



Ad Clerum

September 2021

Newsletter of the
Archbishop of Sydney
Circular No. 6/2021

A Short Message From Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

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

In this time of struggle for many, I am proud of all our Catholic community is doing to assist: our parishes, that are doing all they can to stay connected to people and keep serving them; our Catholic hospitals and aged care facilities, caring for so many in very difficult circumstances, including for some suffering from COVID; our Catholic schools, doing their best to ensure an excellent education despite present limitations; our welfare agencies, providing counselling, food and other practical help to those who are suffering in these times. Many individual Christians are also providing love and care to their neighbours and to those who are isolated and anxious.

I want to thank you, the shepherds of our flock, in particular, for all the work you continue to do. Together we continue to pray for an end to the pandemic and for safety, wisdom and patience in the meantime.

I ask you to pray also for those fleeing the Taliban and ISIS in Afghanistan. I recently launched the Archbishop's Appeal for Afghan Refugees, designed to raise desperately needed funds and commit the Archdiocese to work through its agencies and partners to provide pastoral care, education, health and welfare to Afghan families arriving here. I ask that you encourage your flock to contribute, and keep them in our prayers.

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

+ Archbishop Anthony

2021

dates to remember

Clergy Conference via ZOOM
ACBC Social Justice Statement 2021

Cry of the Earth Cry of the Poor

23 September 2021

From 10am to 3.30pm

More information to come

CAS Clergy Retreat via ZOOM

26 September to Friday 1st October 2021

Spiritual Director: Fr John Armstrong

Clergy Conference

For 20 October 2021 is now

POSTPONED to 3 March 2022

Doltone House, Sylvania Waters

Catholic Mission Zoom

21 October 2021 @ 2pm

More information to come.

Deceased Clergy and Religious Mass

17 November 2021 @ 12pm

inside

Ongoing Formation

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

Please pray...

For the repose of the soul of ...

Mr Alfred Hamilton - RIP

Father of Rev Joseph Hamilton
1st September 2021, Ireland

Father Romuald Josko (Opus Dei) – RIP

23 August July 2021

Fr John Neill OP - RIP

Assisted in founding the University of Notre Dame
Australia.
21 August 2021

Mrs Yuster Samamba – RIP

Mother of Fr Dominic Samamba, a member of the
Passionist community at Marrickville.
19 August 2021

Mr Honorio Mercene – RIP

Father of Rev Menardo Mercene, Chaplain to the
Filipino Catholic Community.
18 August 2021.

Mrs Elizabeth Skruzny – RIP

Mother of Fr Eric Skruzny, Rector of the Redemptoris
Mater Missionary Seminary.
14 August 2021

Mr John Ryan – RIP

Father of Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Parish Priest of St Declan's,
Penshurst and Our Lady of Fatima, Peakshurst.
15 August 2021

Fr Max Barrett CSsR - RIP

Known for recording Scripture rosary tapes and CD.
10 August 2021



Fr Francis O'Shea CSsR - RIP

Former editor of the Majellan.
30 July 2021

For those that are sick in our community ...

Bishop Bill Wright, Fr Steve De Bono, Frank Coorey, Fr Paul Foley, Mons John Usher, Mons Brian Rayner, Fr Michael Butler, Fr John Alt, Fr Peter Maher, Fr Don Willoughby, Fr Noel Short, Fr David Coffey, Fr Michael Kelly and Fr John Snehadass who are currently unwell.

For special anniversaries occurring in August and September

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

I RECENTLY MADE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS: CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

Rev Anthony Bernard

Reappointed Chaplain to the NSW Catholic Medical Association from 15 November 2021 for a term of three years.

Rev Brendan Boyce FSSP

Appointed Assistant Priest of the Parish of the Maternal Heart of Mary, Lewisham from 16 August 2021.

Rev Brian Steele MGL

Appointed Chaplain to the NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal within the Archdiocese of Sydney from 16 September 2021 for a term of three years.

NON CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

Mr Simon Yeak

Appointed as the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation Representative on the Confraternity for Christian Doctrine Advisory Committee from 1 September 2021 for a term of three years.

ONGOING FORMATION OF CLERGY

CAS Clergy Retreat

As you will be aware due to restrictions in greater Sydney, the CAS Retreat at Baulkham Hills has been cancelled. However, Fr John Armstrong will be available during that week of 26th September to 1st October, 2021 to present retreat talks online. If you would like to be part of this retreat please right click and fill-in the Google form below or contact **Maria Cavallaro** at maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org or on **9390 5888**.

CAS Retreat Registration 

The format of the retreat will be a talk from Fr John Armstrong in the morning and afternoon via ZOOM. We will send more details as they are finalised. The cost of the retreat has now been reduced to \$100.00 with retired clergy being exempt.

For those of you who had already registered, you will need to reregister for the online retreat.

To organise a refund or if you have any queries regarding the retreat please feel free to contact **Maria Cavallaro** on maria.cavallaro@sydneycatholic.org

Other recommended on-line retreat options for clergy who are interested can be accessed here:



The Bollettino from the Vatican

Stay up to date with the latest news from the Vatican

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia

The Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Centre offer opportunities to discern What is God's Invitation in 2021? Click on the link:

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 www.sharingtheword.info

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.

Cenacles of Prayer for Clergy

For over 40 years priests have been meeting in Sydney in cenacles of prayer.

They began in the Blessed Sacrament chapel in Haymarket in 1980, and have been successively based in Surry Hills, Parramatta Cathedral, St. John's Park, the Slovenian church in Merrylands, MSC Monastery, Kensington, and, till lockdown, in St. Bernadette's, Carlton.

They have now moved to zoom and are hosted from Canberra by Fr Emil Milat. This means priests can join from anywhere.

The name "Cenacle" comes from the room where Mary and the Apostles waited and prayed for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

These cenacles consist of a short invocation of the Holy Spirit, a rosary, prayers for the intentions of the Pope, a reading and an act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

It takes about 40 minutes and, when it was live, was usually followed by fellowship with tea, coffee and snacks.

The online cenacles are held on the 13th of the month at 2pm. Next one is Monday, 13 September 2021 and will be hosted from Canberra by Fr Emil Milat.

The zoom link is:

Meeting ID: **648 673 1697** Passcode: **2602**

IMPORTANT MATTERS

Deceased Clergy & Religious Mass

The Deceased Clergy and Religious Mass will be held on 17 November 2021 @ 12pm.

It is hoped to be held at Rookwood in the Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel for people to attend, if restrictions are eased and if not it will be streamed.

St Vincent's Health Check

If you have not had a health check-up in some time now might be the time. Please contact the **Vicar General's** office on **9390 5185** for contact details to book in your next health check.

From the Liturgy Office

The Liturgy Office has access to many interesting books. Have a look at what they have by clicking on the link Download the instructions to get started

Mental Might 5:

Actively caring for and sharing stories with others reminds us all that we have a purpose and belong together - excellent for good mental health.

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



Sydney Centre for Evangelisation Parish Renewal Team

Attendance at lockdown retreats tops 900

To date, attendance at the Go Make Disciples online reflection series which the Parish Renewal Team offered in collaboration with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia and priests of our Archdiocese has reached well beyond 900. The intention of the series was to support parishes by providing a resource for their people use their time in lockdown to explore the gift of discipleship and the responsibility it brings. Videos of the talks are available on the resources page of the Go Make Disciples website.



■ Parish Renewal Team and Dominican Sisters collaborate during the lockdown

The next series will be focussed on the inextricable connection between being a disciple and participating in Christian community. It will include an exploration of the disciple's need for Christian community in the parish as well as their responsibility towards that community. The reflection series continues on Monday 11, 18, and 25 October. Registrations will soon be open at gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

Parishioners from 76 Sydney parishes register for 'Christ-Centred Leadership'

Parishioners from 76 parishes in Sydney registered for the series which saw an average of 170 people attend each Tuesday night in August to receive formation on the spiritual foundations of Christian leadership. The series, Christ-centred Leadership was a collaboration between the Parish Renewal Team and the Asia coordinator of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, Fr David Braithwaite SJ. Those attending the series included Pastoral Council mem-



■ Sr Anastasia on the day of her solemn profession

bers, parish staff, family educators, catechists, sacramental coordinators among many others. The series explored the spirituality of Christian leadership including placing Christ at the centre of our service, making good decisions, and being open to growth and innovation. If you would like to know more about other opportunities for the formation of laity in key positions of service in your parish

email elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org

The Parish Renewal Team welcomes Sr Anastasia Reeves OP

In the midst of lockdown, the Parish Renewal Team welcomed its newest team member, Sr Anastasia Reeves OP. Formerly an engineer from the South Coast of Sydney, Sister Anastasia entered religious life with the Dominican Sister of St Cecilia in 2010. She brings with her vast experience in leadership, formation and evangelisation in her work as a Leader and Team Supervisor with NET Ministries, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, Catechesis Manager and Indigenous Liaison Officer for World Youth Day 2008, National Community Liaison Officer for Caritas Australia, and coordinator of large youth events such as the Disciples of Jesus Summer School of Evangelisation. Sr Anastasia's enthusiasm for mission and her love for the Church will be a gift to the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, and for the Archdiocese of Sydney. We look forward for the opportunity for you to meet with Sister, and to work with her in the future.

As ever, you are in our prayers.


Pax,

*Elizabeth Arblaster
Parish Renewal Manager*

Sydney Centre for Evangelisation
elizabeth.arblaster@sydneycatholic.org
0436 52 99 46

An interesting read for our current times

Vaccines and Catholic morality

Fr George Woodall, Professor of Moral Theology and Bioethics at Rome's Regina Apostolorum University has recently published a book on Vaccines and Catholic Morality. I invite you to click on the link below to access an e-copy. 

PLENARY COUNCIL

News from the Plenary Council Working Group

October Assembly

Preparations are underway for the October Assembly. Unfortunately owing to Covid restrictions the sessions will now be online with all members operating from home. Morning sessions will be livestreamed and can be accessed from the Plenary Council website

The Opening and Closing Masses for the Assembly will be live streamed from St Mary's Cathedral.

3rd October - **10th October** -

Zoom meeting with the Parish Ambassadors and others

On Saturday August 28 over 60 parishioners, priests and religious gathered for the Zoom presentation by Br Ian Cribb SJ. It would have been wonderful if we could have met in person but it was a very rewarding experience nonetheless to reflect on our hopes for the Church through the Plenary Council. As one attendee wrote: "I thought the day was just so invigorating and important in our individual and communal lives - and as I tried to say yesterday - for me a true example of 'church' superbly led by Sr Jo and Br Ian in a true 'service' model; synodality working at grass roots level as participants travelled together on a journey of discernment; as we were involved in deep listening; being enabled to share our thoughts and concerns in spiritual conversation."

Many parishes are anticipating adoption of this model of discernment in the decision making in their parishes.

Zoom Reflection for Members from Sydney on September 11

All members resident in Sydney have been invited to Reflection Time with Sr Monica Cavanagh RSJ on Synodality. The invitation will be extended to Parish Ambassadors and if any clergy wish to join the day please contact me for an invitation via email jo.brady@sosj.org.au

Collation of Feedback on the Plenary Council Agenda

There has been an excellent response to the Agenda Feedback from both individuals and parishes. Currently the responses are being collated to provide information for the Archbishop, the Sydney members of the Assembly and also to the Plenary Council National Team.

Some excellent resources for the Plenary Council, including weekly reflections for the Sunday Gospel and prayers are found at The Spiritual Conversations process can be viewed at

We are only a month away from the Assembly so we ask parishioners to pray for those involved in the Assembly in October and to please include the Assembly in your Prayers of Intercession. The Plenary Council Working Group (PCWG) is here to assist parish priests in having ownership and interest in the Council so that they feel confident to facilitate engagement with the Council process in their parishes. Please contact the PCWG via Sr. Jo Brady (jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org) if we can be of assistance to you.

Let us continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire us all as we prepare for the Assembly.

*Sr Jo Brady, Plenary Council Liaison Officer
On behalf of Bishop Terry Brady and
Sandra Lynch, Co-Chairpersons,
Sydney Archdiocesan PCWG*

Red Book Pastoral Tip No. 9



Catholic Clergy are registered with the Government to celebrate weddings in accord with the rites of the Catholic Church. Therefore, clergy cannot use their marriage registration to do civil weddings under any circumstances. Further, clergy have a serious obligation to ensure that all government documentation is completed in accord with civil law as well as Church law. Keeping up to date with the Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages concerning documentation for a wedding is vital.

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

Fr Julian B Wellspring EV JV

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



CLERICAL FUND NOTICES

Collections and Offerings

As lockdown continues, please provide creative opportunities for parishioners to contribute generously towards Parish First Collections, both during lockdown and as we emerge from lockdown.

Reminder about payment of monthly stipends: They are paid on the last day of the month at the place where a priest is assigned.

The payment should not be paid in advance, especially as the conditions of Government support are changing quite quickly.

Clerical Fund Claims

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:

- 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 below: 

Can you celebrate Mass in another language?

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 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.

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 

With my best wishes.
Yours fraternally in Christ



Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY



Agency News

For September 2021


Special Religious Education (SRE)

Whilst SRE classes are postponed, Catechists continue to upskill themselves via CCD webinar training and also enjoy gathering online for liturgies and formation talks.

To help families grow closer to God and to encourage Catechist recruitment, we ask you to make parishioners aware of:

1. Three 90-second Catechist recruitment videos (to play before or after online Masses): 
2. "Catholic SRE Learning from Home" downloads: 




3. CCD's YouTube channel of recorded webinars by local clergy, religious and lay leaders: 

Return-to-school update

As at 31 August, the current return-to-school plan has students returning to "Level 3 CovidSafe" face-to-face learning from 25 October (Week 4 of Term 4). SRE classes will begin again once schools move to "Level 2 CovidSafe" learning. Chancery and CCD will provide Clergy and Catechist Co-ordinators with "Return to SRE" information in due course.

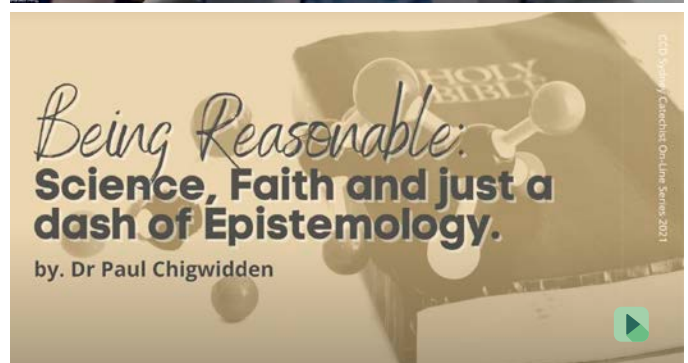
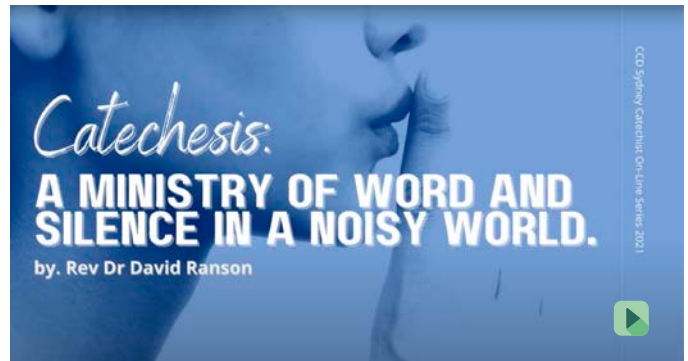
Online Sacramental Preparation

Gratia Series children's activity book PowerPoints with voiceovers/scripts are available to help run online groups and guide parents at home: 



We thank you, our clergy, for your prayers and constant support. Please be assured of our prayers for you as we also pray that all families go gently at home. St Joseph, pray for us.

Doug Mawhinney | Director CCD Sydney
office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au



From the Fundraising Office

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you are keeping well during these challenging times.

With so much negative news surrounding us, I am delighted to announce the launch of our new “Our Faith Our Works” app now available in the Google and Apple App store.

This new app is packed with great features, including a suite of spiritual formation resources, the ability to find your nearest mass (physical and online) and much more.

In addition, supporting your parish or the charities of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has never been easier with our new and secure donation portal also included.

Staff wanting to set up a monthly gift can also take part in our new Ambassadors Workplace Giving Program.

If you have a moment, please download the “Our Faith Our Works” app today, and share with your family and friends.

I hope you find this to be a useful and valuable resource, especially during these challenging times, and I welcome feedback you might have too.

Many thanks in advance,

Michael Mendieta

Director, Development and Fundraising Office

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

From CatholicCare



Celebrating 80 Years of Caring

Following on from the last issue of Ad Clerum, CatholicCare Sydney shares another story about their founders.

Constance (Connie) Moffit and Norma Parker met and formed a strong friendship as university students in the 1920s and, at the age of 23, they travelled together to depression-era America to study social work.

Returning home as Australia’s first postgraduate qualified social workers in 1931, Connie and Norma, found thousands of people out of work who, unable to care for their children were relinquishing them to the care of institutions.

Inspired by the great need, Connie and Norma, together with CatholicCare’s other founders, Elvira Lyons and Eileen Davidson, set about reforming the approach of Catholic welfare. Revolutionary for the time, they recommended coordinated and integrated services, formal training for social workers, and advocacy to government for resources. Like many revolutionary ideas, however, they faced many challenges including being seen as a threat to traditional Catholic charity.



Despite this, Connie and Norma remained committed, establishing Australia’s first Almoner Departments (medical social work) in Catholic Hospitals in Victoria and the Catholic Social Services Bureau in 1936.

As CatholicCare celebrates 80 years of caring in the community, we’re inspired by the determination and commitment of Norma Parker and Constance Moffit. Their most influential work, however, took place when they collaborated again with Elvira and Eileen, a story we look forward to sharing with you in a future issue of Ad Clerum.

Ageing Well

Drawing on expertise from CatholicCare Sydney, Catholic Healthcare, Grief Care, Australian Catholic Super and NSW Trustee & Guardian, we have brought together a team of clinical experts and professionals in the field of ageing to create Ageing Well.

Designed to help you navigate some of the issues around ageing, provide practical advice and connect you to the services you need most, this five-part masterclass series covers everything from staying connected to community, diet and exercise; to why mental health matters as we age.

Do you know someone who could be a foster carer?

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

They can learn about becoming a carer by registering for our next online information session on **Wednesday, 22 September, 6.30pm – 7.30pm.**

To register call 13 18 19

Family Spirit

FamilySpirit.org

✉ admin@familyspirit.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday



The weekly online Ageing Well masterclasses, begin 10am, 7 September 2021, covering the following topics:

- **Social Connection and Psychological Wellbeing**
Exploring the importance of social connections and ways to improve social connection, mental illness in later life, and 5 ways to wellbeing.
- **Physical Wellbeing**
Delving into physical exercise, nutrition, fall prevention, health checks, carer fatigue, and memory loss.
- **Navigating Aged Care**
With such a large range of options for your aged care needs this masterclass will look at how best to consider which option is best for you.
- **Financial planning for retirement and beyond**
Masterclass 4 brings in our financial experts to help you map out your financial needs in retirement, we'll also look at what to prepare for financially and legally from the NSW Trustee & Guardian.
- **Ageing Gracefully, Living Fruitfully**
Catholic spirituality of ageing exploring blessings & challenges for a more faith filled life. God's final call to a strong finish.

Find out more

If you, or someone you know, are interested in the Ageing Well masterclasses, visit catholiccare.org/ageingwell to register. Participants will receive reminders each week about upcoming masterclasses.



Urgent Care needed

Family Spirit foster care and adoption agency is in urgent need of a Carer for a teenage boy.



Joshua is 15 years old but does not have a positive relationship with his birth-family and is unable to live with them.

Josh needs a caring home, a stable environment and good role models to assist him to grow and develop into the man he will soon become. He needs someone who can support him to engage with schooling and to start to make connections within the community again, so he can feel a sense of belonging.

Josh has ASD and a mild intellectual disability and suffers from some anxiety due to his past life experiences, however, he is like any other teenager who enjoys kicking the ball at the park and playing his Xbox. He engages well with others and would enjoy a household that has other teenage children, preferably a little older than Josh. But this is not a prerequisite, he just needs a safe and caring place to live.

A long-term solution would be great for Joshua, but if you think you know someone who could help out even in the short-term, Family Spirit would love to hear from you.

If you can help, please call CCareline on **13 18 19**.
**Name changed to protect privacy and model used.*

Safeguarding

How Working with Children Checks are linked to the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The Reportable Conduct Scheme is closely linked to Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and has significant implications for all Parish Priest's responsibilities in relation

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 carer register for our next online information session on **Wednesday, 25 August, 12.30pm – 1.30pm.**

To register call 13 18 19

Family Spirit

FamilySpirit.org

✉ admin@familyspirit.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

to anyone who they have deemed requires a WWCC. If a Parish Priest requires a WWCC from someone and subsequently that person has an allegation made about them, even outside of parish activities, the Parish Priest is to inform the Safeguarding Office then the Safeguarding Office is responsible for arranging a Reportable Conduct investigation to be undertaken. This investigation will be monitored by the Office of the Children’s Guardian and the final investigation report will be sent to the Office of the Children’s Guardian for them to review. For example, if a choir member has their WWCC verified by the Parish Priest and his/her next door neighbour alleges that the choir member abused their child totally outside of anything to do with parish activities, the Parish Priest is legally required to inform the Safeguarding Office and then the Safeguarding Office/Archbishop is legally bound to investigate the matter and report to the Office of the Children’s Guardian. If a Parish Priest fails to report then the Archbishop as Head of Entity for the Archdiocese of Sydney will be held accountable by the Office of the Children’s Guardian.

Child Protection Week 2021

From 6 September to 12 September 2020, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney celebrated Child Protection Week for the 6th year in a row. Once again the Safeguarding Office called on Children and Young People from Parishes and Communities in the Archdiocese of Sydney to help with the development of the resources. We really value the input of



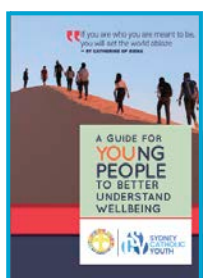
Children and Young People in our work and believe that their participation is important in the development of our resources. The Safeguarding Office would like to extend a huge thank you to all the Children who submitted their designs for the ‘Feeling Safe Activity Book’ and the Young People who provided feedback on the ‘Guide to Better Understanding Wellbeing for Young People’. We would also like to take the time to thank the Clergy for helping us with our legal, moral and spiritual responsibility to create a safe and nurturing environment for Children and Young People.

The Safeguarding Office is pleased to inform you of the new Child Protection Week Resources:



Feeling Safe Activity Book: The ‘Feeling Safe’ activity book is for children aged between 3 – 12 years. The ‘Feeling Safe’ Activity book has been designed for Children to help them explore and understand what emotions and feelings are. The activity book explains to children that it is good to

stay happy and healthy, however, sometimes they may feel unhappy or sad. When Children are feeling unhappy or sad, it is important for them to tell their trusted adult so that they can help. The Safeguarding Office hopes that this book will help Children to understand their feelings and emotions and seek help when they need it. This resource can be used directly with Children in the Parish for example as part of Children’s Liturgy or it can be taken home and used in the family home.



‘Guide to Better Understanding Wellbeing for Young People’: The ‘Guide to Better Understanding Wellbeing for Young People’ which has been developed for Young People aged 13 – 17 years. This booklet has been designed to help Young People understand and manage their overall sense of wellbe-





ing. It is important for us all to nurture our wellbeing as we journey through our day-to-day lives. New challenges can arise causing us to lose our sense of peace; impacting us spiritually, physically and mentally. By learning how we can help ourselves in times of trouble, we can better tend to our wellbeing and seek help when we need it. The Safeguarding Office hopes that this booklet will help Young People to navigate your unique journey in understanding and balancing your sense of wellbeing. This Guide can be used directly with Young People in the Parish for example as part of a Youth Group meeting or it can be distributed to the Young People to be used at home.



A Guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People - The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, the Diocese Broken Bay and the Diocese of Parramatta have worked together to create a guide which will help parishes and agencies within Greater Sydney to Support & Engage, Listen and Communicate with Children and Young People who are in their community.

The guide helps inform adults within the Catholic community how to provide children and young people with an opportunity to experience meaningful contributions to decision making, to be heard, to be taken seriously and to feel safe in doing so. The guide empowers leaders of the Catholic faith with the knowledge, skills and confidence to engage with children and young people in a safe way that will encourage children and youth to be active contributors of their Catholic faith community. The Guide helps to affect cultural change and acceptance of child and young people participation in decisions that affect them

The resources can be accessed and downloaded from the Safeguarding Website:  Resources will be stored under the following buttons on the website. Parishes will also receive copies of the resources in the mail shortly, so please keep an eye out for them.

Upcoming Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity: 

Anna Sammut
Safeguarding Officer - Training and Development



**Safeguarding Bite
No. 43**

2021 Self-Assessments
Self-Assessments will now be due back
on **Thursday 30th September 2021.**
Please send your completed
Self-Assessments to
safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org

