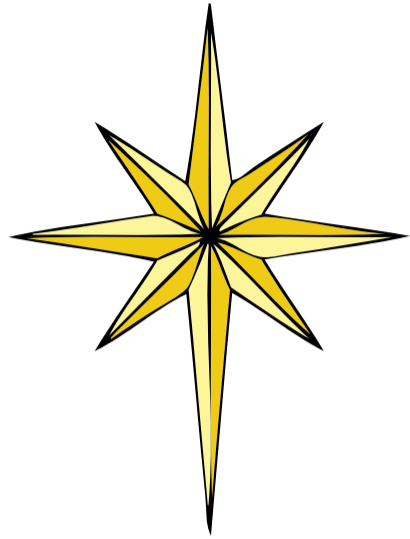




We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

Of Love, Hope, Joy & Peace

By Fiona Tinney

CHRISTMAS is such a busy time, we run from one thing to another and rarely get the opportunity to stop, to think, to breathe, to pray and even to just enjoy Christmas. We race from shop to shop in search of that perfect gift and fill our baskets with all kinds of festive food. Christmas trees in a range of size and shapes glisten with gold and silver tinsel and endless lines of lights start to twinkle as the sun goes down. Cards are sent and

decorations are hung and together we sing Carols to herald this Holy time.

This can be such a wonderful time of year. It is a time to embrace friends, neighbours and family, perhaps even those we don't know so well. Across our Diocese we celebrate the birth of Christ in many different ways, we work together and we give thanks. Every person and every parish has a different story to tell, we each have our own expectation of what Christmas means

and how it should be experienced. It is a time to rejoice in the love of God and this is reflected in how we share our love with others.

All of us are blessed with the amazing love that Jesus Christ shared with us and as we come together to celebrate his birth we are reminded of what Christmas is really about. This Christmas take the time to enjoy the blessings, share the love, the hope, the joy and the peace.

As Sri Lanka rebuilds, Australian churches give support through Christmas Bowl

CREDIT: JANET COUSENS
ACT FOR PEACE

KAMALA and her husband were so afraid when the violence got close to their home, they fled Sri Lanka with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Support from churches around Australia for the Christmas Bowl helped Kamala and her husband to survive in a refugee camp in southern India, and provide vital health care to the baby born to them in the camp. And it helped them to return to Sri Lanka once it was safe.

Kamala and her husband are among the hundreds of thousands of Sri Lankans who were forced to flee as a result of the civil war that gripped their country between 1983 and 2009. Many fled to Tamil Nadu, southern India, and have been living in camps there ever since — and now that the

conflict has ended, many are looking to return home.

Australians who support the Christmas Bowl in 2012 will be helping Sri Lankan refugees to make a safe return home, and providing refugees who are still in camps with health care, including child and maternal care, vitamin supplements for children, and counselling. The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas Appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

“We left for India because of fear, but promised to return when things were safe again,” said Kamala. “Returning to Sri Lanka has not been difficult because of the help we have received.”

The costs of the civil war remain high, and Sri Lanka faces a huge challenge in resettlement, rehabilitation, large scale infrastructure reconstruc-

tion and reconciliation between and within ethnic communities. Act for Peace supports programs in the refugee camps to help refugees prepare for a return to this environment. They participate in self-help groups to support community leader-

ship, peace building and human rights, assisting safe return and resilience.

Act for Peace, working with a local project partner, also helps to provide refugees with the documentation they need to ensure that they can prove their Sri Lankan cit-

izenship and obtain the benefits they are entitled to on their return.

For more information about the Christmas Bowl, or to make a gift today, please call 1800 025 101 or visit www.actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl.



Support for the Christmas Bowl helped Kamala and her husband, from Sri Lanka, to survive in refugee camps in India, and to provide vital health care to their newborn baby. After years in the refugee camp, Act for Peace's partners have helped Kamala and her family to return home safely.

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DETAILS

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Pictures should be provided as a high resolution JPEG (300dpi) or Tiff if possible.

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Interested in Spirituality and The Enneagram?

BY FR ROB WHALLEY

IN 2012 a group of diocesan clergy and laity have been meeting regularly to explore spiritual direction. Several people in that group have expressed interest in also studying the Enneagram, a psychological-spiritual tool that is similar to the Myers Briggs' type inventory. It is a resource that has helped many Chris-

tian people and communities in discerning ways to grow deeper into God's grace in both their individual and corporate journeys and ministries.

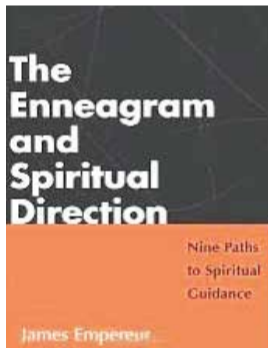
In 2013 we will be offering a reading group with a book offering a unique and valuable Christian viewpoint on how the enneagram can be a part of a growing and disciplined faith and can lead to a deepening awareness of how we are

called, with all our complexities, to follow God in our daily life.

“The Enneagram and Spiritual Direction” by James Empereur, a Jesuit priest, is both an admirable introduction and a valuable resource. The book offers a theoretical and practical understanding on ways our personal preferences and predicaments can be gateways to encounter Jesus in both prayerful and mindful

ways. The text is available for order online as well as at many booksellers.

The proposed dates for our meetings in 2013 will be: 27 February, 24 April, 27 June, 28 August and 23 October. Each meeting will last for two hours, and may also include a shared lunch. The meeting location (perhaps movable) will be determined by the participants.



For more information, please call Fr Rob Whalley at 03-5721-3484

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- View Events in the Diocese
- Find a church
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WEBSITE

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Don't forget to take heaps of photos over the Christmas and new year break for The Advocate.
Email photos to: registry@wangaratta-anglican.org.au



Without Fear or Favour

22 NOVEMBER 2012 - MEDIA RELEASE AND PASTORAL LETTER

I join with the Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia in welcoming the calling of a Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse.

A decade ago Archbishop Aspinall called for a national royal commission into child sexual abuse. This call was dismissed by the Prime Minister of the time. I therefore welcome this new commitment by the Federal Government which presents an opportunity for the evil of child sexual assault to be addressed nationally, without fear or favour. It is essential that all federal members and senators ensure that the royal commission is well-resourced, independent and free from political agendas. All victims of child sexual abuse will be looking to the royal commission for answers and validation, including the vast majority of victims who are abused in family settings.

On behalf of the Anglican Diocese

of Wangaratta, I pledge our full cooperation in this landmark process. I again call for victims of abuse to come forward and inform the relevant authorities of their suffering. I know this has been done on multiple occasions previously yet we know that victims of abuse are sometimes prompted to reveal their trauma when the issue is in the public spotlight. I appeal to people to suffer in silence no longer.

I trust and pray that the royal commission will have constructive outcomes, that it will operate with courage, commitment and compassion, and that it will bring healing for those affected by sexual abuse and help protect future generations.



The Right Reverend John Parkes AM
Bishop of Wangaratta

Holy Trinity Nathalia celebrates 125 years.

BY MERLE COBBLEDICK

AFTER months of preparation Sunday November 4th dawned a fine and warm day when 120 young and old Anglicans celebrated 125 years of continuous worship at Holy Trinity Nathalia.

Fr. Kim Benton, priest of the Numurkah Nathalia parish led the service assisted by Vicar General of the Diocese of Wangaratta Archdeacon John Davis who was celebrant and preacher.

Former priests Fr. David Holloway with his wife Heather and Fr. Michael Martin accompanied by his brother Robert were present in the

congregation.

People from all over the state, as well as visitors from Queensland and Tasmania signed the visitors book.

Our oldest parishioner Frank Moor who celebrated his 102 birthday the following day attended—a faithful example of his Anglican beliefs.

Master of Ceremonies Keith Schier presided over the luncheon (prepared by Scrumdiddlyumcious) which followed the service.

Fr. Kim welcomed all, Archdeacon Davis spoke of the value of the Church and local parishioner Ron Cobbledick recalled some humorous memories of the past as well as present

day achievements.


Grace Scolyer and Carol Byrnes provided some musical entertainment which everyone enjoyed. President of the committee Merle Cobbledick thanked the artists and presented each lady with a bouquet of flowers.

Holy Trinity warden Mary Muntz thanked all visitors who attended, local parishioners for their energetic work prior and on the day and concluded by wishing everyone safe travelling home.

Many friendships were renewed, stories told and everyone felt privileged to take part in this joyous occasion.



Archdeacon John Davis greets Frank Moor, Holy Trinity, Nathalia oldest Parishioner. Fr. Kim Benton and Frank's daughter Lorna look on. Frank just celebrated his 102nd birthday.



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From the Bishop

Whenever I visit any of our schools we are accustomed to sing two verses of the National Anthem. The learning of the second verse has tested me in two ways. First the aging memory struggles a bit with new learning. Second and more significantly the words, 'for those who come across the sea we've boundless plains to share,' seem poignant in the light of the contemporary debate on asylum seekers, so often wrongly vilified (in the light of international law) as 'illegal immigrants'. As the various sides of the political fence seek to outdo each other in ramping up the chest thumping, and in making life ever more intolerable for those who have sought sanctuary from violence deprivation trauma and misery, I cannot help but reflect again on him whose birthday we are about to celebrate.

The tradition has associated the words of the prophet Isaiah (9.6) with this one.

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given,
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name shall be called,
Wonderful,
Counsellor,
the mighty God,
the Everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace.*

Jesus came into the world as an outcast, born in a stable because there was no room at the inn to house his father and heavily pregnant mother on their journey to the national census. And if we read Matthews account of the events surrounding his birth, Jesus himself became a refugee in Egypt, fleeing from the wrath of King Herod (2.13-18).

We Australians are so blessed. We live at peace, in a country which provides abundantly for our material needs. Can we, this Christmas, find it in our hearts to be a little more generous, a little more compassionate, a little more accommodating. For the sake of the Prince of Peace who gave his life that we might have life, and life in all its fullness.




The Right Reverend John Parkes AM
Bishop of Wangaratta



A CHRISTMAS REMINDER

The Diocesan office will close for Christmas on
Friday 21st December
and will reopen on
Monday 7th January 2013.

The registry staff would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a
happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

DIOCESAN CALENDAR	
DECEMBER	
1	Celebration of Lay Ministry - Holy Trinity Cathedral
3-6	Trinity Conference - Melbourne
8	Commissioning of Rev Alan Kelb - Parish of Tallangatta
11	Bishop in Council
25	Christmas Day
JANUARY	
17	Induction of Rev'd Kim Benton - Parish of Kilmore
24	Induction of Rev'd Sally Boothey - Parish of Numurkah.



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NO SILENT NIGHT IN SHEPPARTON



BY CANON ANDREW NEAUM

and souped up Kingswood cars. The man rushed inside to the hospital desk, the woman trailing laboriously behind him. He said to the receptionist on duty, "My wife's pregnant, due at any time, book her in, find a bed for her..."

Disdain

"Steady on," said the receptionist. "Slow down. It's not quite as easy as that. There might not even be a bed. What's your address? Who's your doctor? You need a doctor. Where do you come from? This is a smoke free zone. Please get rid of your cigarette." She added, under her breath, looking at me for support, "Phew, he stinks of booze!" Then to the man: "Where's your medicare card?"

De facto

The car's radio blared forth a hideous, cacophony of frenzied music. Its back seat was piled high with suitcases, blankets, snuggles nappies, slabs of coke and packets of cigarettes. Next to the wild looking fellow was a young woman, doubtless more de facto than de jure his wife, heavily pregnant, less than graciously dressed in bulging track pants, and thongs. They were not the sort of couple I easily associate with. I share no enthusiasm whatsoever for tattoos, ear rings, track pants

He looked at the form waiting to be filled in, gave her a drop-dead look, turned round and shouted to his woman, "The bloody place is full. To get in we need a doctor and to give up blankety blank smoking.... and fill in blankety blank forms and to bow and scrape to a snotty, blankety blank bitch with a lisp..."

We'll book into a pub so that you can rest. I'll go and find a doctor..." Said the pregnant woman, "You'd better hurry..."

The Kingswood wheel-spinned out of the hospital car park. That was the last I saw of it...So I

missed the birth of Messiah!

Hell's angels

Rumour has it that none of the pubs would put up the wild looking couple and that this was why the baby was born, just before Midnight Mass, in the inadvertently left open garage of a St Augustine's parishioner in Orr Street. That he was heralded by a band of ruffian hells angels and raucous music on a portable CD player which kept half the street up all night. I missed the birth of Messiah.

Messiah is born not only in an expected context, in a predictable and miraculous fashion, a safe two thousand years ago in a manger, in a stable. He's born anywhere and everywhere, even in Shepparton, even in our own black little heart, lighting up and bringing music and joy even to that hopeless place.

Light to my black heart

Our amazing, lovely, sad, glorious world, is no fluke, no accident, didn't just happen to be. Behind all that is there lies a great and tender and all embracing love that transforms and enlightens everything. That gives meaning and purpose to the darkest places. To a Palestinian cave, to an Orr Street resident's garage, to my black little heart and life, even to a set of gallows on Golgotha Hill.



A brief slack moment! Val Cockerell, Sue Boyle, Diana Cherry, Sue Moss, Beth Page and Marg Ackerman behind the stall.

Spring Luncheon in Marysville

BY DIANA CHERRY

THE Anglican Parish of Marysville held its annual luncheon on Sunday 14th October. Following the morning service, 37 past and present members of Christ Church Marysville and St Thomas' Buxton gathered at Saladin Lodge in Narbethong, where the beautiful grounds and a sunny day guaranteed a successful event.

Joy Clark, wife of our locum priest Fr Ian, was our speaker. Joy shared from her day-to-day contacts with young mothers and the elderly, and also her experience as a national leader in Mothers' Union. Father Ian has worked in several dioceses and in very different parishes, so Joy's gardening skills have been honed in climates as varied as

Mansfield and Broken Hill!

Saturday 3rd November brought the Guild's annual Cup-weekend street stall. We have two stalls each year to finance our support for St Theresa's Mission near Alice Springs and for several remote schools in the Northern Territory. With a changed streetscape since the bushfires, our stalls are now set up in the foyer of Marysville Central — the former Marysville Car Museum. Home-cooked cakes and pies, jams and pickles, are popular items. As always the local community gave us wonderful support, and the stall raised over \$1100.

Transport of boxes to the Northern Territory still remains the greatest single cost in our mission work. *Please, does anyone have a contact in the transport industry?*



PARISH OF MANSFIELD - ANNUAL FETE

BY VEN EDEN-ELIZABETH NICHOLLS

SATURDAY 20th October dawned a beautiful morning and the annual fete was opened with the ringing of the church bell.

Ropes were dropped and people flocked in (some coming from as far away as Yea for this well-known annual event).

White elephant, cakes, books, produce, craft, plants, BBQ, raffles, and beautiful handmade cards were all for sale, with Devonshire tea and children's activities also available.



Early birds arrived more than 30 minutes before the fete opened (some coming from as far away as Yea), so they could survey the plants for sale.

Farewell to Anglican priest for central Goulburn parish

BY DIANE GRANT

parish. In June 2011, Fr Thevathasan Samuel Premarajah (known as Fr Prem) was inducted as the priest in charge of the Anglican Parish of Central Goulburn, consisting of St Paul's Avenel, St John's Nagambie and Christ Church Seymour. Fr Prem and the whole parish was excited about their future.

Fr Prem and his wife Yogi endeared themselves to many within the parish and the community. Unfortunately, Fr Prem's ministry amongst the parish was cut short and in August 2012, he

retired from full time ministry. He has been missed from amongst the parish folk and district.

On Sunday, November 25, at the Feast of Christ the King service, the parish was able to officially say good-bye to Fr Prem and Yogi at Christ Church Seymour. This gave many the chance to say thank you to them for their ministry and pastoral care among the parish folk.

Russell Hurren and David Watson spoke on behalf of the parish folk when they said words of appreciation to Fr Prem and Yogi for their

ministry and love to the congregations at Avenel, Nagambie and Seymour. They were thanked for all their compassion and understanding and wished well for their future. A small token of appreciation was given to Fr Prem and a basket of flowers to Yogi.

Fr David Valentin, locum priest also reiterated his words of appreciation for the work of Fr Prem and Yogi whilst they were in the Parish. Fr Prem responded with words of appreciation for the gift given to him by the parish and for his ministry and support by many in the



Farewell and thanks from a grateful parish. Left Fr David Valentin, Margaret Hurren, Fr Prem, Russell Hurren, Yogi Premarajah and David Watson.

parish in his time there. He wishes Fr David well in his new ministry in Central Goulburn parish and thanked him for filling the breach left by

his retiring so suddenly. Fr David Valentin, was commissioned as Part Time Priest of the Parish of Central Goulburn on Thursday, 29 No-

vember at Christ Church Seymour. A bring and share tea followed in the church hall.



RSCM Silver Award – Lyn Winnel

BY LYN WINNELL

IT is spiritually uplifting to be a chorister in the St. Matthew's Church Choir in Albury with Fr Peter Macleod-Miller as our Rector and Mr. Adrian Wintle as our Music Director and Organist.

On the 26 October 2012 in Sydney I sat the external examination, the Royal School of Church Music "Voice for Life", to complete the Silver Award with Merit. I was examined by Mrs. Megwanya Matthews (ARSCM) has given and long distinguished service to RSCM Australia. Choral conductor; workshops, organized school festivals and National Summer Camps (RSCM). Also host of a weekly sacred music programme at 2MBS-FM. She has been awarded Associate for important achievements in church music and liturgy of national significance within the RSCM. Also present on the day was Dr James Forsyth (FRSCM) has been committed to the RSCM for over 50 years. Some of his professional skills as composer; choral conductor, organ accompanist, liturgist arranger, chorister and conducting workshops. He has been awarded Fellowship for exceptional achievements in the church music and liturgy of international significance within the RSCM. The syllabus for the award was based on five different modules.

Module A: Using the voice well:

Learning in this section was how to keep the voice healthy; looking after it and making the

best use of it. Singing is a physical activity which requires stamina, concentration and dedication. In this section I had to sing a musical performance: a hymn; psalm; anthem and a song.

Module B: Musical skills and understanding:

An important section understanding the musical shapes and terms on the music score. As a choir member it's important to learn new music quickly and confidently as possible. I am broadening my knowledge in the language of music notation and music theory. I was examined on sight reading; singing intervals; clap rhythm patterns and sing back echo phrases; identify triads and sing the middle or lowest notes. It also involved musical notes and values; Italian terms; accidentals; signs; time and key signatures (major and minor).

Module C: Repertoire:

This made you aware of why you are singing and what you are singing about. I had to understand my prepared anthem and others which were contrasting and similar (origin, mood, genre, musical, period, style, text, liturgical and historical). Also many church music composers; meaning of the text and how the music reflects the text.

Module D: Belonging to the church:

A written testimonial by Adrian Wintle on my theoretical and practical aspects in music and being apart of the church, with the counter-signed by Fr Peter was required. I have come to learn and love music simply because I had the chance to join a church choir. It

is spiritually uplifting and helped me to understand God's messages. To service others through music is a wonderful feeling and brings great rewards. It brings joyment throughout my life as music is still vital to the life of a church. It helps me to praise and worship, drawing closer to God. Doing things to help others and bringing joy to people in the church.

Module E: Choir in context:

To me this section was rewarding in knowledge that I researched about the liturgy and ministry side of the church. From the Bible, knowledge on biblical origins and their liturgical texts was needed. I had to describe the structure of the form of Eucharist and chose a season that is celebrated in the church. To learn all the church's calendar, the Christian Year in Seasonal Time and Ordinary Time. The churches colours used to mark the seasons of the Christian year. How music helps people to prayer and the awareness of the choir contribution to the worship life in the church.

On completing the necessary training for the RSCM "Voice for Life" scheme has been challenging and hugely fulfilling. It has helped me to understand more clearly the religious and musical aspects of the church. I have begun to develop my own patterns of worship and to understand the Liturgy of the church. I'll keep on developing my knowledge and understanding of music as I continue to go down the path of musical appreciation.



Lyn Winnel pictured with Dr James Forsyth and Meg Matthews (the examiners).





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EGYPT'S JOURNEY WITH GOD - II

St Catherine's Monastery – Mt Sinai

BY DR JOHN PRYOR

St Catherine's Monastery, situated in the loneliness of the Sinai Peninsula and at the foot of Mt Sinai, holds an amazing collection of ancient treasures. In particular, it houses the world's second largest collection of ancient Christian manuscripts (after the Vatican Library). Here are two stories about those manuscripts.

THE OLDEST BIBLE

In the mid-19th century a German scholar, Constantin Tischendorf, visited St Catherine's, seeking early Christian manuscripts. His story is an exciting one of European deception and of monastic misguided trust. On his second visit he was shown an ancient Greek bible. Some pages were lost, but most were intact. It turned out to be a fourth century copy of the Old and New Testament, possibly one of those that the Emperor Constantine ordered to be copied in the early 300s. Tischendorf immediately recognised the importance of this manuscript 'lost' in the library of this isolated monastery. Sudden-

ly, we had a bible hundreds of years older than any other known bible.

Today, we know this Greek text as Codex Sinaiticus, or Codex Aleph, and it is one of the most important early biblical texts that we have. Today, a few of its pages are in St Petersburg, Leipzig and at St Catherine's, but most of it is on display in the British Museum. How did it get there? The monks loaned it to the Russian Tsar, Alexander II, in 1859. It was never returned, and so it came into the possession of the Soviet Union after 1917. Short of cash, in 1933 the Soviets sold it to the British Government for £100,000.

TWO SPECIAL SISTERS

Late in the 19th century, two widowed twin sisters, Agnes Lewis and Margaret Gibson, wealthy and devout Presbyterians, devoted their considerable gifts to the discovery of ancient Christian manuscripts. Between them they learned Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, and ancient and modern Greek – and in 1892 travelled to Egypt and Mt Sinai. The St Catherine's monks, having had their fingers burned by Tischendorf's visits, were nonetheless won over by the obvious integrity of the women. What the



sisters found at the monastery was an ancient palimpsest* – and underneath was a late 2nd century Syriac version of the four gospels, even older than Codex Sinaiticus! To this day it remains in the library of St Catherine's. Read their story in J Soskise, Sisters of Sinai (Vintage Books, 2010).

* palimpsest – When parchment became scarce, old texts were re-used. The original text was scraped and the new document written over the top of the old.

On our tour of Egypt in November, 2013, the visit to St Catherine's Monastery and Mt Sinai will be something special. We will stay in the special guest house, climb Mt Sinai, view the desert dawn from the summit, and visit St Catherine's Monastery. Interested? Contact Dr John Pryor at jpyrpor@gmail.com or phone 03 5766 6436. But be quick – numbers are almost full.



TOP: Mt Catherine's Monastery in Mt Sinai
ABOVE: Luke's Gospel Lord's Prayer in Codex Sinaiticus

Diocese of Wangaratta

Christmas Service Times

PARISH	CHURCH	SERVICE TIMES	PARISH	CHURCH	SERVICE TIMES
ALBURY	St Matthew's Albury	SUNDAY 16th December - 5.00pm Carols and Lessons MONDAY 24th December - 4.00pm Short Infants Carols Service with Donkey 6.00pm Children's Family Service with Holy Communion 10.30pm Carols 11.00pm Midnight Mass TUESDAY 25th December - 9.00am Eucharist	NUMURKAH/ NATHALIA	St George's Numurkah	TUESDAY 18th December - 8.00 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols MONDAY 24th December - 11.30pm Christmas at Midnight TUESDAY 25th December - 10.30am
		Holy Trinity Nathalia		TUESDAY 25th December - 9.00 am	
ALPINE	All Saints' Bright	MONDAY 24th December - 11:30pm Midnight Mass TUESDAY 25th December - 11:00am Eucharist	RUTHERGLEN	St Paul's Wakiti Creek	MONDAY 24th December - 5.30pm
	St Paul's, Myrtleford	MONDAY 24th December - 4:30pm - Children's Christmas Service. (Hear the Christmas Story, sing Christmas Carols. Come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings). TUESDAY 25th December - 9:15am Sung Eucharist		St Stephens Rutherglen	SUNDAY 23rd December - 7pm Carols TUESDAY 25th December - 9am
BEECHWORTH	St John's, Whorouly	MONDAY 24th December - 7:30pm Eucharist.	SHEPPARTON	St Pauls Chiltern	MONDAY 10th December - 8pm Carols MONDAY 24th December - 8pm - Uniting Church Chiltern
	Christ Church Beechworth	SUNDAY 23rd December - 7.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols MONDAY 24th December - 11.30pm Mass of the Nativity TUESDAY 25th December - 10.00 am Mass		Springhurst	SUNDAY 2nd December - 7pm Carols
CENTRAL GOULBURN	St Jude's Eldorado	MONDAY 24th December - 7.00pm Mass of the Nativity	WANGARATTA	All Souls' Barnawartha	FRIDAY 21st December - 8pm Carols TUESDAY 25th December - 7.30am
	St Johns Nagambie	MONDAY 24th December - 6:30pm		Christ King Wahgunyah	MONDAY 24th December - 6pm
COBRAM	St Pauls Avenel	TUESDAY 25th December - 8.00am	WANGARATTA WEST & THE WARBYS	St Augustine's Shepparton	SUNDAY 16 December - 10.30am Eucharist and Nativity Play FRIDAY 21 December - 7.00pm Service of Readings and Carols MONDAY 24th December - 5.30pm Children's Crib Eucharist MONDAY 24th December - 11.00pm Carols MONDAY 24th December - 11.30pm Midnight Mass TUESDAY 25th December - 8.30am Sung Eucharist 10.30am Eucharist
	Christ Church Seymour	TUESDAY 25th December - 9:30am		St Mary's Katandra	MONDAY 24th December - 8.30pm Eucharist
EUROA	St Margaret's Cobram	THURSDAY 20th December - 7.30pm Nine lessons and Carols MONDAY 24th December - 11.30pm TUESDAY 25th December - 9.30am	YACKANDANDAH/ KIEWA	St Paul's Rushworth	MONDAY 24th December - 11.00pm Carols and Midnight Mass
	St Georges' Katamatite	MONDAY 24th December - 7.30pm		St Luke's Dookie	TUESDAY 25th December - 8.45am Eucharist
MANSFIELD	St Aiden's Strathmerton	TUESDAY 25th December - 7.30am	YARRAWONGA	Christ Church Murchison	TUESDAY 25th December - 9.00am Eucharist
	St Paul's Euroa	SUNDAY 16th December - 5:30pm A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols MONDAY 24th December - 11:30pm Eucharist TUESDAY 25th December - 9:30am Eucharist		Holy Trinity Cathedral Wangaratta	MONDAY 24th December - 6.00 pm Children's Service with Carols 11:30 pm Midnight Mass with Carols TUESDAY 25th December - 8.00 am Holy Eucharist with Carols 10.00 am Sung Eucharist with Carols
MILAWA	St Andrew's Longwood	TUESDAY 25th December - 8.00am Eucharist	YARRAWONGA	All Saints' Moyhu	TUESDAY 25th December - 9am
	St Dunstan's Violet Town	MONDAY 24th December - 5:30pm Carols / 6.00pm Eucharist		Christ Church Greta	MONDAY 24th December 2012 - 7pm
MURCHISON/ RUSHWORTH	St John's Mansfield	MONDAY 24th December - 11.00pm TUESDAY 25th December -	YARRAWONGA	Holy Trinity Whitfield	TUESDAY 25th December - 10:30 am
	Christ Church Bonnie Doon	MONDAY 24th December - 6.00pm Children invited to dress as shepherds & angels		St Michaels Wangaratta West	MONDAY 24th December - 11.30 pm Midnight Mass TUESDAY 25th December - 9.30am
NORTHERN ALBURY	St Peter's Jamieson	TUESDAY 25th December - 7.30am Children invited to dress as shepherds & angels 9.30am Children invited to dress as shepherds & angels	YARRAWONGA	St Paul's Glenrowan	MONDAY 24th December 2012 - 8pm
	St Paul's Milawa	TUESDAY 25th December - 9 am Eucharist with carols.		St John's Retirement Village Chapel	MONDAY 24th December 2012 - 6pm
NORTHERN ALBURY	St Paul's Rushworth	MONDAY 24th, December - 11.30pm Carols and Holy Communion	YARRAWONGA	St George's Taminick	TUESDAY 25th December - 8am
	St Mark's North Albury	MONDAY 24th, December - 6.00pm (Children's Christmas Service) 11.00pm TUESDAY 25th December - 10.00am		St Paul's Allan's Flat	TUESDAY 25th December - 9.00 am Holy Communion
NORTHERN ALBURY	St James' Lavington	MONDAY 24th, December - 8.30pm TUESDAY 25th December - 8.30am	YARRAWONGA	St Andrew's Dederang	MONDAY 24th, December 2012 - 8.00 pm Holy Communion
	St Paul's Jindera	TUESDAY 25th December - 8.00am		St Mark's Tangambalanga	MONDAY 24th, December 2012 - 6.00 pm Holy Communion
NORTHERN ALBURY	St John's Thurgoona	TUESDAY 25th December - 9.00am	YARRAWONGA	Holy Trinity Yackandandah	TUESDAY 25th December - 10.30 am Holy Communion
				St Cuthbert's Yarrowonga	SUNDAY 16th December - 7.30 pm Yarrowonga Carol Service with Yarrowonga-Mulwala Ecumenical Choir MONDAY 24th, December 2012 - 7.00 pm Family service with Nativity and Eucharist - 11:30 pm Eucharist TUESDAY 25th December - 9.30 am Eucharist
			YEA	St Thomas St James	MONDAY 24th, December 2012 - 9.00 pm Eucharist
			YEA	St Luke's	SUNDAY 16th December - 5pm Service of Carols & Lessons MONDAY 24th, December 2012 - 6pm Christmas Eve Kids & Family Carols Service - 11pm Midnight Mass TUESDAY 25th December - 9.15am Christmas Day Eucharist
			YEA	Rosebank Hostel	Tuesday 18th December - 11am Christmas Eucharist



The Church, Youth and all things Possible.

BY CLINTON MONTEIRO

YOUTH values are assets not liabilities. Can we think about human asset management?

It's about strategies, directions and outcomes and positive reinforcement not just judgment and condemnation and revenge. "An eye for an eye would leave the whole world blind" Gandhi. Baptism and confirmation is about positive Christian identity and life direction not "Love with a gun at its head".

Real faith should integrate with the real world and real choice. The newly appointed Archbishop of Canterbury is heading a House of Lords inquiry into ethics and banking in the UK. This has allowed the Church to put itself in a position of exploring the ethical and moral behaviour of society around the world. In the Anglican world it is not just to come up with simple answers but utilizing scripture, tradition

and reason to ask some tough questions. Developing a Christian Haiku might be one way of moving forward and bringing others along with us.

Our time is now.

Christian tradition within the Anglican Church has always had various perspectives. The challenges of youth mental health have a flow-on ripple effect throughout the community and there needs to be an integrated response from the church that looks at the whole person; body, mind and spirit. It's a matter of taking the problem seriously and demonstrating politically. These issues need to be worked upon either by starting youth help programs in churches or by advocating and pursuing the creation of institutionalised mental health response services such as Headspace. Immediate action of clergy and the broad community in general should be to resolve these underlying issues and the bot-

tlenecks that are facing the community and its action on youth mental health rather than proposing strategies to deal with these issues in the distant future. Response to natural disasters, institutionalised scandals as well as pay rises for MP's takes on an immediate effect and is not put in a holding pattern until economic circumstances make it safe to land. Why is the welfare of Australian youth put on the backburner?

Changing the culture.

We as young Christians have the opportunity to be market makers and will be leading the way by sparking and feeding the fire of social justice. Building on this should be a new foundation for a reformed Australian Christian perspective; this includes all people and maintains a fair go for everyone. Leading from these initiatives The Bishop of Wangaratta's Social Justice Competition has received over 50 entries

from educational institutions around the diocese and from as far as Melbourne and Brisbane. This is an excellent result and an extraordinary example of response by young Australians gearing for the issues that currently face refugees and asylum seekers and this in turn has given them a head start in the school of thought to form a mature perspective. These entries are now being marked and the final result of the competition will be announced by our final judges Julian Burnside AO QC, leading human rights advocate and social justice commentator, Rowan Callick, South-East Asian correspondent for The Australian and Bishop John Parkes, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta. For allocating their precious time and effort I would also like to thank Cathy Carden, Jane Atkinson and Marion Bennett for being our preliminary judges.

Real Christmas Real Hope

Prayer and action, God being born into our world was not about a good idea but should actually be by doing it and breaking into our reality. Christmas is world realities colliding and working together for outcomes that we can be proud of to lay on our table. At this time of the year we need to pray for all Christians abroad and at home, who are persecuted for believing in our faith and for whom Christmas as we know it, is far from the first thing on their minds. The youth at St Matthew's wants to take a positive response in our community and we have decided to take on various projects before Christmas. We would be helping in the preparation of Anglicare hampers for vulnerable people in our community. These hampers would be made entirely by the youth and will include Christmas treats for those who will receive them. We will

also help decorate St Matthew's for Christmas and will provide hopefully a young take on Christmas decorations. This year we will also be present for Carols by Candlelight at Albury helping to bring a real nativity to the local community following the examples of St Francis of Assisi. It is God's real story breaking into our real story, it's God's real offer of rescue into our real lives.

New Year and New issues

Being the good news local and global. Even before the dawn of the New Year shines through, AAY will be taking on a subject that is close to most farmers and affecting rural communities, we will be looking at local goods and local products. This new program will look at helping local farmers compete with the BIG 2 retail companies. This new initiative will look at developing sustainable sources of food and other consumption material. It will allow us

to promote local producers in an innovative manner ensuring that these producers do not lose on the opportunity to sell their products and thus help overcome the market malfunctions. This program will look at dairy producers in Albury and also other food producers who have been participating in the local farmer's market. A day outing is being organised sometime in early January, All diocesan youth are invited to join us and should contact either St Matthew's office or their local parish and register. This could be great new initiative that young people could chair across the diocesan region and make a difference and we looking at the way the idea has been taken up in Australia and other countries and repackage to give it legs in local paddocks and communities.

Diocese benefits from Anglicare's personal support worker program

BY MARGARET BRICKHILL & JOAN COCHRANE

SO that Anglicare Victoria in the Hume Region could be better prepared to help in emergency situations Jill Allen issued an invitation for regional staff, volunteers, and churches to undertake the two-day Personal Support Worker training in Wangaratta in January, provided by the Victorian Council of Churches.

Less than two months later some of us had opportunities to put our training into practice in supporting people affected by flooding across the border areas – in evacuation centres, relief centres and in outreach.

With the news that this summer could see fires in Victoria, it is good to think about the contributions which Personal Support Workers, along with Community Chaplains, make during emergencies.

Joan Cochrane is a member of the Uniting Church known to many in the diocese through study groups and Curtillo. Joan has been a secondary school teacher who has also worked in student welfare for more than twenty years. This extensive experience has

provided excellent background for the personal support she has undertaken for those affected by the floods. As well as helping in a relief centre, Joan undertook significant work in outreach in the Moira Shire for many weeks after the flood emergency subsided. Shire staff used the Personal Support Workers to take information packs to people in farming areas in smaller towns once the initial emergency was over. This was also a way to check if further assistance was needed, especially that independent farming folk might be timid about asking and/or assuming that 'others were worse off'.

Here is Joan's reflection written earlier this year.

I have worked as a Personal Support Worker based in Numurkah, doing outreach to the farmers on their farms for 3 day deployments both at Katamatite and Katunga.

The experiences have left me in awe of our Aussie farmers and their can-do attitudes. At times I have been shocked by the living conditions they have had to endure since

the floods but they do so with enormous courage. Many had not had time to apply for flood recovery funding as they were trying to get fences up, account for and feed stock, unblock drains, repair roadways and laneways, pump or drain water off the farm, remove large trees and many many branches off the paddocks.

On top of this was the pressing needs to prepare the paddocks for sowing crops, which meant additional laser levelling and then planting the crop and praying for rain as the soil was being blown off these paddocks by the cold winds. Dairy farmers were trying to source additional feed and hay for their cattle or trying to get agistment out of the area to ease the pressure on their newly emerging crops. The second day into my outreach the rains finally came but so did the mud. There is still much physical work to do to restore farms but they are a resilient and fiercely independent lot.

I was over there again last week and was delighted to see the new emerging green shoots of this winter's crops springing up, made more poignant by the frost and fog but

in stark contrast to my first visit a month ago of brown and rotting water still lying stagnant in so many paddocks for as far as the eye could see. The poet Dorothy McKellar's description of the Aussie landscape was so apt.

The farming folk have been grateful for our visits and being able to tell their story. Some are angry that 'local knowledge' wasn't called upon concerning then best ways to drain flooded paddocks. Some felt guilty that if they let water off their property it meant that someone down stream would suffer. Some farmers commented that we were the first 'official' visitors from the Moira Shire since the flood and were very pleased to see us when we dropped off information packs. Some worry about others who may not be coping so referrals were passed on to the appropriate personal.

In some ways many farmers say that the community is stronger through the flood experience and that they know their neighbours better. In recent years so many farmers or their partners work off farm and they have little free time to socialize with their neighbours.

I grew up on a dairy farm in Gippsland and I had a fair idea of the challenges that life on the land can bring with flood and drought. I lift my hat off to these older and young Aussies, both men and women and to the New Zealanders we met who are also farming out here.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with so many caring folk from a wide range of faith groups, not just Christians, who are



volunteering and doing the very thing Jesus asks of us: to care for one another and share our gifts, in this case 'time'.

Debbie Laphorne and her team need to be congratulated on the planning and delivery of this service on behalf of the VCC for the Moira Shire and for making sure the volunteers were being well cared for.



Personal support worker Joan Cochrane undertook significant work in outreach in the Moira Shire after the floods earlier this year.



Feast of Spring music at Cathedral

BY DAVID NEWPORT

HOLY Trinity Cathedral has enjoyed a feast of music this spring.

Towards the end of October, the cathedral resounded with the sound of massed voices and brass music at two events by three visiting groups of musicians from the Melbourne area.

Legends of Brass joined forces with the Box Hill Chorale and the Australian Children's Choir to perform at the 10am Eucharist. After lunch at Purbrick Hall, they lead an ecumenical Songs of Praise to raise funds for Loaves and Fishes (Christians Caring), the new name for Christian Emergency Relief Wangaratta based at the Anglicare office.

On 4 November, the annual Jazz Mass took place in the Cathedral, attracting another capacity crowd. Music was provided by the classic jazz band The Australians, and the appropriately themed and delightful sermon was delivered by Fr Michael Farragher, a jazz musician of some note, of All Saints Anglican Church, Ainslie, ACT.

The Jazz Mass is a traditional feature of Wangaratta's Jazz Festival, which brings up to 20,000 visitors to the city at the start of November each year.

And on 11 November, the Australian Welsh Choir was scheduled to give an afternoon concert in aid of the Wangaratta High School Chaplaincy Committee.



Thinking of studying Theology?

BY DR MURIEL PORTER

TRINITY College Theological School (TCTS) offers a broad range of courses for people of all ages and backgrounds, according to the Dean of the Theological School, Rev'd Professor Dorothy Lee. 'Women and men, young and old, those thinking about ordination and those wanting to learn more about their faith – all are welcome to join Trinity's friendly, inclusive community,' she said.

Trinity's community gathers primarily on campus at Trinity College at the University of Melbourne, but also online, and in a parish-based study program.

Trinity is a community where the ordained ministry of women is not only celebrated but modelled, with Dorothy herself, an Anglican priest. The School recently hosted a conference and book launch to commemorate 20 years of women priests in the Anglican Church of Australia. 'Australia's first woman bishop, Kay Goldsworthy, was a student here – something we are very proud of,' Dorothy added.

Trinity is also proud of its status as the theological college for the Anglican Province of Victoria. Trinity's students come from the other Victorian dioceses – and interstate – as well as from Melbourne, ensuring a vibrant student body.

Trinity is part of MCD University of Divinity, Australia's first specialist university and one of the oldest ecumenical institutions in the world. Dorothy and the Warden of Trinity College, Professor Andrew McGowan, are among MCD University's inaugural 10 professors.

Dorothy, who has taught New Testament for more than 20 years, is an acclaimed biblical scholar, specialising in the Gospel of St John. She has published widely in this area. Andrew lectures for Trinity in Patristics, the study of early Christian writers known as the Church Fathers. Both of them are highly regarded scholars internationally.

At Trinity, students have access to the ecumenical Dalton McCaughey Library, acknowledged as the largest and best theological library in the southern hemisphere. A short walk from Trinity, it is housed in a state-of-the-art centre offering superb facilities and online access to the leading databases for theological research. There is also Trinity's own Leeper Library available to all students.

According to Dorothy, Trinity is known for its academic rigour and commitment to excellence. 'At TCTS, students study with internationally regarded scholars and priests committed to the pursuit of high standards, and who also possess significant pastoral experience and a deep commitment to the task of preparing men and women for ministry,' she said.

The faculty staff include the Rev'd Canon Dr Ray Cleary, formerly Chief Executive Officer of Anglicare Victoria, who brings a wealth of experience in welfare issues not only in Australia, but also internationally. He has a strong, biblical commitment to social justice, and a deep understanding of the challenges facing Australian society and the Anglican Church's role in it. 'Ray has helped Trinity broaden its commitment to the emerging church. Dr David Gormley-O'Brien and Dr Meg Warner,

also add to the School's wealth of knowledge, teaching Greek and Patristics and the Old Testament,' Dorothy said.

As well as its academic program, Trinity also runs a Ministry Formation Program where students come together to worship, to be formed for ministry – both lay and ordained – and to enjoy fellowship with each other. They look at the practicalities of preaching, leading worship, and engaging in pastoral care, evangelism, mission, educational chaplaincy, and justice issues.

Online, students have access to an increasing number of study options. These now extend to a range of diplomas and degrees in theology, such as the Master of Divinity and the Graduate Certificate in Educational Chaplaincy.

At the parish level, Trinity offers a flexible, user-friendly certificate course offering an introduction to theology and ministry through six units that can be timed to suit individual parishes.

Like to know more? We'd love to hear from you!

W: www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/theology

T: 03 9348 7127

E: tcts@trinity.unimelb.edu.au

The Theological School provides this wide range of options on a limited budget. The Theological School warmly welcomes donations from individuals and parishes to fund its important ministry. For information about how you can donate, or remember the theological school in your will, please contact the Trinity College Advancement Office at: T: 9348 7116 or E: advancement@trinity.unimelb.edu.au

TRAINING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR TODAY'S CHURCH

TRINITY COLLEGE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, which is part of MCD University of Divinity, offers world-class courses in theology for every level of interest and ability, and for all God's people, women and men, lay and ordained alike.

Whether you're interested in on-campus courses, our Ministry Formation Program, online courses or parish-based certificates, we'd love to welcome you to Trinity!

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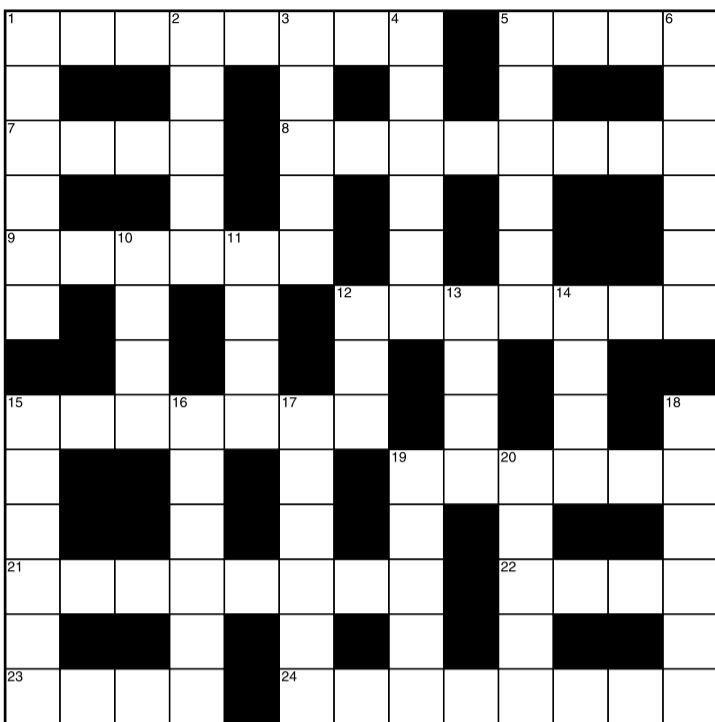
TRINITY COLLEGE | THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE



THEOLOGY

LEISURE

CROSSWORD Issue No.005



ACROSS

- 1. Rehearing (court case)
- 5. Defrost
- 7. Sketched
- 8. Scrambles up
- 9. Direction changes (1-5)
- 12. Cut first teeth
- 15. Gets worse (of crisis)
- 19. Rises up (against)
- 21. Fibre
- 22. Achievement
- 23. US/Europe alliance
- 24. Dummy move

DOWN

- 1. Half-diameter
- 2. Boat athlete
- 3. Ancient Peruvians
- 4. Hockey keeper
- 5. Pill
- 6. Hoped
- 10. Push for
- 11. Cat's lives
- 12. It is (poetic) ('3)
- 13. If not, or ...
- 14. Immense
- 15. Impair hearing
- 16. Spud
- 17. Story books
- 18. Depleted (4,2)
- 19. Ranked
- 20. Waits, ... one's time

Look for us on



READER RECIPE

APRICOT LOAF

Ingredients

- 60gm softened butter
- 1 cup chopped apricots
- 2 cups self-raising flour
- 1 cup boiling water.

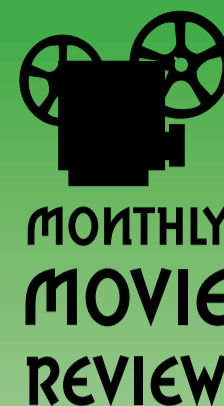
Method

Put butter, sugar and apricots in a saucepan with boiling water, bring back to boil, reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes, then stand until cool. Add flour and mix, adding a little extra water if needed. Bake at 180 degrees { 160 degrees fan forced oven} 45 minutes. May be iced with lemon icing.

Provided by Mary Muntz



Fr Kim Benton



Return to Paradise (1998)

Return To Paradise (1998) directed by Joseph Ruben is one of the best films you've never heard of - I had not until a couple of weeks ago when I chanced upon it on Foxtel.

It is a quite incredible little drama with superb performances and some moments of great power. Although the opening prologue is Bangkok Thailand, three friends end up on holiday in Malaysia. Two leave. The police arrive and find hash (marijuana) where they were staying.



The third is put in jail. Two years later a lawyer finds the two remaining men in New York and tells them that their friend was found guilty of trafficking. They must go back to share the punishment or he will die in 7 days. Its a frightening dilemma and you can't help but ask yourself the same question. Would you go back? All of the arguments are put forward, making the answer not seem as clear as originally imagined.

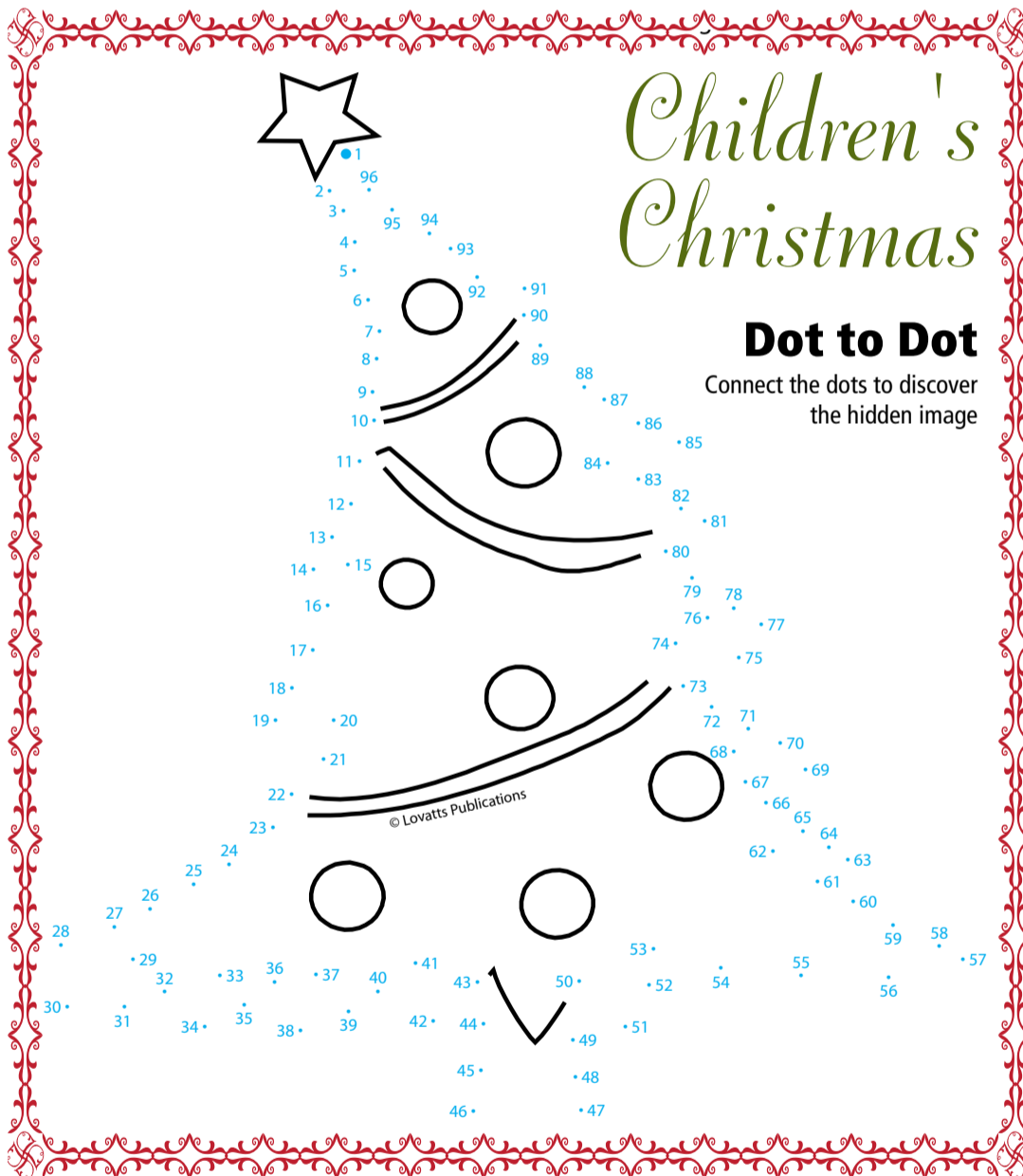
Joaquin Phoenix is superb as 'Lewis' the conservationist who is imprisoned, David Conrad is 'Tony' an upwardly mobile career and marriage getter who comes over all moral, and Vince Vaughn plays our hero 'Sheriff' who doesn't always act in the morally correct way we expect him to.

The script is based on the film Force Majeure (1989) by Pierre Joliet, with the English language script written by Bruce Robinson who wrote The Killing Fields (1984) and Wesley Strick. This is an adult film in the literal meaning and does not sugar coat its view of reality. Things do not happen in this film because of wishful thinking and it is certainly not a morality tale. It does not tell the viewer what the answers are. There are no neon signs. I didn't feel the film had dated at all, and in fact is very topical for us in Australia in our engagement with Asia. It serves as a reminder that other countries and cultures operate in different ways to us and expectations of privilege as foreigners is debunked. Return to Paradise is superb for a study on making ethical choices now and the consequences of choices made in the past, and how unexpected events can change expectations. Rated MA15+ (language, drug references), available at Amazon, need to search for rental DVD.

Children's Christmas

Dot to Dot

Connect the dots to discover the hidden image



Church Mice by Karl Zorowski

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BOOK REVIEW

Review by - The Cathedral Shop

The Sparkle Box

Written by Jill Hardie and brought to life by the rich illustrations of Christine Kornacki.

Inspire a new family tradition this holiday with this heartwarming story. Beautifully hardbound with a jacketed cover, this book comes with your own fold-out glitter box to use this Christmas season!

It's almost Christmas and Sam is so excited for the parties and presents – but there's one mysterious gift, a sparkly box sitting on the mantel – that leaves him puzzled. In the midst of the festivities, Sam and his family participate in various acts of kindness for others. On Christmas morning when Sam opens the Sparkle Box, he finds slips of paper that record the family's good deeds. Sam's parents explain that these kind acts are a gift for Jesus – for Jesus said that whatever we do for the least of these, we do for Him. Recommended for ages 4+.

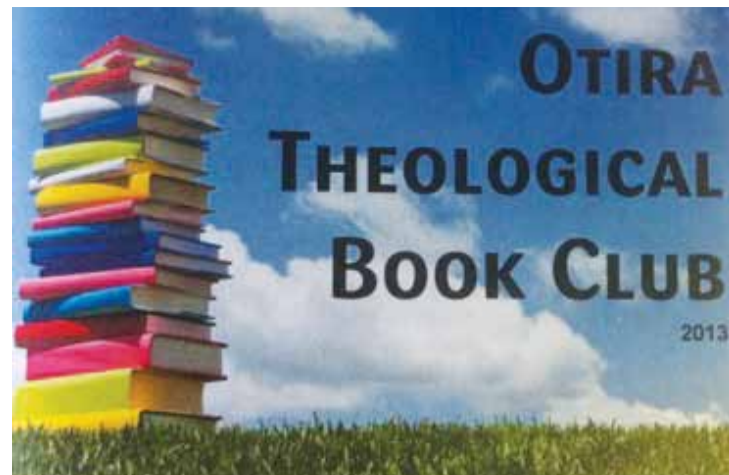
Comes with your own sparkle box, to start your own tradition of giving.

Available from the Cathedral Shop. Hurry while stocks last.

The shop is well stocked with gifts and cards for Christmas.

Please note that the Shop will be closed from the 21st December until the end of January. For your convenience, if you require supplies, etc, you can contact Jane in the Cathedral Parish office – 57 213 719 and arrangements can be made to open the shop on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

The Cathedral Shop staff wish all a very merry and peaceful Christmas.



One of the congregations of St John's Parish, Wodonga, is Emmanuel Church, West Wodonga. It is a joint ministry of the Anglican and Uniting Churches. One of the strengths of bringing together the two denominations is in increasing their shared resources. One area where the resources of the Uniting Church has been wonderful is in the offerings of the Otira Theological Book Club, sponsored by the Centre for Theology and Ministry in Melbourne.

Carolyn Renfrey, a member of this congregation, offers her experience in being part of this creative and growing community. If you are interested in starting a group in your congregation, please contact Fr Rob at the Diocesan Registry. 03-57213484

I'd like to say a few words about the Emmanuel theological book club. Sounds very religious, doesn't it? In fact it has something for nearly everyone.

How does it work? We regularly choose titles from a selection of books from Otira, part of the Uniting Church Centre for Theology and Ministry. A copy for each of us appears each month to take home and read for discussion at our next monthly meeting.

In 18 months, we've had a good variety of books exploring subjects around God, religion, ethics, culture and politics. The books often provide us with alternative visions of the world and they encourage us to think and re-think topics on which we have strong views, some we may be been afraid of and some in which we thought we had no interest.

For our personal faith, we've read Christianity for the rest of Us by Diana Butler -Bass and The Heart of Christianity from Marcus Borg. I heard the Owl call my Name, Three Gates to Paradise, by Clare Boyd McRae, Praying with Icons and CS Lewis' Shadowlands were interesting personal journeys.

On ethics and politics, we've discussed Playing God – Ethics and Faith by Andrew Dutney, God under Howard, Following Jesus in Invaded Space, Wanna Bet from Tim Costello and Generations by Hugh Mackay. We've looked at the state of interfaith dialogue in Not Without my Neighbour, and We Belong to the Land by Fr Elias Chacour, a displaced Catholic Priest in Jewish Palestine.

Jonah, Jesus and other good Coyotes was a different observation of some of the bible's best known characters while the Book of Rachael told a story of a fictional woman who lived her life alongside Jesus. Striking Home was for me the "heaviest" of the titles exploring New Testament scholarship.

The group has eight members and we meet on the last Tuesday evening of each month at my home. We have one more book to read this year then we'll have a break till January's book arrives in time to be read for our first 2013 meeting on 29th January.

Our meetings are very informal and each book leads to conversations on subjects closely or only very loosely connected with the topic. Otira pays the outward postage and each person pays a gold coin per month towards the cost of return postage.

Believe me, holiness is not a prerequisite and you might just find that your reading challenges what you believe, asks questions about how you live your faith and encourages you to delve deeper into what we call "mainstream Christianity" and its place in our world.

I have found the variety of books refreshing, particularly those that dare to suggest we might do things differently and it seems to me that if we are to be relevant in our ever-changing world, we must look beyond "the way we have always done it" and at least consider where modern writers suggest God may be leading us.

Annual Floral Festival and Cappella Concert

BY VEN EDEN-ELIZABETH NICHOLLS

at the Bushmarket, the church beautifully decorated for the annual Floral Festival, and a pleasant Sunday afternoon concert by the Cappella Singers.

BELOW: The Cappella Singers.

THE first weekend of November was a busy time for the Parish of Mansfield, with hundreds of Devonshire Teas sold

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NOVEMBER PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

Incorrectly listed as Issue 035
Issue No. 024

F	R	I	Z	Z	Y	T	R	I	F	E
I	B	L	O	B	L	R	T	O	A	D
B	E	Q	U	A	L	S	P	R	O	M
R	S	A	V	A	G	E	O	T	H	E
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A	L	L	I	L	A	C	W	E		
A	L	L	Y	L	H	E	D	G	E	D



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The Diocese of Wangaratta has policies and procedures for dealing with allegation of sexual harassment. These may be obtained either from your parish office or from the Bishop's Registrar on (03) 5721 3484.

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DIOCESAN PARISH TIMES

ALBURY						MURCHISON/ RUSHWORTH									
St Matthew's Albury		1st Sunday 2nd Sunday 3rd Sunday 4th Sunday 5th Sunday	8.30 am Sung Eucharist 8.30 am Sung Eucharist 8.30 am Sung Eucharist 8.30 am Sung Eucharist 9 am Matins with Holy Communion	10.00 am Eucharist 10.00 am Eucharist 10.00 am Children's Church 10.00 am Eucharist	5.00 pm Evensong	Christ Church Murchison		1st & 3rd Sunday H.C 2nd & 4th Sunday M.P. Fifth Sunday	11 am 11 am 10:30 am H.C. at the church hosting the fund raising luncheon (alternate)	St Paul's Rushworth		1st & 3rd Sunday H.C 2nd & 4th Sunday M.P.	9 am 9 am		
ALEXANDRA						NORTHERN ALBURY									
St John's Alexandra		Sunday	9:30am Eucharist			St. James' Lavington		1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday Thursday	8.30 am 10 am	St. John's Thurgoona		1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday	9 am		
						St. Mark's North Albury		1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday Wednesday	10 am 9.30 am	St. Paul's Jindera		1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday	10:30 am		
ALPINE						NUMURKAH & NATHALIA									
All Saints Bright		Sunday Wednesday	11.00 am Eucharist 9.30 am Eucharist	St John's, Whorouly	Sunday	8.00 am Eucharist	St George's Numurkah		Sunday	10.30 am Sung Eucharist	Holy Trinity Nathalia		Sunday Tuesday	9 am Sung Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	
St Paul's, Myrtleford		Sunday Wednesday	9.15 am Eucharist 11.00 am Eucharist	St Etheldreda's, Harrierville	2nd Thursday	10.30 am Eucharist	St Paul's, Wakiti Creek		1st & 3rd Sunday	3 pm Holy Eucharist	All Saints Barmah		2nd & 4th Sunday 5th Sunday	7.30 am Holy Eucharist Parish Eucharist	
BEECHWORTH						RUTHERGLEN & CHILTERN									
Christ Church, Beechworth		Sunday 1st Sunday 5th Sunday Wednesday	10 am Sung Mass 10 am One service for the Parish 10 am Sung Mass Healing Service. 10 am Mass			St Stephen's Rutherglen		Sunday Thursday Friday	8:45 am Eucharist 9:30 am Eucharist (Mothers' Union on 2nd) 9:30 am Eucharist (Glenview Home)	St Paul's Chiltern		1st & 3rd Sunday Wednesday	10:45 am Eucharist 9:30am Eucharist		
St Jude's Eldorado		1st & 3rd Sundays 2nd & 4th Sundays	10am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Mass.			All Souls' Barnawartha		2nd & 4th Sunday	10:45 am Eucharist	Christ the King Wahgunyah		2nd & 4th Saturday	6 pm Eucharist		
						Browns Plains		5th Sunday only	10:45 am Eucharist						
BENALLA						SHEPPARTON									
Holy Trinity, Benalla		Sunday Monday Tuesday Thursday	8 am Eucharist 10 am Eucharist (Cooinda Nursing Home) 7 pm Eucharist (2nd Tuesday Only) 9.30 am Eucharist			St Augustine's Shepparton		Sunday Saturday Weekday Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri	8:30 am Sung Eucharist 7:45 am Mattins (Traditional rite) 7:45 am Mattins daily 8 am Eucharist	St Mary's Katandra West		2nd & 4th Sundays	10:45 am Eucharist		
St Paul's Gooramab		1st Sunday	5 pm Eucharist	St Aiden's Swanpool	2nd & 4th Sunday	11:15 am Eucharist									
CENTRAL GOULBURN						TALLANGATTA									
Christ Church Seymour		Sunday Wednesday	9.00 am Holy Eucharist (with Kids Church) 10.30 am Mass			Christ Church Tallangatta		1st & 3rd Sunday 2nd & 4th Sunday	9 am Morning Prayer 9 am Eucharist	Uniting Church Mitta Mitta		4th Sunday	11 am Eucharist		
St Paul's Avenel		1st & 3rd Sunday	8 am (with Kids Church)	St John's Nagambie	Sunday 2nd & 4th Sunday	11 am Eucharist 11am Sunday School									
COBRAM						WANGARATTA									
St Margaret's Cobram		Sunday 5th Sunday Wednesday	9- 9:15 reflection time 9:30 am Eucharist Parish Eucharist 10 am	St George's, Katamatite	1st & 3rd Sunday	11:315 am Eucharist	Holy Trinity Cathedral Wangaratta		Sunday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday	8 am Holy Eucharist with hymns 8:30 am 10:00 am 8:30 am 8:30 am 6 pm	Christ Church Greta		1st & 3rd	9 am Eucharist	
St Aiden's, Strathmerton		2nd & 4th Sunday	11:15 am Eucharist												
CORYYONG						WODONGA									
All Saints Coryyong		1st & 3rd Sunday	10 am Eucharist	Tennis Club Biggara	1st Sunday	2 pm Eucharist	St John's Wodonga		Saturday Sunday 1st & 3rd Sundays 5th Sunday Mon & Tue Wednesday	6 pm Vigil Eucharist 7.30 am Eucharist 9.00 am Sung Eucharist Emmanuel 7 pm Choral Evensong 8:30 am Meditation 9 am Meditation	Holy Trinity Bethanga		2nd & 4th Sunday	9.30 am Eucharist	
Holy Trinity Cudgewa		3rd Sunday	2 pm Eucharist												
EUROA						YACKANDANDAH									
St Paul's Euroa		Sunday Wednesday	9.30 am Eucharist 10 am	Euroaville Hostel	2nd and 4th Tuesday	11 am	St Michael's Wangaratta West		Sunday Tuesday	9:30 am 10 am	St George's Taminick		1st and 3rd Sunday	8 am	
St Andrew's Longwood		Sunday	8 am	St Dunstan's Violet Town	2nd and 4th Sunday	11.30 am	St Paul's Glenrowan		Sunday	11 am	St Johns Village Chapel		Tuesday	10 am	
KILMORE						YARRAWONGA									
Christ Church Kilmore		Sunday Wednesday	9am Sung Eucharist 10 am Eucharist with Bach	St Stephen's Tallarook	1st & 3rd Sunday 2nd & 4th Sunday	11 am Morning Prayer 11 am Eucharist with hymns	St Cuthbert's Yarrowonga		Sunday Monday Wednesday Thursday Morning Office weekday	7 am Eucharist 11 am (off-site) 10.00 am (chapel) 7.15pm (chapel) 8.30am (excl. Mon.)	St Thomas' St James		1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays	8.30 am	
St Matthew's Broadford		1st & 3rd Sunday 2nd & 4th Sunday Thursdays	11 am Eucharist with hymns 11 am Morning Prayer 10 am Eucharist with Bach	Church of The Transfiguration Pyalong	1st & 3rd Sunday	5pm Eucharist									
MANSFIELD						YEA									
St John's Mansfield		Sunday 1st Saturday	9 am Holy Communion 6pm	St Peter's Jamieson	1st Sunday	11.30 am Holy Communion	St Luke's Yea		Sunday Monday to Thursday	9.15 am (weekly) Holy Eucharist 9.00 am Morning Prayer					
Christ Church Bonnie Doon		2nd Sunday	11:30 am												
MARYSVILLE						MILAWA									
Marysville		1st Sunday 3rd & 4th & 5th Sunday	10:30 am 10:30 am	St Thomas Buxton	2nd Sunday 3rd & 4th & 5th Sunday	9 am 9 am									
MILAWA						MT BEAUTY/TAWONGA									
St Paul's Milawa		2nd & last Sunday	9 am Eucharist												

CLASSIFIEDS

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HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD:

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NOTICES

Yea Community Arts Carnivale

24th - 28th January

Featuring - 2013 YEA Rotary Art Show.. Opening Event - 6pm 24th Jan - corner of Lyons & Pelissier Street, Yea Enquiries Phone - 0451 677 702

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FEBRUARY ADVOCATE SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 16TH JANUARY 2013



PEOPLE & PARISHES

Parish of Mansfield



LEFT: Our three BBQ chefs were kept busy throughout the day (pictured are two of the chefs, including Simon Ritchie in a stunning "Domestic Goddess" apron).

RIGHT: The church beautifully decorated for the annual Floral Festival

St Matthew's Albury



The beautifully decorated entrance to St Matthew's Albury for Christmas 2011.



125th Anniversary Holy Trinity Nathalia

TOP (L&R): Nathalia Holy Trinity Anglican Church inside and out
 BOTTOM (L&R): The celebrations commenced with a Thanksgiving Eucharist with The Venerable Dr John Davis, Vicar, assisted by Rector Fr. Kim Benton. The service was followed by lunch in the Nathalia Community Centre.



Remember to take heaps of photos over the Christmas and new year break for The Advocate.



Bequests

John has been enriched in life. He has been blessed by God with a wonderful family and good health. After full filling his dreams with a successful career he has now retired and spends his time volunteering within his parish as a church warden. During his time volunteering he learned that his fellow parishioners have been generous and supportive of the work of God through the church and he wanted to follow in their foot steps.

So John went to visit his family lawyer to revise his will and to find a way he could help support the work of God. His lawyer suggested to him that he could name his parish as beneficiary in his will. So in addition to providing bequests for his grandchildren's education, John decided to provide ten percent of his estate to his parish church. This way, what he practices every Sunday as a committed parishioner will continue on. John's generosity will make a significant difference with in the life and work of his parish.

For more information please contact:

The Registrar - Mr Tim Williams
 Diocese of Wangaratta P.O. Box 457 Wangaratta VIC 3677
 Phone (03) 5721 3484 Fax (03) 5722 1427



Bequests can really make a difference.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

From The Advocate Team