



12 Tebbutt Street  
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WINDSOR NSW 2756

# St. Matt's Matters Newsletter

Telephone (02) 4560 2300

Email: [stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Web address: [www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au)

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As a faith community we congratulate and keep in our prayers the students of St Matthew's who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Matthew's Church over the coming 2 weeks. The Seven gifts of the Holy Spirit - Wonder, Courage, Reverence, Wisdom, Right Judgment, Knowledge and Understanding inspire us to live our lives in the footsteps of Christ. May the Holy Spirit be a very important part of their lives and guide them in all that they do. May God bless our students.

Respect towards each other is so important. In thinking about this I enjoyed the following reflection that gives 10 simple points to remember and work on. Why not take the time to share this with your child.

1. Speak to people - There is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
2. Smile at people - It takes 72 muscles to frown and only 14 to smile.
3. Call people by name - The sweetest music to anyone's ear is the sound of their own name.
4. Be friendly and helpful - Be a friend to all.
5. Be cordial - Speak and act as if everything you do were a genuine pleasure.
6. Be genuinely interested in people - You can like everybody if you try.
7. Be generous with praise, cautious with criticism.
8. Be considerate of the feelings of others, it will be appreciated.
9. Be thoughtful of the opinions of others, there are always three sides to controversy - yours, the other person's and the right one.
10. Be alert to give service. What counts most in life is what we do for others.

***God our Father, you call each of us by name, and you treasure each of us individually.***

***Inspire us to respect and value each person who comes into our lives this day.***

***Amen.***

*In partnership, let us continue to work to develop in the children, strong minds and gentle hearts.*

Peace and Best Wishes,

Tim Vane-Tempest,

Principal.

## TERMOVERVIEWS

Term outlines for each year or stage have been uploaded to our newly designed school website. To access the overviews please use the link below. This link will take you to the webpage where you select your child's grade. Please note that Stage 3 overviews will be uploaded to both Year 5 & Year 6.

<http://www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au/>

[Learning/Class-Overviews](#)

The outlines provide you with a guide to the units of work and content that the children will be learning about this term. If you have any questions about the information in these overviews please contact the stage teachers to discuss.

## CANTEEN SURVEY

As mentioned in our last newsletter a survey about the canteen has been developed and is available to all families. The survey can be accessed either using the link below or via the emailed form that has been sent to all email addresses registered with the school.

[https://cedp.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9taREm47pilrcpf](https://cedp.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9taREm47pilrcpf)

The survey can be completed on any device, including mobile phones. This survey is seeking feedback from you on the current operation of our canteen and the service provided by Tuckshop 2 U. The survey will take about 3-5 minutes to complete. Your input will help to decide the future of our canteen services. Please take the time to check your email and have your say. It will be open until 17/8/2018.

## ENROLLING NOW FOR 2019

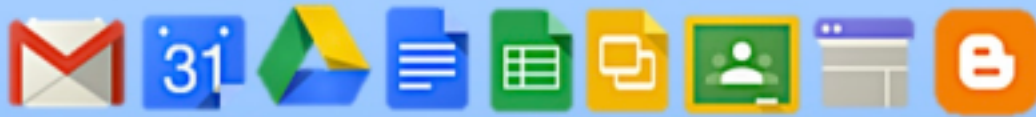
The enrolments continue to be open for Kindergarten 2019. If your child turns 5 before the 31st July, 2019 and you would like them to start at St Matthew's please contact the school office to pick up or have an enrolment pack sent to you. If you know of any family who are seeking enrolment for 2018 and are not yet connected with St. Matthew's please pass on this information. We look forward to welcoming you to St Matthew's in the near future.

Aug 13 Mon	Assembly 2:45 pm presented by Year 2
Aug 15 Wed	Whole School Parish Mass 9:00 am The Assumption of the Blessed Mary
Aug 16 Thur	Zone Athletics Confirmation Mass 7:00 pm
Aug 17 Fri	Confirmation Mass 7:00 pm
Aug 20 Mon	Captivate Rehearsal Depart 7:00am return 4:30 pm
Aug 20 Mon	Assembly 2:45 pm presented by Stage 3
Aug 21 Tues	Book Parade 9:15 - 9:30 followed by share a book on
Aug 21 & 22	Captivate Showcase 7:00 pm
Aug 22 Wed	Parish Mass 9:00 am Kindergarten Confirmation Mass 7:00 pm
Aug 27 Mon	Assembly 2:45 pm presented by Year 1
Aug 28 Tues	Netball Gala Day Jamison Park, South Penrith
Aug 29 Wed	Cyber Safety & Google Apps workshop for parents 9:15 am - 9:45 am Father's Day Stall from 9:45 am Workshop 2:30- 3:00 pm

**Target**  
**90% average**  
**across the school**  
**Every learner**  
**Every day - Transforming Lives**  
**Attendance in the past**  
**fortnight 95.52%**  
**Thank you for your**  
**support!**

# Tech Savvy Parenting

An introduction to cyber safety and Google apps for Education



Join us in Term 3 on the 29<sup>th</sup> August and the 12<sup>th</sup> September  
at two timeslots:

Workshop 1: Ipads  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August  
2018  
9.15am-9.45am  
or  
2.30-3.00pm



Workshop 2: Chromebooks  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
2018  
9.15am-9.45am  
or  
2.30-3.00pm

#watchthisspace #empoweringparents #21stcenturylearners



Father Day wrapping Wednesday 22nd August  
1:30 pm in the Hall

Parent helpers needed

Stall Wednesday 29th August 9:45 am after the  
Tech Savvy workshop

Father's Day Breakfast

Friday 31st August 7:30 - 8:30 pm



### *Musicorp Instrumental Program - UPDATE*

#### *Adam Silady – Guitar/Keyboard/Drum Tutor*

After 10 years at St Matthews, we were sad to say good bye to Anna Di Mezza who has finished up to explore some other ventures. I am pleased to introduce Adam Silady who will be taking over the instrumental program at St Matthews. Adam has had a passion for music since he was 8 years old. Learning/studying both guitar and piano from a very early age. He completed his Music Degree at The Australian Institute of Music , majoring in Jazz/ Contemporary guitar in 1998. He has taught the guitar for over 20 years, at all levels from Beginner to Intermediate/Advanced levels.

Adam teaches students how to read music as well as playing favourite well known songs. He can prepare students for performances, providing full support to students throughout their studies. He can also provide tuition for students for their school exams (including Higher School Certificate), plus for the AMEB CPM Guitar exam course steps 1-4.

Adam is a well experienced teacher in Electric & Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard & Piano, and Drum lessons, to students of all ages.

If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please contact Musiccorp on 1300 858 911.



Greetings St Matthew's School Community! What a wonderful Grandparents Day we had last week! The love and support of our Grandparents and Great Grandparents are truly a blessing to our St Matthew's school community. We had the opportunity to pray together as a community and honour not only the Grandparents of Jesus, but also all the people in our lives who support our students and their families with such wisdom, perseverance and faith. Thank you again to all of our Grandparents and Great Grandparents and may God bless you now and in the future years.

## **Confirmation Workshop Day**

Some students in Stage Three attended the Confirmation Workshop Day last Wednesday at Chisholm Primary School. They had a great day of learning and fun where they made new friends and participated in activities to further their understanding of the Holy Spirit. They also had an opportunity to go to Reconciliation with Father Arthur Cook.

Please keep all these students and their families in your prayers.

## **Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

On Wednesday, the 8th of August, was the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Our school community attended Parish Mass.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is Australia's first saint. Saint Mary of the Cross was an Australian Roman Catholic nun who founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. She built many schools and welfare institutions throughout Australasia to educate and care for the poor and disadvantaged. Mary of the Cross MacKillop is a wonderful example of how to live as a Christian and follow the teachings in the Gospel.

## **The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

On Wednesday the 15th of August is the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary Our Mother, at the end of Her earthly life, was taken up to Heaven by the power of Her Son Jesus. Mary's body is Immaculate- pure- without sin.

"Mary, having completed the course of Her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into Heavenly glory".

In the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant was a sign of God's presence among His people. In the New Testament, Mary is the Ark of the Covenant because she carried "the Word made flesh" in Her womb for nine months. The Dogma of the Assumption of Our Lady was declared in 1950 by Pope Pius X11 and is part of the bedrock of our Christian, Catholic faith.

Mary made it possible for God to send His only Son to us. God has given Mary the title, Queen of Heaven and Earth. We ask Our Lady to help our community of St Matthew's to be faithful to the Gospel and through our actions, show love and compassion to others.

We honour Mary our Mother on this great feast of the Assumption next week at Mass. Everyone is invited to join us in prayer to honour Mary and ask for Her protection and mercy.

"To Jesus through Mary."

## A Prayer Through The Intercession of Eileen O'Connor.

*"Gracious God, you have poured out your healing love on all people and shown your compassion for the sick and the dying.*

*Through the intercession of Eileen O'Connor, we ask you to look lovingly on our friend .....and if it be your will, to return him/her to health.*

*Let your healing power work in him/her so that they may be restored to us.*

*We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen."*



God Bless.

Ann Climpson

Jesus in our hearts – Forever!

Mary Our Mother– Pray for us.

St Matthew- Pray for us.

## **Reminders-**

- Confirmation Masses- Thursday, 16th of August at 7pm.
- Friday, 17th of August at 7pm.
- Wednesday, 22nd of August at 7pm.
- Father's Day Liturgy- Friday, 31st of August. (Details to follow.)

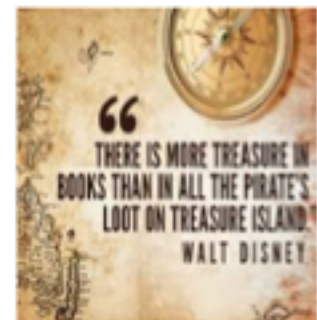
# LIBRARY



## **BOOK WEEK 2018**

**Theme: Find Your Treasure**  
**Come dressed as character from a book you treasure!**

(Students can also bring the book that their character comes from if they have it to carry during the parade)



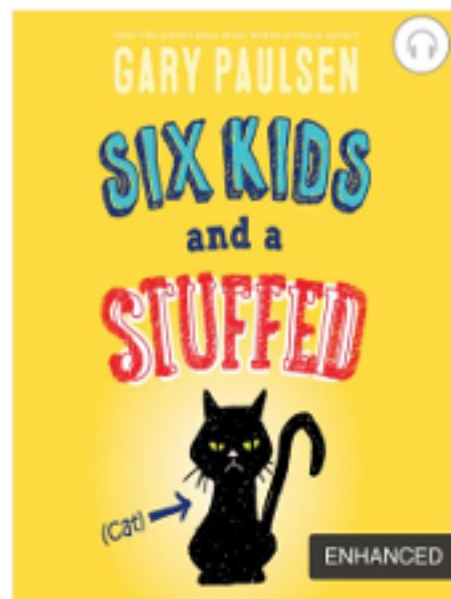
*You're Invited...*

Families are invited to join us for our Book Parade on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August at 9:15am, followed by reading on the Green where parents and students can share their favourite books!



## Student eBook Of The Week

~ Primary Schools  
July 30 2018



<https://goo.gl/AqyMt2>

Suitable for years 3 - 6

It seemed like a normal school day, until a horrible storm forced the very cautious school administration to make everyone hole up in a safe place. Six students find themselves stuck in a tiny, questionably smelly space—a school bathroom—with a stuffed cat for entertainment. Hijinks ensue and the unexpected happens. They enter as strangers...and leave as friends.

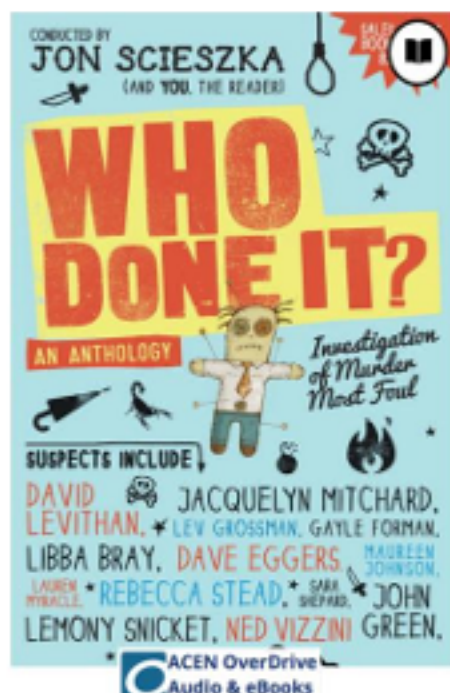
ACEN OverDrive  
Audio & eBooks

learning exchange



## Student eBook Of The Week

~ Secondary Schools  
July 30 2018



<https://goo.gl/eWN2kW>

Suitable for years 7 - 9

Can you imagine the most cantankerous book editor alive? Part Voldemort, part Cruella de Vil (if she were a dude), and worse in appearance and odor than a gluttonous farm pig? A man who makes no secret of his love of cheese or his disdain of unworthy authors? That man is Herman Mildew.

The anthology opens with an invitation to a party, care of this insufferable monster, where more than 80 of the most talented, bestselling and recognizable names in YA and children's fiction learn that they are suspects in his murder. All must provide alibis in brief first-person entries. The problem is that all of them are liars, all of them are fabulists, and all have something to hide...

ACEN OverDrive  
Audio & eBooks

learning exchange



Please take note of the following important sport related dates:

## **Term 3**

### **Week 3**

Friday August 10 Stage 2 Touch Trials

### **Week 4**

Thursday August 16 - Hills Zone Athletics

### **Week 5**

Friday August 24 - Parramatta Diocese Athletics

### **Week 6**

Tuesday August 28 - Netball Gala Day

Basketball Gala day Trials

### **Week 7**

Friday September 7 - Stage 2 Touch Gala Day

## **St Matthew's Athletics Champions 2018**

Congratulation to these students who excelled in several events at our carnival last term!!

Seniors Champions - Amy Galea, Liam Henson, Chris Xiberras & Noah Krix

Seniors Runner Up - Lola Layton

11 yr old Champions- Georgia Crozier & Mitchell Cwojdzinski

11 yr old runner up - Emerson Finch & Sean Miskelly

Juniors Champions - Holly McKay & Darcy Buckingham

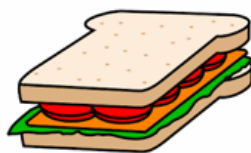
Junior Runner Up - Adrienne Murray & Ryan Henson

We had three Senior Boys Champions for the first time ever this year! Liam excelled in his 800 m, Long Jump & Shot Put, Chris in 800 m, 200 m & 100 m and Noah in 200 m, 100 m & Long Jump events.

## **Zone Athletics Information Reminders:**

● **ALL Children must meet at school at 6:45 am on day. The bus will be leaving promptly at 7:00 am.**

- Please ensure your children have SHORTS for their running races but pants and jackets for the grandstand due to unpredictable winter weather.
- There is a canteen but please ensure your children have plenty of food and water for the day.
- Sunscreen will be needed as they do spend a fair amount of time in the marshalling area for their events to begin.
- Please ensure your children bring along any Asthma puffers or other medical needs that you need on the day.
- Students will return to St Matthew's by bus at 3:15 pm. If you could arrange for parent pick up from St Matthew's on the day that would be highly recommended in case we are running late.





## **Netball Gala Day**

Netball Gala day notes are due back Friday August 10. Teams have been training at school at lunchtime and recess and have enjoyed the extra court time!

## **PARRAMATTA DIOCESE GIRLS CRICKET TRIALS NOMINATIONS**

Are there any girls from who play club or representative cricket and are aged 10 - 12 years old in 2018? Parramatta Diocese is looking to make a team.

Players MUST have their own equipment and have playing experience in the sport.

Nominations are on the Parramatta Primary Sports website if anyone interested - please register or email Margaret Thornton.

## **Morning Fitness at St Matthew's**

Regular physical activity is an important part of getting healthy and staying healthy.

Encouraging kids to be active from a young age sets good habits early on and helps them develop the skills they need to stay active throughout their lives.

### **Regular physical activity helps kids:**

- with healthy growth and development
- build strong bones and muscles
- improve balance and develop skills
- maintain and develop flexibility
- achieve and maintain a healthy weight
- improve cardiovascular fitness
- reduce stress and feel more relaxed
- improve posture
- boost confidence and self-esteem
- have fun with their friends and make new ones

(Excerpt taken from <https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/kids-teens/get-active-each-day> )

## **Cardio Tennis**

### **This will not run on Friday Week 3 (10.8.18) (and Friday Week 6 (31.8.18))**

Cardio Tennis with Fiona Roseby from Simply Smashing Tennis is each Friday morning from 8:00 - 8:30 am. If you have not signed up for the Cardio Tennis and are interested in it please come along on the morning or see Mrs Brand. Please remember that the cost is \$5 per session. All payments need to be given to Fiona Roseby at the beginning of each lesson.

## **BOOTCAMP**

Bootcamp is every Thursday morning from 8:00 am - 8:30 am. Students will meet at the front gate of the school each morning. If your child attends COOSH in the morning please speak to them regarding permission to attend. The focus this term is to build on strength training and cardiovascular/endurance skills.

# Martial Arts

Every Tuesday morning from 8:00 am - 8:30 am and afternoon from 3:30-4:00, Clarence Rodrigues and his team from Destiny Martial Arts Australia come to St Matthew's to train students. The cost is \$3 per session. Please see Clarence on a Tuesday morning or afternoon in the Hall for further inquiries.

Kind regards,

Mrs Brand

Sport Teacher/Sport Coordinator

**Nutrition Snippet**

## The simplest way

...to buy produce in season.

Buying fruit and veg in season is much cheaper than other times of the year. Plus it's better quality and tastes better too!

**Winter – June, July, August**

**FRUIT**  
Apple (Red Delicious, Granny Smith), Avocado, Custard Apple, Grapefruit, Kiwifruit, Lemon, Lime, Mandarin, Melon (Honeydew), Nashi, Orange (Navel), Passionfruit, Pear, Rhubarb.



**VEGETABLES**  
Artichoke (Jerusalem), Beans (Green), Beetroot, Bok Choy (Pak Choy), Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage (Chinese), Capsicum, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Eggplant, Leek, Lettuce, Mushroom, Onion, Parsnip, Peas (Snow, Sugarsnap), Potato, Pumpkin, Silverbeet, Spinach, Swedes, Sweet Potato, Tomato, Zucchini.

**For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://facebook.com/eatittobeatit)**

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.

**Health**  
Nepean Blue Mountains  
Local Health District

**Eat It To Beat It** 

# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	<p>Logan - For finding solutions to Kindy's addition and subtraction rich tasks this week.</p> <p>Bethany - For writing an interesting sentence for Grandparents Day</p> <p>Jhett - For great editing skills in writing time.</p> <p>Brooklyn - For a great improvement in writing this week.</p>
<b>YEAR1</b>	<p>Liam for working hard to use a range of decoding strategies when reading</p> <p>Spencer - for trying hard to pronounce words clearly when reading</p> <p>Victoria - her thoughtful contributions to class discussions</p> <p>Phoebe - for working hard to show her thinking clearly and logically in Mathematics</p>
<b>YEAR2</b>	<p>Mackenzie - For working hard to display a growth mindset in all areas of learning - Well done!</p> <p>Amelia - For consistently using reading strategies during guided reading groups, well done.</p> <p>Lily - For working hard to display a growth mindset in all areas of learning - Well done!</p> <p>Hollie - For consistently using reading strategies during guided reading groups, well done.</p>
<b>YEAR3</b>	<p>Savanah - for consistent effort during reading and spelling lessons.</p> <p>Joshua - for writing a fantastic procedure on how to make a pizza.</p> <p>Emily - for always being kind and respectful to her peers and teachers</p>
<b>YEAR4</b>	<p>Jacob - for good investigations of his permaculture project.</p> <p>Chaise - for working well with his learning and trying to remain focused in classes this term.</p> <p>Nina - for her enthusiasm and great start into Year 4 this term.</p> <p>Cooper - for working well with his learning and trying to remain focused in class this term.</p>
<b>STAGE3</b>	<p>Kade - making predictions using topic sentences during Reciprocal Teaching.</p> <p>Stefanie - for working hard on the skill of summarising non-fiction texts.</p> <p>Leila - consistently working hard and persevering on all Mathematics task.</p> <p>Ava - for putting in a tremendous effort in preparing for her Voice of Youth Speech</p> <p>Cody - For displaying a superb understanding of two-dimensional space.</p> <p>Madelin - for displaying an excellent understanding to two-dimensional space.</p> <p>Brendan - using multiplicative thinking to solve problems.</p> <p>Camryn - her focus on her Voice of Youth speech preparation</p> <p>Harrison - for his focus on his Voice of Youth Speech preparation</p>

# Catholic Education Office

## Holy Spirit Seminary Open Day: 19 August

"Come and See Day" at Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park on 19 August 2018 is a whole-day event, inspired by Our Lord's invitation to the two disciples of John the Baptist to "Come and see", found in the Gospel of John. Open Day provides single men open to a priestly vocation with the opportunity to experience seminary life, beginning with Holy Mass at St Oliver's Parish Church at 10 am, followed by talks, a tour, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and dinner with Bishop Vincent. RSVP essential. Please contact Fr John Paul Escarlan via [johnpaul.escarlan@parracatholic.org](mailto:johnpaul.escarlan@parracatholic.org) or 0420 310 771

We are currently promoting via our social media channels and parish bulletin notices and will continue to do so until the open day. The image is of Chris del Rosario, one of our seminarians who should be ordained a priest by the end of this year.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BkOxvMyARUq>

<https://www.facebook.com/parracatholic/photos/a.342870905825347.72250.335448073234297/1522131044565988/?type=3&theater>

<https://twitter.com/parracatholic/status/1009273825958113281>

## Bishop Office

### Natural Fertility Services

"My husband and I opted for Natural Family Planning (NFP) after our first baby, we'd struggled with other means of fertility management prior to this. Since then, we've been shocked by just one thing, hardly anyone knows about it! Our educator has patiently guided us in learning, implementing and having confidence in ourselves. Best of all, NFP goes hand-in-hand with faith, as God's handiwork is on vibrant display in the human body. Beyond its practical benefits, NFP has revealed to us the astounding mechanisms that God has set in motion in our bodies to create life. NFP is family planning God's way". A couple in their 40's with two children.

To learn more about Natural Family Planning in the Diocese of Parramatta contact 02 8838 3460 or [nfs@parracatholic.org](mailto:nfs@parracatholic.org) or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) and [www.parralnf.org.au/nfs](http://www.parralnf.org.au/nfs)

### Catechesis for young adults

Drug and alcoholism abuse, marriage breakups, home violence and the destruction of the family are realities our community experience. The Parish of Baulkham Hills will be conducting a series of Catechesis for adults and teenagers (14 years onwards) starting on 6 of August until the end of September. These talks will help whoever listens to discover the meaning of life, create a sense of belonging and see the immense love God has for them. The talks are free and will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7.30pm at 1 Canyon Rd, Baulkham Hills. More info from Lucas on 0428 813 256.



## We're hiring!

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is seeking a Nurse to attend World Youth Day 2019 in Panama. The role will be responsible for encouraging and coordinating healthy practices and the preliminary identification and assessment of medical, health and wellbeing needs of pilgrims. More information at: <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/positions-vacant>

If you're studying or recently graduated from accounting and looking to get your foot in the door in finance, the Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Development Fund is looking for a casual Trainee Assistant Accountant with an immediate start. For more information contact [ddffinance@parraddf.org.au](mailto:ddffinance@parraddf.org.au)

## IFM Reflective Ministry Program

This enjoyable program aims to enrich those involved in service/ministry of Catholic communities – excellent chance for learning and further shaping of faith and purpose. Ten Tuesday evenings and two Saturday mornings are spread out across August 18 to Dec 1 – presenters' inputs, journaling and application to ministry – group size about 35. See [ifm.org.au](http://ifm.org.au) or call the IFM team 9296 6369

## ACYMC 2018

Early-bird registration for the Australian Catholic Youth Ministry Convention hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops is now open at [www.acymc.org.au](http://www.acymc.org.au). The event will host up to 500 adult delegates who are engaged in ministry with young people in parishes, schools, agencies and ministries of the Catholic Church. Rooty Hill RSL, September 21-23.

Contact James Camden, Director, Catholic Youth Parramatta for more information (02) 8838 3428 or [james.camden@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.camden@parracatholic.org)

## Save the Date - Liturgy Conference 2018

Date: 10 November 2018. Keynote Speaker: Fr Peter Williams Vicar General from the Diocese of Parramatta. Workshops (still to be finalised): Singing the Psalms, RCIA ritual & symbols, Training Junior Altar Servers and Music and Prayer in the Classroom. To register your interest go to [parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018/](http://parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018/)

Tickets: On sale soon (we'll let you know when).

## Concert at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta: 17 August

Sydney Philharmonia - Chamber Singers: TALBOT Path of Miracles - Tickets via [www.sydneyphilharmonia.com.au](http://www.sydneyphilharmonia.com.au) – More details at: [www.stpatscathedral.com.au](http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au)

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## Migrant and Refugee Week: 20-26 August

Pope Francis has chosen as the theme for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 'Welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees'. We are challenged by the message of the Holy Father to consider how we can welcome, protect, promote and integrate migrants and refugees in our own Australian context. For more information please visit:

[parracatholic.org/socialjustice](http://parracatholic.org/socialjustice)

## Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 26 August

Rev Fr Chukwunonyerem Akamadu, Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic community, will celebrate Mass at 12.30pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Contact Fr Akamadu tel 0451 174 438, Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

## Creating a Safe Church: 31 August - 1 September

The Diocese of Parramatta is co-hosting two days of presentations by Fr Hans Zollner SJ addressing the most significant issues facing the Catholic Church today with respect to harmful behaviour, including the theological and spiritual implications arising from the abuse crisis and their impact on victims and survivors, together with members of the Church. Fr Hans is regarded as one of the leading ecclesiastical experts in the field of safeguarding of minors and on areas concerning sexual abuse both in the Roman Catholic Church and beyond. More information and registration via [parracatholic.org/safechurch](http://parracatholic.org/safechurch)

## Plenary Council 2020

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

## Catholic Communications Congress

Communicating Hope and Trust: How can we share the message of Christ and his Gospel in contemporary Australia? Speakers from Australia and abroad will challenge delegates at the Australian Catholic Communications Congress to take up Pope Francis' call for Catholics to "communicate hope and trust". September 5-7 in Brisbane. All are welcome. Find out more and register at [www.catholic.org.au/accc](http://www.catholic.org.au/accc)

## Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse

This is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held May 26 – 31 2019. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griegtograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griegtograceaus.org.au) or phone 0478599241. For more information visit [www.griegtograce.org](http://www.griegtograce.org)

## Catholic Men's Conference: 1 September

Join with other men to explore strategies for: What is Courage? How do we build authentic relationships? What is commitment? Saturday, 1 September at Dooleys Catholic Club, Lidcombe  
Registration: \$60 Early Bird \$48 (11 August). Find out more: [www.sydneycatholicmen.com/conference](http://www.sydneycatholicmen.com/conference) or contact Norm Reavell on 0438 5515 441. A collaborative of men from Brothersoul (Schoenstatt Men), menALIVE, The Catenian Association, Knights of the Southern Cross, The Men of St Joseph and Catholic Men's Fellowship.

## Australian Catholic Historical Society Lecture: 2 September

Professor Mark McKenna - Faith at "World's End": Father Angelo Confalonieri and the first Catholic Mission to Northern Australia. Visit the ACHS website [www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au](http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au) for more information.

## Holy Hour for Vocations: 6 September

Families and youth (aged 18-35) are invited to join the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth for a Holy Hour of Prayer for Vocations from 7.00pm-8.00pm followed by a pizza supper. The Good Shepherd Church, 130-136 Hyatts Road, Plumpton. RSVP to Sr Paula on 0449 656 406, [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com)

## Catalyst for Renewal: 7 September

Catalyst for Renewal Dinner - 7 September at 7.30pm, Villa Maria Parish Hall, Corner Mary St & Gladesville Rd, Hunters Hill. Speaker: John Allen. Topic: "Pope Francis and His Critics" – A Vatican Insiders View. Tickets \$60 ph. Reservations essential. For bookings, Phone 02 9990 7003 (Messagebank), Email: [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au)

## Bethlehem College 100th Anniversary Luncheon: 8 September

All former students and staff of Bethlehem College, Ashfield, are warmly invited to attend the 100th Anniversary celebratory luncheon to be held at Sydney City Tattersalls Club, 194-204 Pitt Street, Sydney from midday on 8 September. For more information, please visit [www.bethlehemcollege.nsw.edu.au](http://www.bethlehemcollege.nsw.edu.au) or contact [bethlehemexstudents@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemexstudents@gmail.com) or 0409 986 740 or 0414 841 395.

**For more events please go to:** <http://parracatholic.org/events/>

## Dad's Support Group: 14 August

D.A.D.S MyTime Group is a group aiming to connect fathers and other male carers of children with a disability, developmental delay, ASD or a chronic illness to a support network of other fathers, helping the whole family. This is a free, government funded service. 7pm – 9pm at St Margaret Mary's Parish Centre, 5 Chetwynd Rd, Merrylands. Call 0438 878 355 for more information or visit [playgroupnsw.org.au](http://playgroupnsw.org.au) or [mytime.net.au](http://mytime.net.au). Tea & Coffee provided.

## Feast of the Assumption Walk: 15 August

THE ANNUAL WALK ON THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION will take place on Wednesday 15 August, beginning at Noon with Mass at the Shrine of the Holy Innocents (8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville). The walk starts after Mass at 1pm, continues along Windsor Road to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta (14km). Refreshment stops occur along the way. All are welcome. Join us at any point of the walk. Contact the parish office to register on 9629-2595.

## Marriage Enrichment Weekend: 17-19 August

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship! 17 - 19 August at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) - alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

## Australian Catholic Historical Society Lecture: 19 August

Senator Susan Ryan AO - Catholic Social Justice and parliamentary politics. Visit the ACHS website [www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au](http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au) for more information.

## Christian Meditation: 19 August

The next Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia is on Sunday 19 August. Arrival is 10am for 10:30am. Presentations, Meditation and Mass. BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided. Books and DVDs available for purchase. Registration on arrival. Voluntary Donation to the monks. Day closes around 3pm. Accommodation may be available at the monastery guest house ring: Br Terry 0438 282 318. Enquires: Ann Lomas 9653 2637

## Vinnies Western Sydney Sleepout

This August Vinnies will bring business and community representatives together with the local community to help prevent homelessness. You can help too! Registrations are now open for Catholic parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains to help make a significant impact to the lives of people in need. You are invited to join the inaugural Vinnies Western Sydney Community Sleepout on 30 August to raise vital funds to help prevent homelessness in Western Sydney. We're asking each participant to have a target goal of \$500. Your Vinnies Conference members may have already raised this event with you. From 6pm on 30 August until 8am Friday 31 August 2018 at Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus. Details at [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)