



CAIRNS DIOCESAN NEWS

EDITION 22
EASTER 2020

TAKE HOME COPY

Fr Bill Grundy



Sr Mary of Mercy



“I am the resurrection and the life. *Fr John O'Connor*

Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live...”

John 11:25

To view full articles about Frs. Grundy,
O'Connor and Sr Mercy please see Page 2 & 3.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE



As I finish my time of twenty-seven and half (27 ½) years as bishop of Cairns I leave with mixed feelings rather like the Easter event itself: both a death and a rising, leaving and retiring.

Without being too bleak about it, I do not know in my lifetime that our world has been as troubled as it is at this time: wars, rumours of war, international competition, coronavirus etc. etc. not to mention domestic violence and violence in our streets, particular

stabblings, which have become so frequent. Faced with all of this one can only fall back on Faith and what was the message of Hope from Paul to the Romans on the 1st Sunday of Lent: *Where sin abounded grace even more abounded.* (Romans 5:20). Indeed the events of Holy Week and Easter are the extraordinary proof of this.

Yours truly in Christ

+James Foley
Bishop of Cairns

LIVES WELL LIVED BY TWO MEN OF GREAT FAITH...

(Written by editorial staff adapted from Eulogies)

It was with great sadness that the end of 2019 saw the deaths of both Fr John O'Connor and Fr Bill Grundy. Interestingly, Fr Bill and Fr Frank Gordon began seminary life together in 1952. In that same year, they were joined by Fr John O'Connor. Both Fr John and Fr Bill were amongst the volunteers from the Brisbane Archdiocese who answered the call from Bishop Cahill to minister in far North Queensland and remained as priests of our diocese for 60 and 61 years respectively.

Both priests had long-standing appointments to parishes in the

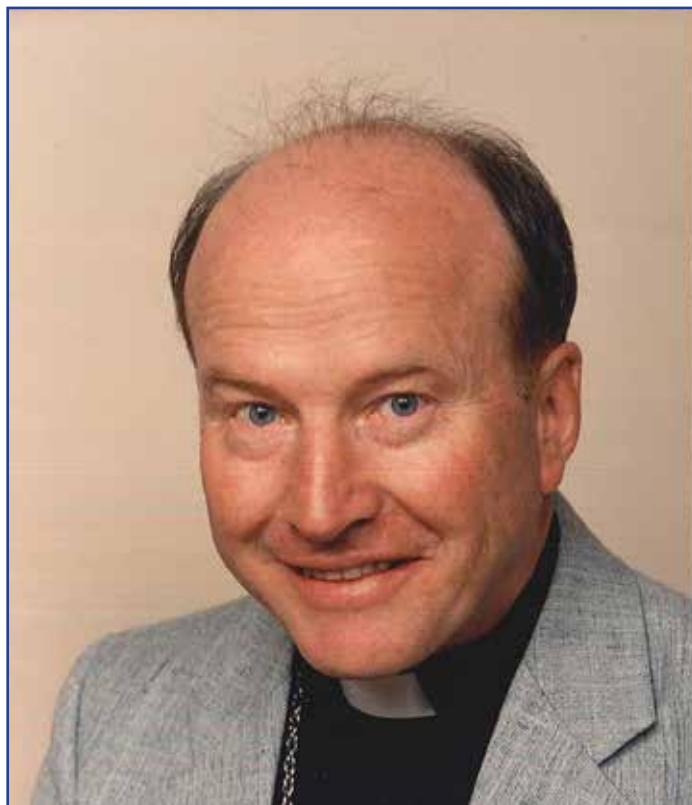
Southern Deanery. Retirement from active ministry saw Fr John stay in Tully, and Fr Bill lived in Babinda. Family members, the Bishop, fellow clergy, parishioners, friends, and diocesan staff of both Fr John and Fr Bill gathered to remember and farewell these faithful priests at their respective funerals.

As we continue to remember these men of great faith, we thank God for the gifts of Fr John and Fr Bill for their skills, leadership, example, and witness in the Diocese of Cairns, where they faithfully built up the people of God.

REST IN PEACE...

Most Reverend John Bathersby, Archbishop Emeritus of Brisbane, died Monday 9th March, 2020.

On 20 March 1986, John Bathersby was consecrated Bishop of Cairns by Archbishop Francis Rush. He was the fourth bishop of Cairns until he was translated as Archbishop of Brisbane in 1991. He retired in 2011. He was 83 years of age.



Ordination Anniversaries

Some significant milestones in our clergy ministry will be reached this year, congratulations to:

Fr Ivan Hernon	65 Years
Fr Martin Kenny	40 Years
Fr Michael Szymanski	30 Years
Fr Mathew Kochuveetil	15 Years
Fr Nathan McKay	5 Years
Deacon Peter de Haas	10 Years
Deacon Michael Lindsay	5 Years
Deacon Frank Bedford	5 Years

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

DIOCESE OF
CAIRNS



On the 1st of May Fr Hilary Flynn will move from Tully to parish priest of Ravenshoe. Fr Michael Szymanski will move from Atherton-Herberton to Tully as parish priest.

End of May 2020: Fr Joby Jose will move from Mossman and Port Douglas to Atherton-Herberton as parish priest. Fr Dariusz Osinski will move from Atherton-Herberton to take up the appointment as parish priest of Mossman and Port Douglas, while continuing with the pastoral oversight of Weipa.

14/15 March 2020: Fr Roy Neervelil Chacko will become resident priest administrator of Gordonvale parish. Fr Laurie Timms will continue with the pastoral care of Cooktown, co-ordinator of ministries in the Gulf Region and will work with Fr Dariusz visiting Weipa once a month.

SR MARY OF MERCY... REST IN PEACE

Adapted by Editorial Staff from Eulogy written by Sr Pat O'Shea, Sr Irene Masterson & entries from Sr Mary Mercy's diary

Sr Mary of Mercy was born Emma Therese Wallwork on 5th September 1922. She writes in her treasure trove of diaries that her primary school days were very happy ones, taken up with school, sport, and music, both piano and violin. Her long association with Mount St Bernard College, Herberton, began in 1937 when she enrolled in Sub-Junior.

Therese entered the Sisters of Mercy, Herberton, on 14th May 1940. After receiving her habit on 16th January 1941, she took the name Sr Mary of Mercy. Her final profession was on 22nd January 1946.

Sr Mary of Mercy was a highly gifted musician, excelling in piano, violin, and singing. For many years from the 1940s to the early 1960s, Sister shared her great gift with countless music students, many of whom, in turn, excelled in piano, violin, or singing and later pursued careers in music.

In the 1970s, Sister began a new ministry in primary school teaching

with appointments in Atherton, Ravenshoe, Gordonvale, St Joseph's, North Cairns, and then St Monica's where she resumed music teaching and took up a new role in school music.

Together with other dedicated music teachers in Cairns, Sister introduced primary school children to playing stringed instruments; this led in due course to the establishment of the Cairns Youth Orchestra. Later, Sister Mary Mercy enjoyed many years as a violinist in the Cairns Orchestra.

Sister Mary Mercy's long association with Mercy Place began when she was appointed in 1997 to care for our elderly Sisters resident in the then diocesan owned Bethlehem Home. In 2002 she moved to Coral Sea Gardens while continuing her care of the Sisters and remained in her unit until June 2013 when increasing frailty brought her to Mercy Place. She died on 2nd January 2020.

We give thanks for the love and care she received at Mercy Place.

POSTCARDS FOR FARMERS...

Written by Michelle Hall (Assistant Principal Religious Education)

In Term 4, 2019, every student at St Augustine's School in Mossman wrote a personal card to a student in a drought-affected area across Western New South Wales. Each child wrote a brief message to the recipient to say that we were sending kind thoughts and prayers for rain as a Christmas wish.



Over 150 cards were sent to students at the following schools: St Mary's School - Warren, St Joseph's School - Peak Hill, St Therese's School Wilcannia, St Ignatius School - Bourke and St Augustine's School - Narromine.

Students also showed their support for the farming communities by participating in a "Dress as a Farmer" day. The Year 4 class used IT to do a video conference call to a drought-affected family farm in South Australia. The children in this family are educated by "School of the Air" and our students were able to ask questions of the children on the farm about the drought.

This opportunity provided our students with a greater understanding of farm life and the challenges of living through a drought.



Dress as a Farmer Day

SCHOOL SAVVY 2020 COMES TO A CLOSE

Written by Astrid Murray (Communications Officer)



The official opening of the 2020 School Savvy FNQ shop took place on the 14th of January 2020 with the shop located on the ground floor of Centacare FNQ in Aplin Street.

The opening was attended by partners and supporters, including major partner Vinnies Far North Queensland's Executive Officer David Monaghan, School Savvy donors, local Councillors, Bishop James Foley, Executive Director of Catholic Education Bill Dixon,

representatives from Queensland Education as well as partners and friends.

The School Savvy pop-up shop was, once again, open to selling low cost, new and second-hand uniforms and school supplies in addition to providing information and resources for parents. Additionally, and for the first time, we were able to offer back-to-school haircuts for 56 children and also provide an opportunity for learning and skill development in the retail trade for upCyclinc trainees currently studying their Cert 1 in Business.

After two weeks of operation, the School Savvy team closed the

doors on the fourth School Savvy shop and as always, were taken aback by the support we receive from the community of Cairns.

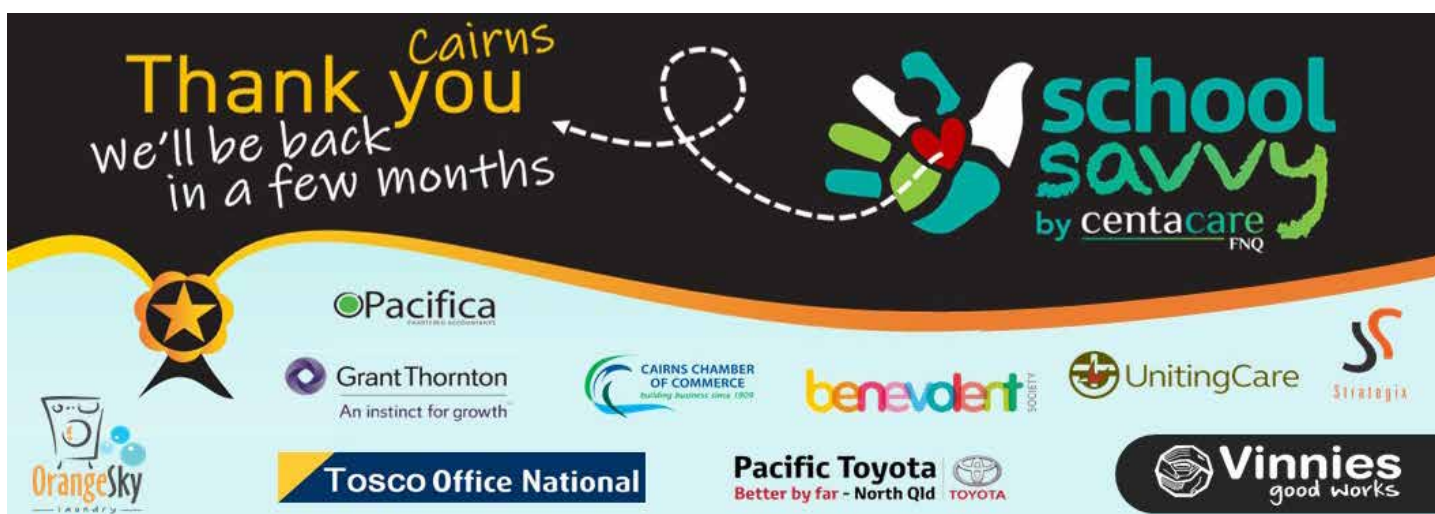
We are delighted to share that we were able to assist families by supporting over 1,000 children back to school with what they needed to be ready to learn and hope we managed to lighten the load a little making things easier for these families as they began the new school year.

A huge thank you to all of our supporters, partners, staff, volunteers and trainees for making this possible.

Thanks to School Savvy Major Partner, St Vincent de Paul Society, our partners - Pacific Toyota, Tosco Office National, Pacifica Chartered Accountants, Grant Thornton Australia, Orange Sky Laundry in Cairns, the Cairns Chamber of Commerce, the Benevolent Society in Cairns, UnitingCare and Strategix in Cairns for your generosity and support.

Since School Savvy began in 2016, the initiative has helped to support 5,500 local children and, we estimate over 7,000 children across Queensland started school with appropriate uniforms and resources. We are incredibly proud of this and thankful to our partners and supporters who have helped to make this possible.

The initiative for 2020-21 will begin earlier, and we hope to be able to assist more children in the future. Keep up to date with School Savvy by liking and following the School Savvy FNQ Facebook page.



REACH YOUTH MINISTRIES INC PRESENTS

Reach Youth Camp 2020

Clear and Present God

When: Saturday 27 June - Tuesday 30 June 2020
Where: Quinola Lakes Camping Centre, Malanda
Who: Year 7 - Year 12 youth
Cost: \$120 (includes camp accommodation, food and program)
Supported by McAuley Ministries and Diocese of Cairns

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW
WWW.REACHYOUTH.ORG.AU

MAREEBA PARISHIONER PREPARES TO SHARE HER SKILLS OVERSEAS

Adapted by Editorial Team from Palms Australia Media Release



Diane Harrison was born in Papua New Guinea shortly before her family brought her to Australia as a young child. She has travelled back a few times over the years and has stayed in contact with several friends and family members in PNG.

Through one of her connections there, she was encouraged to consider a long-term stay working in her country of birth. She has been inspired to reach beyond and embrace that call.

Diane joined Palms Australia's placement program in late 2019 and took part in an 8-day residential Orientation Course in January 2020. The Diocese of Cairns very generously provided the cost of her place in the course.

The Orientation Course prepares participants for the physical, psychological, and social impacts of working in a long-term placement within a culture different from their own. It also equips them to work effectively and respectfully with partner organisations overseas, as well as to learn and grow from their experience of working within another culture.

Diane said, "The course was very informative and I realised that, even with my existing connection to PNG, there was a lot more that I needed to know in order to work well in a cross-cultural context. I'm very excited about re-visiting my country of origin and connecting more closely with the people there. I'm generally open to new experiences and am looking forward to working in a place where people are less materialistic and find happiness in their strong community and family ties. I feel that those qualities will have a strong, positive impact on me both professionally and as a human being."

The team at Palms Australia receives numerous requests from overseas communities for Australian professionals to work with them, and they are in the process of matching Diane with a suitable position to take on later this year. Palms is a registered charity that has been working to reduce poverty through long-term, professional placements for almost 60 years.

Maybe there is an opportunity somewhere for you in Africa, Asia, or the Pacific where other Palms partner communities are requesting qualified and experienced Australians to assist and build the skills of their people. All professionals and tradespeople can inquire. If you would like to visit other Palms participants in placement, Palms has a few places left on their 2020 Encounter visits to Kiribati in May, Timor-Leste in September, and the Thailand/Myanmar border in November. For more information, you can call the Palms office on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au.

A HUGE SURPRISE

Written by Editorial Staff

Sarina Messina, who retired in 2018, was bestowed the Symbol of Honour of the Exalted Cross – Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (for services to the Church and to the Pope), which is instituted for persons distinguished for outstanding service and zeal.

Sarina worked in the diocesan pay office for over 30 years and her outstanding characteristic was her extreme confidentiality.

Also, her dedication to the task in keeping abreast of all the rules and regulations in that field and making sure staff received their wages on time.

On 10th December 2019 Sarina was requested to come to the Bishop's House to meet with Bishop James. Unbeknown to Sarina, Bishop then presented her with the medal and certificate in the presence of

Diocesan Finance & Employee Services and Bishop's House staff. She was so surprised and very happy to receive this honour. Sarina sent an email later in the day.

Dear Bishop James

Thank you so much for the Pontifical medal Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice. Words elude me, I still can't believe it. I am very humbled to receive this award, it is such an honour and deeply appreciated. I will really treasure it. Heartfelt thanks.

Regards,

Sarina Messina



SPACE CAMP!

Written by Ms. Wanda Metcalf (St Monica's College Science Teacher)

Over the Christmas holidays, Mary Blee (2019 Year 8 student) and Science teacher Ms Wanda Metcalf were lucky enough to go to the USA on "Space Camp" also known as the Actura Space School Program expedition.

The opportunity arose because St Monica's College is a member of The Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia, which is a leading voice for the educational advancement of young women. They advocate for and support the distinctive work of girls' schools in their provision of unparalleled opportunities for female students.

The Alliance contributes to the development and promotion of education in Australasia and the empowerment of young women



St Monica's student Mary Blee (Back Row, second from right) with her training group Team Callisto

For the Joy of the Lord is your **STRENGTH** NEHEMIAH 8:10

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catholic mission 2020 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL
Free call: 1800 257 296 | catholicmission.org.au/cambodia

to reach their potential and become influential contributors to our complex and changing world.

The Actura Space School Program was established in Australia in 2014 and provides the leading STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Mathematics) learning solutions spanning from in-class to out-of-class environments and aims to deliver the best STEAM experience at the most inspiring organisation, NASA.

The program offered a variety of fun activities including training in celestial navigation by observing outer space in the planetarium. Also experiencing what maneuvering in a zero-gravity environment felt like while fixing satellites on the ISS. Groups attempted a moonwalk on a 1/6 gravity chair and shooting to the stars on the 'Moon Shot' accelerator ride. However, meeting and having dinner with former NASA astronaut Nicole Stott presented a 'once in a lifetime' experience for both teachers and students alike.



Wanda on the left with Nicole Stott, a retired NASA Astronaut, who went to space four times and lived on the ISS (International Space Station) for over 6 months.

Gather20
Encounter the Way! **20**

23-25 AUGUST 2020
Royal International Convention Centre, Bowen Hills, Brisbane Australia

This year, as we celebrate 175 years of Catholic education in Queensland, join us as we explore, celebrate, discover and dialogue in a re-imagining of our story into the future!

Find your encounter points through four streams across the conference:
Mission Formation Curriculum Culture

Scholars
Professor Amy-Jill Levine
Professor Didier Pollefeyt
Dr Michelle Connolly rsj

Prophetic Voices
Fr Ron Rolheiser omi
Sr Kathleen Bryant rsc
Fr Frank Brennan sj

Artists & Storytellers
Sr Susan Dally ibvm
Aunty Miriam Rose
Anne Kertz Kenion

Musicians & Liturgists
The Brilliance
Diana Macalintal
John Angotti

Provocateurs
David Wells
Richard Leonard sj

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RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

Written by Peter Buckley (Parishioner)

Following the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, the process by which new members join our Catholic community changed markedly from the private meetings and lessons to a more public and community-engaging experience. The current process by which new members are brought into the Catholic Church is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or the RCIA.

RCIA is best described as a journey of faith that passes through several different phases and focuses on the conversion of heart and mind to Christ. It is a gradual journey tailored to the needs of the individual.

Candidates wishing to become members of the Catholic community meet regularly with a group of people from the parish to learn about Catholic belief and practice. Various rituals are held in the church at important points along the journey.

St Francis Xavier's Parish has welcomed a number of new members through the RCIA Program, and these new members of our community are much-loved and valued in our parish life and activities.

Two candidates, Donna and Jo, are currently participating in the RCIA Program. They meet weekly with our parish priest, Fr Frank Gordon, and with parishioners Carmel, John and Burnie to continue their faith journey. They are making use of the book *At Home with God's People* as a guide and reference. And it is a valuable resource to complement the prayer and discussions that arise from their weekly meetings.

Donna, Jo (and with the whole parish community prayerfully supporting them) are looking forward very much to the day when they will become full members, sharing in the sacramental and community life of St Francis Xavier's Parish.



L-R Fr Frank Gordon, Carmel, John, Candidate Jo, Burnie, Candidate Donna.



St Vincent de Paul Society
NATIONAL COUNCIL of AUSTRALIA Inc. *good works*

VINNIES IS PART OF THE TOOLBOX IN FIRE RESPONSE

National President of the St Vincent de Paul Society Claire Victory said recently that the needs of people affected by the bushfire crisis are front of mind for the many volunteers and staff at Vinnies engaged in recovery efforts.

Ms. Victory said the Society is responding in all affected states and territories through local Vinnies conferences in many communities in affected areas.

'The Society is responding through its network of local conferences and support services as the crisis develops. We understand there are many, many organisations engaged in the immediate emergency response. The Society is doing what it can, working with these organisations to meet the needs in local communities.'

'Once the smoke has literally settled, and the extent of the devastation dawns on individuals, families and whole communities, the Society will be there to help with the recovery process as people begin to rebuild their lives. We are present, at the service of those communities, providing personal and practical support and referral to professional services.'

'Vinnies is part of an integrated, whole-of-community response the government can call upon now, and in the weeks and months ahead. We are working with other lead agencies to accompany people whose lives have been devastated by the fires.'

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia consists of 60,000 members and volunteers who operate on the ground through over 1,000 conferences located in individual parishes across the country.

A REFLECTION ON THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2019

Written by Kara Martin (St Joseph's Primary School Year 5 Teacher)

ACYF has been an experience I will never forget. This amazing opportunity has allowed me to see how powerful and strong the Catholic faith is here in Australia. It has shown me that so many young people do believe they are just searching for contemporary ways to express their faith. It was great to spend three days with likeminded people and to have deep conversations about this wonderful faith that we share.

I loved that ACYF provided so many workshops to cater to people's interests. The program provided practical activities to engage in and speakers who shared insightful and relevant messages for young people. As an educator, it was fantastic to see so many young adults praising and talking about Jesus. It allows the students to feel comfortable talking about their faith to people who won't judge them. I would encourage all young people to look for opportunities to attend ACYF in the future.

The job of our local churches is to be open to what will interest our young people to engage them in our faith more deeply. I hope that Catholic Education will invest in some of these amazing speakers to talk to our young people in Cairns. These amazing speakers provided people at ACYF with so many key takeaways and messages encouraging us to open up to the Holy Spirit. I would also encourage Catholic Education to continue investing in the formation of students and

teachers. These opportunities allow people of all ages to develop their faith and assist in developing the faith of others they encounter.

It is our job to share what we have heard and experienced, and as Steve Angrisano said, *"Be a reflection of hope and light. Be a reflection of God."*



L-R Janai Sugars, Kara Martin, Belle Lamont, Anne Chellingworth

2019 AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PERTH: LIFE-CHANGING!

Written by Hannah Prasad (Year 11 Student St Monica's College)

Before experiencing ACYF I was hesitant to go, but after my experience at this festival, my life changed completely.

Going to my first ACYF Youth Festival in Perth was probably one of the best decisions I've ever made in my life. ACYF is one of the main events for the Catholic youth of Australia to delve deeper into

their faith and explore what it's like to live out a true Catholic life.

Throughout the four days spent at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, I had an amazing time. I explored the expo which was filled with food trucks, fun exhibits and stalls from Catholic organisations regarding different pathways.

I experienced five plenaries (gatherings of all participants) which involved fun music, dance and worship filled with energy and wisdom and met so many inspiring and like-minded people who shared the same faith and values as I did.

One of the highlights of ACYF was definitely 'Adoration' which was such a moving, overwhelming and overall surreal experience filled with praise and worship. There were many other breathtaking moments from this festival including a talk that changed my life forever. I learned that everyone was born with a gift (something someone is naturally talented/good at) and our purpose in life is to share this gift with others in order to inspire, motivate and bring the best out of others.

Overall my first ACYF was an awe-inspiring experience that I will treasure for a long time. I am grateful for Reach Youth Ministries leaders and participants for supporting me throughout this trip and making it fun, safe and enjoyable.

Lastly, a big thanks to St Monica's College for sponsoring me. It is definitely a festival that I would recommend to other students wanting to deepen their faith.



L-R Brigid O'Brien, Charles Churchwood, Chloe Jones, Matthew Prasad, Hannah Prasad.

St Augustine's College Cairns Celebrates 90 Years



NOW



THEN



Photo: College Students early 1930's.



Photo: M. Garvey Builders late 1920's

On Monday, 10 February, 1930 the first 96 students were enrolled at St Augustine's College.

Classes began on the verandah of the unfinished Brothers' Monastery with no desks and the boys sitting in old church pews with planks of wood laid around the ground to help the students stay out of the mud. Brother Reginald (St Augustine's first Principal) was the only Brother present as the others were held up by floodwaters.

The official opening was the day prior on 9 February, 1930, however many invited guests including the Archbishop James Duhig and three new Brothers from Brisbane were stranded south of the Burdekin

River due to severe flooding from seasonal rains.

The opening ceremony went ahead as planned with Bishop Byrne conducting the opening ceremony along with Brother Reginald and the then Mayor of Cairns, Alderman W.A. Collins as a guest speaker.

Today, 90 years on, we still see the same Christian and Marist values in the Men of Saints. Within these values, the students are challenged academically with contemporary pedagogical practices, culturally through our community engagement and service programs and involvement in many sporting competitions. In this, the 90th

Anniversary of a fine Catholic Marist College it is wonderful to see the continued dedication to preparing tomorrow's leaders with Strong Minds and Gentle Hearts. Saints students develop life long connections to the local and broader communities thus preparing students to become good Christians and good citizens.

ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE 90TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebration

FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2020

The day will start with a special Mass to give thanks for the past 90 years and the years still to come. Tours of the College will take place throughout the day.

St Augustine's 90th Gala Dinner to be held at the Australian Armour & Artillery Museum.



Celebrating



FOR MORE DETAILS & TICKETS - www.sac.qld.edu.au
f St Augustine's Cairns

WELCOME FR ROY NEERVELIL CHACKO TO THE DIOCESE OF CAIRNS

I am the sixth of the seven children, four brothers, and two sisters. I wished from primary school itself to be a priest. Since I was born and brought up in a village in India, the church and parish school were the two factors which played a significant role in my journey of vocation.

Another fact I am sure of for my vocation, was my mother. She was a regular for every day Mass and would participate in church activities and different groups of the church. She insisted I participate in the Mass and evening prayers at home.

While I was waiting for the secondary school results, I wanted to participate in a Vocation Camp and I went with two of my friends. I wanted to join a religious congregation, so I gave my address to different vocation promoters. Again, I was called to attend a camp convoked by CST Fathers Little Flower Congregation with my friend. He was selected, and they told me that I could try after two years. I was sad, but by the providence of God a priest came home unexpectedly and I joined The Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC).

The formation period at minor seminary and the major seminary was quite interesting for me as I always liked the community life. There were, of course, hard times, but I believe God had this plan for me.

On 2nd January 2007, I was ordained as a priest and for one year served the congregation as Vocation promoter. Then I was transferred to the community in Mexico. For five years, I worked in a parish as an assistant parish priest and hospital chaplain. Then another three years as a parish

priest in the same parish.

Later I went back to India, Kerala and was working there for another three years in the formation house, in the parish and doing some studies etc.

Now the journey happily continues here in this wonderful land. May God continue to work in me and through me to serve you all and for His glory.



L-R Fr Roy and Fr Joby

CONGRATULATIONS FR JOBY JOSE

On the 26th January this year, Fr Joby became an Australian Citizen at the Port Douglas Community Hall, and on behalf of the diocese, we wish to congratulate him on becoming an *Aussie*.

Fr Joby hails from the parish St Paul's Church, Vakakkadu from the Diocese of Pala in Kerala, India. He was born on the 1st May 1979 at Moonnilavu, Kerala. He joined the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC) on the 17th June 1994. He was ordained a priest on the 26th of November 2008.

He arrived in Cairns along with Fr Saju in January 2015. He was a priest in residence at St Joseph's Parish Parramatta Park until July 2017. He was then given the role of Assistant Priest for the Atherton, Herberton and Malanda parishes until October 2018. In December 2018, he took on the role of Administrator Mossman/Port Douglas parish where he is to this day.

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WEEKEND COTTAGE RESPITE AT THE CENTACARE SOCIAL WELLBEING HUB

Written by Team Leader of Social Wellbeing Hub Gudelia Mato and Communications Officer Astrid Murray

When you are caring for a loved one, you need to nurture yourself to be able to sustain your caring role for as long as possible while ensuring the person you are caring for has quality time as well.

Sometimes all you need is a quick break – a couple of days or a weekend away from your caring responsibilities to recharge your batteries. However, to do this, you need to be certain that the person you look after will be cared for in a safe, home-like environment by a professional team.

Well, we can now help you. Centacare is proud to announce that the Centacare Social Wellbeing Hub now offers Weekend Cottage Respite in a caring home-like environment and we're delighted to present three freshly decorated and comfortable bedrooms. We believe we are the first organisation to offer Weekend Cottage Respite in the Northern Beaches area.

The Social Wellbeing Hub is located in a quiet setting in Holloways Beach. The house is fully air-conditioned and completely accessible, surrounded by beautiful gardens with a large undercover patio. We also recently installed a brand new kitchen, dining, and family area. Our guests have access to TV, the internet, iPads and can take part in games and activities.

The Social Wellbeing team can provide trips on our bus to the beach, which is close by, and all meals will be taken care of – breakfast, a light lunch, and dinner, and home-cooked.

But there's more! We have a double room which allows us to accommodate couples who need care but wish to stay together.

To access our Weekend Cottage Respite, you need to be registered with Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre (CRCC), and they will arrange your respite and financial assistance. You can contact them by calling 1800 052 222 during business hours or 1800 059 059 for emergency respite support outside of business hours.

Call the Social Wellbeing Hub on (07) 4055 0890 or email us at swh@centacarefnq.org for more information, if you have any problems registering with CRCC and/or you would like to arrange a visit to our premises.

**Centacare FNQ
Social Wellbeing Hub
AGED CARE & SOCIAL SUPPORT**

Centacare Social Wellbeing Hub's Aged Care & Social Support program is for people over the age of 65, or 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who are living in the community and registered with My Aged Care.

We focus on developing, maintaining and supporting social connection and independence, in an easy-going homelike environment. We are a small centre with a friendly and highly professional team, located at beautiful Holloways Beach.

A range of activities are offered including tai-chi, yoga, outings to restaurants, bowling, museums, CPAC and much more, every month to meet the needs of the group. Morning tea and a light lunch are included and transport can be arranged if required.

Want to know more?

Contact Gudelia to make a booking or for more information. Call (07) 4055 0890 or email us at swh@centacarefnq.org and we can go from there.

centacare
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[centacarefnq.org](https://www.centacarefnq.org)

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THOUGHTS FROM DUX STUDENTS AT ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE 2019

(Student's speeches adapted by Editorial Staff)



Tara Duckworth, Adam Young, Nicholas Kerlin, and Ben Stein were all invited back to St Andrew's College to address the Academic Assembly. They all commenced their speeches with what an honour it was to be recognised as one of the four duxes of St Andrew's for 2019.

Adam said: I hope that this achievement may serve as an inspiration and provide motivation to the younger students of St. Andrew's.

Tara said: Time management is the key in balancing extracurricular activities with school work and everything else you've got going on in life

Ben said: If I could give current and future students some insight and advice on how to succeed at school, it would be to embrace the art of making mistakes. Mistakes help us to gain vital knowledge that helps us to understand ourselves better.

Nicholas said: It took a lot of time and effort because nothing comes from nothing. I had my share of assignments that were left too late, followed by sleepless nights and days of dreading school, but I ramped up my productivity and achieved my goal.

In their concluding statements, they all expressed their thanks to the excellent teachers, their family, and friends.

Adam said: I want to conclude by thanking my family members and teachers who pushed me to do well. Helped me foster a greater

appreciation for school, and made my time at St Andrew's Catholic College a great experience

Ben said: I would like to close by expressing my vote of thanks to the amazing people in my life who have influenced me throughout this journey. If I had a cent for every time I was supported by the caring staff at St Andrew's or my family and friends, I would be a millionaire several times over

Nicholas said: You are surrounded by an amazing group of people full of ideas to share and shoulders to lean on. Look after each other. Whether you're aiming to complete that Certificate, score that apprenticeship, or reach that ATAR rank, knowing that you have made the most out of every opportunity is an incredible feeling and that it has all been worth it.

Tara said: of my time at St Andrew's, I have been lucky to be surrounded by excellent teachers who truly do their best by their students and lose more sleep than they should over your exams. Your senior years are undoubtedly some of your most difficult in your life, yet they are some of your most memorable. From camps and formals, Years 10 -12 are a whirlwind of activity and milestones that pass way too quickly.

To all the students present, they said, *"We wish you every success in your studies in 2020 and beyond. Good luck..."*



L-R Mr James Greatorex, Dr Sean Mangan, Tara Duckworth, Adam Fischer-Young, Nicholas Kerlin, Benjamin Stein & Mr Brad Greene

2020 EASTER MASS TIMES

PARISH	HOLY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	HOLY SATURDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
CAIRNS: St Monica's Cathedral, 181 Abbott St.	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	9am Morning Prayer -Bishop's House Chapel (entry via house front door or parish office); 11am Stations of the Cross then Reconciliation; 3pm Passion of the Lord then Reconciliation	Morning Prayer 9am Bishop's House Chapel (entry via house front door or parish office), Reconciliation 11.30am-12.30pm; Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	6.30am, 10am, 5pm
ATHERTON: St Joseph's, 28 Mabel St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 10am; Passion of the Lord 3pm (Reconciliation after the Passion)	Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	10am, no evening Mass
BABINDA: St Rita's 15, Church St		Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 6pm	
BAMAGA: St Stephen's, Lui St		Please telephone Thursday Island Parish on 40692205		
CARDWELL: Our Lady Star of the Sea, 121 Victoria St		Passion of the Lord 3pm		9.30am
CHILLAGOE: St Nicholas of Tolentino and Bl Mother Mary of the Cross, 24-28 Queen St		Stations of the Cross 3pm		Liturgy of the Word with Communion 9am
COOKTOWN: St Mary's, Furneaux St	The Lord's Supper Liturgy of the Word with Communion 6pm	Stations of the Cross 3pm	Liturgy of the Word with Communion 6pm	
CROYDON: St Margaret's, Lot 9, Allridge St.		NO EASTER SERVICES		
DIMBULAH: St Anthony's, Raleigh St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 5pm	Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 5pm	
EARLVILLE: Our Lady Help of Christians, 18 Balaclava Rd.	Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm	Stations of the Cross 10am, Reconciliation 10.30-11.30am, Passion of the Lord 3pm, Reconciliation 4-5pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 6pm	8am
EDMONTON (Bentley Park): St Therese's, 135 Robert Rd.	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 11am, Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	8.30am; NO EVENING MASS
EL ARISH: Our Lady of Fatima,				10am
FORSAYTH: St Augustine of Canterbury		NO EASTER SERVICES		
FRESHWATER: Sacred Heart, Duffy St		Stations of the Cross 9am		7am
GEORGETOWN: St Patrick's, 88 High St.		NO EASTER SERVICES		
GORDONVALE: St Michael's, 4 Muir St.	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 9am then Passion of the Lord 3pm	Reconciliation held on Sat 4th Feb 9am to 10am. Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	8am
GREGORY DOWNS		NO EASTER SERVICES		
HAMMOND ISLAND: ST JOSEPH THE WORKER		Please telephone Thursday Island Parish on 40692205		
HERBERTON: St Patrick's, 2 Moffat St.		Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at MSB 10.30am begins at MSB		11am
HORN ISLAND: Holy Family, Outie St.		Please telephone Thursday Island Parish on 40692205		
INNISFAIL: Mother of Good Counsel, 90 Rankin St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm	Stations of the Cross 10.30am; Reconciliation 11.30am; Passion of the Lord 3pm	Reconciliation 11:30am Easter Vigil & Mass 8pm	9am
KARUMBA: St James and St John's, 59 Yappar St		NO EASTER SERVICES		

Information is also available at (07) 4051 1990 or www.cairns.catholic.org.au

PARISH	HOLY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	HOLY SATURDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
KURANDA: St Christopher's, 20 Barang St	Mass of the Lords Supper 10am	Passion of the Lord 12pm		5pm
MALANDA: St James's, 7 Monash Ave	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	8.30am
MAREEBA: St Thomas of Villanova, 57 Constance St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm	Stations of the Cross 9.30am; Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 7.30pm	10am
MERCY PLACE WESTCOURT: Trinity Chapel, 257 Gatton St				10am
MILLAA MILLAA: St Rita of Cascia, 21 Coral St		Stations of the Cross 10.30am		10.30am
MISSION BEACH: Holy Spirit, cnr Webb & Beadman Rds		Passion of the Lord 3pm		7am
MOSSMAN: St Augustine's, 24b Grogan St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross 10am	Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	7am
MOURILYAN: Christ the King, 10 Harbour Rd				7am
MOUNT GARNET: Holy Rosary, 3 Opal St		Stations of the Cross 8am		7.30am
NORMANTON: Our Lady Help of Christians, 26 Dutton St		NO EASTER SERVICES		
NORTH CAIRNS: Mother of Good Counsel, 394 Sheridan St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 10am; Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 5.30pm	
PARRAMATTA PARK: St Joseph's, Cnr Draper & Loeven Sts	Mass of the Lord's Supper 5.00pm; Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm (Indian Community)	Stations of the Cross 2.30pm followed by the Passion of the Lord; and at 6pm Passion of the Lord (Indian Community)	Reconciliation: (Cathedral 11.30am to 12.30pm); Easter Vigil & Mass 6.30pm (Indian Community)	8.30am
PORT DOUGLAS: St Mary's, 2 Endeavour St		Passion of the Lord 3pm		9am
RAVENSHOE: St Teresa of the Child Jesus, 21 Moore St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 10am	Passion of the Lord 9.30am Ecumenical Stations of the Cross 4pm		9am
REDLYNCH: All Saints Chapel, St Andrews College, Intake Rd				10am
SILKWOOD: St John the Evangelist, Harold St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm	Passion of the Lord 3pm		8am
SOUTH JOHNSTONE: St Rita's, 5 Green St				
STRATFORD: St Augustine's, 23 Kamerunga Rd		Stations of the Cross 10am		10.30am
THURSDAY ISLAND: Sacred Heart, Douglas St		Please telephone Parish on 40692205		
TRINITY PARK: Holy Cross, Reed Rd,	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 11.30am; Passion of the Lord 3pm	Morning Prayer and blessing of Easter food 9am, Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	8.30am
TULLY: St Clare of Montefalco, 13 Mars St	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 10am; Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 6pm	
WEIPA: St Joseph's, Boundary Rd	Mass of the Lords Supper 7pm	Stations of the Cross 8.30am Reading of the Passion 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 6pm	8.30am
WEST CAIRNS: Cnr Mayers & Atkinson Sts	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm	Stations of the Cross 11am, Passion of the Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm	8am; NO EVENING MASS
YUNGABURRA: St Patrick's, 3 Mulgrave Rd		Stations of the Cross 11am		8am

NEW COMMITTEE AT THE HELM OF THE CAIRNS CURSILLO MOVEMENT

Written by Maria Mezes (Secretary)

The movement has announced its new committee elected at the Annual General Meeting in January 2020. Members include Rosalee Lankinen (President), Peter Elliss (Treasurer), Maria Mezes (Secretary), and Heather Mumme (Palanca Prayer Secretary). Kath Ball will continue the role of Editor of the quarterly newsletter, *Lay Apostle*.

President Mrs. Rosalee Lankinen congratulated the new committee members on their commitment to Cursillo. *"We are grateful to the team for taking on these roles. Their work will allow Cursillo to continue its renewal and growth in the Cairns Diocese," she said. "Volunteering takes time, commitment, and enthusiasm and requires a strong faith. This committee is always supported by several people who regularly give without counting the cost."*

Mrs. Lankinen said the new committee was especially grateful to Mrs. Kathleen Ball. *"Kath has worked tirelessly for Cursillo in the Cairns Dioceses for more than 40 years. This has included Kath's time as President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as Editor of the quarterly newsletter, Lay Apostle," she said.*

"We also take this opportunity to acknowledge the many years that Richard (Leigh) Garnaut dedicated to Cursillo. He was a creative and gifted musician who devoted considerable time and resources to Cursillo until his untimely passing last year," she said.

The Cursillo movement plays an important role in the Catholic Church with its focus on helping people to discover themselves, their relationship with Christ, and with others.

In Pope Francis' 2013 *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel)

his Holiness challenged local Churches throughout the world *"to place mission above maintenance, to not be satisfied with the way things have always been done, to engage young people fully in the mission of the Church and to reveal the mercy of God in all that we say and do."*

Mrs. Lankinen encouraged more people to consider attending the Cursillo short course, which will be held on the Queen's Birthday long-weekend in early October 2020. This short course in Christian living in the heart of Cursillo.

The program presents a specific method for deepening and living out our Christian faith and is followed by regular events to support and grow its member's faith lives. This course is ideal for all Catholics, couples, and singles seeking to deepen their faith. Catholic Education school teachers who attend the weekend can also gain an eight-hour in-service recognition for their attendance.

Further information and history of the Cursillo Movement are available by visiting: Australian Catholic Cursillo Movement www.cursillo.asn.au or www.cairns.catholic.org.au For further information about attending the Cursillo long-weekend, please contact Rosalee Lankinen 0429 426 949, Peter Elliss 0431 838 123 or Maria Mezes 0422 585 744.



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ST CLARE'S CONVENT SCHOOL TULLY GRADE 7 CLASS OF 1969 CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Written by Anne Marie Cardillo (On behalf of the Committee)

It is amazing how time goes by so quickly. It was fifty years ago that we were in Grade 7 class together and then the following year, our lives took different paths – going to high school and boarding school and some students leaving the district.

However, this class was not just an ordinary class. We had stepped through classes with each other and true friendships had been made throughout these years.

The nuns and teachers taught us well, especially we mention Mother Regina whom we held in high esteem. Mother Regina was the woman who developed our characters and showed us what we needed to learn at that stage and, most importantly, taught us the true values of discipline, respect, and kindness.

Now, a lot of these reunions take place as a matter of ceremony, people are happy to meet and have dinner, and then the evening is over. Well, our grade 7 Class of 1969 is different. We spent as much time as possible with each other, reminiscing our school days.

Classmates travelled from out of town, as far as Georgetown in the north and Brisbane in the south. Arriving on Friday, the 1st

November 2019, that evening we held a welcome dinner at the Plantations Restaurant, which gave us time to catch up on the past ten years since our first reunion in 2009.

The next morning we met at St Clare's School – we marvelled at how big the school has become. We recalled moments in the classrooms that we were taught in and the ball games that we played. Also remembered were those bottles of milk which became hot before we drank them each morning for our "little lunch".

We then lunched together at Tuskers at South Mission Beach and later met that evening for our dinner at Butlers Restaurant. Certainly, it was a weekend of fun and laughter.

On Sunday morning, Father Hilary presided at the Mass at St Clare's Church mentioning our classmates with a special prayer for our departed classmates and also our teacher, Mother Regina.

The congregation congratulated the class, and then we held a morning tea at the back of the church and said some tearful goodbyes. Until 2029...



Class of 1969, now and then

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HAPPENINGS ACR

AGED CARE FACILITY HOLDS FIRST MASS

Written by Jo-Anne Chang (Co-Ordinator Pastoral Ministry to The Aged)

Fr Frank Gordon celebrated the inaugural Mass at INFIN8CARE's Edge Hill Orchards facility on Tuesday 13 January 2020, with 19 in attendance.

There was a mixture of residents, parishioners, and visitors attending; Catholic and non-Catholics. One person said *"I am not Catholic, but I like attending their services."*

All had a blessed time. A big thank you to the Lifestyle Coordinator Tania and her colleague Jo who seamlessly transferred our valued residents to and from their rooms.

We look forward with anticipation to *"growing"* as the facility increases in their services to the people of Cairns and the surrounding regions.



GET TOGETHER AT NORTH CAIRNS PARISH

The last breakfast held in February had a great roll up. The parishioners have been breakfasting on the first Sunday of the month since 2006. It's a great way for parishioners to get to know one another outside of Mass.

STATE SCHOOL RI LOOKS AT A NEW PROGRAM

Between the 10th & 12th of February, Carole Danby from Evangelisation Brisbane, in the Archdiocese of Brisbane, provided training across the diocese. Ms. Danby has developed a new Religious Instruction program titled *"Getting to Know Jesus"*. Our diocese will pilot this program with regular in-servicing for religious instructors throughout the year.



ST ANDREW'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE CONGRATULATES CLASS OF 2019 COLLEGE DUX



Tara and Dr. Sean Mangan

Tara Duckworth has been awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education Distinguished Academic Achiever Award by the Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority (QCAA).

Tara was one of only 34 students recognised throughout Queensland for distinguished academic achievement, with her result placing her ahead of 37,000 students. Additionally, Tara was the only student from Far North Queensland recognised and the only student to attend a Catholic Co-educational school.

This is the second time that QCAA has recognised a student from St Andrew's Catholic College for distinguished academic achievement; Laura-Jane Jurss-Lewis had the honour in 2015.

"Tara epitomizes what is known as the 'St Andrew's way': Pure GRIT, servant leadership, connectedness to community and stewardship. Congratulations to Tara and the three other OP 1 students for their outstanding achievements." said Mr. Brad Greene, Deputy Principal – Head of Senior Years.

"Tara's results were exceptional with outstanding results across her OP subjects, and a VET Course included as well. She studied Spanish with her 8 subjects, which were an amazing achievement. Tara was one of the College Captains in 2019, and we were all very proud of her achievements." said Dr. Sean Mangan, Principal.

CROSS THE DIOCESE

DIOCESAN CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019

On the 6th December, all diocesan staff were invited to Christmas Lunch at The RSL in the Catalina Room. Theresa Wallwork surprised us all with laminated tablemats. She had used photos from previous Christmas parties, so there was an array of photos ...some old, some new. All enjoyed lunch.

As in previous years, we all donated \$10.00 as a Secret Santa, and each department nominated their favorite charity. The successful chosen charity was *Drought Angels*, who sent a thank you early this year. The amount raised was \$500.0



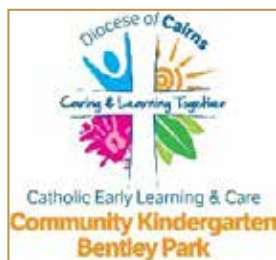
SOMETHING OLD BECOMES NEW AGAIN...



Some years ago Bishop James found a table at the back of the church on Thursday Island. Seeing the potential, he had it shipped to Cairns for restoration, turned it into an altar for the church. The table, now an altar, was finally returned to Thursday Island on the weekend of the 14/15 February and installed and blessed.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN BENTLEY PARK

Written by Stacey McDonnell Director/Teacher



It is an exciting year for the pre-prep children in Bentley Park as the kindergarten near St Therese's School opens for its first year.

Children progress through their educational journey with different ideas and thoughts about the world. The Bentley Park Kindergarten program will

utilise the framework for Early Years Spiritual development to help young learners to flourish, be kind and successful human beings in the moment. Spirituality is central to who each child is and who they will become. Building a strong spiritual foundation during kindergarten is important to help children understand that they are capable of great things when they are confident in their abilities.

The kindergarten encourages children to build relationships and inspire a sense of connectedness with families and the community through respect, empathy and compassion. Throughout the year the kindergarten will establish relationships with the St Therese's school community and the Edmonton Parish.

The kindergarten provides a welcoming environment for children, to imagine, to wonder, to explore, and make meaning of their experiences. It aims to nurture self-worth by encouraging children

to become aware of their spiritual transcendence through the exploration of social and emotional development and discovering what it means to be them. Children will be guided to develop strategies to cope with the challenges they will encounter in this world and empower them to accept themselves in their own capacity.

The Bentley Park Kindergarten is committed to the spiritual development and growth of young children through play-based learning. Implicit and explicit teaching of religiosity will be adopted to empower young children to satisfy their innate spiritual curiosity. Community involvement and participation is welcomed and encouraged in the kindergarten program.



For further information or to enroll your child please contact Stacey MacDonnell

L-R Ellie, Stacey (Teacher)
Landon, Levi and Maddalena

0436 645 606 or visit our website <https://www.ccelc.catholic.org.au/community-kindergarten/bentley-park/>

MISSION PROJECTS VISIT TO CAMBODIA

Written by Anna Jimenez, Diocesan Director Catholic Mission, Cairns



Anna with children from Taken Centre

On January 19-24, 2020, Anna Jimenez, had the opportunity to visit the missionary projects that Catholic Mission is supporting in Cambodia. Cambodia is one of the heaviest land-mined countries



Anna's Hand and the leg of an amputee from Vietnam-Cambodian War, a former soldier



Amputee-Christ - Gift to Bishop James from Anna on her return from Cambodia



Mission team with Fr Manoj and the man behind translating Khmer books into English

in the world, a legacy left by the three decades of war. This has caused many casualties that led to death and disability of many of our Cambodian brothers and sisters.

Anna shared that she encountered amazing people who are behind our missionary activity in Cambodia. She sums up the visit with four profound words – **surrender, courage, hope, and gratitude.**

To hear more about Anna's experience, please contact her directly via email: ajimenez@catholicmission.org.au or mobile: 0450 213 042.



Mentor, working for the Prefecture's Office in Battambang

A JOURNEY OF JOY, BLESSINGS AND SATISFACTION

Written by Malcolm Fahey (Mount St Bernards, Middle Leader Mathematics and Science – Equity Officer)

I recently travelled to the Philippines, on a theological tour with a group of students and lecturers, from the Australian University. It soon became apparent that *after (330) years of Spanish authoritarianism and (60+) years of American occupation, the people of the Philippines have a mission, re-establishing long lost customs and traditions.* The enduring struggle is evident in their daily lives as they seek to escape the clutches of poverty.

The Service-Learning aspect of the journey began with a visit to Ateneo de Manila University in **Quezon City**. Jesuit Priests founded this University in 1859. One of the many social justice programs facilitated through the Ateneo University is the Pathways to Higher Education or “Trailblazers” program, which identifies academically talented but financially underprivileged students to equip them with the skills necessary to have a positive influence in the transformation of the Philippines.

It was a pleasure to spend an afternoon with these confident, gifted young people who had many dreams to fill to be the best they could be. Their only concern was what would happen if they were unable to continue their dreams, as they knew what a positive outcome would mean for themselves, their families, and communities. The goal of escaping poverty, on a collective or family level, was a common thread throughout the study tour.

We visited the former slums of Munting **Pamayanan** (little community) currently undergoing an unbelievable transformation through a Filipino faith-based organisation (with roots in the Catholic Church) called Gawad Kalinga (GK) a name that arose many times throughout our tour. GK forms partnerships between communities, local authorities, and charitable organisations. The love, joy, and pride; each family has of their new home is demonstrated by the bright “colours of hope” they use to paint the exterior. The few hours that our team spent painting the outside of the newly constructed building will be indelibly etched into our memories.

The following day, we “changed our mission” to be tree planters at San Felipe in the Province of Zambales (The country’s forests, destroyed by the eruption of Mt Pinatubo, in 1991, are slowly being replanted by the traditional Aeta people.) Throughout the afternoon, our group planted more than 400 trees and shared a traditional meal, made from produce grown or collected by the people.

The next day we travelled to Lingayan to prepare for the last of our

service-learning activities at Domalandan Center Integrated School (DCIS). (DCIS is a K to 12 school with an impressive community health centre attached to it.)

At DCIS we:

- Taught lessons about “Possum Magic”
- Taught lessons about Australia – Animals, States, Capital Cities and Levels of Government
- Taught year 5 and 6 AFL
- Served in the canteen, as well as the underweight student program
- Cataloged and processed more than 1200 fiction and junior fiction books to make a mini library

The spirit of the children was incredible. Education is valued by students, throughout all year levels. The staff was so giving of their time, with many members of the group being invited to share lunch with the staff.

The impact of a small act of kindness (sending 8 boxes of books to a school many thousands of kilometers away, by parishioners in Melbourne) was immeasurable. Now, the students will have the opportunity to take reading materials to their homes. (Some will read by candlelight, others will gather around the few sources of electric lights in their homes, all will strive to read to the best of their ability and improve their opportunities in life.)

The students and staff optimise the faith of eternal hope to improve their “*lot in life*”. This hope beams from their faces like a radiant sun. It drives them in a God-loving manner, to be kind and peaceful with colleagues and friends. I encourage my colleagues to undertake similar trips in the future. It is through these types of missions that the world becomes a better place for all.



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OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS TEACHER FIRST TO RECEIVE HIGHLY ACCOMPLISHED TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Written by Stephanie Meekings (Catholic Education Services Digital Media Officer)



Madonna Archibald is the first teacher in the Cairns Diocese to become certified as a Highly Accomplished Teacher (HAT).

The nationally-recognised certification, which is open to all teachers, took two years to complete and was not an easy process, according to the OLHOC, Earlville teacher. *"The process of compiling a HAT portfolio is definitely not easy, but most certainly worthwhile,"* Madonna said.

The evidence collection is based on the teacher's practice, how they support their colleagues, the professional learning throughout the journey, and, above all, the impact they had on their students.

Principal Luke Felstead offered this comment. *"To know only five people in Catholic Education in the whole state make it all the way through to get a HAT or Lead position, I think it goes without saying we are very proud of Madonna."*

"I think one of the wonderful things about Madonna achieving HAT is that she is now a role model for other educators to challenge themselves. She has forged the path for other people to follow, and I would encourage other educators who are confident in their practice to take up the challenge."

Madonna acknowledges the influence on her colleagues as well as her students has inspired her throughout the two-year journey. *"Throughout the HAT process, my passion for teaching has become stronger, and I would hope that my impact on students' performance growth and wellbeing will benefit from this process,"* the Year 6 teacher said.

"If I were to say anything, it would be that I am quietly proud of the achievement."



Presenters



Prof. Celia Deane-Drummond



Rev Dr Peter Loy Chong



Prof. Brian Swimme

Professor Celia Deane-Drummond - Director Laudato Si' Research Institute, Campion Hall, Oxford.

Rev Dr Peter Loy Chong - President of the Federation of Bishops' Conferences of Oceania and Archbishop of Suva, Fiji.

Professor Brian Swimme (Via Zoom) - Director of the Center for the Story of the Universe and professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco.

Many more, including Sisters of Mercy and others whose work has been significant in the field.

See website for details
<https://www.rahamim.org.au/laudato-si-5-conference>

Email us at
conference@rahamim.org.au



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OF AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA

About the Conference

The five-year anniversary of Laudato Si' marks a time for reflection and considered action on the call to live into a new paradigm of Integral Ecology. The Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea, in partnership with the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at ACU, invite you to join us as we explore this call.

The Process

The conference is framed by a process of appreciative enquiry facilitated by Margie Abbott RSM. It invites all participants to contemplate the signs of the times and contribute towards imaginative outcomes.

Study and Professional Learning

Participation in this event can be counted toward credit in Masters level courses and professional learning credit with ACU, subject to successful completion of specified assessment, see website for details.

A HEARTFELT FAREWELL TO AUNTY JOAN...

Adapted by Editorial Staff from Brisbane Archdiocese & Queensland Churches Together Information

We wish to advise of the death of Aunty Joan Hendriks, a descendant of the Ngugi people of Moreton Bay Queensland. Aunty Joan was a Quandamooka elder, an adult educator, and advocate for reconciliation achieved through the understanding of cultural differences.

She spoke of the *"deep rooted spiritual connectedness of Land as Life for the Indigenous peoples of Australia as the essence of our very being"* and of how the *"spirit of reconciliation requires that there is an understanding of the sacredness of the land and the connectedness of people with God through the whole of God's creation"*.

Since the 1980s, she has worked in Aboriginal education in primary and secondary schools, local church and community organizations, in government and internationally at the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Forum.

Aunty Joan was a former student at Brisbane's Lourdes Hill College and was awarded the Australian Catholic University's honour, Doctor of the University in 2012. A consistent advocate for the

rights of Indigenous people, Aunty Joan was actively involved in the campaign which saw traditional owners win native title recognition over their lands on North Stradbroke Island. She has been both well-known and deeply respected across the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

"A heartfelt farewell to Aunty Joan Hendriks at the end of her long and beautiful life," Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge said in tribute to her.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Star of the Sea Church, Cleveland, on Friday, 7 February.



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2020 COLLEGE MASS CELEBRATED ...

Written by Theresa Redgwell (Assistant Principal, Mission)

St Mary's Catholic College continued our joyous tradition of beginning a new school year with a Commencement Mass that celebrates and blesses our newest family members. Our Year 7 cohort were presented to the College community with a blessing for them, with other new students and staff. Our parish priest, Fr Martin Kenny, prayed that our journey this year will be the way for us to encounter Christ in our learning and to be transformed by His love.

Each Commencement Mass includes the Rite of Induction for our senior student leaders. We are blessed with a strong sense of service within our students, and their willingness to fulfill these vital roles is a credit to our students and families. The leaders pledge their mission statement that includes a commitment 'to leave the College a better place once having led it.' We have every confidence these fine students will do just that.

Before the Mass, Principal Mr. Wayne Wood spoke to the College, parents, and guests and said 'at St Mary's we prepare students to do well, but more importantly, we prepare students to do good. Our graduates are doing great things here in Cairns, and all over the world. They

are making a real difference in the lives of others, and we are proud to have played a role in their development. Some of our graduates are parents sitting among us this morning. We pride ourselves on being a place that inspires students to be confident, flourish and be their best.

But, it is important that our students know that 'Making a difference in the world' is not about making a huge change, or being recognised by many, or solving global issues. It's about doing the small things that are important to people.'

Mr. Wood concluded his address with the College stating the College mission statement - Through Faith, Hope and Love, we make a difference in our world.



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CENTACARE FNQ COUNSELLING CONNECTS TO WELLBEING

Written by Astrid Murray (Communications Officer)



Centacare is delighted to announce that our Counselling team is now registered to receive referrals from Connect to Wellbeing. We are delighted to have practitioners on the team who are able to deliver this service.

Connect to Wellbeing provides streamlined access to mental health services for people in northern Queensland. Connect to Wellbeing provides a single point of entry to psychological services that connect people with the right service at the right time. The service is accessible online, via phone or email.

Anyone needing mental health support can be referred by their GP or primary health team to Connect to Wellbeing for assistance to connect with registered local services such as ours.

Once a referral is received by Connect to Wellbeing, a clinician will assess to understand an individual's needs and determine relevant and available support services.

Connect to Wellbeing works to ensure that the right service is available at the right time. Although people can request to be referred to a particular organisation, their referral must come through their GP or primary health team, who are then kept up to date as referrals are actioned and received by service providers.

Based on the stepped care model of mental health support, Connect to Wellbeing focuses on the integration of the health care system and facilitates people moving easily between programs as their support needs change over time.

Connect to Wellbeing doesn't replace the referral system used by Queensland Health - Mental Health Services. Referrals to Connect to Wellbeing can be made via the Connect to Wellbeing website.

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ASPIRE TO TEACH – FROM THE STUDENTS...

Written by Stephanie Meekings (Catholic Education Services Digital Media Officer)

Two schools in the Cairns Diocese are encouraging students to consider a career in teaching through the pilot-program *Aspire to Teach*.



St Mary's student Angela Miller with classmate Kelly Kaine looking on.

Cairns Catholic Education has partnered with the Department of Education Queensland and James Cook University to develop *Aspire to Teach*. The program is designed to encourage Year 10 students to consider teaching as a career and was trialled at St Andrew's Catholic College, Redlynch and St Mary's Catholic College, Woree in Term 4 last year, with a plan to roll it out to other schools in the diocese in coming years.

those skills into practice by assisting younger students in the primary years with their reading.

"I felt really proud listening to the other students read and making them feel confident about themselves," tells St Mary's student Kelly Kaine. *"If you don't want to become a teacher, it's still a good way to learn leadership skills. It gives you another skill and another perspective on how kids learn."*

Classmate Angela Miller believed the program would help younger students struggling with reading by teaching them step-by-step skills. *"If I got this opportunity when I was in primary school, it would have helped a lot, and I'm really happy that I get to help younger kids that are having issues with reading,"* tells Angela, who is considering a career in teaching or childcare after graduating.

Student Khobi Evans enjoyed the leadership skills he gained throughout the course and the chance to get to know the St Gerard Majella students, who could be attending the neighboring secondary college in the future. *"It's really cool to be able to meet the younger kids, especially because there is a chance that they will be coming to St Mary's. It's nice to see how they are progressing and be able to guide them in the right direction,"* tells Khobi.

"The response has been positive. The students really enjoyed the time in the classrooms and hearing their positive feedback was very affirming," tells St Andrew's Careers Coordinator, Renee Campbell, and *"the feedback I received from the junior school teachers was also amazing. They were so happy to have the students in; they took the initiative, and the kids loved them. It was a real win-win for everybody."*

The 'Ready Reading' component of the program required the Year 10 students to understand how children learn to read and then put

Note from the editors "There is much more to read about this pilot-program. In our Mid-Year edition, the teachers give their perspective".

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ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE STUDENTS ON RETREAT

Written by Ms. Janai Sugars (Assistant Principal Religious Education)

Year 11 and 12 students began the 2020 school year with the annual senior retreats.

On January 30th and 31st, year 12, students spent some time at Genazzano Retreat Centre reflecting on their influence and impact on others. Over the two days, the students engaged in games, craft, reflection sessions and made plans for their year as leaders of the College.

On the 3rd and 4th of February, the year 11 students explored their purpose and vocation in their lives. Throughout their activities, they took the opportunity to reflect on the relationships that have shaped

them and continue to develop them as they grow into young adults. Their retreat marks the beginning of the year 11 students' journey in the *Catholic Faith in Action* program, the senior religion course that began in 2019.

Both year levels are to be commended on the way they immersed themselves in the experience. It was wonderful to see growth in the students and strengthening of bonds across the cohorts.

A big thank-you goes to all of the teachers who attended the retreat, especially those who contributed to sessions through acting, speaking, crafting and musical support.



Year 11 Group Activity during Retreat



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We remember those who have died.

May they rest in peace.

Gino Martin	11th September 2019	Gordonvale	Anthony (Tony) Owen	6th December	Innisfail
Mario Guarrera	13th September	Innisfail	Raymond English	10th December	Innisfail
John Seeto	14th September	Cathedral	Fr John O'Connor	10th December	Tully
Antonietta Reda	17th September	Mareeba	Fr William (Bill) Grundy	12th December	Babinda
Francesco (Frank) Cavallaro	18th September	Tully	Aldo Amadio	12th December	Gordonvale
Leslie Smith	19th September	Atherton	Donato Di Marco	13th December	Mareeba
Adolfo Bombardieri	20th September	Cathedral	Carmel Hitchings	16th December	Innisfail
June Connolly	22nd September	Mossman	Felipe Pena	17th December	Mareeba
Francis (Frank) Carter	24th September	Innisfail	Biagio Galeano	17th December	Gordonvale
Antonio (Tony) Campagnolo	27th September	Innisfail	Marion Lucy	18th December	Atherton
Angela (Lea) Tomerini	2nd October	Atherton	Maria (Mary) Woods	19th December	Innisfail
Keith France	4th October	Mareeba	Caterina (Tina) Di Salvo	19th December	Innisfail
Sylvia Hood	4th October	Atherton	Catherine Rasey	22nd December	Tully
Alice Lucey	6th October	Atherton	Patricia (Pat) Pensini	24th December	Innisfail
Luciano Bozzo	7th October	Mareeba	Ivan Gredelj	25th December	Mareeba
Brian Harrison	9th October	Cathedral	Gordon McAuliffe	27th December	Atherton
Nancy Delpeche	9th October	Cathedral	Sr Mary of Mercy Wallwork	2nd January 2020	Earlville
Ivan Pirovich	13th October	Mareeba	Dorothy Langtree	2nd January	Cathedral
Christina Mazzoleni	14th October	Mareeba	Michele Priotto	9th January	Tully
Rita Nicholls	14th October	Mareeba	Amelia Tenni	11th January	Tully
Dora Santarossa	17th October	Mossman	Alfred (Alf) Cunneen	14th January	Earlville
Glenda Osborne	18th October	Mossman	Joseph Mellini	16th January	Innisfail
Yano Cappellano	25th October	Gordonvale	Raffaele (Ralph) Di Muccio	21st January	Innisfail
Luigino Parise	27th October	Mareeba	Julian Camilleri	23rd January	Babinda
Lauren Quabba	27th October	Babinda	Domenico Brancatisano	23rd January	Cathedral
Mary Burnet	28th October	Mossman	Andy Messina	25th January	Gordonvale
Matthew Betar	1st November	Cathedral	Landa Seamer	26th January	Innisfail
Ralph Rayment	2nd November	Gordonvale	Lilia Kulikovskis	31st January	Tully
Graham Calway	7th November	Mossman	Bessie Venables	31st January	North Cairns
Isabella Thompson	12th November	Mossman	Salvatore (Sam) Patane	2nd February	Innisfail
Antonino (Anthony) Lagana	14th November	Innisfail	Jack Thompson	5th February	Mossman
Joan Mackney	14th November	Atherton	Nancy (Nessie) Bellino	7th February	Innisfail
Paul McClarty	17th November	Atherton	Cecilia Ros	13th February	Innisfail
Michael Rose	21st November	Mossman	Ronald (Ron) Tait	14th February	Innisfail
Myrtle Collins	27th November	Mareeba	Loretta Ponzo	17th February	Mossman
Cyriacus (Jack) Davern	29th November	Tully	Isidora (Dorrie) Torrisi	19th February	Innisfail
Joan Bertei	30th November	Innisfail	Bruno Zanoletti	19th February	Babinda
Emmanuel Galea	4th December	Innisfail			

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Editorial staff, Cathy Spencer and Anita Lundie.

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