 plus GST per priest for the suite of documents]. Individual priests will be expected to meet any additional costs. **Reimbursement will be provided to priests on submission of a receipt** to Chancery and an appropriate contribution will be subsequently requested from the CRS.

### Marriage Formalities

Please note the following important rules:

1. Permission for a Mixed Marriage and/or Dispensation for Disparity of Worship can only be granted by the Archbishop or his delegate. Thanks to all who are using our current email system, which is working very efficiently. We request celebrants to scan and email the Pink form to [dispensations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:dispensations@sydneycatholic.org) (and only to mail the forms if necessary).
2. When celebrating a marriage outside of a Parish church (e.g. in a school chapel or – by exception – ‘outside a sacred space’) all paperwork should be left at the Parish of the place where the marriage occurred. The Parish should record the marriage in both the Marriage Register (Liber Matrimoniorum) and in PACS. The paperwork should then be filed in the Parish Archives.
3. When celebrating a wedding outside of one's diocese/archdiocese, we all require specific delegation from the Bishop of the place of marriage.

### 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 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. 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 time 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:

### Mental Might No. 1

#### Clergy Social & Emotional Wellbeing (Mental Health)

Checking in with yourself on a daily (or, at a minimum, weekly) basis, to see how much Joy, Surprise, Mystery and Wonder you've got in your life is a good test of where your social & emotional wellbeing might be heading. If these sorts of experiences are replaced mainly by busyness, logical "rationality" on a frenzied agenda of to-do jobs, and feelings of guilt for never completing all your tasks, then you're headed into unhealthy waters.

*Dr Robbie Lloyd  
Research & Project Officer  
Justice and Peace Office*

## Mass Kits for Fiji

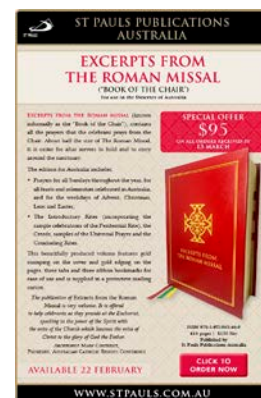
Mgr Brian Rayner is asking for donations of Mass Kits to be sent to Fiji. If you can help with this please contact Mgr Rayner at Gynea Parish on **02 9525 9993**.

## Excerpts from The Roman Missal

Excerpts from the Roman Missal (known informally as the "Book of the Chair"), contains all the prayers that the celebrant prays from the Chair. Elegant looking, very handy size, easier for altar servers to hold and to carry around the sanctuary.

The edition for Australia includes:

- Prayers for all Sundays throughout the year, for all feasts and solemnities celebrated in Australia, and for the weekdays of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter;
- The Introductory Rites (incorporating the sample celebrations of the Penitential Rite), the Creeds, samples of the Universal Prayer and the Concluding Rite.



This beautifully produced volume features gold stamping on the cover and gold edging on the pages, three tabs and three ribbon bookmarks for ease of use and is supplied in a protective mailing carton.

Please click to download the brochure:

## Manly Union Submission

As in previous year the Manly Union is inviting applications for Funding for 2021. The MU is pleased to be able to offer assistance this year in the following areas:

1. Assistance to students
2. Ongoing Formation – Diocese
3. Ongoing Formation – Individual Clergy
4. The Philip Claver Smith Bursary
5. The Brian Byron (Jerusalem) Bursary

For more information please click on the link:

## Sydney Centre for Evangelisation

### Parish Renewal Team

#### Implementation of Go Make Disciples

Over the past month, the Parish Renewal Team of the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation has engaged with a number of communities and individuals seeking to explore how parish renewal is supported by the Archdiocesan Mission Plan, Go Make Disciples.

#### Leading Renewal

In February a group of clergy and seminarians gathered to participate in an online workshop on leadership which was designed to support our clergy as leaders of parish renewal. The workshop was a collaboration with the Committee for the Ongoing Formation of Clergy, and was led



by Fr James Mallon. Fr Mallon focused on the vital role of the parish priest in leading renewal, tips for how to lead, and effective leadership in the current pastoral landscape. Fr Mallon's complete talk and highlights of the talk will be available in coming weeks; details in the next Ad Clerum.

## Forming our future priests

In mid-February the Parish Renewal Team was invited by the Rector of the Seminary of the Good Shepherd to provide a week of formation to the third and fourth year seminarians. The week was focused on leading renewal and allowed the seminarians to delve deeply into what it means to lead as well and how to effectively respond to the changing pastoral landscape.

## Opening up personal and parish renewal through the Lenten Companion

In order to support you in engaging your parishioners in parish renewal, our team produced and distributed a Lenten Companion, *Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples*, which presented a practical opportunity for parishioners to prayerfully contemplate the foundations of personal and parish renewal which are at the heart of the mission plan. The Lenten Companion was received very warmly: requests for extra copies exhausted our stock in the first week of Lent; the Companion has been translated by the Chinese community for their use; 45 Faith Educators recently attended a workshop with our team on how to run a Lenten group using the resource; and Catholics from across the Archdiocese having been zooming into a weekly online Lenten group with Fr Noel Custodio.

## Beginning the renewal journey

Over the past month the Parish Renewal Team has been invited to engage with a number of communities seeking spiritual renewal through building parish foundations which help people to be called and formed as disciples, as discussed in our mission plan; these have included the Parishes of St Anne's Bondi Beach and St Patrick's Bondi, Our Lady of the Rosary at Fairfield, St Mark's Drummoyne, and the Chinese Catholic Community. Over a dozen parishes are currently working with the team to explore and implement invitational programs that can help support their mission *ad gentes*. It's been a joy to be with these communities at the beginning of this journey.

## Engaging parishioners in parish renewal

There are a number of practical opportunities coming up to explore the plan and engage your parishioners in parish renewal:

- On 16 March, the Communications Team in the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation offered a Parish Communication in the Digital Age workshop to help strengthen

the foundations of community and evangelisation in your parish.

- Throughout June and July the Parish Renewal Team and the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia will be offering retreats on discipleship and mission. These retreats are being provided as a resource you can offer your parishioners to receive spiritual formation on being called and sent as a disciple of Jesus. Details in the next Ad Clerum.
- In coming months the Parish Renewal Team will also be offering a formation series on leadership. This series is intended to provide formation to those lay leaders who assist you such as your staff, Parish Pastoral Council, parish finance committee, and leaders of ministries. Details in the next Ad Clerum.

The team is looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming Clergy Conference on 23 March 2021.

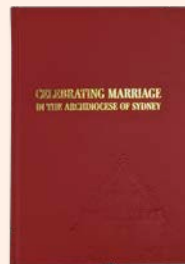
*Daniel Ang*

*Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation*

*Elizabeth Arblaster,*

*Parish Renewal Implementation Manager,  
Sydney Centre for Evangelisation*

## Red Book Pastoral Tip No. 5



Make sure you check what dispensations or permissions may be required for a wedding and submit request three months in advance please.

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

*Fr Julian B Wellspring JV*

## Archives Trash or Treasure

St Mary's Cathedral occupies a special place in our collective Australian Catholic history. Please click on the link [📄](#) to The Benediction and Laying the Foundation Stone 1868 (please find this attached) that demonstrate the importance St Mary's has for our community.

*Lientje Cornelissen*

*Archives Services Manager*

## PLENARY COUNCIL

### Reflection Time for Members

On February 20 the delegated Members of the Plenary Council who are domiciled in Sydney gathered at Villa Maria Hunters Hill to engage in prayerful reflection in preparation for their role as delegates to the Council.

Fr Aloysius Rego, a Discalced Carmelite, skilfully lead the group in the morning session through the meaning of the cross in the lives of Christians. He drew from the writings of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross and made them relevant to those present. Members were asked to reflect on questions inspired by saints such as “Saint Teresa of Avila” who told us the “the measure of being willing to bear a small or large cross is love”. Delegates were asked: “How open and willing are you to invest yourself in the Plenary Council?”

“What are the attitudes, fears, compromises in yourself that prevent you from fully embracing the cross of discipleship as you participate in the Plenary Council?”

The afternoon session was a reflection on Listening and Fr. Rego provided excellent examples of the need to listen as a service to others. Quoting Lawrence Freeman, he argued that “the point of dialogue with those you love and respect is not to convince them but to listen. The greatest changes are wrought through listening. This is what Mary did...”. The need for listening is of greater service than speaking. All too often the Church has assumed that the Spirit will lead us to the complete truth (Jn16:13). This has led to the assumption that we have the truth and have no need to listen to dissident or marginalised voices. These were the ones to whom Jesus listened and with whom He was involved.

Members expressed their appreciation of the opportunity to come together for this time of reflection.

### Instrumentum Laboris

The Instrumentum Laboris (working document) now titled “Continuing our Journey” has been sent out and will be available for use within parishes. It is available on the Plenary Council Website and is accompanied by a reflection guide. It is anticipated that parishes will be involved in reflection on this document using the reflection guide. We anticipate reengaging with the ambassadors and organising monthly reflection groups in the parishes after Pentecost.

There are a series of podcasts available on the Plenary Council website of 10-13 minutes designed to engage the whole Catholic community in the process as it is a process intended to engage the whole church.

### Assembly 1-Multi modal platform

The First Assembly will be held from October 3 to October 9, 2021 and the second assembly will be face to face in Sydney from July 4 to July 9, 2022. In preparation for the Assemblies a National Conference Director, Danielle, has been appointed to work with the local event coordinators in each hub.

Regional hubs will be formed so that Covid requirements can be adhered to and as a precaution if there should be another outbreak. The bishops are to determine the

makeup and size of the hubs in their Provincial meetings in March. The hubs in NSW and Victoria will include the Eastern churches, Personal Prelatures, Military Ordinariate, church agencies and leaders from religious congregations.

In preparation for the Assembly there will be a five-month period of prayer for the success of the Assembly. It is hoped that this could be launched on Pentecost Sunday.

Formation for delegates (now known as members) has been arranged by the National Team with a choice of four dates in June and July. We anticipate that a further retreat will be held for our Sydney delegates in September.

### Next steps


The Archdiocese of Sydney will arrange a short retreat for parish ambassadors and others who assisted in the earlier phases of the Plenary Council process as we move into this new phase of preparation.

Information will be provided to parishes regarding the reengagement in the Plenary process.

When the Plenary prayers are revitalised parishes should encourage people to use them.

*Bishop Terry Brady and Professor Sandra Lynch  
Co Chairs Sydney Plenary Council Working Group*

## 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

**EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please make a significant effort to promote and to give opportunities for parishioners and visitors to contribute to the Easter Offering Envelopes. The collections and the Christmas Offerings have been significantly impacted over the last 12 months. As parishioners return for Easter this year, please promote the Easter envelopes.

**JOBKEEPER:** As we near the end of the JobKeeper subsidy scheme at end of March, it is important to note that income across the Archdiocese has not yet returned to pre-Covid-19 levels, and therefore clergy are encouraged to offer innovative ways for giving, providing differing opportunities for parishioners to contribute generously towards Pastoral Revenue so that the System can continue to return to viability as Government support is ceased.

A notice was recently sent to Clergy and Parish Offices regarding changes and clarifications, and we have highlighted some points below:

- Permanent/on-going supply payments will now require an application and pre-authorisation from the Board, on a case-by-case basis.
- 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 (increased) monthly stipend.

If you have not received the notice, kindly contact the office on **02 9390 5166**.

## CLERICAL FUND NOTICES

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

Clerical Fund Management Committee Meetings for 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 **02 9390 5166** with any query in regard to claims.

## 2021 AGMS - CLERGY REMUNERATION SYSTEM CLERICAL FUND

The 2021 AGMs for both the CRS Clerical Fund are scheduled for Thursday, 28 October 2021 at the Liverpool Catholic Club. Invitations will be sent closer to the date.

## 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.

## 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.



■ Pilgrim path: The Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.

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."**

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



**BE SAFE** during the lead up to Easter  
and the Easter break!

Continue to look after your parish  
volunteers and staff

On behalf of the *Parish WHS A Team*  
we would like to wish each and everyone  
of you a very happy Easter.



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



# Agency News

for March and April 2021

## From CCD SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE)

### Restrictions eased

NSW Education released updated SRE COVID-safe advice (9 March) in line with state-wide easing of restrictions. Chancery and CCD has advised Parish clergy and catechist coordinators. Summary:

- Upon arrival in schools, complete COVID-safe declaration sign-in procedures
- No limit on number of SRE teachers per class/group (helpers/observers are permitted); no limit on class sizes.
- SRE teachers, support staff and parents to maintain physical distance from each other (1.5 metres).
- Singing and/or chanting activities allowed (5 metres between singers and those they are facing, where practicable).

Any questions regarding this update, please contact your parish's CCD Faith Education Officer.

### Catechist Recruitment Videos


To help parishes recruit SRE Catechists, three 90-second videos are available for download: 

### Authorisation and Compliance

- New recruits: updated Application Form and Letter of Appointment template (11 Feb).
- Parish Letter to Schools: updated SRE Authorisation Letter template to list Catechists (21 Jan).

These updated files are available to download: 

### 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*

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

## Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services (SCECS)

### SCECS supports growing communities at Rosebery & Caringbah

**Rosebery:** SCECS have commenced construction on a state-of-the-art 60 place preschool & long day care service for 0-6 year olds, in a bid to support the growing needs of the Rosebery community and the working families in South Sydney. This service will be visually and physically connected with the Parish and proposed primary school, forming a community hub. The new service will create many job opportunities for Early Childhood Teachers, Educators, and ancillary staff.

"The Parish community realises the renewal and population growth in the Rosebery area and wants to share in the mission to support young families with this early learning centre," said Parish Priest, Fr Paul Smithers.

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care is due to open its doors in 2022!

## 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.





**Caringbah:** SCECS have also received DA approval recently to commence construction of a 76 place preschool & long day care service for 0-6 year olds.

**SCECS delivers nationally exceeding services**

In just over one year in operation, St Therese Preschool & Long Day Care Sadleir, and St John’s Preschool & Long Day Care Auburn have been awarded the rating of ‘Exceeding National Quality Standard’ under the National Quality Framework. These services are celebrated for their commitment to high quality. “Our team of Educators pride ourselves on providing a place of joy and inspiration for our children, our families and our staff. We focus on high-quality education and care and providing outreach and wrap around services to our community, so being recognised as a centre that exceeds the national standards is a testament to the qualified and dedicated team we have here at St John’s,” said Centre Director, Cindy Adams.

**How can SCECS support your Parish community?**

SCECS provides Outside School Hours Services (OSHC), in addition to Preschool & Long Day Care Services. Currently operating 22 OSHC and two Long Day Care services, we are a registered not-for-profit service, a Catholic agency of the Archdiocese of Sydney, provide an income to Parishes, and all profits are re-invested back into Catholic communities. If you currently contract a provider, would like to provide a new service and understand further how SCECS can support your community, please contact Franceyn O’Connor, Chief Executive Officer, on **0412 985 880** or [franceyn.oconnor@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:franceyn.oconnor@syd.catholic.edu.au)

**From CatholicCare**



As we lean into Lent and move towards Easter, we embrace opportunities for new beginnings and a fresh start.

Armed with the blessings and grace from the Year of St Joseph we reflect upon the words of Pope Francis’ Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* on St Joseph – the ultimate example of fatherhood and foster father of Jesus.

“Joseph’s attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception ... He is the “Father of orphans and protector of widows” (Ps 68:6), who commands us to love the stranger in our midst.”

This fresh start is seemingly elusive for many vulnerable children and young people in NSW who need families and individuals, to be proactive like St Joseph and love the stranger and open their hearts and homes to them. Children just like Stephen and Sophie, who are in need of foster carers.

**Stephen’s story**

Eleven year old Steven is an active young man who has a permanent foster care family who love and care for him. Stephen needs a part-time carer who can become an important part of his support network, so we are looking for someone who is understanding and will not give up when things get tough.

**Sophie’s story**

Ten year old Sophie loves gymnastics and playing soccer. Sophie needs a permanent place to call home with a person or family who will support her to stay in contact with her siblings and family. She also needs someone who will guide her through high school and into young adulthood.

To help respond to the needs Stephen, Sophie and other children and young people like them, Family Spirit hold regular information sessions designed for individuals or couples who are interested in finding out about becoming foster carers.

Family Spirit would like to ask for your help to find homes for these vulnerable young people, by personally seeking out families or individuals in your parish that you believe would be willing to open their hearts and homes to become foster carers. This is a wonderful opportunity to practice the generosity of heart that can be transformative and life-giving.

**THE Catholic Weekly**

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Sometimes a tap on the shoulder, or an encouraging word from their priest, can spark interest for individuals or families who may consider fostering a child.

The dates for the upcoming information sessions are:

- Wednesday, 31st March, 6.30pm – 7.30pm
- Wednesday, 28th April, 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Registrations for these sessions can be made through the Family Spirit website at [www.familyspirit.org](http://www.familyspirit.org) or by calling **13 18 19**.

If you would like additional resources to help in promoting these sessions or the need for carers, we have some printed flyers and posters ready to go, please contact **Roza Vukovich** on **0415 075 878**.

Thank you for helping to find safe and caring homes for the many vulnerable children and young people that need support.

### Students connect with Centacare workers - in “Solidarity”



As our school students continue their studies this year and settle back into the classroom, many are taking part in CatholicCare Sydney’s innovative Solidarity program in support of Centacare.

The Solidarity program offers secondary school students the opportunity to spend a day working alongside supported employees with an intellectual disability.

Centacare provides meaningful work for people with a variety of intellectual disabilities and offers delivery, office

and gardening services to businesses. The aim is to overcome barriers to employment and promote social inclusion.

At CatholicCare our mission is to walk in the footsteps of Christ, to promote dignity, strengthen families and con-



nect communities. In a bid to build strong connections between students and those involved with Centacare, students are invited to visit the Belmore facilities to experience ‘working’ alongside the employees. In turn the students receive ‘training’ from their buddies - the Centacare supported employees.



As a result students are given the opportunity to walk in the shoes of people with intellectual and physical disabilities, learning about the employee’s lives and interests.

## Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children for up to 6 months or longer.

To learn more about becoming a foster carer register for one of our upcoming online information sessions:

- Wednesday, 31st March, 6.30pm – 7.30pm
- Wednesday, 28th April, 12.30pm – 1.30pm

To register call

**Family Spirit**  
FamilySpirit.org

✉ [connect@familyspirit.org](mailto:connect@familyspirit.org)

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

Through the process they learn about social justice and that people with intellectual disabilities are not different, and what they invest into the day, they will receive back tenfold.

The Solidarity program moves people living with intellectual disabilities from the margins of our communities to making a home in the hearts of students. In encountering each other, the students are deeply affected by the enthusiastic welcome and kindness they receive at Centacare from the supported employees, and the supported employees feel they have something of value to offer the students. This mutuality brings mission to life in a very real and practical way for school communities.


Teachers that have been recently involved from St Joseph's College Hunters Hill say that their school has been proud to have been part of the program.

Through Catholic Social Teaching principles like dignity, common good and solidarity, we are really called by Christ to deeply care for those most vulnerable in our community.

Throughout the program students grow and learn these skills that will set them up well for having a heart for others and promoting social justice throughout their lives.

Students not only learn leadership skills, but also how to engage with new people, increasing their ability to ask questions and interact with people from all walks of life.

The Solidarity Program is also available for Staff Development days. The program for the day can be tailored to include any key initiatives as directed by the school or Sydney Catholic Schools.

You can watch a video on Centacare's Solidarity program at: 

If you are looking for support in your parish, the Centacare team is also worth considering for jobs ranging from basic packing and assembly to warehousing to gardening and office cleaning crews.

Funds raised from the Solidarity Program and Staff Development Days will help to directly fund Centacare and its programs to support people who live and work with intellectual disabilities.

If you would like to enquire or if know a school that might be interested in participating in CatholicCare's Solidarity program call our Catholic Community Engagement team on **13 18 19**.

**Roza Vukovich**  
*Community Engagement Manager*

## Safeguarding

### Child Protection Reporting Obligations

It has officially been 1 year since the NSW Government strengthened Child Protection Reporting Obligations such as the Reportable Conduct Scheme and Mandatory Re-

porting. A lot has happened in the past year so we just wanted to give you a friendly reminder about your obligations under the Reportable Conduct Scheme as a Mandatory Reporter.

### Mandatory Reporting

Just a reminder that in March 2020 amendments to the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 commenced to expand mandatory reporter groups. These amendments are part of the NSW Government's response to recommendations made by the Royal Commission. Mandatory reporting is a legislative requirement to make a report to certain government authorities, in NSW, mandatory reporting is primarily regulated by sections 27 and 27A of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998. Mandatory reporter groups in NSW have been expanded to include:

- Persons in religious ministry or persons providing religion-based activities to children (e.g. minister of religion, priest, deacon, pastor, rabbi, religious brother or sister)
- Registered psychologists providing a professional service as a psychologist.

### What does this mean for the Archdiocese of Sydney?

This means that any of our clergy, deacons, religious brothers and religious sisters are legally required to make a report when they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm. It also means that volunteers and paid employees in Agencies and Parishes of the Archdiocese who provide activities to children such as Children's Liturgy, Youth Ministry groups, Sacramental programs are also legally required to make a report when they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm. A reporter has a duty to report, as soon as practicable, the name or a description of the child and the grounds for suspecting that the child is at risk of significant harm.

### What is Risk of Significant Harm?

Risk of significant harm is any one or more of the following circumstances

- a. The child's or young person's basic physical or psychological needs are not being met or are at risk of not being met,
- b. The parents or other caregivers have not arranged and are unable or unwilling to arrange for the child or young person to receive necessary medical care
- c. The child or young person has been, or is at risk of being, physically or sexually abused or ill-treated
- d. The child or young person is living in a household where there have been incidents of domestic violence and, as a consequence, the child or young person is at

- risk of serious physical or psychological harm,
- e. A parent or other caregiver has behaved in such a way towards the child or young person that the child or young person has suffered or is at risk of suffering serious psychological harm.

### How to make a report?

Before making a report to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), please contact the Safeguarding Office on **02 9390 5810**. The Safeguarding Office will help you determine whether the report needs to be made directly to the DCJ or another government authority. Reports to the DCJ are made by calling the NSW Child Protection Helpline on **132 111**.

### Reportable Conduct Scheme

From 1 March 2020, the Children’s Guardian Reportable Conduct Scheme commences under the Children’s Guardian Act 2019, the scheme provides a framework for the oversight of how organisations respond to reportable allegations and reportable convictions. Religious bodies are required to notify the Office of the Children’s Guardian about reportable allegations and convictions against employees that arise in the course of their work both in and outside the organisation.

### Who is an employee?

Under the Children’s Guardian Act 2019 an employee of an entity includes:

- An individual employed by, or in the entity
- A volunteer providing services to children
- A contractor engaged directly by the entity (or third party) where the contractor holds, or is required to hold, a Working With Children Check for the purposes of their work with the entity
- A person engaged by a religious body where that person holds or is required to hold a Working with Children Check for the purposes of their work with the religious body.

### Reportable allegation & reportable conviction?

When a employer such as Parish Priest, Administrator or Agency Head becomes aware of a reportable allegation (reportable conduct) or a reportable conviction such as:


- a. A sexual offence
- b. Sexual misconduct
- c. Ill-treatment of a child
- d. Neglect of a child

- e. An assault again a child
- f. An offence under s43B (failure to protect) or s316A (failure to report) of the Crimes Act 1990
- g. Behaviour that causes significant emotional or psychological harm to a child

Employers must notify the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on **02 9390 5810** as soon as they become aware of reportable allegations or reportable convictions. The Safeguarding Office has just seven business days to notify the Office of the Children's Guardian and commence an investigation into the reportable allegations and/or reportable convictions.

**Anna Sammut**

*Safeguarding Officer - Training and Development*

Upcoming Safeguarding and Ministerial training: 

## Safeguarding Bite No. 39



### 2021 Training Timetable

The 2021 Safeguarding Training timetable has been released with training packages available for Clergy, Parish staff, Agency staff and Youth Ministry Leaders. The training timetable is available on the **Safeguarding Office** website <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>

To register for training please email: [safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org)

*The Safeguarding Team*

