



To be on earth the Heart of God

KIT @ Kippax



Thank you to Colleen Reed who embroidered the aprons worn by Marian, Maria, Helen and Sharon.

Time out for reflection

In 1990, a group of distinguished scientists, including the late Carl Sagan and physicist Freeman Dyson, wrote a letter appealing to the world's spiritual leaders, stating, "We are close to committing "crimes against creation." Unless we undergo significant changes, the scientists wrote, we are headed for a significant crisis. Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, on Care for Our Common Home, is an effort to articulate a theological praxis on environmental concerns. Global warming, water scarcity, loss of biodiversity and other declining factors, according to the Pope, indicate that we cannot sustain a first-world lifestyle without succumbing to severe losses. Our planet is in danger of irreparable damage and the poor bear the brunt of the declining biosphere. To continue our consumer lifestyles will comprise planetary life for future generations.

Creation flows from the heart of God in which every creature expresses God in some way. God's love is the "fundamental moving force in all created things" (LS para. 77). The world is created as a means of God's self-revelation so that, like a mirror or footprint, it might lead us to love and praise the Creator. Pope Francis posits a metaphysics of relationship grounded in divine love. We are not simply human beings; we are inter-beings and share in the interrelatedness of all cosmic life. He writes: "Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage,

woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth" (LS para. 92).

This world is not merely a plurality of unrelated things but a true unity, a cosmos, centred in Christ who is the purpose of this universe and the model of what is intended for this

universe, union and transformation in God. The reason for Christ, and hence creation, is love.

Everyone and everything belongs to the Body of Christ. The church does not exist for itself; it exists for the life of the world. The mission of the Church is the personalisation of divine love at the heart of cosmic life.

Laudato Si' challenges a selfish world of disconnectedness by calling all people to a new world of interrelatedness. Can the Church model the very principles it promotes: mutual relatedness, inclusivity, interdependence, dignity of all peoples, shared resources and responsibilities where all creatures, male and female, are united together as brothers and sisters, woven together in the love of God?

Unless we change the way we think and pray, we will not change the way we act.

Ilia Delio OFM

An excerpt from: *The Radical Call of Laudato Si'*, by Ilia Delio OFM

You can access the full article at the link below.

<https://www.laudatosirevolution.org/laudato-si-reflections/>



CANTICLE OF THE CREATURES

St Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,
Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honour, and all blessing.

To You alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour;
and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,
through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night,
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains and governs us,
and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your
love, and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace
for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.
Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks
and serve Him with great humility.

Editor's Note

The month of May was a busy time of coming and goings in the parish office. Fr. Kimi attended the MSC Provincial Conference held at Kensington from the 16–20 May. Fr. Michael attended the Archdiocese's Clergy Assembly at Galong from the 16–18 May. He then jetted off to India on 20 May for a months leave with his family. I also had a day trip to Sydney on the 20 May for a MSC Parishes Committee meeting. All of these gatherings were very productive and we trust will bear fruit for our parish in the future.

Our parish also celebrated the Sacrament of the Sick at a healing mass on Friday 27 May. Photos of the lunch which followed the mass are included in this edition of KIT on page 9.

There were two noteworthy events during May – one promulgated by the Church and the other by Government.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 22–29 May
Listening and Journeying Together

RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 May–3 June
Be Brave. Make Change.

Both these events overlap in time and in their themes.

Listening and Journeying Together, is guided by the following quote from Pope Francis,

Bringing the human family together to protect our common home (Laudato Si' 13).

Be Brave. Make Change. is a challenge to all Australians – individuals, families, communities, organisations, and government – to **Be Brave** and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can **Make Change** for the benefit of all Australians.

Our parish will address these challenges as we continue to develop our Reconciliation Church Action Plan [CAP].

Someone said to me during the month that we are having a "Jubilee Year" and with more events planned to celebrate our 50 years it certainly feels like a "Jubilee Year".

Upcoming celebrations are:

- **Friday 24 June** Feast of the Sacred Heart...see page 13
- **Friday 21 October** Jules Chevalier msc Day
- **Tuesday 27 December** Feast of St John the Apostle

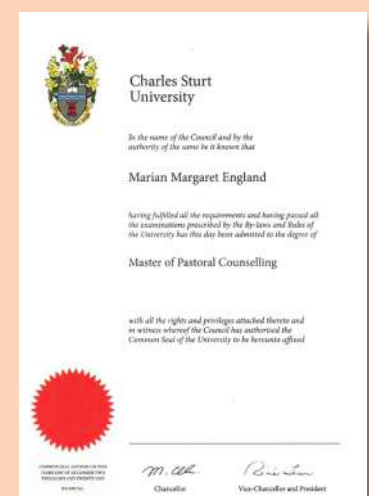
I am pleased to advise that I completed my Master of Pastoral Counselling course in 2021. My degree was awarded on 3 December 2021. The graduation ceremony was held this month on 2 May. As the ceremony was held at the Bathurst NSW campus of Charles Sturt University on a Monday I did not attend the ceremony.

I would like to thank all of the parishioners who supported and prayed for me during the four years of the course. I particularly would like to thank all of the parishioners who volunteered to be counselees for my practicum last year. I would also like to thank the group of woman who agreed to be filmed for a group session for my practicum. Without all of you the practicum would not have been possible in COVID times.

Finally, I would like to thank the parish office team. Fr. Kimi, Fr. Michael, Sharon and Fr. Gerard who were there for all or part of the journey. They shared in my joys, worries and procrastinations.

With thanks and blessings,

Marian



Marking our 50-year Jubilee with a new Altar Cloth



Elvira McCann has gifted our parish with a hand stitched altar cloth to mark our 50th Jubilee year. This is a priceless gift as the dollar value would be difficult to calculate given the painstaking hours it took to create it.

Not only is this a material gift but it is a gift of self. Elvi said stitching the cloth took her to a meditative space and so her prayer and love for St John the Apostle Parish has been woven into every stitch. Ironically the type of stitching is called 'hardanger', which has been transformed into something truly beautiful.

*Thank you Elvi for this
most generous gift.*

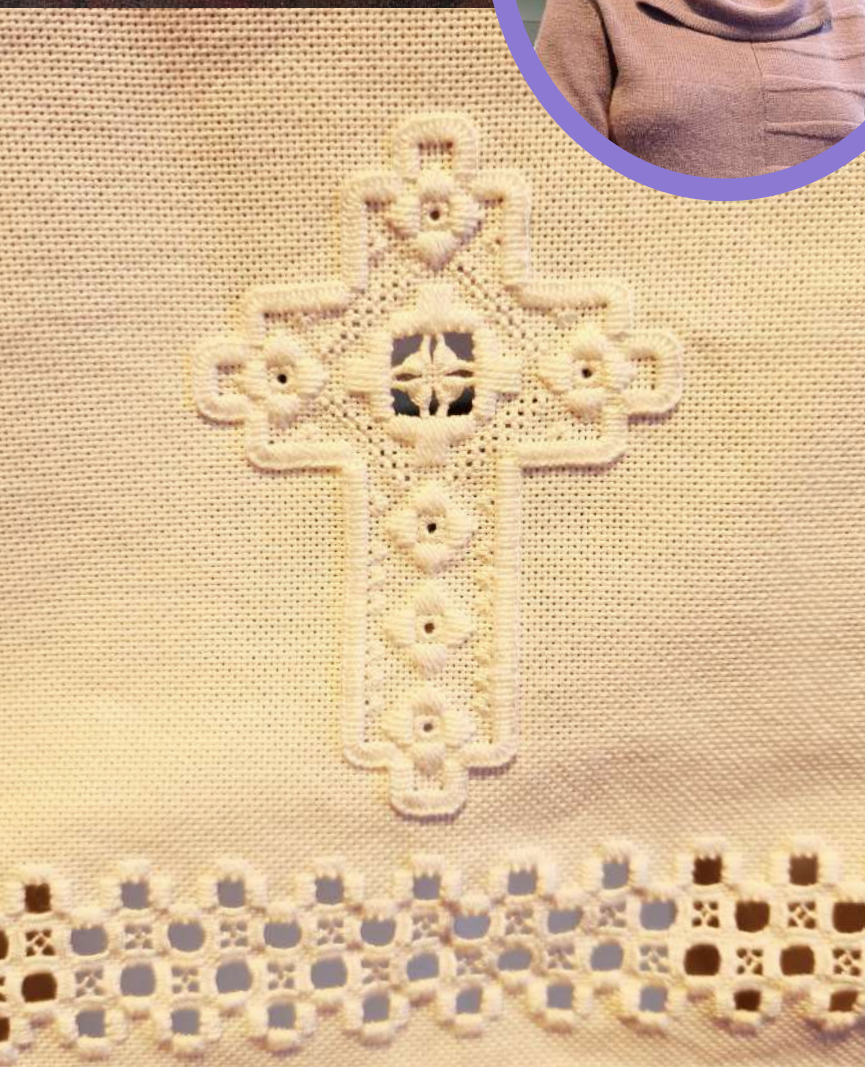
In her own words Elvi describes the stitching and her efforts in creating this lovely altar cloth:

I started the cloth around mid-July 2021 after preparing it with some guide lines and starting the kloster blocks along the length of the cloth. I stitched around 4 to 5 hours most days right through until I finished all the stitching which included Kloster blocks, needle weaving bars, dove's eye, satin stitch, eyelets, buttonhole stitch, Maltese crosses (or Greek crosses depending on who's book of instructions you follow) and back stitch picot with open-sided square stitch. I had a 15-day stint in hospital followed shortly after by nearly a month of no stitching after spinal surgery and recovery period.

I finished the cloth in early April 2022 and presented it to St. John's Parish in May. I think I probably did around 1000 hours of stitching not even counting the weeks where I couldn't stitch.

I used almost 4 skeins of cotton Perle 8 and about the same of cotton Perle 12.

The cloth will be blessed and used for the first time at the mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart – Friday 24 June 2022.



my STORY

The Missing Key

Mary French

The black bridal car, bedecked with white satin ribbon, paused at the top of God-Help-Us-Hill, its occupants gazing in perplexity at the scene in the distance.

There were only a few buildings nestling in the valley: the local store-cum-post office-cum-petrol station on the corner of the main road, a few sheds and, up the side road – just a dirt track leading into the bush – the small weatherboard church of St Canice.

This was the object of their attention.

The bride knew they were a little late but it hadn't worried her – aren't all brides expected to be so? In fact she had been ready on time but it was her dear father who had held them up. Even on his eldest daughter's wedding day the cows still had to be milked and the separating done. But he had really tried to be on time for her and they were only a few minutes behind schedule. For timing was a more important factor in the proceedings than might usually be the case because, after the wedding, there was a 40km drive to the reception. And the reception, as a special favour, had been squeezed into the afternoon before a larger function early that evening.

But from the car they could now see that the wedding guests were still gathered outside the church! The fact that the bride was a few minutes late was now completely irrelevant for this was obviously not the moment for her to make her appearance!

Her father suggested to their driver that he turn off the engine while they waited to see what would eventuate. He did so and they watched and waited and wondered. Wondered what was happening? Wondered why hadn't the guests gone in?

Well, what *was* happening was that no one *could* get in! The church was locked! It was all because Mary O'Reilly had taken a holiday for the first time in her life! She was the caretaker of the little church and, each week, she and her sisters, Annie and Aggie, cleaned and cared for the building and arranged fresh flowers for the Sunday Mass. Mary possessed one of only two keys to the place.

And she had accidentally taken it away with her in her handbag!

The other key was kept at the main parish church some distance away. Normally this would have been no problem, for the parish priest would have automatically brought the second key with him – but he happened to be away as well and the relief priest had been told nothing about bringing the key. It would take an hour for him to go there and back for it. And the timing was so vital!

What was to be done? There was much discussion. Both doors and the windows were checked but found to be, as one would have hoped in normal circumstances, securely fastened. No one dared break in through one of the lovely stained glass windows nor force open a door.

Suddenly the bridegroom had a brainwave!

He suggested that before the priest went back all that way for the key each of the guests try any likely keys on their own key rings to see if one happened to fit?

So that is what they did. As the occupants of the bridal car waited, watched and wondered up the top of the hill, one after another, the guests tried their keys in the lock.

Key after key was produced but to no avail. Things were looking grim. Finally it was the turn of the bridegroom who had been standing quietly aside. He took out his keys and tried the one to the front door of his home – the home to which he would soon take his new bride – and it fitted! A miracle! He pushed open the door and a loud cheer rang out!

The guests moved into the church – beautifully decorated by Mary O'Reilly before she went away – and settled into their pews with relief. The priest went into the sacristy to change into his vestments and the driver of the sleek black car up on God-Help-us-Hill started his engine and the vehicle slid down the road to the church.

And the bride was only twenty minutes late on that happy occasion fifty 58 years ago in August!

VINNIES CONFERENCE FAREWELLS THREE MEMBERS



Tom Halloran, Colin Fox and Ted Kildea



Conference members and friends farewell Tom, Colin and Ted

On Saturday 12 February this year, Vinnies members gathered for a morning tea to farewell three of their members – Colin Fox, Ted Kildea and Tom Halloran. These three extraordinary men donated their time and talents over many years to make a difference in the lives of numerous individuals and families struggling because of poverty or marginalisation.

Each has made a special contribution to the Conference. Ted was Treasurer for many years, a job which he made his own and which he took very seriously. Tom was Conference Secretary for a few years, recording the minutes at meetings and distributing them to members before the next meeting. Colin coordinated the Doorknock for several years with optimism and enthusiasm, despite the increasing challenge of attracting volunteer doorknockers.

Tom and Colin joined Vinnies in 2006. They provided 15 years of service to the community through the Society. Ted's service is longer with periods of membership in Adelaide, Melbourne and at Kippax, amounting to almost 40 years. Members will miss Ted's jokes and stories and reports on his journey to master the Society's finance system. The Conference will miss Tom's wisdom and wit and his theological insights into issues raised during our spiritual reflections. Colin's enthusiasm and dedication to the work of Vinnies, especially to the annual doorknock, will be missed by members.

Tom, Ted and Colin are three generous persons, who gave their time and skills to help those less fortunate than themselves. They wouldn't have been able to do

that without the generous support of their families, especially their wives. Members thanked Cynthia, Pauline and Mary for supporting their husbands in their work with Vinnies.

To acknowledge their years of service to the Society of St Vincent de Paul and to the poor and marginalised in our community each member was presented with a certificate of service on behalf of the Society.

The formal part of the morning tea ended with the following thoughtful and inspiring words from Mother Teresa, which echo loudly in each of the retiring Vincentians:

*It is not how much we do, but how much love we put into the doing.
It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into the giving.*

THINKING OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH VINNIES?

If you would like to learn more about Conference work with the Society of St Vincent de Paul, then we would be happy to talk with you. Please call Mike on 0419 818410. The Conference meets fortnightly on Monday evenings at 7:30pm in our room at the back of the Parish Centre. Our main work is home visitation. Members provide various forms of assistance to people in need who call the Society's helpline. Home visits are conducted each week from Tuesday to Friday or Saturday. It is rewarding work.

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM MIKE
MICHAEL.BLYTH@FOURSCENES.COM.AU OR 0419 818 410



THURSDAY 23 JUNE 2022

*Ted Kell is embarking on his 10th and final
Vinnies Sleepout*

DONATE click on the link

<https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/donation>

I would like to sponsor:

© CEO

Ted Kell (Pain Pod Australia)



Ted has raised just under \$30,000. His goal in his final year is to raise \$10,000. Bringing his total to \$40,000. What a way to go out!!

*Sleep out.
Change lives.*

Anointing Mass

On Friday 27 May around 50 people attended the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. This Sacrament celebrates our faith in the healing touch of Christ in our lives. In the Sacrament, we pray that the sick person be healed in body, soul, and spirit. The Sacrament offers forgiveness and healing.

Approximately 36 people attended the lunch which followed the mass.



The next and final Anointing of the Sick mass for 2022 is scheduled for 30 September.



May Baptisms

We welcome into the SJA Community of the Body of Christ the following children baptised during the month of April.

Eve Craven

Daughter of Leah and Daniel

Samuel Lai

Son of Jenna and Timothy

Francisco Bailie

Son of Ana and Scott

Bonnie Wheatley

Daughter of Jennifer and Luke



Francisco Bailie



Bonnie Wheatley

First Holy Communion

Oz Haureliuk



PENTECOST

COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

Pentecost is one of the seven Major “Lord’s Feasts” In the Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, Pentecost is considered to be the highest ranking Great Feast of the Lord, second in rank only to Pascha (Easter). The service is celebrated with an All-night Vigil on the eve of the feast day, and the Divine Liturgy on the day of the feast itself. Orthodox churches are often decorated with greenery and flowers on this feast day, and the celebration is intentionally similar to the Jewish holiday of Shavuot, which celebrates the giving of the Mosaic Law.

The feast itself lasts three days. The first day is known as “Trinity Sunday”; the second day is known as “Spirit Monday” (or “Monday of the Holy Spirit”); and the third day, Tuesday, is called the “Third Day of the Trinity.” The After feast of Pentecost lasts for one week, during which fasting is not permitted, even on Wednesday and Friday. In the Orthodox Tradition, the liturgical colour used at Pentecost is green, and the clergy and faithful carry flowers and green branches in their hands during the services.

All of the remaining days of the ecclesiastical year, until the preparation for the next Great Lent, are named for the day after Pentecost on which they occur (for example, the 13th Tuesday After Pentecost).

The Orthodox icon of the feast depicts the Twelve Apostles seated in a semicircle (sometimes the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) is shown sitting in the centre of them). At the top of the icon, the Holy Spirit, in the form of tongues of fire, is descending upon them. At the bottom is an allegorical figure, called Kosmos, which symbolizes the world. Although Kosmos is crowned with earthly glory, he sits in the darkness caused by the ignorance of God. He is holding a towel on which have been placed 12 scrolls, representing the teaching of the Twelve Apostles.



5 by 5 Rule

When something gets you down, you are told to ask yourself a series of questions.

- Will it matter in five hours?
- Will it matter in five days?
- Will it matter in five months or five years?

If the answer is no, don't spend more than five minutes being upset, and move on.



Submitted by Graham Erickson

A little lamb

One bright and balmy summer's day
a little lamb went out to play.
He watched the butterflies and the bees
and drank the flower-scent on the breeze.



And then he heard a skylark sing
its song of joy on the wing;
he watched it as it soared on high
and made its music in the sky.

He wondered if a lamb like him
could fly and do the selfsame thing –
he leaped and bleated high and low
but found, alas! It was no go.

And ever since, this lamb has found
life's so much nicer on the ground.
"I'll be myself now come what may:
a lamb forever and a day!"

EAMONN MURTAGH



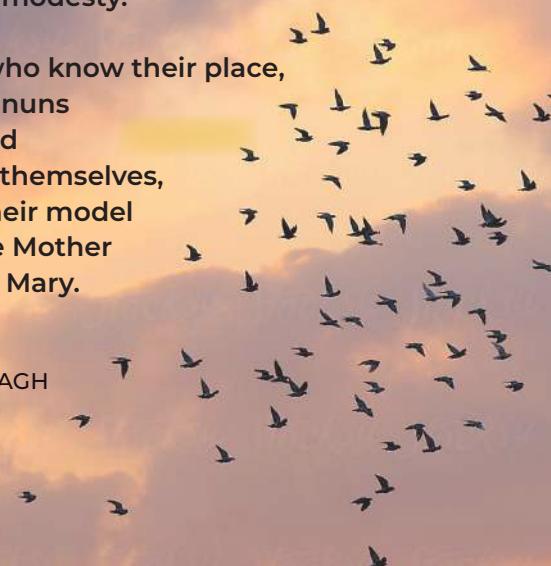
Creatures who know their place

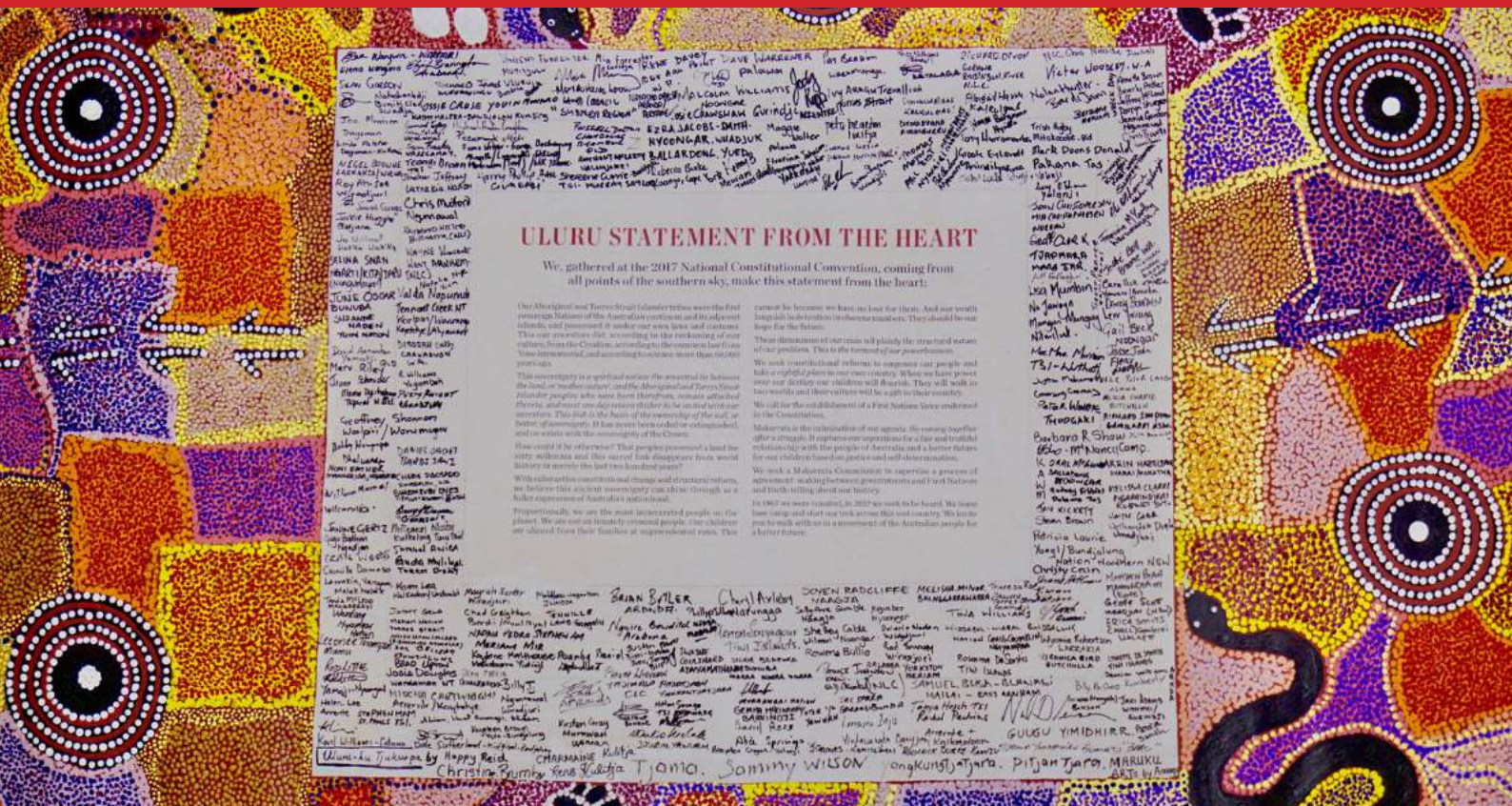
Some people
are like distant birds
in a painting,
faint lines
in the blue sky
of this world's background.

In the West's
karaoke of words,
they are silence.
Far from the catwalk,
they are shrouded in the
garment of modesty.

Creatures who know their place,
monks and nuns
who put God
well before themselves,
taking as their model
their serene Mother
and Queen, Mary.

SHANE MURTAGH





Faith leaders endorse Uluru Statement

The Catholic Church has joined other faith groups to declare their support for an Indigenous voice in the Constitution. Source: The Oz.

The Catholic, Uniting and Anglican churches, the Australian National Council of Imams and the Executive Council of Australian Jewry will today join Australian Sikhs, Buddhists, Hindus, and the National Council of Churches at Barangaroo in Sydney to endorse the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

I am personally moved by the deep yearning expressed in the Statement from the Heart, and I am so encouraged that faith leaders have offered a response from the heart of their own spiritual traditions.

MELBOURNE ARCHBISHOP PETER A. COMENSOLI

“My hope is simply that Catholics will be inspired by Jesus to join the hard work of finding constitutional recognition of the voice of first peoples into our Parliament, and that reconciliation will find new energy and witness at this moment in history,” he said.

Anglican Archbishop of Sydney Kanishka Raffel said he welcomed the commitment of the new government to implementing the Uluru Statement from the Heart “and look forward to that process unfolding in coming months.”

Uluru campaigners say the endorsement is an unprecedented push by multicultural Australia towards a referendum. They believe it demonstrates the proposal for an enshrined voice can bring Australians together and can unite groups across the community.

The faith leaders’ decision to press the new Labor Government to proceed with a referendum comes on the anniversary of the successful 1967 referendum that allowed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be counted in the census.

FULL STORY

[Leading from the heart](http://www.stjohnkippax.org.au/index.php?page=uluru-statement-from-the-heart)

(By Paige Taylor, The Oz)

From Cath News 27 May 2022

The Uluru Statement from the Heart can be accessed at the following link

<http://www.stjohnkippax.org.au/index.php?page=uluru-statement-from-the-heart>

Submitted by Sabina Van Rooy

Friday
24 June



MASS
OF THE
SACRED
HEART

10am

Followed by

High Tea

which will be served
in the foyer

For catering purposes please RSVP

BY • 17 June 2022

Parish Office 6254 3236

kippax@cg.org.au

Friday
24 June

*Karaoke
and Dance*

6pm for
6:30pm

Soup, dinner and drinks
will be provided

Please bring a dessert
for supper

Join us
in the Parish Centre

REGISTER BY • 17 June 2022

**YOUR KARAOKE SONG
OR YOUR DANCE**

Parish Office 6254 3236

kippax@cg.org.au

FRIDAY 24 JUNE 2022

St John the Apostle Parish *Celebrating 50 years*



THE CHURCH AND THE SECOND PLENARY COUNCIL ASSEMBLY: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

A Forum of Concerned Catholics Canberra Goulburn

Thursday, 9 June, 7 for 7:30pm
Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton, ACT

The Second Assembly of the Plenary Council is imminent. Four major thought leaders of the Church in Australia offer unique perspectives on the questions arising. CCCG Chair, Emeritus Prof. John Warhurst AO will chair the forum on 9 June @ The Chapel at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. All are welcome.



Andrea Dean is President of WATAC (Women and the Australian Church) and formerly worked in national offices for Lay Pastoral Ministry and the Participation of Women.



Paul Collins is a church historian, writer and broadcaster who has been involved in church renewal for 45 years. He is the author of "Recovering the True Church"



Sr Clare Condon is former Congregational Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. She is a Plenary Council peritus (adviser).






Francis Sullivan is Chair of Catholic Social Services Australia and the Mater Group of hospitals. He was CEO of the Catholic Church's Truth Justice and Healing Council and is a Member of the Plenary Council.



CONTACT: Mark Metherell 0417 603 697

JUNE 2022



1	Wednesday	
2	Thursday	Adoration – Contemplative Prayer with the Blessed Sacrament 7:30pm – 8:30pm
3	Friday	Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library
4 & 5	Saturday Sunday	PENTECOST SUNDAY 
6	Monday	
7	Tuesday	
8	Wednesday	
9	Thursday	 Sacrament of Confirmation @ 5:30pm
10	Friday	Farewell Brian Green – Morning tea following the 9:30am mass Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library
11 & 12	Saturday Sunday	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY
13	Monday	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday Parish Office Closed 
14	Tuesday	
15	Wednesday	
16	Thursday	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting @ 7:30pm
17	Friday	Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library Men's Group @ 6:30pm – Parish Centre
18 & 19	Saturday Sunday	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST Sunday Afternoon Book Club – 3:00pm Parish Library
20	Monday	Sacrament of the Eucharist – Formation session for Parents 7:00pm – 8:30pm Parish Centre Pins & Needles @ 7:15pm – Parish Library
21	Tuesday	
22	Wednesday	
23	Thursday	FR. MICHAEL RETURNS FROM HOLIDAYS Liturgy Meeting @ 7:30am
24	Friday	 FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART Mass @ 10:00am followed by High Tea ANOINTING AFTER 10:00AM MASS Meditation @ 5:15pm – Parish Library KARAOKE AND DANCE 6:00 FOR 6:30PM PARISH CENTRE
25 & 26	Saturday Sunday	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
27	Monday	
28	Tuesday	Women's Breakfast @ 7:30am – Bean Origin Belconnen
29	Wednesday	SJA Friendship Group Mass @ 9:30am followed by morning tea
30	Thursday	