

# Heartbeat

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FAMILY OF SACRED HEART PARISH



**Fr Kevin had many helpers at Oscar Barne's recent Baptism**

## Recent Baptisms:

- |                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Alexander MacKenzie | Dustin Bulman                 |
| Emily Donaldson     | Marlee Hutchins               |
| Levi Mee            | Timothy Schischka             |
| Kruze French        | Alfred Sellwood               |
| Hugo Lindhe         | Harriet Hannaford             |
| Skylar Lane         | Eve Pigott                    |
| Tiana Dineley       | Cruz Teesdale                 |
| Boston Planith      | Evie Logue                    |
| Aurora Birney       | Jessica Ward                  |
| Isabelle Nelson     | Isabelle Klein                |
| Jack Lethbridge     | Ariana Portsmouth             |
| Billie Lieschke     | Sophie McAuliffe              |
| Noah Willis         | Fletcher Michael              |
| Maeve Bryant        | Keira Davis                   |
| Emma Gray           | Oscar Winston-Johannes Barnes |

## Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be led by Bishop Hanna and celebrated on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm**. Congratulations to all the children being Confirmed.



## A Spring Blessing

*(from The Circle of Life Joyce Rupp & Macrina Wiederkehr)*

"Blessed are you, spring, bright season of life awakening.  
 You gladden our hearts with opening buds and  
 returning leaves  
 As you put on your robes of splendor.  
 Blessed are you, spring.  
 In you is a life no death can destroy.  
 As you exchange places with winter you harbor no  
 unforgiving spirit  
 For broken tree limbs and frozen buds.  
 Blessed are you, spring. You open the closed buds of  
 our despair  
 As you journey with us to the flowering places.  
 Blessed are you, spring. You invite us to sing songs  
 To the frozen regions within and to bless the lessons  
 of winter  
 As we become your partner in a new dance.  
 Blessed are you, spring.  
 Like Jesus, standing before the tomb of Lazarus,  
 You call to us: "Remove winter's stone, come out, there is  
 life here you have not yet tasted."  
 Blessed are you, spring, free gift of the earth.  
 Without cost we gaze upon your glory.  
 You are a gospel of good news for the poor and rich alike.  
 Blessed are you, spring. Your renewing rain showers and  
 cathartic storms  
 Nurture the potential that sleeps in Earth's heart and in  
 our own earthen hearts.  
 Blessed are you, spring, season of resurrection, sacrament  
 of promise.  
 Like Jesus you rise up out of the darkness, leaving around  
 you a wake of new life.  
 Blessed are you, spring, miracle child of the four seasons.  
 With your wand of many colors you work magic in the  
 corners of our darkness.  
 Blessed are you, spring, season of hope and renewal.  
 Wordless poem about all within us that can never die.  
 Each year you amaze us with the miracle of returning life."

*... shared by Sr Anne*



*Sacred Heart Parish, North Albury, pays respect to the Wiradjuri people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledge with respect elders past and present.*

## WYD (World Youth Day) Pilgrims

Three Pilgrims from Sacred Heart Parish, North Albury, together with others from the Wagga Wagga Diocese, have embarked on a 23-day Rome to Budapest Pilgrimage which includes: three nights in Rome, 'Days in the Diocese' in Gliwice, Poland, WYD Week in Krakow and a post WYD retreat in Budapest. They departed Melbourne on Friday 15 July and will arrive back in Australia on Saturday 6 August.

So that you can follow their journey and keep them in your prayers they have posted their full itinerary around the Church notice boards. The itinerary is also available online: Type the following search terms into your search engine: **WYD Wagga Wagga 2016.**

We so look forward to hearing about their pilgrimage.



**Our WYD Pilgrims departing from Sacred Heart:  
Ellie Mitsch, Kate Nyhan and Jessica Mitsch**



### Official Pilgrim Prayer for World Youth Day Krakow 2016

God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman.

We entrust to you in a special way young people of every language, people and nation: guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits from their experience of the Krakow World Youth Day.

Heavenly Father,  
grant that we may bear witness to your mercy.  
Teach us how to convey the faith to those in doubt, hope to those who are discouraged, love to those who feel indifferent, forgiveness to those who have done wrong and joy to those who are unhappy.

Allow the spark of merciful love that you have enkindled within us become a fire that can transform hearts and renew the face of the earth.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, pray for us.

Saint John Paul II, pray for us.

Saint Faustina, pray for us.

### Did you know you can view a Papal Audience from the comfort of your own home?

While we are on the subject of pilgrimages, having recently visited St Peter's for a free public Papal Audience and witnessed the joy of Pope Francis moving through the huge crowds on the Pope-Mobile, I have since discovered that all those Papal Audience messages are available online. As well as reading the Papal message in English, you can also watch a video of Pope Francis from the moment he enters St Peter's Square until the morning's final blessing. Sharing with thousands of other pilgrims for a Papal Audience in St Peter's Square is a very moving and wonderful experience, one I will cherish for a long time. Nevertheless, I was able to see more of the Papal Audience on YouTube than I did on that sweltering June morning in St Peter's Square.

#### Information about Papal Audiences:

<http://www.papalaudience.org/>

#### Transcripts of Papal messages:

- in your Web browser enter: [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)
- at the top right hand corner of the website, select: *English*
- select from the menu options on the left including: Audiences; Messages; Speeches or Daily Meditations

When attending Mass in different languages we used a smartphone **Missal App** (application) to follow the readings in English. There are several Missal (and Bible) Apps available and once downloaded these Apps **do not** require Wi-Fi to access the readings. I currently use an App developed in Bowral, which includes the Australian feast days, and is still accessible via a web search for:

*Missal Catholic Bowral*

*iMissal* is a newer, more expensive, release available from the various App stores.

... Kathy

## Mercy: A Way of Being in the World

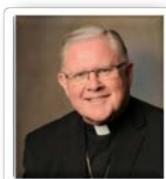
The eConference for this year is Mercy: A Way of Being in the World. This commemorates the Jubilee Year of Mercy and explores Pope Francis' invitation to explore this central element of our Faith.

The details for this event are as follows:

- Topic:** Mercy: A Way of Being in the World  
**Date:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September  
**Time:** 10.30am – 2.45pm  
**Venue:** Slattery Catholic Centre Albury (beside St Patrick's Church)  
(Tea & coffee will be provided but you are invited to bring your own lunch)



The speakers for this eConference are:



**Archbishop Mark Coleridge** (Archbishop of Brisbane and member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications) who will speak on Pope Francis' vision and dream of Mercy in our Church and the world and Leaving Space for Mercy: the Sermon on the Mount.



**Sr Veronica Lawson RSM** (Scripture scholar and author of the highly praised book, *The Blessing of Mercy*) who will address Leaving Space for Mercy: A Hebrew Perspective and Leaving Space for Mercy: A Lucan perspective.



**Phil Glendenning** (Director of the Edmund Rice Centre and President of the Refugee Council of Australia) who talk about *The Cry of the Poor*, the Cry of the Earth.

### Social Justice Statement 2016-2017

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place at the Table: Social Justice in an ageing society'.

This Statement celebrates the value, dignity and significant contributions of older people to the life of the community. In solidarity with all generations, older people have a rightful place in the heart of community life. The Bishops confront the utilitarianism in our society that values people only for what they produce and contribute economically and that, at worst, can regard older people as burdensome or dispensable. In a society in which older people are being asked to work beyond the traditional retirement age, the Bishops call for the benefits of work to be shared equitably. We must be especially aware of the needs of those who enter retirement in poverty or are particularly vulnerable to economic hardship, social isolation or exploitation.

The Bishops consider the circumstances of those who are approaching the end of their lives and warn of the loneliness, ageism and abuse that older people can experience. In particular, the Bishops warn about implications of the current community debate on euthanasia.

The Bishops call for communities of mercy and love—where people reach out and minister to vulnerable older people, where bonds between generations are built up and where no one is cast as being a burden or as rivals to younger generations.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website:

[www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

... from Sr Anne



## Ray and Margaret Gawen ... in conversation with Nicola Hanzic

*What a dreary day it was as I drove to visit Ray and Margaret - rain was teeming down, great for the gardens but not a good sign for Albury Race Day. As I entered the Gawen's home I reached a place of fascination as there was much to absorb. So many nooks and crannies to explore and so much greenery outside wanting to enter the house.*

During the course of our conversation I found out that Ray and Margaret had met quite by chance in Broken Hill. At the time Margaret was working in a government school in Blacktown, Sydney. For the September school holidays of 1966, she, with her friend, her sister and two younger brothers, drove to Broken Hill as part of a touring holiday. On a Sunday night the girls decided to attend a dance at the YCW (Young Catholic Workers Club), a wholesome social event.

As it happened, Ray, a local, changed his usual quiet Sunday night routine and went to the same dance. He met Margaret there and the rest is history. A whirlwind courtship followed and they were married in St Joseph's Church in Orange in April 1967. (Margaret grew up in a small place called Nashdale which is close by.) During the honeymoon I am told that Ray's dad and brothers continued the renovations of a small, furnished, miner's cottage that they had recently bought as their first home.

Ray was first employed by the Local Council in Broken Hill. After nine years he moved to Rio Tinto's Zinc Corporation mine. His five years with Rio included a year of the exploration stage of the Bougainville copper mine. It was fortunate that Margaret was employed by the NSW Department of Education because in those days the private sector was not permitted to employ married women especially in unionised towns like Broken Hill. I had forgotten about this fact. How times have changed.

Margaret and Ray had their first two children, Catherine and Gregory, whilst living in Broken Hill. By 1969 greener pastures beckoned. Over the years the family had spent time caravanning in Victoria and inland NSW searching for a spot where they would like to settle. They relocated to Albury in 1969 - it had a river, green hills, mountains, and educational and social opportunities. In July 1969 Ray was employed by a local private accountancy practice and the Gawens made their new home in North Albury, where they still live.

In 1972 Ray became the Accountant at the Border Mail and remained in that position until his retirement from full time work in 1995. Ray then worked casually for a truck repair business for five years before retiring from paid work entirely.

Ray and Margaret have never regretted the move to Albury. It is always hard

becoming a part of any new community but once they became members of Sacred Heart Parish they were quickly absorbed into and supported by the community both spiritually and through the ties of friendship. Consequently, when their next two children, Lyndal and Ben were born, Margaret in particular found that she had people to turn to for both assistance and companionship. Margaret and Ray became very involved with the opportunities offered by the Wagga Diocese in the 1970's, such as, MBTI® (Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®), Cursillo and Marriage Encounter. Ongoing involvement with their Family Group continues to nourish them. Life time friendships were formed.

In time Margaret returned to teaching with the Department of Education as a relief teacher. A move to a full-time permanent teaching position at



*(continued on page 5)*

**Ray and Margaret Gawen ... (ctd)**

Aquinas (soon to become Xavier High School) in 1981 began her 9 year adventure of teaching Music, English, History and Education in Faith. In 1989, Margaret changed direction and took up the position of Co-ordinator of Family Link, a HACC funded service to provide respite care for young people with disabilities, a position she held for the next 10 years.

The recreational focus for their growing family and friends during the 17 years from 1983 was regular visits to "Leafyvale", a small property in the Upper Murray closer to the river, hills and mountains.

The year 2000 heralded a new century and a new direction for Ray and Margaret – retirement from paid work. The "empty nest" had arrived and "Leafyvale" was sold. They had a son in Albury and a son in Qld, siblings and friends in every state, a caravan in the drive as well as 2 daughters and friends living overseas. Staying home was not an

option, and over the next 10 years many privileged opportunities were enjoyed, both in Australia and overseas.

Since 2011 involvements have become more locally focused: for Margaret - book clubs, warm water exercising, ongoing refugee support; for Ray - table tennis, St Vincent de Paul; and for both - music, bird watching, and continued family involvement.

*It was a delight being able to chat with Ray and Margaret. It is obvious that they have settled down happily into retirement and have much to occupy them. They are fortunate in that Gregory and his wife Sharon, Lyndal and her husband Anthony, Ben and his wife Cherie together with their children live in Albury. Their daughter Catherine now lives with her husband Pierre and their two boys in Perth. Highlights for Margaret and Ray today are family gatherings as well as continued membership of the Sacred Heart Parish community. Nicola*

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT**

**from our Chair, Justin Clancy**

The year for the current Parish Pastoral Council is quickly drawing to a close. Over the past 12 months there have been significant renovations in the Church with newly installed carpet, and the beautiful wood work to adorn the Sanctuary. We are fortunate to have these generous contributions to our Church environment.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10 August 2016, in the Parish Hall. May I encourage you to please consider contributing to our Parish life by being involved on the Pastoral Council. If not Pastoral Council, please give thought to how you might be able to assist in our Parish – whether it is through an active role as Lector or Eucharistic Minister, in out-reach, helping as a counter, in the garden or at working bees, or in any number of different ways – your assistance is most welcome. Please feel welcome to speak to either myself, Fr Kevin or any of the current Pastoral Council.

I would also like to take the opportunity to give my sincere thanks to the current members of the Pastoral Council, who give their time generously. Finally, my thanks and appreciation to our wonderful Pastor, Fr Kevin – and our prayers for a speedy recovery and best wishes for your upcoming birthday.

.... Justin

**Read *Heartbeat* in larger print size.**

**With Internet access  you can magnify the online pdf versions of Heartbeat and our weekly Mass Bulletins, at:**

**<http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>**

**For further information or help, contact the Parish Office.**

Our ***Heartbeat Newsletter*** always needs new volunteers to: contribute articles on a regular (or irregular) basis; help with formatting, editing, proof reading; or taking photos whenever something special is happening in our Parish, which seems to be most weekends. If you would like to be involved, please leave your name and contact details at the Parish Office. Thanks to all current Heartbeat volunteers.



# St Anne's School News ... from Liz Johnston (Principal)

It's difficult to believe that we've passed the half way mark of the year. Term 2 was a very busy term in all aspects of school life. It began with a Whole System Conference in Wagga. All staff from every Diocesan school were present- both Primary and Secondary. The theme of the Conference, "Nourish 2 Thrive" had the focus of our wellbeing- spiritual, emotional and physical, and the importance this plays in providing the perfect learning environment for the students we teach. This was an extremely worthwhile experience providing us with many wonderful insights.

Many students and staff attended the ANZAC Day March in Dean St. Attendance was strong and it allowed us to join as a school community, showing our thanks and respect to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country. After the march I had the pleasure of attending the Ceremony at the Monument where our School Captains, proudly and reverently, laid a wreath on behalf of our school community.



On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May we held a wonderful celebration for Mother's Day. The day began with a barbecue breakfast for our mothers. Throughout the morning there were over 300 meals served! Following our breakfast we celebrated Mass in our Hall and showed our appreciation for our mums and all special women in our lives. The Kinder children then held a beautiful celebration in their classroom, sharing the story of Koala Lou, followed by a short iMovie where each child shared a thought about their mum. The children finished off with a song "These Hands." It was lovely to see so many mums, grandmas and special ladies share the day with us.



During Week 5 our FUNdraising committee held a very successful Walkathon.

Not only was this a great fundraiser, it was a great opportunity for everyone in our school community to get together, exercise and have some fun together.



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June saw us celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart and Flanagan Day which was a delightful experience. The day began with Mass in our Church where we were able to celebrate our Parish and acknowledge the amazing work of Father Kevin. Kevin is always so giving of his time and an endless support and contributor to our parish and school communities. As we all know he is such a loyal, inclusive and proud leader of our communities and we are so blessed to have his guidance- a big thank-you Father Kevin! Term 2 was also a special term in the Sacramental lives of our students. During Week 8 our Year 3 students received their First Communion and during Week 9, the Year 2 students celebrated their First Reconciliation. Presently our Year 6 students are preparing for their Confirmation. This Sacrament will be led by Bishop Hanna and celebrated on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm. Please keep all of these students in your prayers.

During the term I had the opportunity to visit the smaller schools in the south west of the Diocese and witness the great work that is happening in these communities. A highlight for me was visiting Father Kevin's hometown of Tocumwal and the Church where his faith journey began many years ago. There has been recent renovations in the Church and a magnificent stained glass window installed (pictured), which was donated by Father Kevin's family.

**Liz**





# Studies of Religion Study Day at Xavier High School

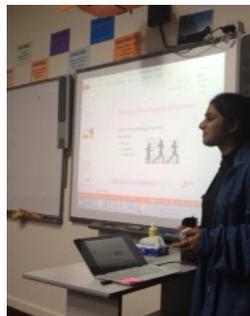


Senior students at Xavier High School were privileged to host representatives from the Islamic Sciences & Research Academy Australia (ISRA) on Tuesday, 26th July, 2016. These Year 11 and 12 students are completing the Studies of Religion course, which promotes an understanding and critical awareness of the nature and significance of religion and the influence of belief systems and religious traditions on individuals and within society.



As part of their studies, Year 11 students explore the origins, principal beliefs, sacred texts and writings, core ethical teachings and personal devotion/expression of faith/observance of Islam. In the HSC course, students examine significant people and ideas, ethical teachings in the religious tradition about bioethics or environmental ethics or sexual ethics, and significant practices in the life of adherents.

As part of their studies, Year 11 students explore the origins, principal beliefs, sacred texts and writings, core ethical



The guests from ISRA shared their knowledge and insights on course content including the Five Pillars of Islam, the true meaning of 'Jihad', Environmental Ethics and the principal beliefs of Islam.

The students commented on the value of the day, stating that the presentations helped to deepen their understanding of Islam as a living, dynamic religious tradition, whilst dispelling many misconceptions and misunderstandings of Muslim life.

We wish these students every success as they approach their upcoming examinations and feel confident that the future of our society will be shaped by young people who are tolerant and respectful of religious diversity, and welcome opportunities to promote interfaith dialogue and cooperation.



Ed Brown, *Religious Education Coordinator, Xavier High School, Albury*

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