

Australia Medal had been a surprise to him. “The four words that sum me up about who I am and what my approach as a priest here in Blackheath has been are, and Jesus himself said it, ‘love God and love neighbour’,” he said. Sr Shanahan, from Vaucluse in Sydney, received her Order of Australia Medal for service to tertiary education and as a mentor of young students. She is currently away on retreat. Her connection with Sancta Sophia College spans more than 60 years. From 1955, she was a resident of Sancta while obtaining her undergraduate degree. She later served as principal from 1983 to 1992. Today, she remains college chaplain. Justice Owen was named an Officer of the Order of Australia. In addition to his contribution to the Truth, Justice and Healing Council and Pontifical Council for the Protection of Minors, he served on the Supreme Court of Western Australia following a distinguished legal career and has held a number of roles at the University of Notre Dame Australia.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEW REPORT** A report on religious education in Catholic schools has confirmed the need for it to remain grounded in the tradition of the Catholic Church while being responsive and relevant for all students. The report, “Ways Forward in Religious Education” summarises the perspectives of 57 leading Catholic education scholars and practitioners from around Australia; it reinforces the significance of teachers who are formed in faith and able to teach in ways that promote inclusion through experiential and inquiry-based processes.

“While much has been achieved in Religious Education over many decades, we find ourselves unsettled about our current predicament,” said Dean of La Salle Academy, David Hall FMS in his introduction to the colloquium. “We are not sure if what we are doing is really hitting the mark. The Colloquium brings together parents, academics, Catholic Education personnel, Campus Ministry, and leaders of Religious Institutes who all bring ‘a piece of the wisdom’. The challenge is one of dialogue, respectful listening, networking and learning about advancing ways forward in Religious Education.”

The report identified five interdependent characteristics integral to RE in Catholic schools – formation, pedagogy, curriculum, research, and partnerships. These characteristics were underpinned by the catechist manual, Foundations in Faith, and advanced by key principles within a culture of being authentic and strategic. For some authorities and participants, the ‘fruits’ of the colloquium expanded horizons, while for others, emerging and familiar pathways were validated.

### **SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS A STEP FORWARD**

The presidents of Catholic Religious Australia and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference say the adoption of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards marks the latest milestone in the Church’s ongoing response to child sexual abuse. Catholic Professional Standards Ltd, which was established in early 2017 to develop national safeguarding standards and audit Church authorities’ compliance with the guidelines, today released those standards and will later this year begin publishing reports on its audits.

“These National Catholic Safeguarding Standards draw from the Child Safe Standards outlined during the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and align with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, but they provide additional criteria relevant to the governance of the Church,” CRA president Monica Cavanagh rsj explained.

“The standards will allow Catholic entities and the public to have additional confidence in the Church’s approach to addressing the tragedy of abuse and to building a culture of safety for all, especially for the young and the vulnerable.” Archbishop Mark Coleridge, president of the Bishops Conference, said the Church is pushing forward with its implementation of the relevant recommendations of the Royal Commission. “In December, the Church outlined in our submission to the National Office

for Child Safety that much has already been achieved. But more work remains to be done and we are committed to making the changes required,” Archbishop Coleridge said. The National Catholic Safeguarding Standards have been tested with some Church authorities and have been mapped against state legislation and national guidelines, as well as compared with international approaches. “In addition to what’s been done and is being done locally, new guidelines from Pope Francis are helping to strengthen the Church’s global response to child sexual abuse – although many of the protocols and processes in place in Australia go beyond what the Pope is asking,” Archbishop Coleridge said. Sr Monica thanked Catholic Professional Standards Ltd for its significant work consulting with key stakeholders, including survivor groups and children, in developing the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. These can be viewed on the CPSL website.

### **DISCERNMENT FOR PLENARY COUNCIL**

The Plenary Council 2020 has moved into its next phase with the release of the National Themes for Discernment on Pentecost Sunday. The themes emerged from a historic process of listening to the voices of more than 222,000 people. Between May 2018 and March 2019, almost 17,500 submissions, from individuals and groups of all sizes, addressed the Plenary Council’s central question: “What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?” Over several days of listening to what the people of God said, the Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council and its Executive Committee, joined by the Facilitation Team, considered what people were longing for. Six National Themes for Discernment emerged.

“The National Centre for Pastoral Research was able to pinpoint more than 100 recurring subject areas from those 17,500 submissions,” said Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, president of the Plenary Council.

“In some ways, those subject areas described what one might call ‘the messy reality’ of Catholic life in Australia today. The voices of the faithful help all of us to understand something of the historical experience and the current reality of the Catholic Church in Australia. We worked to discern what people were yearning for as we move into this next stage of preparing for the Plenary Council.” He said there was a clear desire expressed for the Church to renew herself and focus on the person of Jesus Christ.

“Accordingly, the six National Themes for Discernment flow from that primary goal of being a Christ-centred community of people,” he explained.

The six National Themes for Discernment invite people to reflect, to pray and to consider how God is calling the People of God to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is:

- Missionary and Evangelising
- Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal
- Prayerful and Eucharistic
- Humble, Healing and Merciful
- A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform.

More information on the National Themes for Discernment can be found on the re-launched Plenary Council website: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au).

**POPE WANTS TO VISIT IRAQ IN 2020** Pope Francis said he “thinks constantly of Iraq” and wishes to travel there in the coming year. He made the comments when addressing representatives of the Reunion of Aid Agencies for the Oriental Churches (ROACO). As he listed countries that fall within the Reunion’s reach and where the faithful continue to suffer – including Syria, Ukraine and the Holy Land – the Pope focused on Iraq. He said he hopes it is able to build a peaceful future based on the “shared pursuit of the common good on the part of all elements of society, including the religious”, without

falling back into “hostilities sparked by the simmering conflicts of the regional powers”.

Iraq’s small Christian population of several hundred thousand suffered persecution and hardship when the so-called Islamic State took control of large swathes of the country, but have recovered freedoms since the jihadists were pushed out. The country is home to many different eastern rite churches, both Catholic and Orthodox. It would be a first-ever apostolic visit to the nation.

### **IGNORING POOR FALSIFIES THE GOSPEL: POPE**

Christians must not underestimate the importance of embracing and assisting the poor, oppressed and outcast, Pope Francis said yesterday. Not only did Jesus entrust his disciples with the task of continuing his ministry on earth by giving hope to the poor, but “the credibility of our proclamation and the witness of Christians depends on it,” the Pope said in a message released for the World Day of the Poor, to be held later this year.

“Faced with countless throngs of the poor, Jesus was not afraid to identify with each of them” and tell his disciples “whatever you did to one of the least of these my brethren, you did to me,” the Pope said. “If we refuse to make this identification, we falsify the Gospel and water down God’s revelation,” he said.

**DON'T CRITICISE ME BEHIND MY BACK**, Pope Francis told around 100 apostolic nuncios that it is “irreconcilable” to have the job and criticise the Pope “behind his back”. The comment came days after Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the former papal representative to the US, renewed his criticism of the Pope. Archbishop Viganò released an open letter last year calling on Francis to resign for allegedly disregarding restrictions placed on ex-cardinal and now ex-priest Theodore McCarrick. Francis’ words came gave the text to the nuncios gathered a once every three years meeting between the Pope and the heads of the diplomatic missions. However, he decided to let the prelates read the speech, and instead spoke to them off-the-cuff behind closed doors.

Alessandro Gisotti, the Vatican spokesman, confirmed that Archbishop Viganò is not attending the June 12-15 meeting, though retired nuncios were invited to participate. Francis also said that it is irreconcilable to “have blogs or even join groups hostile to him [the Pope], the Curia and the Church of Rome”. The Pope acknowledged that every person can have “reservations, likes and dislikes,” but a good nuncio can’t be “hypocritical” because he serves as a bridge between the Vicar of Christ and the people whom he serves.

**WHY THE SON CAME INTO OUR FLESH** About discerning our call or vocation, the first thing to say is that we all share in the greatest one. God “calls humankind to seek him, to know him, and to love him with all our strength.” This is God’s call to all, and it tells about God’s dream: an earth peopled with lovers—with those who let the Holy Spirit lead them to love God, love one another, and love themselves—passionately and well. How is humankind responding? Well, a look at history might be discouraging. We look at international news now. You won’t find many nice stories. Look around and see how badly we have thwarted God’s dream. Humanity tends not to follow the Holy Spirit of love but instead leans into a spirit of darkness. Yet God remains faithful, patiently pursuing his project. This is why the Son came into our flesh: to call us back into God’s dream. Our faith tells us that this call somehow resonates in every human alive. This is what Jesus said: And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself (John 12:32). Everyone has to discern this great call; and that’s the first thing to say about discerning our vocation in life.

—*Excerpted from ‘Always Discerning’ by Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ*

**OUR HURTING WORLD** Our hurting world is plagued by challenges that can’t be overcome unless we bring big heart and our best selves to confront the world’s ills. You didn’t ask for that burden and opportunity, but you’re here on the playing field at this moment in history, and that’s how “calling” often emerges in life. Sometimes you get to choose your moments,

causes, and vocation. But, other times, you don’t get to choose the opportunity. The moment chooses you. —*Excerpted from Make Today Matter by Chris Lowney*

**JESUIT ORDINATIONS:** Please pray for Deacons Kieran Gill and Andy Nguyen for their June 15 ordination as priests.

**THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS A WILD THING** Do I believe in the Holy Spirit? You bet I do. Nothing else makes sense. Either the Spirit of God who created us is with us still, either the presence of Christ who is the Way abides in us in spirit, or the God of Creation and the Redeemer of souls has never been with us at all. God’s Spirit does not abandon us, if God is really God.

If we are to understand emerging consciousness as a manifestation of the Spirit of God alive in the land, then never has an age seen revelation, consciousness, and wisdom working more clearly than in this one. The signs of new awareness of the human relationship to God are everywhere, in all nations, in all peoples. The Holy Spirit has spoken through married couples and professional personnel about birth control, for instance. The Holy Spirit has spoken through women—and other eminent theologians, theological societies and male scripture scholars as well—about the ordination of women. The Holy Spirit has spoken through laity and bishops and multiple rites of the church alike about the ordination of married men. But no one listens. The Holy Spirit in people of good will is a voice crying in the wilderness, rejected, ignored, and reviled. One element of the church determines the voice of the Spirit and does so, it seems, by refusing to listen to its other manifestations.

God the Creator and Jesus the Way—always with us on the one hand, but never with us on the other—would move humanity, the early Church was sure, by means of the promptings and presence of the Spirit of God who created us and who lives among us and is in us still. Holy Spirit was not a disembodied ghost, not an immaterial being. On the contrary. The Spirit embodied the life force of the universe, the power of God, the animating energy present in all things and captured by none. Because of the Spirit, Jesus was not gone and God was not distant, and the life force around us bore it proof. The Spirit was the restless urge to life in us leading life on to its ultimate.

The Spirit of God moves us to new heights of understanding, to new types of witness, to new dimensions of life needed in the here and now. The static dies under the impulse of the Spirit of a creating God. We do not live in the past. We are not blind beggars on a dark road groping our separate ways toward God. There is a magnet in each of us, a gift for God, that repels deceit and impels us toward good. The gifts are mutual, mitered to fit into one another for strength and surety.

We are, in other words, in the most refreshingly trite, most obviously astounding way, all in this together—equally adult, equally full members, equally responsible for the church. Nor does any one dimension of the church, then, have a monopoly on insight, on grace, on the promptings of God in this place at this time. The Spirit of God is a wild thing, breathing where it will, moving as it pleases, settling on women and men alike.

—*from In Search of Belief (Liguori/Triumph), by Joan Chittister*

**RELIGIOUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY** The Church has just celebrated the feast of Pentecost, a day when we recall the empowering presence of the Spirit moving in and among us in so many different ways. As Religious women and men we are constantly urged by the Spirit to engage in the work of Gospel mission, to experience the Spirit pulsating through all of creation.

We are ever mindful of the Spirit being with us and guiding us in exploring together our mission to be a prophetic voice in the world and church today. It provides Leaders within Religious Institutes the opportunity to engage in the theme: *Communio: Stewarding a life that belongs to the Church and the World*. Our presenters Sr Mary Pellegrino csj and Fr Richard Lennan will lead us as we share our dreams and hopes for our future. The Assembly provides us with the opportunity to walk together as women and men of healing and hope in a world and church seeking compassion and connection. This annual event is important for those entrusted with responsibility of leadership within their Institutes.

**A reading from the book of Proverbs 8:22-31**  
 The Wisdom of God cries aloud:  
 The Lord created me  
 when his purpose first unfolded,  
 before the oldest of his works.  
 From everlasting I was firmly set,  
 from the beginning,  
 before earth came into being.  
 The deep was not, when I was born,  
 there were no springs to gush with water.  
 Before the mountains were settled,  
 before the hills, I came to birth;  
 before he made the earth, the countryside,  
 or the first grains of the world's dust.  
 When he fixed the heavens firm, I was there,  
 when he drew a ring on the surface of the deep,  
 when he thickened the clouds above,  
 when he fixed fast the springs of the deep,  
 when he assigned the sea its boundaries  
 – and the waters will not invade the shore –  
 when he laid down the foundations of the earth,  
 I was by his side, a master craftsman,  
 delighting him day after day,  
 ever at play in his presence,  
 at play everywhere in his world,  
 delighting to be with the sons of men.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 8:4-9. R. v.2  
*(R.) O Lord, our God,  
 how wonderful your name in all the earth!*  
 1. When I see the heavens,  
 the work of your hands,  
 the moon and the stars  
 which you arranged,  
 what is man  
 that you should keep him in mind,  
 mortal man that you care for him? *(R.)*  
 2. Yet you have made him little less than a god;  
 with glory and honour you crowned him,  
 gave him power over the works of your hand,  
 put all things under his feet. *(R.)*  
 3. All of them, sheep and cattle,  
 yes, even the savage beasts,  
 birds of the air, and fish  
 that make their way through the waters. *(R.)*

**'COMMUNION OVERCOMES DIVISIONS'** Pope Francis explained that communion and 'freedom from oneself' are part of the Christian DNA. In his catechesis, which continues a new cycle dedicated to the Acts of the Apostles, he warned against the temptation of being self-referential and invited the faithful never to fear diversity. He reflected on the fact that Christ's choice of twelve Apostles shows the continuity between the Church and the people of Israel. After the defection of Judas, the Apostles, he said, were conscious that his place in the Twelve had to be taken by another. So, he explained, guided by Peter, the community as a whole joined in prayer to discern the Lord's choice of Matthias.

**Visible communion** The Pope said that Jesus had told his disciples that they would be known "by their love for one another", and explained that this visible communion of the Apostles was their first form of witness to the Risen Lord and his saving love. He noted that the disciples knew perfectly well that the Resurrection of Christ was not "one event among others," but the source of new life. He said that while "Judas preferred death to life" the eleven, instead, chose life and salvation, and took on the responsibility of passing it down through history, from generation to generation, from the people of Israel to the Church.

Pope Francis continued pointing out that the abandonment of one of the twelve created a wound in that community body, and said it became necessary to pass the task on to another and to reconstitute the group of twelve.

**Community discernment** This, he explained, inaugurated the practice of community discernment, which consists in "seeing reality through the eyes of God, in the perspective of unity and communion," highlighting the fact that "communion overcomes divisions, isolation, a mentality that prioritizes private space. In the Acts of the Apostles, the Twelve manifest the style of the Lord," he said, explaining that the visible communion of the Apostles was their first form of witness to the Risen Lord and his saving love. "We too, need to rediscover the beauty of witnessing to the Risen One, going beyond self-referential attitudes, resisting the temptation to keep God's gifts to ourselves, and never yielding to mediocrity."

The Pope concluded his catechesis urging the faithful to ask the Lord to help them bear witness to the reconciling power of that love by our unity, which – he said - triumphs over pride and divisiveness, and creates one People of God out of diversity.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:1-5**  
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 by faith we are judged righteous  
 and at peace with God,  
 since it is by faith and through Jesus  
 that we have entered this state of grace  
 in which we can boast  
 about looking forward to God's glory.  
 But that is not all we can boast about;  
 we can boast about our sufferings.  
 These sufferings bring patience,  
 as we know,  
 and patience brings perseverance,  
 and perseverance brings hope,  
 and this hope is not deceptive,  
 because the love of God has been poured  
 into our hearts  
 by the Holy Spirit  
 which has been given us.

**Gospel Acclamation**

See Apoc 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Glory to the Father,  
 the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
 to God who is, who was,  
 and who is to come.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel** Jn 16:12-15

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to his disciples:  
 'I still have many things to say to you  
 but they would be too much for you now.  
 But when the Spirit of truth comes  
 he will lead you to the complete truth,  
 since he will not be speaking  
 as from himself  
 but will say only what he has learnt;  
 and he will tell you of the things to come.  
 He will glorify me,  
 since all he tells you  
 will be taken from what is mine.  
 Everything the Father has is mine;  
 that is why I said:  
 All he tells you  
 will be taken from what is mine.



**SACRED HEART PARISH**

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**PARISH SCHOOLS: St Mary's Parish Primary School**

Principal: Mrs Noelene O'Neill

**Carroll College** Principal: Mrs Jacqui Heffernan

**The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity (Year C) 16/6/2019**

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday Vigil 6pm Moruya; Sunday at

'The Pines', Tuross 8am; Moruya 10am

**Weekday Masses:** Monday Communion Service 9.15am;

Weekday Masses: Tues 5.30pm, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9.15am.

**-Rosary** after Mass

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10—10.30am

**Baptisms, Anointings, Weddings & Funerals** by appointment.

**For the sick:** Clair Holmes, Fay Goff, Barbara Kirk, Joan Ranken, Eunice Priestley, Fr Kevin Murphy, Lori-Anne Foran, Catherine Hulse, Gerri Maynard, Frank Honan, Kath Hodges, Julie Kay, Joy Jaensch, Kerrie Cooper, Ted Lewis, Therese Wood, Clair Holmes, Julia Hanslow, David Simpson, Viola Connellan, Graham Beer, Eddie Hybler, Declan Holmes, Noeleen Norman, , Lincoln Gett and John Bolton

**For the deceased:** Michael Heffernan, Shane Masters

**The Solemn Feast of the Most Holy Trinity**

Now that the Easter Season is over finally - we knew it was 'a season and not just a day' - but I think were all ready for 'the first day of the rest of our lives': Bring on Ordinary Time Week 11! We've already done Week 10, alleluia! For those who keep up their bible readings, we're into Second Corinthians 8-12 this week, and in Gospel terms, it's Matthew 5-6.

It's also World Day to Combat Drought on Monday and World Refugee Day on Saturday. In saintly terms we have St Aloysius Gonzaga, the Jesuits' patron saint of youth and also on Saturday we have St John Fisher and St Thomas More. That's the night to watch the video of 'A Man for all Seasons'!!! Next Sunday, we celebrate the Solemn Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ; this feast is best seen in the light of the recent special Sunday feast days of Pentecost and the Trinity. So, it is right that after celebrating the Spirit and the three persons in one God, that we celebrate the Eucharistic presence of God 'in the pitched tent' among us. Friday, June 28, then is our parish feast day. We'll have a Mass at 9.15am as usual and a special evening Mass at 5.30pm. Please try to come for one or the other to pray for our parish. Next year, perhaps we'll do something else, when June 28 will be a Sunday!

**NEW TIME FOR RECONCILIATION:** Upon discussion and reflection, we are going to experiment for one month with a new time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will be Saturday from 10 - 10.30am. Comments and further discussion are welcome.

**SACRISTY CO-ORDINATOR:** Due to the sudden and unexpected retirement of Des and Barb, I am appointing provisionally Sue McCosker to co-ordinate sacristy matters. She is keen to get a team of people to take on various aspects of the work together. She will be calling a little meeting soon to get to know everyone who is doing something now, and she and I both have some ideas; your own thoughts are also very welcome, of course. I'm very grateful to Sue for taking this on. Any others who have not been involved in the past for whatever reason, please let Sue know of your interest. I look forward to working with her and hope many more of you will also take this opportunity for some kind of involvement. To those who are doing things, please continue.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** has two appeals a year, one for winter and one for Christmas. The winter appeal will be made on this weekend, as announced. There will be a leaving collection today. Please be ready to support their work among the needy in our community. David McCann

**NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESAN CLERGY:** Fr Tony Percy, (Vicar General) Wanniasa; Fr Tom Thornton, Charnwood; (Fr Andrew Lotton, 5th July – 27th September); Fr Joshy Kurien Thekkinedath Goulburn/Crookwell; Fr Norvin Dias Cathedral, Assistant (From Sydney Archdiocese). May the Lord bless these clergy in these new appointments!

**ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY** Believe: Guinness and God Series 2019. Join us as key speakers share their own understanding of faith and ethics, discuss what lies at the heart of the Christian faith, and explore Christianity in contemporary culture. There will be live music, drinks and dinner from 6:30pm, with the panel commencing from 7:30pm. We look forward to you being part of an evening of engaging discussion with other young adults on issues that matter. When: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 6:30 PM – 9:00PM; Where: King O'Malley's, 131 City Walk, Canberra ACT 2601.

**AWARDS RECOGNISE SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH** Queen's Birthday honours have been bestowed upon several leading Catholic lay and religious leaders, recognising their decades of work as servants of the Church in Australia. Among the many Queen's Birthday honours awardees are Sr Mary Margaret Shanahan RSCJ, Fr Robert (Bob) Sheridan and Sr Patricia Caroline Bailey OP. Justice Neville Owen, the former chair of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council, who currently serves on the Pontifical Council for the Protection of Minors, has also been recognised in the awards. Sr Patricia, from Belfield in Sydney, was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her service to education, particularly for deaf and hearing-impaired children. Surprised by the recognition, and initially thinking it was a joke, Sr Patricia is hoping her honour will put the needs of deaf and speech-impaired children in the spotlight. During her 42 years in education, Sr Bailey said she had seen numerous changes in the teaching of deaf children. "If the OAM can help give deaf children a bit of profile, then it will be good," she said. Fr Sheridan, who at 86 years of age is still celebrating Mass at Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath, NSW, yesterday said receiving the Order of