



# Parish Talk

WODONGA CATHOLIC PARISH

# Easter 2020

Photo by Bellinda Chamberlain  
Year 10, Catholic College Wodonga

# Our Parish Vision Statement



We are a diverse and talented community drawing inspiration from the Jesus found in the Scripture and in the living tradition of his people, the Church.

In valuing, celebrating and promoting life, we support each other as we joyfully proclaim 'Jesus to the World'.

**Parish Priest:** Father Junjun Amaya

**Assistant Priest:** Father Shibhu Joseph Pezhumthottathil

**Pastoral Assistant:** Sister Eileen Reardon, Mt Beauty 0458 327 554

**Parish Office Phone:** 02 6024 3366

**Email:** wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

## MASS TIMES

### SACRED HEART CHURCH WODONGA

Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	8.30am and 10.30am
Monday Liturgy	9.15am
Tuesday to Friday	9.15am

### ST AUGUSTINE'S WODONGA

Saturday	9.30am
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### OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS TANGAMBALANGA

2nd, 4th Sunday	10.30am
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### ST FRANCIS' BETHANGA

No Masses

### ST JOSEPH'S DEDERANG

1st, 3rd Sunday	10.30am
5th Sunday	10.30am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion	

### ST JOSEPH'S MT BEAUTY

1st to 4th Sunday	8.30am
5th Sunday	8.30am
Liturgy of the Word and Communion	

### RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart Wodonga	
Saturday	9.00am - 9.30am
Country Churches	before Masses

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everyone,

In this Lenten Season, new developments about the effects of the Coronavirus on our country and our way of life are appearing in the news on a daily basis. At the time of writing, the immediate suspension of public Liturgies, celebrations of Mass, had just been announced. You can read on the back cover the Bishops' letter announcing this.

Another calamity that has affected many in the past few months is the recent bushfire season, and is worthy of mention in this edition. It is somehow fitting in this Easter season to highlight the efforts of parishioners, particularly members of the Knights of the Southern Cross, in doing their part to aid the recovery of those directly affected by the fires.

May you stay safe and healthy this Easter.

Greg Walsh

## Parish Talk Roster 2020/21

Edition	Cover	Submission Date
Spring	St Francis	2020
Christmas	St Monica's	2020
Easter	St Augustine's	2021

## Our Commitment to Child Safety

Our Parish is committed to child safety. All children who come to Wodonga Catholic Parish have a right to feel and be safe. The welfare of the children in our care will always be our first priority and we have a zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and part of our parish community.



# From the Pastor's desk

*Dear Parishioners*



As of this writing, our Parish Renewal Program is well underway thanks to our leadership team who have worked alongside the ParishFirst Company to get this program going in our parish and in the communities of Mt Beauty, Dederang and Tangambalanga. This is our way of revisiting our parish life and renewing our commitment to our parish as the Catholic presence in Wodonga, Tangambalanga, Dederang and Mt Beauty.

Whilst I am always grateful to God for the opportunity to do my priestly ministry in this great and vibrant parish communities, my gratitude also goes to all of you, who in more ways than one, have helped our parish not just to be a 'Community of Faith' but as a community of 'GIFTS' (i.e. Growing In Faith Together by your faithful Service).

As we can see, we have a lot of opportunities in our parish, opportunities to serve and share our precious, time, talent and treasures, and most of all our faith for the flourishing of our parish and to live out our parish vision and mission. Feel free to keep in touch with us in the parish office and let us have a chat about how can we be GIFTS to our parish community.

But as Easter is fast approaching, let us remind ourselves also that this season is about the greatest gift God could give us despite our sinful nature, our human failings and imperfections – the gift of life that Jesus Christ has bequeathed to us, through his death on the Cross.

Christ is our life. As a community of faith, we are grounded on the person of Jesus Christ, the "only begotten Son, who has conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity" as the opening prayer for Easter Sunday says.

As a Christian community we draw life from Christ. We are strengthened by Christ. We are commissioned by Christ to be life-giving of ourselves, even if it means laying down our lives for others as Jesus has exemplified.

But to be able to be life-giving, we need first to appreciate, to value, to nurture, to uphold the dignity of our life and the lives of others.

Let us never take our lives for granted by following the way that disrespects life. Rather, let us follow Christ who in humility, in obedience to God's will and in fidelity to his life's mission, willingly laid down his own life in order for us to live.

I know it is easier said than done, but just reflecting on the recent events around us, we can see Christ's great example being carried out by many people even in our day and age.

For example, in the light of the bushfires that ravaged many towns in Australia a couple of months ago, how many people put their own lives at risk? Even some lost their lives just to help save others.

Also in the light of the outbreak of the Coronavirus, how many people put their lives at risk in order to help save those affected by this virus? How many people put their lives at risk in order to stay with their loved ones who might be affected by this virus?

Easter is a celebration of life. We celebrate this life by being grateful to God for the gift of life we have and for the gifts of many people who shared their lives, even put their own lives at risk to show that they cared for us, as Jesus has done to us.

May you all have grace-filled Easter time with family, friends, and in faith.

Happy Easter one and all!

Father Junjun Amaya, P.P.

## David Michael Avery

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# General News



## *Knights of the Southern Cross - Blazes, BBQ and Bunnings*

With the damage and destruction of the Corryong District bushfire evident, a suggestion was made just prior to our scheduled BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday 11 January, 2020 that we consider assisting affected farmers. We aimed to raise \$500, but thanks to the generosity of the Bunnings' customers, we were able to hand over a cheque for \$600 to Blaze Aid. This organisation is instrumental in assisting farmers in the essential task of replacing boundary fences in the long road back to normality.

We wish to acknowledge the generous assistance of a number of Wodonga Sacred Heart parishioners who helped us dispense sausages, onions and cool drinks at the BBQ. Our branch has been engaging in Bunnings sponsored BBQs for around ten years, sometimes taking part in more than one per year. Whilst proceeds have assisted a range of people and organisations, we have



prioritised assistance to St Stephens Christmas Day lunch and St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeals over the years.

Rob Russell  
Peter Murray

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## Our Commitment to Child Safety

Our Parish takes all allegations seriously and has appointed **Sonia La Motte-Schubert** and **Jacinta Bartlett** to be the Child Safety Persons with specific responsibility for responding to any complaints made by staff, volunteers, parents or children.



Sonia La Motte-Schubert

You may contact **Sonia on 0434-179-411** or the Parish Centre **6024-3366**. **Jacinta may be contacted on 0418-470-532** You may wish to contact **The Commission for Children and Young People. Ph: (03) 8601**



Jacinta Bartlett



## *Knights of the Southern Cross - Ashes for Ash Wednesday*

On Sunday 9th February we became aware that there were no ashes available for Ash Wednesday. Action was required and on that same afternoon, so with buckets and a shovel, a journey to Corryong in the heart of a bushfire ravaged area became, unfortunately, the ideal place to collect some ash.



Ash was collected near Corryong from the charred remains of trees burnt by the out-of-control wild fire.



Buckets were filled and we enjoyed afternoon tea in Corryong before returning to Wodonga. On Monday the ashes were sieved to remove any large impurities and by the Tuesday the necessary ashes were provided to our parish together with some charred wood.

A meaningful display of the burnt logs and charcoal at the Sacred Heart Church Wodonga on Ash Wednesday symbolised that we were sharing this day in support of our Upper Murray churches who had been impacted by the recent fires. Containers of the blessed ashes were used at the local schools and also travelled with Father Junjun to Corryong and Tallangatta.

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# People in our Parish



## *Fr Vin Walsh: A Local Product*

Father Vin Walsh, a regular supply priest in Wodonga parish over the past summer (and the past few years), mentioned prior to his final blessing in a recent Mass in Wodonga that he had just gone through his scrapbook. He offered a couple of brief reflections on his life and life in general. This prompted an invitation, which he accepted, for him to tell us more in Parish Talk. This is his story.

.....  
*I was born in Rutherglen, and attended a State School for 12 months before going to Rutherglen Convent School, three miles away. I left school in 1949 and commenced work at the Rutherglen Post Office, and attended a Postal Training School in*

*Melbourne in 1952. I did national service training in 1953. I worked in various post offices in north-east Victoria for the next ten years. The longest stints were in Bonegilla Migrant Camp and Wodonga.*

*It was in Wodonga that I was confronted seriously with religion. Prior to that, I had attended Mass, but that was about it. One night in a Wodonga hotel, a couple of fellows I knew asked me to attend the mission being conducted in St. Augustine's, Wodonga. I wasn't all that interested. However, they persisted, so to get them off my back, I went along one night. What the missionary had to say started me thinking about life in general – not specifically in religious terms. I was 27 years old having a great time – plenty of dances, parties and so on. It was quite a comfortable lifestyle, but where was I going? Somehow the great truth that life is not a rehearsal – one only gets one shot at it – became my predominant thought. Later on an idea started to gel in my mind. Why not give religious life a go!*

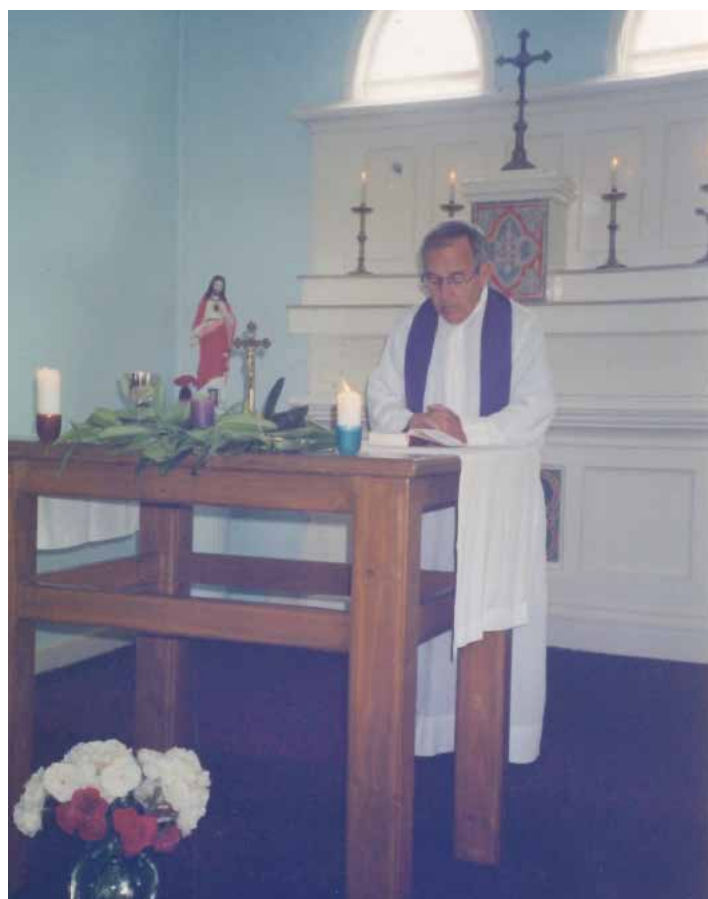
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# People in our Parish



## *Fr Vin Walsh: A Local Product (continued)*

Initially I rejected it. However, after talking to the late Monsignor Tom Awburn (the parish priest), I decided to follow it up. At this time, I was transferred to the Carlton Post Office, which was providential because it enabled me to take on a couple of matriculation subjects – as they were called in those days – to see if I could study again. After 13 years of only studying the form for the race track, it wasn't exactly easy. I successfully got through those subjects and, after a couple of disappointments, I joined the Carmelite novitiate in Sydney in 1966, returned to Melbourne in 1967 and was ordained in Rutherglen on 20th May, 1972 by Bishop Bernard Stewart.

My first appointment was as Assistant Priest at the Cavendish Road parish in Coorparoo (Brisbane). Four years later, in 1976, I was appointed Parish Priest at Wentworthville, in Sydney's western suburbs. In January, 1983, I was appointed to Middle Park (Melbourne) as Parish Priest. As my time in Middle Park was coming to an end, I realised I had become a little nostalgic for country living, still being a country boy at heart. I went to Bendigo in May, 1989, and after supplying at Pyramid Hill, was offered a position at St. Kilian's over Christmas of that year, and remained there for thirteen years.

Since I returned to the north-east, I have continued to do supply weekends in various parishes in the diocese. One big advantage was to be able to spend night on every day with my mother who had been a widow for 53 years.



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80th birthday celebrations with family at the Wicked Virgin Cafe in Rutherglen



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# People in our Parish



## *Fr Vin Walsh: A Local Product (continued)*

*My mother died on 12th October, 2006. On 12th October, 2007, I won a \$50,000 motor car in a raffle – once a mother, always a mother.*

*My life in the priesthood on a personal level has brought me great satisfaction, with many highlights. Probably the greatest satisfaction comes from when people accept me, not specifically for who I am, but for what I am and what I represent. So, in truth, I suppose I am a piece of raw material, picked up at the Carriers Arms Hotel bar in Wodonga. The end product is what you see and hear.*

85th birthday celebration in June, 2019. Left to right: Fr Dennis Crameri, Fr, Shibu, Fr Vin Walsh, Fr Junjun



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# General News



## *News from Mount Beauty*

### **Farewell Mrs. Josie Grujcic**

The parishioners of St Joseph's, Mount Beauty wish their long time parishioner and friend Mrs Josie Grujcic well in the next exciting phase of her life. Josie is going back to the Philippines to be with her extended family. If you have been to our church, you will have seen our very beautiful altar cloths (pictured) made by Josie's fair hands.

As a community, we wish Josie well, good health and wonderful days with her family.

### **Nativity Display**

Mount Beauty parishioners and the general community wish to thank Peter Panozzo and his band of helpers for putting up the Nativity display at the front of St. Joseph's, Mount Beauty. For those passing by after 9:00pm, it would illuminate, creating much chat among parishioners and the public alike.





## *Mass of Anointing Group*

In June 1980, a Senior Support Group was formed as a ministry and set up by Sr Eustelle, holding Mass in St Augustine's Church and a cuppa in a room at the convent.



For the Christmas breakup, Sister would invite as many people as she could muster including non-Catholics (whoever wanted to come) with gifts for all.

Fr Hickey came to Wodonga as Parish Priest in 1980. Father, with the help of Sr. Eustelle, organised a meeting in the Parish. Many came, but didn't come back. Father wanted the committee to do more for people in Osborne Lodge and the homebound. Eventually St Augustine's School needed our meeting room for classes. Sr. Borgia was the new principal and she suggested we move to Sacred Heart Church hall. We celebrated many happy milestones in the hall, including Fr Paul's thirty years in the priesthood and twenty-five years of parish work. The Mass was always very well attended.

The group had a change of name on 9th November 2011 to Mass of Anointing Group. The group would concentrate on transporting people to and from our Mass of Anointing with afternoon tea to follow.

Our next move was to the foyer of Sacred Heart Church in 2012, where we would celebrate our Masses in the usual way. We had a lot of help on the day. The men would arrange the tables and chairs. Our group of ladies would set the tables for afternoon tea, prepare an altar for Mass, lectern,

organ, hymn books etc. Mass was celebrated at 1.45pm, followed by afternoon tea, and then parishioners were transported home. This was a special time for parishioners to catch up and have a chat.



Our Mass of Anointing was celebrated for thirty-nine years, finishing on 4th December 2019. We celebrated that Mass with three of the original group in attendance, Marie Walsh, Norma McGrath, and Elaine Dalton.



Our group would like to thank all those who supported our Mass over many years. Your love and care has been very much appreciated.

Thanks from our team.

[Helen Hanrahan Phone 02 6024 2024](tel:0260242024)





# Wodonga Catholic Parish event

## *Knights of the Southern Cross 70th anniversary*

The Wodonga Branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross will celebrate their 70th anniversary and would like to invite former members to Barneys Picnic on Sunday April 19, 2020. Those wishing to attend as bookings are essential please contact for registration of interest.

If you know former members who have moved away, we would like to extend an invitation to them as well.

Des Lonergan 0408 575 825 or

Email : [des\\_lonergan@hotmail.com](mailto:des_lonergan@hotmail.com)



## *Understanding The Word of God*

### **HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF GOD IN THE CATHOLIC TRADITION?**

What does my Catholic Faith say about how to interpret the Bible? Fr Brian Boyle leads us through examples from the Bible to give us skills for understanding and interpreting the Word of God.

Event: No Cost.

Lunch: Provided.

Bible: Bring yours if you have one. Bible texts will be provided.

Fr Brian Boyle is a priest of the Sandhurst Diocese and author of the popular 'A Friendly Guide to the Prophets'.

WANGARATTA Saturday 25 July 2020 10:00 am - 2:30 pm St Brigid's Centre, St Patrick's Parish/CEO, 1a Ford Street.

RSVP St Patrick's Wangaratta Ph: 03 5722 1970

Email: [wangaratta@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:wangaratta@sandhurst.catholic.org.au) OR

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Catholic College



St Monica's



St Francis



## St Augustine's

A warm welcome to the 2020 school year is extended to all students and families. A special welcome to our Foundation students and the many new students in other year levels starting at St Augustine's this year. We also welcome a number of new staff to the school after saying goodbye to some familiar faces at the conclusion of 2019. Mrs. Rachael Day commenced as Deputy Principal on the 2nd March and brings a breadth of experience to the position having previously been Deputy Principal at St Teresa's Primary School, Essendon. We look forward to getting to know Rachael over the coming year. Mr. Darren Docksey joins us as classroom teacher in the 3/4 Learning Area, along with Bridget Favero, Nadia Jericijo and Jaimee Chapman as Learning Support Officers.

We began the year with our welcoming Mass on February 11th. It is always touching to watch the Year 6 students pin a guardian angel on the collar of their Foundation buddies' uniforms which is an integral part of the mass. Our Grade 6 buddies are very involved in the Foundation students' transition, providing daily support by eating lunch, shared reading and being available to their charges during periods of play. The bonds formed between Grade 6 buddies and Foundation students are long lasting and we are very proud of the leadership skills our Grade 6's have developed.



The Parent Picnic took place on 12th February and was well attended by many of both the experienced and new families to our school community. Buddy families were encouraged to attend to meet those families transitioning into the

school, and the staff were on hand to further aid in the process of introductions with our new families. The picnic took place in the newly finished junior playground, which has proved a resounding success with students across all year levels. The new playground had been complemented by the inclusion of 'family pavers' and it has been lovely to watch the students looking for their families' name in the yard.



The remainder of the term will be a busy one with the beginning of Lent and the lead up to Easter. Many activities happen during this time with our annual Easter Raffle, The Men In Schools Camp at The Great Aussie Resort (14th/15th March), Multicultural Week and Grade 5/6 Camp to Melbourne.

We wish all students every success for the coming school year and look forward to watching the growth they will experience across the year. The opportunities for students are plentiful and there is always something to get involved with.

Joe Quinn

Principal

Anna Avery

Community Coordinator

Lilly's Family Day Care

Lilibeth Merrilees

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## St Francis of Assisi

### *Family Bush Dance*

The St Francis of Assisi Primary School community came together in checked shirts and boots for a family Bush Dance on Friday the 27th of February. Our amazing Parents and Friends Network planned and organised this wonderful evening.

The football oval was transformed into the perfect setting for a bush dance with an enormous may pole and flags taking pride of place in the middle, under which we danced. Hay bales spread around helped set the scene and the atmosphere was alive with chatter and laughter.



Captain Pete and 'The Remnants' Bush Band played and called the dances from 5pm to 7.30pm. It was great to see the dancing, laughing and smiling of those who took to the dance floor. If dancing wasn't for you, a seat in the shade to share the company of others was.



The tractor rides were popular with the children and the cow lotto was decided on the night. The children played in the yard, danced and everyone enjoyed the food stalls.



We hope this is the first of many St Francis of Assisi bush dances.

Mrs Jennyne Wilkinson  
Principal



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# Year 6 Leadership

## St Monica's

### PRIMARY SCHOOL WODONGA



## Community Groups

At St Monica's we live out the Mercy tradition by taking up the challenge to grow and develop our God given talents leading to a desire to help others.

This year our year 6 students began working in areas of their interest within Community Groups. In these groups, students have the opportunity to raise their concerns and work toward change that will benefit themselves, others and the environment.



## Student Leaders

### SUSTAINABILITY

Louisa Griffith  
Lily Jones

### STEM

Riya Das  
Archer Bollinghaus

### ARTS

Lily Byron  
Eliza Roche

### SPORT LEADERS

Flynn Stewart  
Jack Abruzzese  
Addysen Emblin  
Molly Moylan  
Meg Foley

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

Amelia Petrie  
Will Davis  
Cody Smith



*Year 6 Leaders at our Opening Mass.*





## Spiritual Retreat

This term, year 6 students participated in a spiritual leadership retreat to identify ways they could live out the mercy values within their leadership groups.

### Experiences with leadership

*Bodhi: Kobe Bryant inspires me and many others to try my hardest and to put in effort.*

### Leadership qualities

How can we show we are a leader? Listen to people's ideas, showing compassion, integrity, trusting, a good role model, motivating, kind.

### Defining leadership qualities.

Good and bad leadership qualities. Surround yourself with people with good qualities; you shouldn't be following bad qualities.

### How do I lead by helping others or how does a leader demonstrate these qualities

*Lachlan: My dad empowers me and makes me feel important.*

## Mercy Education Values

We should be shining lamps giving light to all around us

- Catherine McAuley



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## Hopes for this year

Our student leaders hope that they can be better representatives of the student voice by dedicating themselves in an area that interests them.

The leadership that they have demonstrated so far is exemplary. We are fortunate to have such wonderful students in our school.



# General News



## *"Teams" Responsible Couples Induction*

The Annual induction of Responsible Couples for "Teams of Our Lady" for Wodonga and Wangaratta was held on Sunday 23 February, 2020 in Beechworth.

Overseeing the inductions were retiring Regional Couple, Fran and John Whelan who made the long journey from one historical gold mining town, Bendigo, to another, Beechworth, in the glorious North East of Victoria. The welcome was given by Kate and Peter Murray, Sector couple from Wangaratta followed by a Para Liturgy influenced by "Laudato Si" an encyclical delivered by Pope Francis on the use of the planet and its inhabitants. This

Para Liturgy was prepared by Maureen and Des Loneran from Wodonga.

Erris and Ross Black, Des and Maureen Loneran and Kristy Robson and Michael van der Veeke were inducted as Wodonga's responsible couples for the 2020 year.

In their final address as Regional Couple, Fran and John thanked the North East for their welcoming and support over the four years of their term which concludes later in the year. They urged those present to expand the group by recruiting couples looking for an enrichment of their faith and marriage as well as enjoying the company of like-minded people in an hospitable environment that blends spirituality and in an obligation free environment should contact David and Helen Gill 02 6056 7117 a.h.

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# General News



## *"Teams" Responsible Couples Induction (continued)*

They also urged as many couples as possible to attend the Annual Conference in Canberra on Friday 18 September-Sunday 20 September with the Theme being "Teams Supporting Couples: You are not alone – we are with you"

Fr Dean Bongat, freshly returned to Australia from holidays overseas, blessed all present and wished all team members a productive and happy 2020.

Des Lonergan



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W: [www.optimumclinic.com.au](http://www.optimumclinic.com.au)

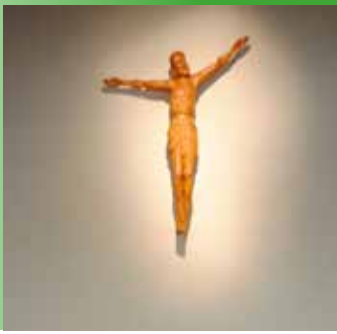
*\*\$10 discount  
for  
Parish Talk  
readers*



**Joe Moran**

BSc (Hons) Chartered Physiotherapist

\* Discount applies to initial physiotherapy appointments only.



# RCIA

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

### *Our newest parishioners*

On Sunday, December 15th at 8:30 Mass, Ben Pearson and Jacobhan Golle were welcomed to our Catholic community as they received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Jacobhan has offered a brief reflection on what prompted him to be confirmed into the Catholic Church:

*I've always had a strong faith ever since I was a young boy. It wasn't until early 2019 that I had a vocation to become a Catholic Priest. I've spent a lot of time discerning this decision.*

*I came to Father Junjun mid-2019 asking him for some guidance. Father Junjun as well as the RCIA team have been helping me all the way through this journey, and I could not thank them enough. It's a very special thing to receive a vocation and thanks to the help of our wonderful parish, I feel that I have made the right decision in following this path.*



**Mark PHILLIPS**  
PLUMBER,  
GASFITTER & DRAINER  
Lic. No. Vic 21822 NSW 77757C  
M.A. & M.E. PHILLIPS Pty Ltd ABN 67 074 625 422



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5 Poplar Street, Wodonga Vic. 3690**





# RCIA

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

### *More about RCIA*

The RCIA program is where those inquiring about our faith gather together to discuss various topics about the Church, Sacraments and the Mass. It is important that we all realise how our role modeling of Christian values and commitment may have an influence on others.

Please be open to any queries about the Catholic Church and regard the RCIA Program as one of personal development for yourselves as well.

Last year, eighteen new adults and teenagers became Catholics.

In our Wodonga Catholic Parish we have been truly enriched and blessed by the many refugees who now call Wodonga home. Their bright attire, cultural music and different foods have provided a learning experience for us. They certainly bring lots of colour.



If you would like to find out more about RCIA and further develop your knowledge of the Catholic faith, or if you would like to join the RCIA team to help others develop their knowledge of the Catholic faith, please contact Marg Hannebery, 0458 031 903.

We are very flexible with the program, fitting in sessions around candidates' family, work and school commitments. You may not realise how many of your fellow parishioners have joined our Catholic Church through this RCIA program or have been a sponsor to others.

In the past few years we have encountered a significant language barrier with candidates from Bhutan and the Congo. With the assistance of interpreters we have been able to share our stories together.



# News from Abroad



## *Timor Mission Update*

In the Christmas, 2019 edition of Parish Talk, Lochlan Moffat wrote about a trip that he took in September, 2019 to a village called Aubeon in the Natarbora region of East Timor with his father, Aaron.



Their goal was to do as much as they could to help establish a new school. They carried out various tasks including building two toilets, a bathroom, a kitchen, a 12-metre long pathway, bag lockers, and a fence around the whole school. They also painted all of the classrooms.



Prior to the trip, they also managed to raise just over \$2200 to go to the children's school uniforms. In January, 2020, the school was officially opened. It is clear that these finds were well spent.



The Moffats were on a nearby island in Indonesia in January at the time of the opening and were unaware that it was taking place. They were pleasantly surprised to hear of this news later. This new school in Aubeon is a testament to







# Wodonga Catholic Parish

## Something to ponder

*Morbid humour - Meet your Maker*



*Andrew Harbick & Darren Eddy*

Call now for immediate service or for an appointment to discuss your funeral needs.

**02 6056 1700**

49 Thomas Mitchell Drive Wodonga

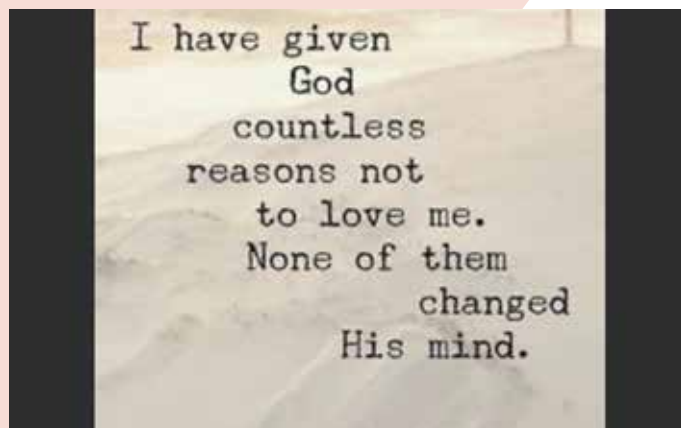
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# Marriages



## *Baptisms*

Philippa Wallace  
Frederick Heinrich  
Darby Joy Wright  
Eloise Hill  
Aljon Navales  
Jay Peter Quonoey  
Tessa Gulliford  
Byron Powell  
Cora Dunlop  
Hudson McGrath

Cooper Shoesmith  
Charlie Kowalczyk  
Elora McManus  
Fletcher Hodgkin  
Levi McKinnar  
Lillie Sievers  
Gabrielle Lahaylahay  
Hudston Strauss  
Lachlan Vile

## *Why do we go to church?*

A son and his father were once sitting in front of a glowing fire. The boy asked his dad "Why do we go to church?"

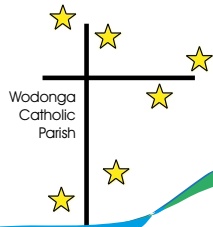
The father said "Just watch this coal son, and tell me what you notice". Then he took a coal from the fire with tongs, and placed it on the hearth. Soon the glow from the coal dimmed and after a while went black.

The fire in the grate remained red and glowing. "What happened?" the dad asked. The boy replied, "The coal on its own cooled down and went out, Dad." "Yes," the father said. "It's the same with us as followers of Jesus. We need one another to keep faith active and strong. On our own, we soon find the presence of Christ grows dim."





# Wodonga Catholic Parish



## Parish Directory 2020

### CLERGY:

Parish Priest	Fr. Junjun Amaya	6024 3366
Assistant Priest	Fr. Shibhu	6024 3366
Hospital Chaplain	Parish Centre	6024 3366

### PASTORAL STAFF:

Parish Associate	Sr. Eileen Reardon	0458 327 554
Office Manager	Sonia La Motte-Schubert	6024 3366

### CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS:

Jacinta Bartlett	0418 470 532
Sonia La Motte-Schubert	6024 3366

### LITURGY:

Liturgy Group	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Eucharistic Ministry	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Eucharistic Ministry to Sick	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Eucharistic Ministers Rosters	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Lectors / Commentators Rosters	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Children's Liturgy	Mez Moffatt	0478 154 252
Altar Servers	Michael McLinden	6059 2924

### CHURCH SUPPORT GROUPS:

Altar Group – Sacred Heart	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Church Cleaning – Sacred Heart	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Vestments Group	Juliana Vaughan	6059 7689
Sacred Heart Gift Shop	Parish Centre	6024 3366

### FINANCE:

Planned Giving Co-ordinator	Marg Whitehead	6024 3366
Planned Giving Recorder	Marg Whitehead	6024 3366
Parish Finance Committee	Terry Smith - Secretary	6059 6106

### SCHOOLS:

Catholic College	Principal	Darren Hovey	6043 5500
St Francis	Principal	Jennynne Wilkinson	6020 9100
St Augustine's	Principal	Joe Quinn	6024 2711
St. Monica's	Principal	Jacqui Partington	6024 3151

### MT. BEAUTY:

Pastoral Assistant	Sr Eileen Reardon	0458 327 554
Finance Committee	John Svarc	03 5754 4191
Pastoral Council Chair	Jenny Svarc	03 5754 4929

### BETHANGA:

Church Committee	Brian Benson	6026 4513
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### DEDERANG:

Church Committee	John McEvoy	6028 9293
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### TANGAMBALANGA:

Church Committee

### PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Baptism Preparation	Marilyn & Dave Seiter	6024 3366
Catholics Returning Home	Gerri Boldrini	6056 2442
C.C.R. Micah Prayer Group	Melinda Clifford	6024 3366
Evangelisation	Gerri Boldrini	6056 2442
Godstart	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Mothers Prayer Group	Kath Moate	6024 7071
Parish Bulletin	Sonni La Motte-Schubert	6024 3366
	<a href="mailto:wodcath@bigpond.net.au">wodcath@bigpond.net.au</a>	
Parish Talk - Editor	Greg Walsh	<a href="mailto:wcptalk@gmail.com">wcptalk@gmail.com</a>
Advertising	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Pastoral Council Chair	Jacinta Bartlett	0418 470 532
Rite of Christian Initiation Adults	Marg Hannebery	0458 031 903
Sacramental Program	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Sandpiper Diocesan Magazine	Jordan Grantham	03 5445 3610
Social Justice Diocesan Representative	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Youth Ministry	Parish Centre	6024 3366

### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Albury/Wodonga Ecumenical Tertiary Chaplaincy	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Catholic Women's League	Beth Crothers	0415 940 988
Country Victorian Family Groups	Bryony Bright	6020 8451
Knights of the Southern Cross	Des Lonergan	0408 575 825
Marriage Education Program	Parish Centre	6024 3366
Pastoral Care for the Separated and Divorced	Michael & Pauline	6024 3366
St Vincent Centre	Shop	6056 5174
St Vincent De Paul	Welfare	6024 3493
Teams	Des Lonergan	0408 575 825

Every endeavour has been made to verify the information presented in this document and it is made available according to the privacy practice of this parish. We trust that it will assist you to a full and active participation in parish life.



Wednesday 18 March 2020

Prayerful greetings to the people of God across Victoria.

This morning the Prime Minister announced that non-essential indoor gatherings will be limited to 100 people, and outdoor events of more than 500 people will be disallowed, effective today. Given the seriousness of COVID-19, we support this measure as being responsible and sensible, and we encourage everyone to follow public safety guidelines respectfully.

The Bishops of the Province of Victoria have given this prayerful and considered reflection, and have determined the following actions:

Immediate suspension of public liturgies, celebrations of the Mass, until further notice.

All other gatherings are suspended. For the clarification of any concerns, please contact Mrs Katrina Strong, PA to the Bishop Tel (03) 5445 3600

We are very aware that this restriction will be particularly difficult for families who are planning liturgies such as funerals, weddings and baptisms. At this time, so long as appropriate precautions are able to be put in place (such as distancing between participants), it may be possible for these liturgies to proceed with a carefully limited congregation. Deferring these liturgies may be an option that is offered to families.

In light of this, all Catholics in Victoria are dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice (canon 1248). We encourage you to continue active participation in the life of the church, through activities such as time in personal and family prayer, reflecting on the Scriptures, making a spiritual communion, or participating in a Mass online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand> or <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or [www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass)) or Mass on free to air TV channel 10 6:00am Sunday mornings.

We encourage our priests to continue to celebrate Mass for the spiritual good of God's people, the intentions of the faithful and the alleviation of the present crisis. We assure our people that the Mass is being offered for you in our parishes and that while you are not physically present, you still participate spiritually and that you are close to the hearts of your pastors in the Eucharist.

We urge the clergy to make themselves available to visit individuals especially those who are unwell and vulnerable. This includes viaticum and all the opportunities for healing through the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation.

Again, we encourage you to regularly consult your local websites for further details of local arrangements.

Tomorrow further pastoral guidelines will be shared in the Dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sale and Sandhurst. Clergy and religious should consult with their Ordinary if any questions remain uncertain.

All of this is happening during the Season of Lent, a time of preparation for the Easter mysteries. While we are invited to be self-sacrificial at this time, we must remember the words of Jesus upon appearing before his disciples after his resurrection: Again and again he said peace be with you (Jn 19:20). Let's not panic, nor be anxious, nor reduce ourselves to caring only for ourselves. This is a time to be sensible, practical, prayerful, and to share Christ's peace with those who are struggling to feel calm and safe.

Thank you for all your patience,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli  
ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Most Rev Paul Bernard Bird CSsR MA, DD  
BISHOP OF BALLARAT

Most Rev Shane MacKinlay  
BISHOP OF SANDHURST

Most Rev Patrick Michael O'Regan  
BISHOP OF SALE