



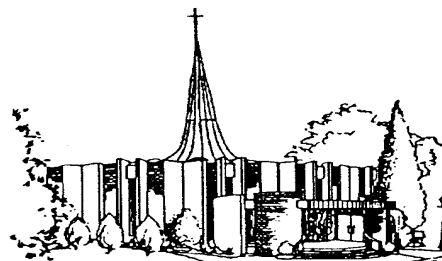
St. Nicholas

Parish Penrith

Established 1839

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

326 HIGH STREET, PENRITH



* Tel: (02) 4721 2509 * Fax: (02) 4731 4259

* Website: www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au

* P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751

Parish Staff

Fr Chris de Souza
Parish Priest

e-mail: chris@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr Sunny Poovathumkudy
Assistant Priest

e-mail: sunny@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr John Watkins
Assistant Priest

email: john@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Lyn Olander
Secretary / Office Manager

e-mail: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Anne Tucker
Sacramental Co-ordinator

e-mail: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mr Fred Keuneman
Catechist Co-ordinator

e-mail: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Ursula Gomez
Clerical Assistant
e-mail: bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Office Hours 9am - 5 pm
(Lunch 1pm - 1.30 pm Office closed)

Schools

Mary MacKillop Primary
Mrs Anne Corrigan,
Principal Phone : 4736 3466
St Nicholas of Myra Primary
Mrs Anne Hines,
Principal Phone : 4721 2623

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil
Sunday 7.00am, 8.30am,
10.00am, 6.00pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am
5.00pm - 5.45pm

Adoration: After Sat Morning Mass

Weekday Mass :

Monday 9.30 am
Tuesday 6.45 am & 7 pm
Wednesday 6.45 am & 9.30 am
Thursday 9.30 am
Friday 6.45 am & 12.10 pm
Saturday 9.00 am

3rd Sunday of Lent : Year A 27th March 2011

The Parish of St Nicholas of Myra serves the more than 3,000 Catholic families who live in the area that has been active for more than 165 years. We warmly welcome you to our site and hope you enjoy your visit. If you are new to the Penrith area and would like to become a part of our Parish community, we look forward to meeting you at Mass, or please feel free to [contact us](#) at any time. You might also like to learn more about the [local Catholic Schools](#) in the area and our [Ministries & Devotional Groups](#).

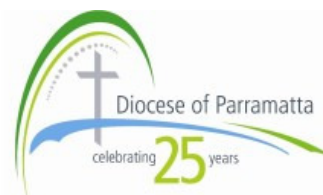
Tags: [Nicholas of the Myra Parish Penrith homepage](#)
[Catholic Church Penrith](#)

The Bishop of Parramatta, Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, will preside at a Silver Jubilee Mass on Wednesday 19 May in St Patrick's Cathedral, as part of the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta's 25-year celebrations this year. It was on 8 April 1986 that the Diocese was created by Pope John Paul II.

The first Bishop of Parramatta, Most Rev Bede Heather DD, was installed on 19 May 1986. He was succeeded by Most Rev Kevin Manning DD (1996-2010). Bishop Anthony was installed as the third bishop on 4 March 2010.

The Diocese covers 4289 sq km, reaching from Dundas Valley in the east, west to Mount Victoria, south to Luddenham, and north to Richmond. It is made up of 49 Parishes and 85 Catholic schools.

Although the Diocese is only 25 years old, some of its Parishes are much older. The Parish of Parramatta was founded in 1827, Windsor in 1832 and Penrith in 1839. The newest Parish in the Diocese - Rouse Hill - was founded in 2007.



Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are ever fixed on the Lord, for he releases my feet from the snare. O look at me and be merciful, for I am wretched and alone.

First Reading: *Exodus 17:3-7* The people of the Lord put him to the test to see if he is with them or not.

Response to the Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8* The greatest sign of God's love for us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: *John 4:5-42* Jesus gives living water to those who believe in him.

Communion Antiphon: Whoever drinks the water that I shall give him, says the Lord, will have a spring inside him, welling up for eternal life.

PARISH OUTREACH

Reminder for the different ministries for the week end 2/3 April, 2011. If you cannot fulfill this commitment, please arrange for someone to take your place. Thanks.

Time	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Community Rep.	Reader	Eucharist Ministers		
6 pm	J Jordan F Sultana	Daniel Howell William Attard	V Sultana	F Jackson	J Vella	C Coyte	M Xiberras
7 am	J Sweeney		S Paterson	G Nunn	J McSpadden	A Scibberas	M Edmunds
8.30 am	B Doughan D Wheelahan	Nicholas & Ben Wheelahan	M Prendeville	D Scully	M Doughan M Le Fevre	A Fletcher C Fletcher	P Morson M Ryan B Keavy
10 am	J Relunia D Cocksedge	Luke & Samuel Bourke Diego Guitierrez	M Varua	A Morel	J Dumas	B Hansen	J Spillane
6 pm	V Graham B Wrightson	Noah, Elijah & Jonah Gilbert	Youth	Youth	K Wrightson	D Lee	B Mowbray

Please pray for those who are sick

Mary Dallat, Joe Hewitt, Max Sedl, Gwen Robinson, Martha Dierick, Sr Madeleine, OCD, Lesley Malicki, Anisty Hewitt, Franis Riodan, Marianne Goc-ong, Thomas Meehan, Gwen Robinson, Noeleen Morris, Millie Bugden, Linda Moran, Marie Rivet, Gwen Witton, Norma Addison, Geraldine and Matthew Lowe, Kevin Armstrong, Marie Orth, Mary Howland, Alf Armstrong, Esmee White, Josie Newman, Paul Landrigan, Keith Gordyn, Alice Massey and Katelyn Reid.

Please pray for

Valarie Marning, Elsie Ballard, Conrad Marks and Mary Checutti **who died recently** and Geoffrey Moorfoot, Terry Baskett, Paul Price, Mary Cuttell, Ronnie Borg, Camilleri and Vella families, Fr Noel Murphy, Alex Sarkany, Peter Ryan and Sheila Tavaras **whose anniversaries occur at this time and also for** Mary Rose Guillaumier, Nora and Bernard Wilding, Mary Armstrong, Reg Levinge, Tania Felice and Felipe Jaway.

"*Grateful thanks* to everyone who prayed for my sister Norma Addison. God performed a miracle and Norma is well on the road to a complete recovery."
Barbara Oxlade

Anniversary Mass for Alex Sarkany will be celebrated on Friday 1st April at 7 pm.

The Rosary Statue will be at the home of Polly Melder at 1/43 Evan Street, Penrith and the Rosary will be said at 7 pm. All welcome.



ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS.

On behalf of the parish community of St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church, Fr. Chris' PP, Fr. Sunny and Fr. John would like to bless each of you with an NRL season footy pass as a token of our appreciation for your selfless and generous service as Altar Server. Isn't that G-R-E-A-T? Please collect your pass from the sacristy and register it before use. Thank you and God bless you. *Rodger Kroon.*

Lenten Devotions and New Translation of the Mass

In this Season of Lent, we will be implementing some of the new translations of the Roman Missal in Mass. As we reflect on our relationship with God and others, let us take this time to reflect and take a closer look at the Mass.

On the Fridays of Lent, in the Church, we will be giving liturgical formation (new translation of the mass) and Lenten Devotions.

1st April : 7:30pm - 8:30pm
8th April : 7:30pm - 8:30pm
15th April : 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Also after each Sunday Mass in Lent we will be playing a 5 minute video explaining the new translation. We do encourage all parishioners to come and begin a journey of rediscovering the meaning of the Mass.

PARISH OUTREACH

Sacramental Program First Reconciliation Reminder

Our family sessions will continue on Friday, 1 April 2011 at 4:00pm with all children meeting in the school hall. If for any reason you are unable to make any of these sessions, please notify me as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made for you to attend another group.

Also, preferences for First Reconciliation will be displayed in the Church foyer during the month of March.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the parish office on 47212509 Tuesday – Friday during school hours.

Kind regards Anne

Combined Easter Service

SRE Teachers : Please pick up your envelope giving details of the combined Easter Service which is in the foyer of the Church.



**A special "DIVINE MERCY"
devotional hour**

**ST NICHOLAS—PENRITH
FRIDAY 8th April
Immediately after the
12.10 pm Mass**

- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
- **The Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayer**
- **The Stations of the Cross**

ALL WELCOME

DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATIONS AT 2.30pm Sunday 1st May 2011

- * Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- * The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- * Homily and Benediction
- * Stations of the Cross
- * Reconciliation
- * DIVINE MERCY MASS AT 6PM

Afternoon tea 4.30pm-5.15pm

Congratulations : Chloe Brookhouse, Mia Charlton, Kai Emelio, Linkin Meldrum-Hodges and Jayden Teuma who were Baptised on the 20th March, 2011.

Next Week's Readings :

Samuel 16:1. 6-7, 10-13

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

'Why Pray?' A talk by challenging speaker, Sr Hilda Scott OSB, of the Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo. 7.30pm Sunday 3rd April, St Francis Xavier's Church, Mackenzie St, Lavender Bay. Primarily for Young Adults, part of the Dialogue series, 'Adventures in Prayer - Pushing the Boundaries'.

YOUNG ADULTS

flock99

Thank you to all those who reflected on the Word of God with us in Tuesday's Bible study. 'Rejoice when you run into trials'; 'Christ died for us even when we were sinners' – what a different take God has on things!

This week – Sun, March 27:

Our guest speaker, Jude Besterwitch will share his experience of and passion for evangelisation. Jude is part of the charismatic Elohim community and has witnessed firsthand the power of the Holy Spirit. Come and hear Jude's story and take up the challenge to be Christ's witness in the world.

Upcoming events include:

Sun, March 27, 7.15-8.30pm

Comments from the couch with Jude: Evangelisation Formation with DA Vinnies Van (Penrith + Parramatta)

Sun, April 3, 7.15-8.30pm

Fri, April 8, 7-11pm

Sun, April 17, 6pm

Diocesan Palm Sunday youth celebrations (Parramatta)

Fri, April 22

Sun, May 1, 7.15

Fri, May 6 – Sun, May 8

Stations of the Cross

Formation with DA

flock99 retreat (Katoomba)

The next Vinnies Van training day will be Saturday, May 7. If you are interested in participating in this ministry then let us know – it is a great way to reach out into the community and is always an experience!

Unless otherwise stated, all events are held in not the Upper Room. Newcomers are always welcome! Come along to as many or as few of the sessions as you like. Contact us at 99flockers@gmail.com, on 0423 257 580 or check out our facebook page (flock99).



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Charlie Spiteri
Kath Wrightson**



RCIA News... More information:
Ina & Norman Heffernan 47 321 751
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
is the process that makes it possible for
adults to be received into the Catholic Church.
**UNDERSTANDING THE RCIA a journey for the entire
parish**

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On Sunday 13th March all Catechumens, Sponsors and RCIA teams from the Parramatta Diocese came together to give praise and thanks to God during the celebration of **The Rite of Election OR Enrolment of Names** for the **Elect**. This is a very significant event for the Diocese, and was a very joyous occasion.

Congratulations to the RCIA Elect from our Parish:

**Caroline Atkin Joyce Lee Tracey Marvaso
Robert Henningham** and their Sponsors.

We also recognise those Candidates preparing for full reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

**Scott Wilson Edward Wagner Julie Wharerau
Lynzie Wharerau Phillip Russell**



Next WEEKEND we celebrate the first of the THREE SCRUTINIES.

Scrutinies and exorcisms are special ritual prayers of the Church which strengthen the Elect in preparation for baptism. Each of the three Scrutinies is intended to bring a growth in holiness to those who would become Catholics and also for the Parish community.

Scrutinies are celebrated in order to:

- Deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan
- Protect them against temptation
- Give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. (John 14:6)
- Help complete the conversion of the elect
- Deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ
- To carry out their decision to love God above all.

We are also challenged to take a long careful look (*scrutinise*) at ourselves and our community. Are we truly a community which offers Christ's living water, light and life? The scrutiny prayers proclaim God's triumph over evil, and the freedom that is ours through forgiveness and reconciliation. The prayers focus on God's love and merciful compassion for all of us.

Scrutinies encourage us to recognise the presence of sin and its effects on us, our world, and our church. At the same time, they reassure us that Christ is more powerful than the worst evil. They show particularly that no sin is beyond the merciful forgiveness of Christ.

The Scrutinies are primarily for the Elect, but we can all take a lesson from their journey.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2012

St Nicholas of Myra Primary School

is now taking Kindergarten enrolments for children born between July 2006 and June 2007. Please phone 47212623 for an enrolment form or call at the school between 9am and 3:30pm Monday to Friday.

St Dominic's College

Year 7 2012 Enrolments are now open
We will be holding an Information Evening for Year 7 2012 on Wednesday 23rd March commencing at 7.30pm
Open Day Sunday 3rd April between 10am and 3.00pm.
For any enquiries please contact Fran Tyrrell on 0247311933 ext 125.

Xavier College

ENROLMENTS FOR YEAR 7 2012

If you have a child who is currently in Year 6 and you would like them to attend Xavier College in 2012, please obtain an Enrolment Prospectus from the College office.

Enrolments close 20th May 2011.

Even if you have siblings at the College you must complete an Enrolment Form for your Year 6 child and forward it with relevant documentation to the College by the closing date.

Important Dates:

**Open Night on Monday 4th April 2011
from 5.00pm – 7.30 pm**

Closing Date for Applications 29th April 2011
Enquiries please contact Mrs Heterick on 4777 0900.

McCarthy Catholic College

**Incorporating the Trade Training Centre
75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains
Enrolling now for Years 7-12, 2012**

Open Day - Sunday 3rd April 2011,-
10.00am to 12.30pm. Tours and information sessions will be held.

Enrolments Close for Year 7: 29th April 2011
Enquiries Mrs Sharon Clarke – 4735 3211.

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Hospital Masses: Parishioners are welcome

- **Edenglassie Lodge (Lemongrove)**
1st Tuesday of each month at 11 am
- **Governor Phillip Hospital**
1st Wednesday of each month at 2.00 pm
- **Nepean Hospital**
every Wednesday at Midday
- **Jamison Gardens**
3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.30am
- **Mt View Village**
1st Friday of each month at 10am

1st Saturday Novena and Mass - Our Lady of Penafrancia
11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Fellowship and AGM at Parish Meeting Hall
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

DIOCESAN OUTREACH

Charismatic Mass, followed by prayer for healing and individual ministry.

Celebrant: Fr. Ken Barker - Author and founder of the Missionaries of God's Love priest - 2:30pm, 4 April 2011, St Nicholas of Myra Church, High St, Penrith (Entry via Higgins St). *All welcome!*

"Return to the Upper Room" in adoration, worship, praise, intercession, thanksgiving and Benediction. Friday 1 April 2011, 7:30pm @ Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Cnr Mamre Rd & Swanston St, St Marys

"STEPPING BEYOND" FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

The Solo Parent Ministry within CatholicCare Social Services provides monthly workshops for those who are separated or divorced. Through these workshops we hope to assist you to gain confidence, support, information and assistance as you try to "put your life back together again" following your loss and family upheaval. On Thurs 31st March the topic will be "What Happens after Separation? The challenges, survival tips and safety nets will be amongst some of the issues discussed. Venue: Diocesan Assembly Centre 1-5 Marion St. Blacktown. Time: 6.30pm cuppa and 7.00pm formal start. Cost: \$5.00. Bookings essential: 99330222.



Can you spare just an hour a week to help someone who is lonely? **Compeer** is a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society that matches volunteers in one-on-one friendship with people living with a mental illness, making a real difference to their quality of life. You can help reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and provide a fun social opportunity and a supportive friendship for someone who is lonely.

Volunteers are asked to spend just an hour a week for a minimum of 12 months with their Compeer friend doing simple social activities such as catching up over a cup of coffee, going for a walk in the park, or whatever you and your friend decide to do together. The volunteer's role is to be a friend, not a counsellor or health professional.

We are currently seeking friendly, accepting and emotionally mature male volunteers aged 55 plus to be matched with friends in the Penrith area. The next volunteer training sessions will be held over two consecutive Saturdays at Lewisham in early April. An application form must be completed and an interview conducted prior to training. For more information about this volunteering opportunity please phone Vanessa Julien on 9622 2411 or email: compeer.blacktown@vinnies.org.au.

Compeer: What a difference a friend makes.

Volunteers Needed for Mamre House

Volunteers are needed to assist in the creche on **Mondays** from 10.00am - 2.00pm during school terms. If you cannot come on a Monday but could assist on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, this would also be appreciated.

Last year we were able to provide a **tutor** to assist each Sudanese secondary student attending Emmaus College. This entails assisting a student with their homework one day a week for about an hour in their home. We are now in need of several more tutors.

If you can assist or require any further information please phone Sr Janet (Mamre Refugee Coordinator) on 0418 690 487 Thank you.



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE

ENCOUNTER: A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious

asset . . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend date: 25 – 27 March at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

Information: website www.wwme.org.au

Institute for Mission Course :

The Catholic Church

Presenters: Daniel Ang

What does it mean to belong to the Catholic Church?

This course is for anyone wishing to learn and engage in dialogue about aspects of the Catholic Church. It will survey major themes in ecclesiology, including the meaning and implications of the Second Vatican Council, the mission of the Church, and the Church's historical development with a view to an appreciation of a developing ecumenical theology.

Date: Saturday 14 May, 4 June, 2 July & 6 Aug 2011
Time: 9.30am—3.00pm

Cost: \$30.00 per session, or \$90, if you pay in full at the first session.

Venue: Institute for Mission 1-5 Marion St Blacktown (next to Patrician Bros)

Booking Essential: 9831 4911 or ifm@tpg.com.au

Springwood East Timor Support Group will be conducting its annual trivia Night on Saturday 21st May. Tables of 8. More details later. Enquiries 4751 1149.

With thanks *Dennis Farrar*

Inside 'Catholic Weekly' 27 March 2011

- Bishops hold 'grave concern' on Greens
- Mass offered for Japanese victims
- 'Largest prison system' warning on detainees
- 'Day of celebration' for the Irish
- 4000 Australian pilgrims tipped for WYD Madrid
- Limbless, Nick shows how to live without limits
- Rome pilgrim centre to be an Aussie home away from home

PRAYER AND REFLECTION DAY

Twice a year the Solo Parent Ministry offers a day of Prayer and Reflection for anyone who would like to take an extended period of time to be alone with the Lord and to be guided in Meditation and Prayer. This day is open to anyone. Why not make this a special Lenten activity for yourself? Our facilitator this time is Sr Colleen O'Sullivan rsj, who is taking as a theme for the day: "God of the Unknown". We gather at Marymount Mercy Centre, 36 David Rd, Castle Hill from 10.30am to 3.00pm. BYO Lunch. \$10.00 on the 27th March 2011. Bookings essential. Ph 9933 0222.

Positions Vacant:

Appeals Manager, Development & Fundraising Office

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of Appeals Manager. This is a full time position and is based at the Polding Centre, Sydney. Applications to Anthony Spata by email at anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org. Applications close 1 April 2011. Enquiries: 02 9390 5317. Further details about this position are available at www.catholicjobsonline.com.au.

Housekeeper (part time) Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, is recruiting for a part-time Housekeeper to work 13hrs/week. If you are interested in the position please visit the Diocese of Parramatta's website: www.parra.catholic.org.au <<http://www.parra.catholic.org.au>>
Go to the 'Employment Section' for further information. Applications close Wednesday 6 April at 5pm.

Schoenstatt Family Days 2011

"Strengthening the Family bond in the light of Christian values"

9.30 am - 4 pm

4 Part series :

April 17th : Intimacy in Marriage

July 3rd : Time Management for Quality Family Life

September 25th : Love and Forgiveness

November 13th : The Challenge to be Family today

Bookings essential for catering and planning purposes.

To book: email: alex_de_la_harpe@amp.com.au or call Sr M Rebecca 0417 738 339

More details on Noticeboard in foyer.

Sisterhood Catholic Women's Conference

The Sister conference seeks to draw women together for a weekend of prayer and praise, sisterhood time and formation in what it means to be and live as a Catholic woman in the 21st Century. Keynote speakers: Sr Mary Rachel OP, Anna Krohn from the Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family; Karen Doyle, author and co-founder of Catholic media business Choicez Media. Other speakers: Fr Chris Ryan MGL as well as author, parenting expert and former principal of Redfield College, Andrew Mullins, and Carolyn Martin founder of The Day of Difference Foundation and mother of burns victim Sophie Delezio. Dates: 13-15 May at Collaroy. Numbers limited – book soon: \$195pp. Details and registration: www.sisterhood.org.au

Theology on Tap with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP

Bishop Anthony will speak about 'Rediscovering the Sacrament of Reconciliation' at Theology on Tap on Monday 4 April. TOT is a casual and relaxed forum where friends from all walks of life gather for straight talk, hard facts and real answers on the Catholic faith and how it applies to daily life. Come for a listen (and maybe a drink). Invite your friends, especially those wanting to learn more (or debate) about the Catholic faith.

Where: PJ Gallagher's Irish Pub, 74 Church St, Parramatta. Time: 6.30pm.

Details: www.theologyontap.com.au

Share the Dream Conference: 15-17 April

The National Family Gathering 'Share the Dream' will be held at Xavier College in Kew, Victoria. Keynote speakers include: Bishop Jean Laffitte, Secretary to the Pontifical Council for the Family; Bishop Anthony Fisher OP; Melinda Tankard Reist; Byron and Francine Pirola; Dr Brigid McKenna and Dr Adam Cooper. The conference is designed to be affordable for families - the same price whether you have one child or 10. Early bird family registration is just \$250.

Details: www.sharethedream.org.au <<http://www.sharethedream.org.au>>

Lent as a Journey

'Lent is a journey, it means accompanying Jesus as He travels to Jerusalem, the place where the mystery of His Passion, Death and Resurrection is to be fulfilled. It reminds us that Christian life is a 'road' to be travelled, consisting not so much in a law to be observed as in the person of Christ Himself, Who must be encountered, welcomed and followed".

'On this Lenten journey let us be attentive to welcoming Christ's invitation to follow Him more decisively and coherently, renewing the grace and commitments of our Baptism, so as to abandon the old man who is in us and clothe ourselves in Christ, thus reaching Easter renewed and being able to say with St. Paul "it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me".'

Pope Benedict XVI, Rome, Ash Wednesday March 9 2011

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DIOCESAN OUTREACH



Bach from Vietnam

Bach lives with his wife and four children in Thua Thien-Hue, one of Vietnam's poorest provinces. He lost his fingers in a mining accident. His daughter is deaf and paralysed, requiring constant care.

Sadly, like many people with disabilities, Bach's family lived isolated from their community until recently, struggling to make ends meet.

Caritas Australia supports the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development to improve the health, livelihoods and social integration of 750 people living with a disability, encouraging them to form Disability Support Groups to gain practical social and employment skills.

"We people with a disability started coming together, which had never happened before," Bach explained. *"We shared our experience of caring for our daughter, started accessing information, creating household plans and feeling more confident."*

The program provides a healthcare and rehabilitation fund for each group to manage, agriculture training and small loans. *"I received finance skills and a loan to buy a pig,"* Bach explains.

Caritas Australia also funds the province's Disability Vocational Training and Employment Centre, training staff to teach employment skills to people with disabilities. Bach hopes his daughter can join these activities one day.

"Participating in this group has increased my hope in life. I'm earning an income from growing cassava, rice and beans. I want to invest more in pig-raising," Bach told us. *"Now I help others to participate, be confident and look for relevant jobs."*

See the dignity, hopes and dreams of people who live with disability and poverty. In this week's story, we met Bach and his daughter from Vietnam, who lived isolated from their community due to their disabilities until recently. Caritas Australia supports the health, livelihoods and social integration of 750 people with disabilities here including Bach, encouraging them to form Support Groups to gain social and employment skills. Your Project Compassion donation mobilises awareness and solidarity so that people with a disability have opportunities in life equal to all others.



This week at

St Nic's

Monday 28 March

10 am Legion of Mary Meeting - PMR1
5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

Tuesday 29 March

11 am AA Meeting - Hall1

Wednesday 30 March

7.30 pm RCIA Meeting - PMR1
7.30 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting - Hall2

Thursday 31 March

5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall
7.30 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting - Hall2

Friday 1 April

5 pm AA Meeting - Hall1
7 pm Fijian Youth Group - Hall

Saturday 2 April

9 am Anointing Mass

Sunday 3 April

4th Sunday of Lent : Year A

Warning Parishioners are warned while in the church to ensure their personal belongings/handbags are secured, and that they cannot be reached from behind. Please carry your handbag when going to communion.

Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988(Cth) at the end of 2001, this parish reviewed its records and methods for holding and collecting information about parishioners. A privacy policy has been developed in accordance with Diocesan norms and has been approved by the Parish Priest. A copy is available from the parish Office.

1st & 2nd Collection

The first collection pays for the priests of the parish and any surplus money from this collection helps fund our retired and sick priests.

The second collection (planned giving envelopes) pays for the running costs of our parish.



Are you interested in becoming a Catholic?

If you are an adult considering becoming a Catholic, interested in revisiting your faith, or a baptised Christian wanting to be received into the Catholic Church, to find out more.

Contact: Ina & Norman Heffernan
4732 1751 (inanorm@optusnet.com.au)