



## ST MARY'S CONCORD – November 11, 2018

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** The Parish Memorial Book records the anniversary of the death of members of our families and parish who have died. It can be viewed on the stand near the Reconciliation Room. Each year we reprint the Memorial Book in November. Forms are available on the table next to the Book. Please print the name and date of death clearly and **please do not include the names of those who are already in the Memorial Book.** If you wish to note a correction to an existing entry please give the details and write "**Correction**" on the form. Please place any forms in the box near the Memorial Book by 25 November.

**NOVEMBER MASSES:** November is traditionally the month of the Holy Souls. Praying for those who have died is an ancient custom in the Church. It is also a long-established custom that all parish Masses during November are offered for those who have died.

**November Mass envelopes are available on the table at the back and in the side porch of the Church** for those who wish to have their deceased relatives and friends included in the November Masses.

**The envelopes may be placed in the basket that remains at the front of the altar during November.** The offerings that are made for November Masses are combined to determine the number of Masses to be offered.

Because there are more Masses than can be celebrated at St Mary's, November Mass offerings are also sent to priests working in the Missions who will offer Masses for the deceased members of our parish community.

In recent years many of the Mass intention offerings given by parishioners have been sent to Bishop Miguel of Iquitos, Peru. Fr John Andersen, a Sydney priest, has been working in Iquitos for more than 20 years. Our offerings assist the local priests working in poorer parish communities. In return those priests pray for our deceased family and friends in their Masses.

**A CHORAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CONCERT** On Friday 14 December, St Mary's Cathedral will celebrate with carols and an overwhelming feeling of Christmas joy for the annual, and much anticipated *A Choral Christmas Celebration* concert. There will be two performances at 11am & 7pm with tickets starting from \$20. Visit [www.cathedralchoir.sydney/acc](http://www.cathedralchoir.sydney/acc) for more information.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated next Tuesday 13 November at 9.30 am in the Hall of St Mary's Villa. All parishioners are welcome to participate.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY

Sunday, 11 November 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18).

One hundred years ago, on 11 November 1918, the guns of the Western Front fell silent after four years of continuous warfare. With their armies retreating and close to collapse, German leaders signed an Armistice, bringing to an end the First World War. From the summer of 1918, the five divisions of the Australian Corps had been at the forefront of the allied advance to victory. They suffered almost 48,000 casualties during 1918, including more than 12,000 dead.

In the four years of the war more than 330,000 Australians had served overseas, and more than 60,000 of them had died. The social effects of these losses cast a long shadow over the postwar decades.

Each year on this day Australians observe one minute's silence at 11am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

### FAMILY SPIRIT (by CatholicCare Sydney and Marist180)

Could you provide short-term help for long-term memories? As a new agency combining the strengths of Marist180 and CatholicCare Sydney, Family Spirit urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night:

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 5.30-8pm, CatholicCare 2C West St (cnr Thomas St) Lewisham NSW 2049. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place.

**CATHOLIC MEN:** Sydney Catholic Men's Ministry Network Meeting Calling all Men! Come and find out more about men's ministry in Sydney Archdiocese. Friday night November 23, 6.30 pm Mass, 7.30 pm Dinner, 8.30pm Presentations. St. Paul of the Cross Parish, 532 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill. Register: [www.trybooking.com/431767](http://www.trybooking.com/431767) For more Information see: [christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org)

**NATIONAL PLENARY COUNCIL 2020** Do you know that the 2020 Plenary Council is different to Parish 2020? Parish 2020 is an Archdiocese of Sydney project looking at how parishes can continue to operate and collaborate together. The 2020 Plenary Council is a national project providing a platform for a broad scale discussion among parishes and Catholics across the country concerning the future of the Church in Australia and what you think God is asking of us at this time. If you are interested in getting actively involved to discuss the 2020 Plenary Council, speak with your parish priest or contact us directly at [plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org)

## PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office provides support and training for parish communities to ensure that our communities offer a safe and caring environment. The Safeguarding Office also provides support for those who have suffered abuse.

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney, the Safeguarding Office will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on phone: 9390 5812.

Follow us on Twitter   
St Marys@ParishConcord

## PRAYING FOR THE DEAD by Ron Rolheiser OMI

Recently I received a letter from a woman asking me to explain the Christian teaching about praying for the dead. Her son had been killed in an accident and she had been dissuaded from attending any special prayers for him. Her question: Does it make sense to pray for the dead?

The Christian answer is unequivocal, yes! It makes sense to pray for the dead and our Christian faith asks us to do so, both in liturgy and in private.

Why? What possible good can it do? To remind God to be merciful? God needs no reminders. To ask God to see a good heart beneath all the struggles of a human life? God doesn't need a lesson from us on understanding. God is already perfect understanding, perfect love, and perfect forgiveness. As a cynic might ask it, why pray for the dead? If the person is already in heaven, he or she doesn't need prayers; if he or she is in hell, our prayers won't be of any help!"

So why pray for the dead?

For the same reason we pray for anything. We need to pray. It does us good. Objections to praying for the dead might, with equal logic, be raised against all prayers of petition. God already knows everything and there is no need to remind God of anything. Yet, God has asked us to pray and to pray in petition because prayer is meant to change us, not God. Thus, the first reason we pray for the dead is because that prayer helps us, the living. Prayer for the dead is meant to console the living.

Closely tied to this is a second reason: We pray for our dead loved ones to help heal our relationship to them. When someone close to us dies, it is natural, always, to feel a certain amount of guilt, not just because that person died and we go on living, but because, being human, we have had a less-than-perfect relationship with him or her. There is unfinished business between us. In praying for that person, among other things, we help wash clean those things that remain painful between us. This takes us

to the heart of the matter. We pray for the dead because we believe in the communion of saints, an essential Christian doctrine that asks us to believe that a vital flow of life continues to exist between ourselves and our loved ones, even beyond death. Love, presence, and communication reach through death.

We pray for the dead to remain in communication with them. Just as we can hold someone's hand as he or she is dying, and this can be an immense comfort to both of us, so too we can hold another's hand beyond death. Indeed, since death washes many things clean, in our prayers for our loved ones who have died, often more so than our conversations with them when they were alive, the connection is purer, the forgiveness is deeper, the perspective is wider, and the distance between us is less. Communication with our loved ones after death is privileged, undercutting much of what kept us apart in this life.

Praying for the dead, our faith assures us, not only consoles us, but also offers real strength and encouragement to the loved one who has died. How? In the same way as loving presence to each other offers strength and consolation here in his life. Picture, for example, a young child learning to swim. The child's mother cannot learn for the child, but if she is present and offering encouragement from the edge of the pool, the child's struggle and learning become easier. Things are more easily borne, if they can be shared. This is true even for a person's adjustment to the life of heaven.

By praying for the dead, we share with them the pain of adjusting to a new life. Part of that pain of adjustment (which classically Roman Catholics have called "purgatory") is the pain of letting go of this life. In our prayers for the dead, we offer them our presence and love, as a mother on the edge of the pool, as they adjust to a new life. Purgatory is not a geography, a place distinct from heaven, but the pain that comes from being in heaven, without having fully let go of earth. Love, even as we know it in this life, already teaches us that.

From my own experience of having loved ones die, as well as from what others have shared with me, I have found that usually, after a time, we sense that our deceased loved ones no longer need us to pray for them. Now they just want us to connect with them. Prayer for the dead does that and even though our prayers might still to be formulated as if we are praying for them we are now simply connecting with them and what was formerly a cold, cutting absence now becomes a warm, comforting presence.

**Fr Ronald Rolheiser OMI**

**to view the original article go to**

[http://ronrolheiser.com/praying-for-the-](http://ronrolheiser.com/praying-for-the-dead/#.W9hjFRNKjJA)

[dead/#.W9hjFRNKjJA](http://ronrolheiser.com/praying-for-the-dead/#.W9hjFRNKjJA) **or go to**

[www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser](http://www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser)

## ST MARY'S PARISH 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In 1970 St Mary's Parish celebrated its Centenary. We are now preparing to celebrate 150 years. Were you or a member of your family here for the Centenary celebrations in 1970? Do you remember the opening of the first St Mary's Villa in 1985? Were you part of the parish when a fire badly damaged the church in 1993?

Share your memories of growing up in St Mary's Parish. The parish committee would like to chat with older parishioners who have lived in the parish over the past 50 years. Do you have photos at home?

Family History has become a popular hobby for many people. Do you have information about members of your family who lived in Concord or Burwood?

**A committee has begun to plan for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are seeking historical photos and stories about families who have been part of the parish during the past 150 years. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.**

### Safeguarding Children Procedures in our Parish

In response to the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*, the Archdiocese of Sydney has developed procedures and protocols to safeguard our children. **These procedures are mandatory for all parishes.** One new requirement is that all those involved in ministries at Sunday Masses are now required to have a *Working With Children Check* (WWCC) number. Initially, that requirement only applied to those who have direct contact with children. It has now been extended to all parish ministers.

All our parish volunteers who have a role within the Sunday Masses as a musician, acolyte, reader, communion minister or warden have now been asked to obtain a WWCC number.

While many of those involved in various parish ministries do not have direct contact with children, the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Office considers that anyone who has a role within a Sunday Mass may be viewed by children or other persons as a trustworthy person within the parish.

All those involved in Sunday Masses have also been asked to read and to sign a copy of the Code of Conduct for working with children issued by the Archdiocese of Sydney. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on the Archdiocese of Sydney website or from the parish office. Please email the parish office to request a copy.

Every parish is required to maintain a record that shows that all volunteers have agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct.

In the future all parish volunteers and those who become parish ministers will be required to follow the Archdiocesan procedures. While we understand that some may find the process demanding, we are all committed to providing a safe environment for our children.

Monica Vaughan has accepted the role of our parish Safeguarding coordinator; she can be contacted at the parish office.

*Fr Paul Crowley*

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE** JRS has been supporting thousands of people across Sydney in the last three years. Unfortunately, in that time the policies that affect the day-to-day lives of the people we serve have become more harsh and punitive. In the coming months, government funded income support for up to 7000 people seeking asylum nationwide will be cut. Individuals affected by this change will only have 7-10 days to transition and find work. We anticipate that the need for our assistance is going to increase rapidly over the coming months and we will certainly need your help to raise awareness and funds.

## SPIRITUALITY RETREATS AND COURSES

**ADVENT** You are warmly invited to attend our upcoming Advent reflection evenings. Come and immerse yourself in stories of Jesus' birth. Matthew and Luke shine very different lights on these dramatic events. In Matthew, it is Joseph in the spotlight, faced with difficult choices, while Mary takes centre stage in Luke's prophetic gospel. Do these stories still have the power to move us? Come and see for yourself!

**Wednesday 5 December, 7:30 pm - 9 pm**

Matthew's account of Jesus' birth (Matt 1:18-2:23)

**Wednesday 12 December, 7:30 pm - 9 pm**

Luke's account of Jesus' birth (Lk 1:26-56; 2:1-40)

**RSVP by Friday 30 November to**

[grailsydney@ozemail.com.au](mailto:grailsydney@ozemail.com.au) or (02) 9955 3053.

**CATHOLIC MEN:** Sydney Catholic Men's Ministry Network Meeting Calling all Men! We all need the supportive brotherhood of other good men. Come and find out more about men's ministry in Sydney archdiocese. Find out how you can start or join a local men's group in your area with support from us. Hosted by Bishop Richard Umbers, hear from Tristan Ross, former lieutenant in the army on his experience of Catholic brotherhood. Ben Galea from Young Men of God will facilitate a discussion on growing new men's groups. Friday night November 23, 6.30pm Mass, 7.30pm Dinner, 8.30pm Presentations. St. Paul of the Cross Parish, 532 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill. Register: [www.trybooking.com/431767](http://www.trybooking.com/431767) More Info: [christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org)

**A FAITH FORMATION DAY "THE HEART OF A SERVANT"**

The speaker is Rev Fr David Gallagher MGL He is a gifted Teacher and Formator from the Missionaries of God's Love in Canberra.

When: Saturday the 10 November 2018

Time: 9.00am-5.00 pm

Where: St Joseph's Parish Hall, Walz St, Rockdale, NSW 2116 Morning and afternoon Tea Provided BYO LUNCH  
Inquiries: Helen Aldana Mob 0488 037 631  
Ida Krisnadi Mob 0424 267 500  
Jesus Light of The World Communities  
Email: [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com)  
[www.jlowcom.org](http://www.jlowcom.org)

**BEREAVEMENT:** The Catholic Cemeteries offer *Support Reflection Mornings* on the third Wednesday of every month 10.00am to 1.00pm. The sessions are for family and friends who are grieving. They provide understanding and help for those managing life's changes due to loss, grief and bereavement. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support Ph: (02) 9646 6908 or email [bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au](mailto:bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au)

**HOW DO I BECOME A CATHOLIC?** Adults who have not been baptized and wish to become part of the community of the Catholic Church receive the sacraments of Christian Initiation in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA). The RCIA presumes that there is an extended period of formation and preparation, usually leading to the celebration of Baptism at Easter. Baptised members of other Christian Churches who wish to become members of the Catholic Church do so through *Reception into Full Communion*. If you are interested, or if you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact Fr Paul or the Parish Office tel 9747 4210.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD** Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is a journey of spiritual healing to help women and men overcome the painful effects of an abortion experience. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. The weekend retreat is facilitated by professionally trained spiritual counselors and priests. The retreat we offer is a service for all who seek spiritual healing and wholeness in their lives. The next retreat will be held: **16 - 18 November**.

**NATIONAL CHARISMATIC RETREATS FOR PRIESTS, DEACONS, RELIGIOUS AND ASSOCIATES** Please find attached our advertising package for the forthcoming residential National Charismatic Retreats for Priests, Deacons, Religious and Associates - to be held at Newman College, University of Melbourne, Swanston St., Melbourne, in January, 2019.

These retreats are held every January and are now in their 40th year of existence. Many Priests and Religious tell us that have benefitted greatly from attending the Retreats over the years.

Our Retreat is for Bishops, Priests & Seminarians, Deacons, Religious Brothers, Religious Sisters, Lay Members of Religious Orders (Associates), Lay Religious (Tertiaries or Third Order members) of Religious Orders,

Chaplains, Pastoral Associates / Pastoral Workers - Certificate of Attendance available.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact any of the Team members or else one of the Interstate Liaisons mentioned on Page 1 of the brochure.

Please note that all bookings need to be forwarded to: Sr. Loreto Lynch RSM, whose details appear on the brochure under: 'Booking Details'.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** Are you planning to celebrate your Marriage in 2018 or 2019? Many couples begin their planning by booking a venue for the reception. If you are hoping to celebrate your marriage in a church, it is also important to confirm your date with the church and with a priest before committing yourself to a reception or any other booking. For information about celebrating your Marriage in St Mary's Church, please contact the parish office.

A Marriage Course is an essential part of your preparation for your wedding. Various groups and organisations offer courses. *CatholicCare* is the official welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Sydney and it offers Marriage and Relationship Education programs at centres across the Sydney region. Marriage education is not counselling and does not focus on specific issues. It does, however, help each couple to reflect on their relationship as they plan not only for their wedding but for a life together. Several programs are offered. For more details Ph: 9509 1234 or visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)

#### **OF LIFE AND LOVE PRE-MARRIAGE COURSE IN OCTOBER**

This excellent course for engaged couples gives particular emphasis to the spiritual and sacramental dimensions of marriage, while also paying due attention to the practical elements as well. It highlights the importance of God's grace and human love in building a happy relationship, and it suggests ways in which married love can grow over the years. Topics include the beauty of Christian marriage, openness to life, family of origin, communication and the nuptial paradigm. An approved course for marriage preparation in the Catholic Church.

**COURAGE IN SYDNEY** Courage is a movement for those with same-sex attraction who desire to live chaste lives in accordance with the Church's teachings. Any interested person can call the Sydney chaplain on 0418 136 785.

A men's group meets monthly in Sydney, privately, for fellowship, discussion & prayer, guided by the priest chaplain. Confidentiality assured.

**ENCOURAGE IN SYDNEY** Linked to Courage is the movement Encourage, for family members of those with same-sex attraction, who pray together for their loved ones and discuss the issues involved in confidentiality, in the presence of the priest chaplain. Encourage is committed to chastity as taught by the Catholic Church. If you have a family member with same-sex attraction, email [encouragesydney@hotmail.com](mailto:encouragesydney@hotmail.com) and give your phone number & say you are interested in Encourage.

Confidentiality assured. The co-ordinator of the group will call you and invite you to the next meeting, which takes place on the first Monday of the month 10:45am. The meetings go for one hour, guided by the priest chaplain, and involve prayer, discussion, mutual support & fellowship, along with spiritual guidance.

## VOLUNTEERING

**VOLUNTEERING WITH CATHOLICARE** Volunteering with CatholicCare brings many benefits for the volunteer as well as for our clients and the organisation as a whole. Our Mission and Guiding principles guide us to care for individuals, families and communities from all backgrounds and cultures. We care for the wellbeing of staff and volunteers as we do for the vulnerable families and individuals who seek help from us. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the CCareline on 13 18 19.

**ST BAKHITA SUDANESE CENTRE** at Homebush West is looking for volunteers to mind babies & preschool children. The centre teaches English to migrants at this Centre three mornings a week. To enable the women to attend English classes volunteers are needed to assist with childminding. Hours are from 9.30 to 12.30 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL The St Mary's Concord Conference of the SVdP Society needs new members.** Volunteers attend a fortnightly meeting on a Tuesday at 6.30 pm in St Mary's Villa. They also are available for home visits with another conference member to assist those in need.

If you can help, please contact Poppy Beccera:

[poppy@archb.com.au](mailto:poppy@archb.com.au) or Leeanne Favotto:

[leanne.favotto@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:leanne.favotto@syd.catholic.edu.au).

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL BURWOOD:** St John of God is a private mental hospital in Burwood. There are many activities that will allow volunteers to assist patients. Please see the parish notice board for details or contact Maria Speissegger on 9715 9248 or email [maria.speissegger@sjog.org.au](mailto:maria.speissegger@sjog.org.au)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED CONCORD HOSPITAL:** Retired? Wanting to help others in need by bringing Christ's Presence to the Sick? Would you consider joining Concord Hospital's Pastoral Care Department making initial contact with patients and staff as a Catholic Pastoral Care Visitor. Volunteers are trained as Extraordinary Ministers of the Communion to visit patients and distribute Communion on behalf of Concord's full-time Catholic Chaplain, Fr Graeme Malone SSS. Currently Fr Graeme is seeking helpers for approx. 1 hour on a Wednesday or Sunday morning from 10.00 am on either a weekly, fortnightly or monthly flexible roster. For more information please contact Fr Graeme Malone at the Chaplain's Office phone 9767 6228.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Children's Liturgy of the Word recommences this Sunday during 9.30am Mass. All children of primary school age are invited to attend. We ask that pre-school children remain in the church with their parents.

The Children's Liturgy is not a catechetical class nor Sunday school; it is a celebration of the Word of God at a level appropriate for young children. They listen to the Gospel reading of the Sunday and share prayers and reflections. The children leave the church after the Opening Prayer and return at the Preparation of the Gifts. The Children's Liturgy is held in the chapel of St Mary's Villa. **The Children's Liturgy would not be possible without the help of the adult leaders. We thank the leaders and helpers.** If anyone would like to be a leader or helper, please contact the parish office.

**SISTERS OF CHARITY OUTREACH**, based at St Vincent's Hospital, is seeking casual drivers for its Country Care Link program. Drivers must have their own fully comprehensively insured vehicle and volunteers can receive a kilometre allowance for trips undertaken.

For enquiries phone 8382 6430 or Jo Moore at [jmoore@outreach.net.au](mailto:jmoore@outreach.net.au)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Do you have time to help people in your community? We need volunteers to provide much needed companionship to elderly people who feel lonely and isolated in South West and Inner West Sydney. If you have time to spend with someone who would truly appreciate it, please call CatholicCare on 13 18 19 and become a volunteer today. Visit their website: [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)

**PASTORAL COUNCIL: New members are needed for 2018.**

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body entrusted with the task of reflecting on the parish's vision and mission. In a spirit of service to the community, the Pastoral Council works with the parish priest to foster and support appropriate pastoral actions. Members serve a four-year term with half the Council changing every two years. The Pastoral Council meets once a month. Any parishioner 18 years of age or older may be nominated or may nominate his/herself. If you are nominating another person, that person must accept the nomination. If you are interested, please talk to Fr Paul or to any of the current members. See the parish website for the list of current members.

**SHORT TERM FOSTER CARE: *Family Spirit*** is a program of CatholicCare Sydney and Marist180. As a new agency combining the strengths of Marist180 and CatholicCare Sydney, ***Family Spirit*** urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night: Tuesday 16 October 2018, 5.30-8.00 pm, ***Family Spirit***, Level 3, 2-14 Meredith St Bankstown NSW 2200. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place

**ST CANICE'S KITCHEN, ELIZABETH BAY - Sunday Volunteer Teams Needed:** St Canice's Kitchen has been an integral part of the Kings Cross community for the past 30 years. The kitchen is open 7 days a week for lunch and 1 night for dinner thanks to the generosity of its numerous volunteers and donors. For many years we have had a tradition where the Sunday lunch for the poor and homeless is provided by groups from other parishes throughout Sydney. It has proved to be a highly rewarding experience for them. The kitchen is currently in need of some new Sunday teams of volunteers (approximately 7 people) to run a shift providing around 120 lunches and desserts and be available from 9am to 1.30pm (the kitchen is open from 11am to 1pm). If your parish would be able to provide a team of volunteers (and meals) for a Sunday shift or if you would like further information would you please contact Lynelle Lembryk on 0403 795 381 to discuss.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL – REDFERN** Over the last 20 years, St Vincent de Paul Society has been running the Sharing of the Meal at SVDP Catholic Church in Redfern - 117 Redfern St Redfern. Every Tuesday from 8.45am to 10.45am. We are looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested we would love to hear from you. It could be a once a month support or every week. Please call Jenny Carter on 0407 977 180 if you are interested. It is a gathering place for the homeless and disadvantaged in the community of Redfern.

### PARISH LIFE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

Storytellers wanted! Have you or someone you care about ever lived, or are currently living, with a disability of any kind? The Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Office is doing a research project exploring people's experiences of living with disability in our parishes. It will explore the stories of people with disability, their families, carers, friends, pastors and fellow parishioners. We are looking for people who want to share their stories so that we can listen deeply to how our people are travelling in their journeys and how our parish communities are walking alongside them. Participation simply involves telling your story and having it recorded and used for research publications anonymously. This is a wonderful opportunity to help us reflect on our strengths and weaknesses and learn how we can grow together into more hopeful, connected and love-filled communities. For more information or to participate please call or email Dr Kimberley Doyle. 02 9307 8461; [kimberley.doyle@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:kimberley.doyle@sydneycatholic.org).

### FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Archdiocese value the contribution that our volunteers make but more are needed to assist us from time to time. Our volunteers help us with the mailing of appeals and notices about our pilgrimages and special events as well as other duties. Please phone Amanda on 1800 753 959 or, for more information email: [fundraising@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:fundraising@sydneycatholic.org)

**CATHOLICCARE** provides services for people managing mental health issues that promote confidence and independence and help connect people to their community. Our services assist people to live and thrive at every age. We provide disability services, counselling and support for children, young people and families and deliver ageing services in the home. We can assist you to navigate the new world of the NDIS and My Aged Care. To find out more call **13 18 19**, visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org) or email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

**CATHOLICCARE's NDIS Therapy Team** We help children 0-18 years living with a disability to access the therapy they need to reach their potential. We offer speech therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy at locations across Sydney. For more information, contact our friendly **CCareline** team on **13 18 19**.

**Email:** [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

Are you leaving school with 'School Leaver Employment Support' or 'Finding and Keeping a Job' in your NDIS plan? Our team can help you make a successful transition from school to a career. For more information call our friendly **CCareline** team on **13 18 19** or email us: [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

**CATHOLICCARE** CatholicCare's family-oriented disability Day Program. If you are seeking a small, person-centred disability day program for adults, then our family-orientated site in Lakemba may fit the bill. We pride ourselves in providing connections to community and fun activities for our participants. Contact our **CCareline** Team on 13 18 19 to find out more.

**CATHOLICCARE** is the social services agency of the Catholic Church in Sydney. CatholicCare provides a range of services that offer support for families, children and young people, and older people. **A brochure outlining all their services is available from the table at the back of the church and in the side porch.** To find out more call 13 18 19, email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org).

**CATHOLICCARE PARENTING RESOURCES** If you're looking for resources to help with parenting, try our online resource. It provides tips and strategies to help you build positive parent-child relationships. Visit [catholiccare.org](http://catholiccare.org) and look for the Parenting Hub icon or call our friendly **CCareline** team on 13 18 19.

**CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY IS HELPING FAMILIES:** Parenting Education groups can help parents develop positive strategies to manage their concerns in a friendly environment with other parents. Call our friendly **CCareline** team on 13 18 19 to find out more or email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org).

**CATHOLICCARE Sydney** There are almost 20,000 children and young people living in Out-of-Home-Care in NSW. We urgently need short or long-term foster carers who can provide safe and loving homes for children and young people. To find out more call our CCareline team on 13 18 19 or drop us an email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**VOCATIONS OFFICER DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY** Part time, 22.8 hours per week. For more information go to <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant>

### POSITIONS VACANT FOR 2019 – FAMILY EDUCATORS

Applications are invited for the position of Family Educator based in a number of Catholic primary schools in the Sydney Archdiocese. To see locations please go to [sydcatholicsschools.nsw.edu.au/category/positions-vacant](http://sydcatholicsschools.nsw.edu.au/category/positions-vacant) to see the application pack. Applications close November 22, 2018. For further information contact [meredith.lemos@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:meredith.lemos@syd.catholic.edu.au)

**DIRECT EMPLOYMENT:** Having a job builds a person's dignity and wellbeing. It is empowering being in the workforce and contributing to society but for some people there are barriers. Direct Employment is a fee-free recruitment agency, helping people with disabilities overcome these barriers to find meaningful and sustainable work. It is the not-for-profit disability employment agency of the Archdiocese. Employers are only introduced to candidates who have the right availability, skills and ambitions. Candidates like Direct Employment because employment opportunities are tailored to each person's skills, individual goals and the needs of employers. Call us on 13 18 19 for more information.

### SYDNEY MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES - CARE WORKERS NEEDED - Casual Positions. Sydney Multicultural Community Services

specialises in the provision of support services to members of our multicultural communities. We currently have a number of casual positions available for **Care Workers** who speak a second language to provide support services to older people in their own homes who come from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds (CALD). For more information please phone: (02) 9663 3922 or email [info@sydneymcs.org.au](mailto:info@sydneymcs.org.au)

## PILGRIMAGES

### THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: the journey of the Magi.

Are you looking for a different way to start the 2019 new year? Maybe to meet some new people, get fit and conclude the Christmas season on a spiritual high? The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit, 7-day, 110 km Catholic pilgrimage through the Blue Mountains which

coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany. The pilgrimage begins at Emu Plains on 2 January, 2019 and finishes at Bell on 8 January, 2019. For further information and to register see [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org) or for general information and current news see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>. *journey in faith - encounter the Christ-Child - live for Him.*

### VISITING ROME? Stay at Domus Australia.

Domus Australia is a 32 room guest house established by the Australian Catholic Church, welcoming travellers to Rome seeking comfortable accommodation and an ideal base from which to explore historical and cultural sites of the Eternal City. Centrally located with a magnificently restored Chapel featuring daily Mass in English, Domus Australia is the perfect oasis in the heart of Rome for Aussie pilgrims. See [www.domusaustralia.org](http://www.domusaustralia.org) Enquiries: [reservations@domusaustralia.org](mailto:reservations@domusaustralia.org)

## OTHER

### CHECK OUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY'S NEW WEBSITE

The Archdiocese has launched a fresh new-look website with all the latest news and information from across the archdiocese and the Church in Australia.

The new site incorporates a number of new features and has been designed with the user experience firmly in mind to provide a more intuitive and efficient navigation.

From video to podcasts to links to social media where you can have your say on Catholic issues and share richer online content with friends and family, the new site also promotes major events across the archdiocese, regular updates from Archbishop Anthony Fisher as well as providing practical information for Catholics on Mass times, the sacraments and locating clergy and Catholic schools. Visit the new-look site at <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/>

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY APP:** The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney had released a Smartphone App (for iPhones and Androids only) for parishioners in the Archdiocese, featuring parish Mass times, the latest news from the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Catholic Church in Australia, information about upcoming Archdiocese events, as well as announcements from the Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney. The App is available to download for free – search for “Archdiocese of Sydney” in the Google Play and App stores.

### TELL YOUR STORY IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY:

Do you have a local parish news story which would be of interest to the many readers of the Catholic Weekly? The Catholic Weekly is always looking for human interest, inspirational and faith-based stories for our weekly publication. If you have a story please send it to:

[cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au](mailto:cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au) or call (02) 9390 5407. We'd love to hear your story.

**PARKING BEHIND THE CHURCH** The limited spaces behind the church, including the disabled space, are for short-term visitors to the Villa who are picking up or returning a resident and need to accompany the person to their room. A few parishioners coming to Mass who have genuine mobility problems have been given permission to park behind the church. **All others are asked to respect the parking restrictions.**

**CAR ACCESS FROM BURTON STREET** No parking is available in the area between the church and the Villa for Sunday Masses, Weddings or Funerals. The Burton Street entrance is the only access to St Mary's Villa for an ambulance and must be kept clear at all times. The driveway can only be used as a drop-off area for the Church. It is important that all car drivers respect the parking restrictions.