500 Years Since the Reformation
CONTENTS

3 The Bishop’s Message
4 The Royal Commission
6 Consecration of the Cathedral
7 Human Trafficking
8 Catholics of Radium Hill
10 Lights, Camera, Action
11 Alleviating the Loneliness of the Elderly
12 Farewells
14 College Duxes
15 Principals Australia Institute Awards
16 The Good Book and Me
17 Sacrament of Reconciliation Benefactors and Sponsors
18 Quorn Family Farewelled
19 Pat Mackrill
20 Parish Contacts and Parish Times

Dear Lord,
I know that wherever I am,
You are with me - guiding,
protecting, providing.
You make a mountain into a way;
You make streams flow in the desert;
You cause a root to grow out of dry ground.
Thank You for giving me the
opportunity to see
Your work when all hope seems lost.
In Jesus’ Name,
Amen

Fr Jimmy Pantin on the Big Red near Birdville finding his way with the help of our Lord

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The picture on the cover says so much of how things used to be between the Micks and the Proddies! They are in separate groups, speaking without listening, finger pointing in disdain and hostility, harbouring negative judgements about the other, doubting their sincerity, truthfulness, steadfastness and discipleship of Jesus. It all happened so quickly, five hundred years ago, the Reformation. Imagine a good Catholic today not being offended at a Bishop or representative of the Pope offering to sell him or her an indulgence, a seat in Heaven, if you paid him some money. So why are we surprised that the Augustinian Monk, Martin Luther, took offence at this practice, and nailed his ninety-five objections to his church door in Wittenberg in 1517?

The Church at that time dominated every aspect of civil life, and it is sad to say that so many of its leaders were worldly and corrupt, and of the clergy, so many were ill-educated not able even to understand the Latin they were reading in the Mass and the prayers. In the Catholic Church there were grave concerns about the corruption, and reports were commissioned by the Pope and sent to him, one of which described the Church as “tottering, almost collapsed”. There was ignorance amongst the laity also, no real knowledge of Scripture, so many superstitions and religious myths were around. There was, for example, a traffic in relics, mostly quite spurious, provided by grave robbers.

Martin Luther translated the Scriptures into the local language, and the new invention of the printing press meant that people for the first time were able to read the Gospels for themselves. There didn’t seem to be any mention of priests or monks, or Bishops or Popes in the Gospels, so where do they come from? Strange arguments took place. For example, the Protestants said that the laity should partake of the Chalice at the Eucharist, and the Catholics vehemently opposed that, which seems remarkable when you look at how the Chalice is encouraged in our churches today.

Christianity was ripped apart in that century between 1517 and 1648, from the nailing to the door of the theses to the end of the Wars of Religion. People slaughtered or murdered each other in the name of religion. At the same time, great reform movements began in the Catholic Church, and there was a rich crop of canonised Saints springing up in the Church, revealing that the Church was still a community of holiness – Francis de Sales, Charles Borromeo, Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, Francis Xavier, Philip Neri, Margaret Mary, just to name a few. New Religious Orders began such as the Reformed Carmelites, the Redemptorists, the Jesuits, the Capuchins.

We became the inheritors of by-gone prejudices. Remember that we were not able to go to non-Catholic weddings, or non-Catholic funerals, or non-Catholic weddings. One could not be a bridesmaid at a non-Catholic wedding! We could not go into their churches and pray together. They thought that we were idolaters, that we worshipped statues, and thought Mary was divine. They thought the Pope was an evil influence.

Thank God times have changed. Following Vatican II, the first signs were the ecumenical Lenten discussion groups in the parishes. How popular they were, Christians of different faiths coming together, and learning from each other. That has continued. Ecumenism is not a matter of one Church succumbing to another. It is a question of doing together whatever we can, and that does happen throughout the diocese. We gather ecumenically for Christmas services, for the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, for Prayer Groups. The ministers from our different churches meet and pray together. We do many things to create fellowship together. A marvellous realisation has occurred, that it is the person of Jesus who unites us. Gone is hate, what is present now is a desire on the part of all Churches to preach Christ, and to be signs of His love in the world.

This year we are commemorating the commencement of the Reformation at our Diocesan Assembly. Members of different other congregations are going to join us on Tuesday April 4, and we will hear from each other, and pray together. We will hopefully have about sixty of our non-Catholic brethren present at the Assembly, and the tables will be arranged so that we do mix together. May it be a graced event, a proper way of commemorating the Reformation, ashamed of the hatred that was produced, and praying now for that unity together of common followers of Christ Jesus.

Bishop Greg O’Kelly SJ
The Royal Commission

The Royal Commission has been an occasion of extremely painful but necessary learning by the Church. The people who told their stories at the Commission, as well as those who have come forward in other ways, deserve our admiration and prayers. Telling the stories makes it possible for the true, horrifying scope of the problem to be revealed. The Royal Commission hopefully will help Catholics, at every level of the Church, focus primarily both on the care of victims and on the prevention of abuse. The reputation of the Church must now be assessed solely in terms of its willingness to commit to such things.

The Commission's statistics, released on Monday February 6 2017, were shocking. Our Diocese, along with every other church authority, had been required to submit the names of all priests, religious and lay people against whom an allegation of child sexual abuse had been made, for the period 1950 – 2010. In response, we submitted the names of eight priests, which included three priests in respect of whom the allegations, upon investigation, had been found to be unsubstantiated. This left five priests as our known child sexual offenders. Four of these had offended against multiple victims. We also submitted the names of several lay offenders. There was also a Salesian Brother who offended against multiple children, but his statistics were contained within his Church Authority, the Salesians of Don Bosco.

Each offence represents a horrific impact upon a child, the family, and the community. The after-effects continue throughout a person's life. Many have suffered marriage difficulties and breakdowns, addiction problems, unemployment and mental health issues. Perhaps the most grievous loss from sexual abuse of a child by a priest or religious is that the person's faith in God may be undermined or even totally destroyed. These children are God's children, and see what has happened to them.

Perhaps the most grievous loss from sexual abuse of a child by a priest or religious is that the person's faith in God may be undermined or even totally destroyed. These children are God's children, and see what has happened to them.

While we as a Diocese in cooperation with our Adelaide neighbours have done much work developing policies and procedures for child protection, the real work remains to be done. This is what the Commission is now focussing upon. What are the cultural dimensions of the church's life which have enabled abuse to happen, made it hard to detect, and undermined our ability to make an effective response to allegations of abuse? We need to invoke the Holy Spirit that we may have the courage to embrace this task.

For the record, the diocese has been committed to the Towards Healing process, and part of the Professional Standards Office, since 1995. The Bishop's Consultative Panel has been actively supporting the Bishop in responding to complaints since its establishment in 2005. The Diocese joined the Adelaide Archdiocese in introducing a comprehensive Child Protection Policy in 2007. This work is subject to continuous improvement. Any suggestions for further improvement are warmly encouraged.

Unless the Lord builds the house, in vain do the builders labour”. Let us commend the work in front of us to God, humbly asking for the grace to make a new start. Fr Jim Monaghan

Vicar General
The Royal Commission – Catholic Wrap-Up

The Bishop, priests and people of the Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie share the sense of shock and shame felt by the whole Catholic Church in Australia, upon hearing the revelations at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

We continue to pray for those who have been victims of child sexual abuse by priests and other church personnel, in our parishes and in our schools.

Many of us were shocked by the figure of 14.1% of priests cited as alleged perpetrators, quoted in the Royal Commission’s report. The Royal Commission employed a complex statistical process to arrive at this figure. At its core is the report we provided to the Commission, indicating that there were eight priests in the period 1950 to 2010 who had an allegation made against them. While we have no issue with the Commission’s statistical process, it is important to point out that of the eight priests accused over that sixty year period, the allegations against three were found to be unsubstantiated. Of the five, four were diocesan priests out of the total of eighty-three priests who worked in the diocese during that period. Of the five, four were multiple abusers. These priests caused untold and life-long damage to the lives of innocent children and their families. There was also a male Religious who was a multiple abuser in one of our schools, but he is covered by the statistics of his own Religious Congregation.

We appreciate the courage of those survivors of child sexual abuse who have come forward, either in the Commission or in other ways over the years. Without the stories being told, there is no chance of changing for the better. We understand also that there are people for whom it is just not possible at the moment to come forward to disclose what they suffered.

As a Diocese, we are committed to working with the present and future recommendations of the Royal Commission, so as to transform the culture of our church community. For over twenty years the Towards Healing process has been in operation for victims in the Diocese and clear measures for child protection have been instigated. We seek to be a place where the culture promotes the care, wellbeing and protection of children and young people as our highest priority. With this resolve strengthened by God’s grace, we commit ourselves to face those issues in the culture of our Church which must be changed.

Bishop Greg O’Kelly SJ
Fr Jim Monaghan

If anyone would like to speak with a representative of the parish, the school or the Diocese, please feel welcome to phone for an appointment. If you would like to access counselling, you may call Lifeline on 131 114 or make an appointment with a Centacare Catholic counsellor if you have an office in your region. If you are aware of matters of a criminal nature, please phone South Australian Police on 131 444 to report these matters.

First Holy Communion at Hawker
Consecration of the Cathedral

It appears our Cathedral has not been consecrated, presumably because of the regulations of the time that a consecration could not take place until the building was fully completed and the debt had been paid. Only churches of a certain size and profile are permitted to be consecrated and a Cathedral would be at the top of the list. It is a very ancient ceremony, with the Bishop and members of the clergy and the faithful all gathered at what is the Seat of the diocese, the Cathedral. The word Cathedral is taken from the Latin word cathedra meaning seat. The ancient posture for teaching was to be seated, and the Cathedral is a place from which the Bishop teaches the diocese. We speak of the Holy See, and that also is from the word for the seat, that is where the Pope teaches.

The consecration consists of a detailed ceremony, including the blessing and anointing of the walls, the placing of twelve crosses, the anointing of the altar, the burning of incense, the blessing with baptismal water. It is an important event for the life of the diocese, but it seems we simply overlooked it until now.

All are invited to come to the Cathedral for the ceremony of consecration, which can only be done by the Bishop, on Sunday April 23, at 5.00 pm

Bishop Greg O’Kelly SJ
Human Trafficking - Be Informed

On the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita today, 8 February, bishops and religious leaders across Australia support the call from Pope Francis to end the injustice of human trafficking against all people, in particular children. ‘They are children! Not slaves!’ is the theme for Bakhita Day this year. Pope Francis has designated today a world day of prayer, reflection and action against human trafficking.

St Bakhita is the Patron Saint for victims of slavery. The United Nations estimates that one in every three victims of human trafficking is a child. It is estimated that 30 million children have lost their childhood through sexual exploitation over the past 30 years. Annually, millions of children are trafficked into domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, pornography production, forced marriage, illegal adoption, forced labour, and to become child soldiers.

The bishops of Australia and religious leaders call for a fourfold commitment to: prevention, victim protection, the legal prosecution of perpetrators, and partnerships for change. This commitment starts at home by raising awareness and preventing exploitation of children in all aspects of Australian society.

Bishop Terry Brady, Chairman of the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life said, ‘St Josephine Bakhita’s feast day is an opportunity to raise awareness about human trafficking involving children. Pope Francis has called us to make a difference. Sometimes our steps are small, but together we can achieve a great deal especially when we work with others to stop human trafficking’.

Sr Anne Tormey rsm, President of the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) said, ‘This day can be an opportunity to learn about trafficking locally and globally, to advocate for legislation and pray for the protection of children who become victims of human trafficking’.

St Josephine Bakhita died on 8 February 1947. She was born in Southern Sudan in 1869 and kidnapped for slavery in Sudan and Italy. After regaining her freedom, Josephine Bakhita dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. Later, she became a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000.

Today’s statement supports a global movement declared by Pope Francis three years ago and known as the Worldwide Network of Religious Life against Trafficking in Persons.


Canossian Sister Josephine Bakhita

Pope Francis has declared the feast of St Josephine Bakhita on February 8 to be the world day of prayer, reflection and action against human trafficking.

Josephine Bakhita knew the sorrow of losing her freedom and family as a young girl when she was taken as a slave. The UN estimates that one in every three victims of trafficking is a child.

ACRATH has developed prayers of the faithful, homily notes and other resources for the weekend Masses on 11 & 12 February 2017.

Find ACRATH’s Bakhita Day resources at: http://acrath.org.au/world-day-of-prayer/

St Josephine Bakhita

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine was 7 years old when taken by slave traders. She was bought and sold many times in the following decade. Taken to Italy by a family, who ‘owned’ her, to Italy she met the Canossian Daughters of Charity, became a Catholic and joined the Canossian congregation. She died in 1947 and was canonised in 2000.

Actions
Learn about human trafficking
Pray for victims of trafficking and for an end to slavery
Demand slavery-free products that feature one of these logos
Catholics of Radium Hill

Yesterday to Today
In the 1950’s and ‘60s, the uranium mining town of Radium Hill was populated by workers and their families from thirty-five different countries from around the world. The total population varied between 800 and 1,100 men, women and children. Many of these folk were practising Catholics but there wasn’t a church at Radium Hill in the early 1950’s. Visiting priest Fr. Carmody of the Catholic Inland Mission attended to their spiritual needs when his travels permitted. Father Thomas became the first resident priest in 1953.

In 1955, Fr. Shiel was appointed parish priest of Radium Hill and considered a church to be an essential part of his new parish. He was well qualified to accomplish the task of building a church having previously qualified as an architect and gained experience in the building trades before becoming a priest. Monies for the material to build the church was raised from running fêtes, bottle drives, dances, beetle evenings, collections and even operating a “roulette wheel’ on occasion. The local “SP” bookmaker Tommy Ryan, would donate ten pounds every week for the cause.

42,000 hand-made bricks were used in the construction of the church. A number of volunteers would spend time before or after their work shift helping Father Shiel make these bricks. During its construction in April 1956, children were observed playing around at the site which prompted Father Shiel to put a notice in the local weekly Newsletter “Radio Activity”, to warn parents to keep their children away from the site as quick lime was being used in the mortar which could be dangerous to them if they handled it.

An excellent carpenter, Frank Kannerman, made many fittings for the church including the Gothic windows. He also made the beautiful coffins for those who passed away in Radium Hill. As a German commando he had been awarded the “Iron Cross First Class” for his part in rescuing Benito Mussolini from Gran Sasso, Italy in 1943.

After some months of hard labour the end result was worth it, a very functional church. It was named, “Our Lady Queen of The World”. The total cost of the church was about £2,000 whereas if a contractor had built it, the cost would have been nearly £8,530.

An unbelievable 114 baptisms were conducted in the church between 1956 and December 1961, including baby Attilio Scopel and five Schulte babies. A number of baptisms were performed on adults.

This was a lot of baptisms when you consider that there were only one hundred and seventeen babies born at the local five bed Australian Inland Mission Hospital between 1953 and 1961.

Thirteen weddings, and a number of funeral services were also conducted within the church. The first wedding was performed in 1956.

On October 5, 1961 the official announcement was made that the Radium Hill uranium mine was to close at the end of December.

Hearing this news, feelings of anger, sorrow and disbelief, swept the town. “They can’t do this”, “where will we go” were comments expressed by many residents.

Every building within Radium Hill was ordered to be removed when the Mine closed and the church and school were no exception to this order.

The last wedding ceremony performed was between Ernie Kovacs (a miner), and Nancy Galbraith (from Aroona Stn.) taking place in late December 1961 after the demolition of the church had begun.

After the entrance doors of the church had been removed, a big Caterpillar D6 bulldozer nosed in to lift the big two ton concrete lintel from above the main entrance doorway and push it inside. Well that big Cat went in too far before it lifted its blade. The result; the lintel slid back along the arms of the bulldozer, smashed the radiator and busted the head of its engine. It was the last thing that that bulldozer did for a while.

Was it divine intervention or what? Who knows?
The salvage crew weren’t game enough to finish the church demolition. What might happen to them they thought if they carried on with the task, would they be struck dead by a bolt of lightning and finish up in Hell?
The church walls stand today as a historic memorial to the Catholic spirit of Radium Hill.

At Easter time each year a reunion of former residents is held at Radium Hill and a Sunday Easter thanksgiving service is conducted within the main church area. A large stainless steel cross has been erected on the inside Northern wall and as the full moon rises in the East, its golden glow washes over the top of that wall and lights up the cross with a golden hue. An incredible, almost supernatural sight.

The Radium Hill Catholic School
Fr. Shiel also advocated having a dedicated Catholic school even though
some of his parishioners were against the idea as they believed it would lessen the profile and support of the existing public school.

A school building measuring 75ft. x 30ft. containing two classrooms and an overhanging verandah was eventually constructed for a total cost of £3,850. Sisters of St. Josephs, Uriel and Mercedes arrived at the school on Thursday, February 6, 1958 and taught sewing and music besides the customary subjects. They lived in the convent. Fr. Shiel had built himself a ‘garage style’ accommodation cum presbytery between the church and school which he moved into when the Sisters arrived.

The first week roll call at the school was 76 students; 44 in kindergarten and grades 1, 2 and 3, taught by Sr. Uriel, and 32 students in grades 4, 5 and 6 taught by Sr. Mercedes. Grade 7 was added in 1959. On the night before the official school opening, the visiting priests and guests were treated to a barbeque under lights by the local congregation members. Fr. Shiel had previously billeted out the visiting priests and guests amongst the townspeople. With the dawning of the big day, many morning Masses were celebrated from 5am onwards prior to the big occasion.

At 9am April 21, 1958, the Bishop of Port Pirie, the Most Rev. Gallagher blessed and opened the school, and you guessed it, after the ceremony the children were told to pick up all the papers in the school yard and were then given a holiday for the rest of the day. Memories.

With the closure of the mine, the school building was transported to Port Pirie where it became part of The Lady Fatima School.

Each Easter at Radium Hill, a reunion is held to renew old friendships for those people, families and friends who lived in or were associated with Radium Hill. On Saturday, April 15, 2017, heritage tours will be followed by the popular “Ghost Town Cabaret” in the evening, a hilarious event not to be missed. At 9am, Easter Sunday April 16, 2017, a service will be held in the church ruins followed by the unveiling of a historic plaque near the convent, commemorating the contribution made by Sisters Uriel and Mercedes to the children under their care at the school. Another large plaque outlining the history of the school will also be unveiled. They will be in addition to the 80 house occupant plaques, 10 business owners plaques and 16 Interpretive History photographic “Then and Now” site plaques already installed.

The ashes of two former residents will also be interred in the Radium Hill Pioneer Cemetery at noon on Saturday to join the original twelve graves and another 36 plaques/headstones that we have placed in the cemetery since 2001 for departed former Radium Hill residents who wished that their remains be interred there.

Kevin R Kakoschke OAM
President; Radium Hill Historical Assn.

The Radium Hill web site is, www.radiumhill.org
(Note; more Radium Hill information is contained in the book: “OFF THE BARRIER HIGHWAY” written by author Kevin R Kakoschke. The Catholic presence in some of these Barrier Highway towns, stations and mines, is also included in this book).
In early December, the real models of St Joseph’s House and Star of the Sea took centre stage for a landmark photoshoot. The photo shoot was arranged to highlight some of the aged care services provided by the Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie, and showcase the strong connection to the church.

Darylin Cowling, Area Manager, said “It was very important that the images in our new advertising be of real residents, staff and clients, to capture what makes our facilities and lifestyle so special. The essence of the new advertising campaign is to celebrate how our aged care services are delivered with the spirit of true friendship.”

Stories that showcased the spirit of friendship within the family included our four generations photograph taken at St Joseph’s House.

In this photo below, a resident, Joan, shares family memories with her daughter and volunteer Judy, her granddaughter Marra who is Lifestyle Manager, and great granddaughter Tayla, a hospitality worker.

More people are choosing to live in their own home as long as possible.

Star of the Sea Community Care is based in Wallaroo, and provides a wide range of support through Home Care Packages with choice and flexibility.

People are able to retain independence in their family home and the community, yet still have the best caring support to suit their needs.

We'll even go fishing, and have fun days out.

Our spirit of community knows no boundaries.

For more information or an appointment to discuss the support that best suits your needs. Call us today.

More people are choosing to live in their own home as long as possible.

Star of the Sea Community Care is based in Wallaroo, and provides a wide range of support through Home Care Packages with choice and flexibility.

We offer a wide selection of services to cater for most needs at home and in the community:
- Personal needs
- Domestic assistance
- Community and social support
- Home maintenance
- Clinical care

We have packages available in these areas

Star of the Sea
15 Elizabeth Street, Wallaroo
Ph: (08) 8823 0019
E: community@starofthesea.org.au
W: www.spiritofcare.org.au

The spirit of friendship was also celebrated by our resident group of nonnas making fresh pasta (above), which is regular activity at St Joseph’s House Italian wing. During the photoshoot, the singing and laughter could be heard far and wide.

The community care team at Star of the Sea demonstrated that they understand the spirit of independence by offering unique and interesting social outings for their clients. Gilbert and Community Care worker Moira were snapped discussing the one that got away on a recent fishing adventure.

If you have a need for residential aged care services or home care packages, then visit the new website for St Joseph’s House and Star of the Sea at www.spiritofcare.org.au or visit our Facebook pages and meet the team and see all the photos.
The Ideal Place to Alleviate the Loneliness Of Elderly

New research shows that many older people suffer from loneliness. The Church is a natural haven for alienated people, writes Fr Alexander Lucie-Smith.

- The Catholic Herald

These old people, who hardly see a soul all week long, could be contributing to society, instead of being at its margins. The research was published in an article in The Guardian, which suggests there is a great deal that the church can do, and, I might add, is already doing.

Any old person who is at a loose end can always go to church, where, if the parish is a good one, they will automatically find people to socialise with. Moreover, the church, if the parish is a good one, will have a range of activities that take place during the week which offer people a chance to meet: not just the daily Mass, but the inevitable coffee after Mass, and all the associated activities that go on in churches, some of which might appeal to at least some people.

Not all these activities are explicitly religious, and no one would ever be turned away from a parish lunch club or flower arranging circle on the grounds that they were agnostic. Parishes are always looking for volunteers (as are all charities) and many older people have the right skills to make a great contribution. Gardening, account keeping, changing light bulbs; you name it, it is going on at a parish near you.
Farewells for the Good Sisters!

On December 4, the Sisters of the Port Pirie Diocese gathered to farewell Sisters Elizabeth Young RSM, Sonia Wagner SGS, Anne Foale RSM, and Angela Mahar RSJ at Port Augusta. Over lunch time was spent reminiscing over the good times, friendships and support that the sisters had shared. A vote of thanks was given to those leaving their Ministries within the Diocese.

Sr Elizabeth has been a key person in our midst for the last few years. She has exercised her ministry among the youth and young adults of the diocese, among the asylum seekers, among the prisoners in Port Augusta, and in the parish at Port Augusta. During her time with us she has deepened in her vocation as a Sister of Mercy.

On Saturday December 10, we had the joyful occasion of witnessing Sr. Elizabeth make her final vows. Many Sisters of Mercy from Adelaide and other parts, including the Community Leader were present.

And from the Bishop’s homily during Sr. Elizabeth’s Final Vows: “May you be mercy, Elizabeth. And may you grow and serve under that gaze, the merciful gaze of God, and be that mercy to others, as you live your vows perpetual. Poverty all that you have; chastity all that you are; obedience all that you ever will be.”

+ Gregory O’Kelly SJ
Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie
Sr Sonia and Bernadette Farewelled by our Diocese

Sr Sonia Wagner
Sr Sonia Wagner completes her time in the diocese on January 13, and will be stationed in Brisbane.
We owe Sr Sonia a great deal, not the least which was her strengthening of the bond between the diocese and the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Sr Sonia’s work as Assistant for Pastoral Ministry has seen her involved in a host of different activities from organising Regional Pastoral Councils, to women’s retreats, to the Diocesan Assembly and the production of The Witness along with Bernadette Wauchope and Helen McKeough. There have been a host of pastoral activities which Sr Sonia has been associated with, and we thank her sincerely for how she has strengthened the mission of the church in our diocese. We wish her every happiness and sense of fulfilment in her new chaplaincy work in Brisbane.

Bernadette Wauchope
Ms Bernadette Wauchope has ceased employment with the diocese. Bernadette commenced her employment with us at the end of April 2009, recruited to help with the organisation of my installation as Bishop, and since then has administered the front desk in the Chancery and has been coordinator of special projects.
That means everything from Diocesan Assembly, Youth Assembly, clergy gatherings, World Youth Day and various publications including a strong involvement with The Witness along with Sr Sonia and Helen McKeough. The diocesan website is due to Bernadette's endeavours.
We thank her for all she has done in those seven and a half years. Her daughter Tess has just completed her secondary schooling and Bernadette wishes to undertake new directions.

Filipinos Celebrate Sixth Santo Niño Fiesta

We thank God for such a wonderful event which showcases faith, culture, talent, community spirit and generosity! The Filipino Community is so grateful and humbled to all those who have made the sacrifice of attending this year’s fiesta, even though the temperatures soared over 40°. Dances and food marked the day. The presence of the many Filipinos from all over South Australia and interstate was so inspiring.

Thanks to Bishop Greg O’Kelly who has been so supportive for six years now. Mayor John Rohde, PH Consul for South Australia, Mark McBriarty, and former Consul, Dante Juanta, surely added to the awesomeness of the event. Apologies from MP Rowan Ramsey, MP Geoff Brock and Minister Zoe Bettison.
May the Blessing of the Santo Niño, The Holy Child, be upon us all! Viva Señor Santo Niño! Pit Señor!
Bright Futures Ahead for our College Duxes

Lucy Havelberg
Samaritan College congratulates Lucy Havelberg on a successful year in 2016. Her hard work and dedication to her studies resulted in Lucy becoming the 2016 Dux of school. Lucy has been an outstanding leader of the college and has immersed herself in the school culture over the years. We are grateful for Lucy’s contributions to college life and her friendly and lively presence. We also thank Lucy’s parents, Kylie and Paul, for the support shown to their daughter and to the college. Her friends and staff of the college wish Lucy every success in her Journalism studies at Uni SA.

Bernie Meixner
APRIM

Annie Ford
The Dux of St Mark’s College, Annie Ford, received an ATAR of 98.4 and she plans to study radiology or a mathematical degree at university. St Mark’s had a 100 percent SACE completion rate for the second year in a row with seven students attaining 90 or above and six merit awards being achieved for full marks.

Top Marks for Caritas College
From left - Jacob Guidolin (96.05), Nicole Manning (93.90) and Sallie Blinman (94.45). Well Done!

PisanI Group
ACCOUNTING & BUSINESS ADVICE
19 Norman Street, Port Pirie Phone 8632 3200 Fax 8633 1045 info@pisanigroup.com.au
We congratulate Bernadette Lacey, Principal of St Barbara's Parish School, Roxby Downs, on being acknowledged at the PAI Awards this week.

The annual John Laing Awards for Professional Development acknowledge principals in every state and territory who demonstrate outstanding leadership in providing professional learning in schools. They celebrate the contribution of school leaders who have undertaken, and supported the professional learning of teachers and others.

Bernadette was nominated by SACPPA, and Principal colleague Ros Oates presented Bernadette with her award at the 2016 Awards ceremony held on Wednesday 26 October.

Her teaching and leadership career stretch across the Diocese of Port Pirie. This has included teaching in St James School, Jamestown; Jamestown Community School, St Mark’s College Port Pirie and Snowtown Area School before being appointed to leadership positions at St Mark’s College, Deputy Principal; St Joseph’s Parish School Gladstone, Principal; St Barbara’s Roxby Downs, Principal; St Joseph’s School Port Lincoln, Principal.

Bernadette’s understanding and experience as a leader of rural Catholic schools is an invaluable asset to her fellow professional colleagues and to her schools teaching staff. She is a teaching principal, which assists her developing beginning teachers into outstanding teachers and into first time successful leaders. Her willingness to display good teaching, model and insist upon 21st century pedagogy has developed sound relationships with staff, students and community members.

She demonstrates her own dedication to broad professional involvement and is a member of several professional associations. Recently, her professional development has included a study tour to Singapore, Instructional Rounds training and Understanding by Design training, all of which contribute to her leadership style that develops a rich learning environment in her schools.

The distance and remoteness of many of the rural schools where Bernadette has worked, and in her current role at Roxby Downs, is not a barrier because Bernadette has an outstanding ability to be self-sufficient. She manages to attract quality teachers and along the way inspires many of these people to develop into future leaders in education.

We again congratulate Bernadette on being such a worthy recipient of this award.
In the final week of school last year Bishop Greg visited St Joseph's School in Peterborough to deliver a very special surprise to the students. Earlier in the year Sr Elizabeth Young worked with students from around the Diocese to compose a book entitled “The Good Book and Me”. A number of students selected a scriptural passage that was significant to them in some way. They then shared some of their personal insights into how they connected with the chosen passage.

Sr Elizabeth then invited students from St Joseph’s School at Peterborough to provide illustrations for each reflection. Miss Bec Fahey led students from all year levels to produce images that connected to the scripture passage. The book has since been published and has reached the far stretches of our country. All the Bishops across Australia received one as a gift from our Diocese. Bishop Greg also presented a copy of the book to all the students at St Joseph's School, which was a wonderful surprise and a special keepsake.

Bishop Greg’s visit coincided with the school’s celebration of Advent. The R/1/2 class performed a Nativity Play for Bishop Greg and a number of parents and friends. It was a lovely occasion amid the busyness of the last week of school and a celebration of what is means to be involved in Catholic education our faith.

Damian Smith
Principal

Copies of “The Good Book and Me” are available from Marina Davidson mdavidson@pp.catholic.org.au or call 8632 0551
Cost is $4.40 ea
plus postage and handling
Minimum of 10 per order

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY 2017

Tuesday evening you are invited to Dinner at the Port Football and Community Club, corner of Wanderah and Esmond Roads
Beginning at 6:30pm

I will be attending lunch Tuesday [ ] [ ]

I will be attending dinner Tuesday [ ] [ ]

A donation of $30 for registration is requested to assist with the costs. This is a donation to help the Diocese cover the shortfall. If the donation makes it difficult for you to attend, please come as our guest.
There were twelve children from Booleroo/Pekina parish who made their Sacrament of Reconciliation in November, 2016. It was a special time for all the children as they made their Sacrament with their families and church members in attendance, followed by Mass in Orroroo and Booleroo Centre. The children will be looking forward to making their First Holy Communion in 2017.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Benefactors and Sponsors**

This is an appeal to your large-heartedness. Any amount, small or larger, will be a cause for great thanks, and will enable our ministries to continue. Otherwise some will need to cease or be scaled down; we do not have the funds.

The financial resources of the diocese are unable to support all of our ministries. We need sponsors and benefactors to assist. Are you able to help the work of the Church in those ministries of our diocese?

If people could donate a certain amount as a one-off gift, or as an annual or monthly donation, then together we might meet the challenge.

Yes I/we would like to support the work of the Church in our diocese. By ticking a box I/we have indicated our preference(s) below.

- □ Bishop’s discretion: to allow flexibility for some particular pastoral need
- □ Support of Seminarians: with the Seminary fee ($30,000) and travel expenses, it costs $35,000 to support a seminarian annually.
- □ Youth Ministry: Stipend for a part-time Youth Worker $35,000 per annum
- □ Prison Ministry: Travel expenses and vehicle maintenance, as the prisons are in Port Augusta, Cadell in the Murray, and Port Lincoln ($22,000 per annum)
- □ Aboriginal Ministry: Support of the Indian Sisters working with Aboriginal women and children and aged residents, at Davenport, near Port Augusta. Stipend and expenses for the two Sisters is $40,000 per annum. The parish provides accommodation.
- □ Overseas Priests: The annual collection around the diocese for overseas priests (Tanzanian & Filipino) amounts to $10,000, which we give to the home dioceses in Africa and the Philippines who trained and formed the priests who so generously have volunteered to work amongst us. There are the further needs of funding their airfares here, and for their biennial visit back to their families.

If you wish to make a monthly or fortnightly or annual contribution please nominate the amount below and provide the credit card details and required signature of approval.

I/we wish to donate $ ___________  
☐ once  ☐ weekly  
☐ fortnightly  ☐ monthly  
☐ bi-annually  ☐ annually

Please tick desired time. Receipts will be issued monthly.

Name: _______________________
Address: ______________________
_____________________________
_____________________________

Please tick:
☐ Cheque (made payable to ‘Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie’)  
☐ Credit Card  
Credit card number  
_____________________________
_____________________________

Expiry date ______________
Signature ____________________
Date ________________________
Quorn Family is Rockhampton’s Gain

In January 2017, Naomi and Adrian Maloney and their two younger children, Annie and Zoe left Quorn for Rockhampton, Queensland. After spending all their married life and raising their children in Quorn, Naomi and Adrian are settling in Rockhampton for work. Adrian has a five year contract with the Queensland Electricity suppliers. Their two older children, Shannon and Patrick, will stay in Adelaide to attend university. Adrian was a member of the Quorn and Flinders Ranges Parish Council, the Finance Committee, and of the Knights of the Southern Cross at Carrieton and Port Augusta. Naomi has been president and secretary of Quorn branch of CWL, and has assisted our priests in organising and instructing First Communicants and Confirmation candidates. Patrick has recently become the church organist.

Both parents and family have taken on many tasks essential to parish life – keeping the power and water going at the church and presbytery, weeding, pruning and church cleaning, serving on the altar, assembling the Christmas crib, and frequently moving on the hall's pigeons.

Over the years our resident priests have enjoyed the hospitality of their Fifth Street home. Adrian has been active in many community areas. In sporting clubs - as a player and treasurer of the Quorn Cricket Club, and organiser of its fundraising events; playing football and coaching junior teams. He was a member of the Quorn Area School council.

Naomi actively supported community events and was greatly involved with the children's sports – football, netball, swimming, cricket and golf. In recent years she gained part-time employment at Quorn Area School. The girls won many prizes in Quorn Show’s cooking and handicraft section.

The town will miss the participation of a young, enthusiastic family of ‘doers’. The parish will miss them even more, for their involvement in the liturgy and life of the parish, and as an example of a faithful Catholic family.

Tony Carn expressed the thanks of the families of Quorn parish, and Geraldine Davis presented crosses of St Francis of Assisi to the Maloney family at Mass on their last Sunday.

The parishioners of Quorn offer their prayers and best wishes to Adrian, Naomi and family on their new life.

Fr Jimmy Turns 40!

Thanks to Bishop Greg for blessing my birthday, and parishioners and friends from Port Pirie, Adelaide, Orroro, Quorn and Carrieton.

Thanks to Fr. John Folkman, Fr Harold, Fr Ben and Fr Cletus.

Fr. Jimmy Pantin
After four years as the original Secretary to the CWL in Port Broughton, Pat was elected President and remained in this position for the next fifteen years. Pat and her husband Laurie had nine children. Eight sons and one daughter. Pat owned and ran the local General Store at Fisherman’s Bay while Laurie worked at the Smelters in Port Pirie. Both Pat and Laurie were very active in the community. After retirement Pat and Laurie became members of “PROBUS” and also worked together as volunteers at the local printers. Part of their work was to put the rollers together before “The Echo” was printed. One of her closest friends said that nothing ever fazed Pat. If something was needed or had to be done Pat would always help in any way she could. She and friend Doreen used to volunteer at the local nursing home and every Thursday they would go shopping for the residents.

Pat Mackrill
June 27, 1930 - 16 November 2016

Follow our greatest example
Love your neighbour
Empower our most vulnerable people around the world.
Support Project Compassion
Donate today 1800 024 413 or caritas.org.au
### Parish Contacts and Mass Times Around the Diocese

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our Lady of the River Parish</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Berri</td>
<td>Fr Paul Bourke PP</td>
<td>8582 1894</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olor@bigpond.com">olor@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>1st Sunday 9.00 (LWHC)</td>
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<td>5th Sunday 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barmera</td>
<td>Fr John Stuart-James</td>
<td>8588 2452</td>
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<td>2nd &amp; 4th Saturday 6.00pm</td>
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<td>Waikerie</td>
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<td>Morgan</td>
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<td>Loxton</td>
<td>Fr Paul Bourke PP</td>
<td>8582 1894</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olor@bigpond.com">olor@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>2nd &amp; 4th  9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booleroo Centre</td>
<td>Fr Benjamin Mkuchu PP</td>
<td>8667 2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:booleroocentre@bigpond.com">booleroocentre@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>1st Sunday 9.00 (LWHC)</td>
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<td>5th Sunday 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cowell</td>
<td>Fr Brian Mathews PP</td>
<td>8672 5011</td>
<td><a href="mailto:inlandmission.cp@bigpond.com">inlandmission.cp@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>1st &amp; 4th Sundays 8.00am</td>
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<td>3rd &amp; 5th Sunday [Vigil] 6.00pm Winter</td>
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<td>[Vigil] 7.00pm Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coober Pedy</td>
<td>Fr Kevin Matthews PP</td>
<td>8676 2194</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cumminsparish@pp.catholic.org.au">cumminsparish@pp.catholic.org.au</a></td>
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<td>Cummins</td>
<td>Fr Kevin Matthews PP</td>
<td>8676 2194</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cumminsparish@pp.catholic.org.au">cumminsparish@pp.catholic.org.au</a></td>
<td>1st, 3rd &amp; 5th Saturday 6.30pm</td>
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<td>2nd &amp; 4th  9.00am</td>
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<td>Lock</td>
<td>3rd &amp; 5th Sundays 8.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gladstone</td>
<td>Mgr Arthur Hackett PP</td>
<td>8662 2427</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ajbhattett@bigpond.com">ajbhattett@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>1st, 3rd &amp; 5th Sunday 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th  9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamestown</td>
<td>Fr Adrian Noonan PP</td>
<td>8821 3943</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stvincentcleve@bigpond.com">stvincentcleve@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kadina</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kadina</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>[Vigil] 6.00pm (winter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moonta</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>[Vigil] 7.00pm (Summer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wallaroo</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Fr Leon Quinn PP</td>
<td>8664 1056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjacobi@bigpond.com">stjacobi@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pt Augusta</td>
<td>Fr Paul Crotty PP</td>
<td>8642 2847</td>
<td><a href="mailto:allsaints.pt.a@bigpond.com">allsaints.pt.a@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>10.30am &amp; 5.30pm</td>
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### DIOCESAN INFORMATION