



ARCHDIOCESE OF PERTH
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER

30 MARCH 2017 | WHAT'S ON AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

*Please find below items for your Parish Newsletter and/or Bulletin. If you have any future items you wish to notify the Archdiocese about, then please email them to the Communications Office at communications@perthcatholic.org.au and include basic facts, **no more than 75 words**, plus contact details and weblinks. (Deadline for the next edition is **COB Monday 3 April, 2017**.)*

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

31 Mar **ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE**

Seminarians Max Kenneth Acosta Garcia and Patricio Carrera Morales from Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary, Redemptoris Mater, will be ordained to the Order of Diaconate by Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproxton, **Friday, 31 March, St Mary's Cathedral at 7.30pm**. All are invited to attend. Please pray for these two men as they make the next step towards their priestly vocation. The Mass will be live streamed. [Click Here](#) for more information.

31 Mar **PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES – GROWING AWARENESS OF GOD IN MY EVERYDAY**

This focused prayer and contemplation time is assisted with talks on a theme, followed by personal time in the chapel or garden. Optional sharing of one's faith with others on the journey, adds to the richness of this experience. Theme; *Mid-Lent/life and washing feet. As we journey deeper into Lent, we reflect on our own journey thus far, and in particular the interior disposition and act of washing feet.* **Friday 31 March, 10.30 - 12noon**, repeated **6.30 - 8pm at Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth**. RSVP essential by Tuesday 28 March. **Further info:** 08 9334 0999 or prayingourexperiences@gmail.com.

2 Apr **GET FIT AND RAISE FUNDS FOR PERTH'S FRIENDS OF L'ARCHE AND DISABILITY**

L'Arche WalkAbility is taking place on **April 2 at Burswood Park** to raise vital funds for Friends of L'Arche Perth and to raise awareness of the importance of building inclusive communities for those living with disability. The first L'Arche Community was founded in 1964 in Trosly, France by acclaimed Catholic philosopher, theologian and Templeton Prize winner, Jean Vanier. Today there are 147 L'Arche communities worldwide. **Further info:** visit www.folperth.org/walkability.

6 April **THE 3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY EVENING**

Thursday 6 April, 7.30pm at Subiaco Parish in the Church. This is an evening where three female

inspirational guest speakers, 'chat' about their faith, their faith journey and what faith means in their lives today. The women will speak for about 8 to 11 minutes, followed by 'contemplative' music by Tres Classique after each speaker and at the conclusion of the evening refreshments will be served on the piazza outside the Church. **Further info:** www.stjosephssubiaco.org.au.

6 Apr HOLY MASS AND HEALING - TALK BY ALAN AMES

Starting at **7pm** with **Mass** at **Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 175 Corfield St, Gosnells**. This will be followed by talk and prayers. Alan has been speaking and praying for healing around the world since 1994 and has spoken in more than 40 countries. Alan will speak after the Holy Mass and share his unique conversion experiences. **Further info:** Keith 041 1108525.

7-8 April INVITATION TO 'COME AND SEE'

The Josephite Call - a way of life... Living contemplatively within a "New Consciousness". Practice contemplation, explore aspects of Religious Life and its various forms, reflect on Mary MacKillop and Julian Woods' initial call and its relevance in our world today. **Friday 7 April, 5pm to Saturday 8 April, 10am** (overnight optional) at **Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth**. RSVP to Alma Cabassi RSJ, cabassi.alma@gmail.com, 0419 044 136.

9 Apr PALM SUNDAY - WALK FOR JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES

Be a part of the community of welcome to show support for refugees and asylum-seekers by joining us in our walk through the streets of Perth starting at **1pm** from **St George's Cathedral, Perth**. The themes this year '*Bring them here*' and '*Safety for all*' are supportive of many statements from the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) and the Social Justice Statement (for 2015-16): "*For those who've come across the seas – Justice for refugees and asylum-seekers*". Join family and friends in this act of solidarity and compassion and don't forget to bring a palm frond. The flyer for the event can be viewed and/or downloaded [here](#). More details Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) www.jedo.perthcatholic.org.au. **Further info:** Carol Mitchell, jedo@perthcatholic.org.au.

WHAT'S ON - FUTURE EVENTS

12 Apr MIRACLE PRAYERS

The next Miracle Prayers healing service will be held on **Wednesday 12 April, 7.30pm** at **67 Howe St, Osborne Park**. Fr Doug will be speaking about Sacramentals, what they are and how they are used. Please bring along water, olive oil and salt to have them blessed. Blessing of other items by request. As usual prayer for personal intentions and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. All welcome. **Further info:** Michelle 0404 028 298.

16 Apr & 23 Apr 2017 EASTER ART EXHIBITION

St Mary's Cathedral Perth will next month host an exhibition of modern art on **Easter Sunday 16 April 8.30-7pm** and again on **Sunday 23 April 8.30-7pm**. The exhibition will showcase the work of artists Margaret Fane, Jackie Penton-Skipp. Black Swan finalist Craig Soulsby and Mugurel Barbulescu, Winner of the People's Choice Black Swan. More information to follow in the coming weeks. **Further info:** Margaret Fane 0432 834 743.

21-23 Apr "CHRIST IS RISEN"- CYM YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT

Need some time away for rest, personal reflection and to deepen your relationship with Jesus? Join other young adults for an incredible weekend away to reflect on the Easter theme of "Christ is Risen". The retreat will include inspirational Catholic speakers, music, prayer, Mass, discussions and much more! Young Adults aged 18-35. **Eagles Nest Retreat Centre, Gidgegannup**. Registration \$130 and closes 7 April, includes food & accommodation. **Further info** or to register

23 Apr **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Divine Mercy Sunday, 23 April, Benediction and Divine Mercy devotions after the 10am Mass at **Subiaco Parish**. All welcome. **Further info:** www.stjosephssubiaco.org.au.

23 Apr **FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY**

The feast of Divine Mercy will be held on **Sunday 23 April, 2pm** at **St Mary's Cathedral**, starting with confession and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Please note the Cathedral will be available at 2pm as there will be a wedding at 1pm. Holy Mass will start at 2.30pm with His Grace Archbishop Timothy Costello being the principal celebrant. The priests of the archdiocese are invited to concelebrate. Following the Mass Veneration of the relic of St Faustina Kowalska. **Further info:** Julia and June Murphy 08 9457 7771.

4-7 Sept **VINE AND BRANCHES CONFERENCE 2017**

National Pastoral Leaders and Planners Conference, **Rydges on Swanston, 701 Swanston St, Carlton, 4-7 September**. This conference will be an opportunity for clergy, pastoral associates and pastoral planners to reflect upon the signs of the time and move forward with hope. Guest speakers include sociologist and author Hugh Mackay AO; American theologian Professor Richard Gaillardetz; theologian Dr Maeve Heaney; Australian journalist Geraldine Doogue and Archbishop Mark Coleridge. **Click here** for flyer. **Further info:** Maria George, 0409 792 168 or mgeorge@eskwparish.cam.au; Fr Steven Rigo, steven.rigo@cam.org.au or 03 9435 1543; Stephen Reid, s.reid@pro.catholic.org, or 03 9953 3457.

OTHER POINTS

EVERY LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Every last Saturday of the month, Novena to Our Lady of Good Health, Vailankanni, **5pm** at **Holy Trinity Church, Embleton**. All devotees are cordially invited. **Further info:** Fr Joseph Rathnaraj, embleton@perthcatholic.org.au or 08 9271 5528.

ALL WEEKEND MASSES DURING LENT - SLAVERY FREE CHOCOLATE THIS EASTER

Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act." Are you buying slavery-free Easter chocolate? The International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF) estimates that there are 1.5 million children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa. Many of these children have been enslaved, or forced to work in exploitative conditions. Much of the chocolate we consume in Australia is made with cocoa beans picked by enslaved children, particularly in West Africa. You can make a difference to the world, and to the lives of these children, by buying only slavery-free chocolate. Please buy and eat only slavery-free Easter eggs and chocolate this Easter! Look for fair-trade on the chocolate wrapper and make a difference. **Click here** for flyer. **Further info:** Rosie Hoban 0431 471 046 or <https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter>.

SEE, JUDGE AND ACT: JEDO CAN HELP WITH YOUR SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) is an agency within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth that can help you to bring social justice action to life within your parish. We are here to help you start a Parish Social Justice Group – or to strengthen your existing one. To find out what social justice action we are involved with, head to our **website** or take a look at our quarterly **newsletters**. **Further info:** Maddy admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au or 9241 5256.

CONVENANT

The Lent 2017 Small Groups Program is available at The Centre for Liturgy. **Further info** and orders

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REFLECTIONS

ARCHBISHOP COSTELLOE HOMILY

When the ashes are placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday and the call to "repent and believe in the Gospel" is addressed to us, we are really being encouraged to return Christ to his rightful place in our lives. He is God's Word to us; he is God's Good News. When we are invited to "believe in the Gospel" we are being invited to "trust in Jesus". In our Christian understanding, this is what belief is: trusting faith in God, who comes to us in his Son, Jesus. We have been assured by Jesus that he is the Way - so why not follow him? He has told us that he is the Truth - so why not take him at his word? He has revealed himself to us as the Life - so why not embrace with enthusiasm the life he offers? This is what returning our lives to Christ means: this is what returning Christ to our lives looks like. *Archbishop Timothy Costelloe, 2017 Lenten Pastoral Letter.*

POPE FRANCIS: ENDURANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

...We may define endurance also as patience: it is the capacity to sustain, to carry on our shoulders, to remain faithful, even when the burden seems to become too great and unbearable, and when we are tempted to judge negatively and abandon everything and everyone. Encouragement, instead, is the grace of knowing how to perceive and to show in every situation, even in those most marked by disappointment and suffering, the presence of God's compassionate action. Now, Saint Paul reminds us that endurance and encouragement are transmitted to us in a special way in the Scriptures (v. 4), that is, the Bible. Indeed, the Word of God, first of all, leads us to turn our gaze to Jesus, to know Him better and to conform to Him, to increasingly resemble Him. Secondly, the Word reveals to us that the Lord is truly the "God of endurance and encouragement" (v. 5), Who always remains faithful in His love for us; that is, He endures in His love with us, and He never tires of loving us! He endures, He always loves us! And He takes care of us, tending to our wounds with the caress of His goodness and His mercy, that is, He consoles us. He never tires of encouraging us either.

From this perspective we can also understand the Apostle's initial affirmation: "We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (v. 1). This expression, "we who are strong", may seem presumptuous, but in the logic of the Gospel we know that it is not so; or rather, that it is precisely the opposite, because our strength does not come from us, but from the Lord. He who experiences in his own life the faithful love of God and His encouragement is able, or rather, compelled stay close to his weaker brothers and to take on their frailty. If we stay close to the Lord, we will have the strength to be close to the weakest, those most in need, and to encourage and give strength to them. This is what it means. We can do this without complacency, instead simply aware of being a "channel" that transmits the gifts of the Lord; and in this one can truly become a "sower" of hope. This is what the Lord asks of us, with that strength and that capacity to console and to be sowers of hope. And nowadays we need to sow hope, but it is not easy...

The fruit of this style of life is not a community in whom some belong to an "A-list" made up of the strong, and others a "B-list", consisting of the weak. The fruit is, instead, as Saint Paul says, to "live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus" (v. 5). The Word of God nurtures a hope that translates in a concrete way into sharing, into mutual service. Because even those who

are “strong” sooner or later find themselves experiencing fragility and being in need of the comfort of others; and vice versa, in weakness one can always offer a smile or a hand to a brother in difficulty. And it is a community that thereby “with one voice [glorifies] the God and Father” (cf. v.6). But all this is possible if we place Christ and His Word at the centre, because He is the strong one, it is He Who gives us strength, Who gives us patience, Who gives us hope, Who gives us encouragement. He is the “strong brother” Who takes care of each one of us: indeed, we all need to be lifted onto the shoulders of the Good Shepherd and to feel wrapped in His tender and thoughtful gaze...

(**General Audience**: 22 March 2017, St Peter’s Square, Vatican City)

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