CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

“Madonna”
Artist: Richard Campbell

Mary -
First and most perfect Disciple

Catechist Newsletter Term Four 2002
MARY: WOMAN OF PEACE IN A VIOLENT WORLD

As I write this article, I am watching Israeli tanks systematically destroy the compound of Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, in Ramallah. I never cease to be shocked and amazed at the level of violence and inhumanity that often seems to characterize everyday life in the Middle East. One violent act (in this case, a suicide bombing) provokes another act of violence by the other side and so the cycle continues.

This newsletter is devoted to developing an understanding of Mary in contemporary Catholic teaching. We often think of Mary as a woman of great peace and serenity (in fact, one of her titles is Queen of Peace). Yet, this image needs to be viewed in the context of her life. As a wife and mother, Mary was no stranger to violence. In her world, violence existed on a number of different levels.

During her lifetime, Palestine was under the imperial rule of Rome. Rome violently suppressed any uprising against it (this was seen most dramatically in the Jewish War of AD 66-70). At the social level, though, Rome ruled by creating suspicion among its various subjects. Divide and rule was the strategy adopted by Rome. People were encouraged to “dob in” their neighbour as a means of maintaining control (and people were rewarded for doing so). This created a level of suspicion that made it difficult for people to trust one another.

At one level, the biblical account of the flight into Egypt and the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, reminds us that Mary also experienced the violence that every refugee experiences. Forced to flee her homeland, Mary, together with Joseph and the child Jesus sought to escape the violence of King Herod.

Finally, Mary had to endure the violence that every mother must dread. She watched on as her only son, a young man in the prime of his life, was tortured and publicly executed by the most excruciating method of all - crucifixion.

These three examples of violence that Mary encountered during her life are a testament to her strength and fortitude as a person. Many lesser persons would have become quite bitter at the cruel hand that fate had apparently visited upon her. Yet, Mary retained an incredible faith in her God. There is no record of her ever apportioning blame for what happened in her life or seeking recrimination of any kind.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas in 2002, I encourage catechists to move beyond the images that they find on sugary Christmas cards to recover something of the Mary that we find in Scripture. Since the Second Vatican Council, this has consistently been the Catholic approach to the scholarly study of Mary.

In the current political climate, there is no better advocate for the world to turn to than Mary, Queen of Peace. In her example, may we find the strength to realize that we are called upon to live peaceful lives together with our sisters and brothers (whatever their religious beliefs).

On behalf of the Confraternity, I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the contribution you have made to the provision of SRE for Catholic students in government schools. For those who are retiring or moving on to other ventures, we wish you well for the future. For those continuing in 2003, we look forward to working with you in the new year.

Have a happy and a holy Christmas.

PETER J. IVERS
DIRECTOR

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It was with great sadness that we learned Sr Mary Horan rsj had passed away peacefully on 27 July 2002. Some catechists would be aware that Sr Mary had been in poor health for a couple of years.

I will never forget the first time I met Sr Mary. Having just arrived from Rockhampton, a day had been organized at which I was to meet the staff of CCD- Sydney. To begin proceedings, I was invited to tell the staff something of my life story. This I did, including in the story my less-than-favourable treatment at the hands of some Josephite sisters when I was a young boy (not exactly beaten within an inch of my life, but close enough!) Consequently, I concluded, it has been very difficult for me to get very enthusiastic about Mary McKillop! Sr Mary was mortified! After we had finished for the day, we had a long and earnest chat in which she assured me that things had changed with the good sisters! Over the next few years, we became friends.

In the time I knew Mary, I was always touched by her incredible gentleness and sincerity. She really was a special person and the world is the poorer for her passing. Whilst she is most remembered for her work with CCD, she began her work at the Scheyville Migrant Centre. In fact, a real concern for the poor was always at the heart of Mary’s work as a Josephite. She then worked in CCD in Fairfield and Blacktown before moving to Miranda. At Miranda, she played a key role in the development of CCD in that area.

In many ways, Mary’s life story is interwoven with the story of CCD in the Archdiocese. Mary always remembered fondly her time in the West. It was here that the story of the modern CCD in Sydney really began (at least according to Fr Richard Dixon’s account of the organization. It is important, though, to also acknowledge the work carried out by other congregations such as the Sisters of Charity during this formative period). Cardinal Gilroy had only recently given a Charter to the Confraternity to commence operations in the Archdiocese. A group of Josephite sisters commenced work in the Blacktown area as motor missionaries. These sisters traveled from Mount Street, North Sydney, to Blacktown each day (and there was no M4 motorway on which to travel in those days!). Over time, they developed a program that would later be known as the Joy for Living series (thanks to the efforts of Sr Mary Peter rsj (Kathleen O’Dwyer, and others).

Throughout her time with CCD, Mary was tireless in ensuring that Catholic children in state schools received the highest quality religious education possible. Mary was incredibly innovative as a religious educator. She was integral to the development of family-centred, parish-based sacramental programs in the Archdiocese. Her passion for this approach came from a deeply-held conviction about the importance of family in the process of religious education. This remained dear to her heart right to the end. After she retired from CCD, I remember Mary telling me about an idea that she had for a house of spirituality for families. She was hopeful that her Provincial leader would approve the project. Unfortunately, though, her health declined before the project could ever materialize.

At her farewell from CCD in 1999, I described Mary as a true daughter of Mary McKillop. This was because her entire life was inspired by the charism of her founder. Since then, I have had no reason to change this description of her. Like her founder, Mary took the faith to those who otherwise would never hear of it. She was resilient and resourceful in all that she did. True to the spirit of her founder, she went wherever the need was the greatest.

Rest in peace, Mary, enjoy your eternal reward, and know how much you are loved and missed by all of us.

PETER J. IVERS

P.S.: I changed my mind about Mary McKillop!

Memorial Mass for Sr Mary Horan RSJ

Will be held at
St Aloysius Gonzaga Church
18 Giddings Avenue, Cronulla

On Friday, 8 November 2002
at 12 noon

All catechists and friends are invited to attend.
MARY IN THE CLASSROOM

When SRE teachers go into their classrooms for each lesson, Mary is an honoured person who also often accompanies them. The special words of Elizabeth recorded in the Hail Mary, Mary the one honoured by God, Mary who is called “Our Lady” are all aspects of Mary who are admired and called to mind in prayer.

What does Joy For Living have to say about Mary? The lessons in Unit 7 on Mary outline the appropriate concepts for presenting her to students at the different stages of their development. When children arrive at school they know of Mary the mother of Jesus through the celebration of Christmas. Mary is explored in SRE lessons in lower primary classes (kindergarten, years one and two) as a mother like their mother. Mary is a mother who cared for and loved Jesus just as their own mother loves them. The students’ response to hearing the faith link stories in these early years are related to celebrating their mothers.

In middle primary years (years 3 and 4), the focus is directed to Mary as she is recorded in the scriptures. Students are encouraged to discuss the human qualities shown in each faith story involving Mary. As their own mother looks after them, loves them, teaches and trains them, so Mary did for her son. As adults and SRE teachers, we can help students to understand how Mary would have felt when she was separated from her family at the time of Jesus’ birth as well as experiencing the joy of his birth. As refugees, we can imagine how Mary and Joseph would have felt when they fled to Egypt with their tiny baby. The only story recorded of Jesus in childhood was the account in the Temple where Mary expressed her concern for her son’s welfare. Teachers can help students understand how Mary and Joseph as parents would have reacted to this. How would we as parents would react if our own child was lost for three days? The prayers of Mary, the Hail Mary and the Magnificat, recorded in Luke’s first chapter, are treated not only as prayers but as part of scripture.

In senior primary years (years 5 and 6), the humanity of Mary is presented again as a model for us to follow, and to enable us to understand her place in the life of the Church and in our own lives. Students are asked to consider the words of the Magnificat where Mary tells us that God condemns those who think they are better than others or those who treat others badly. Mary’s words tell us what is important to God and provides a model for us in the same way the beatitudes do in giving respect to God’s people.

The development of these lessons about Mary throughout the years help students to understand and broaden their appreciation of Mary in four ways:- as a model of motherhood, as Jesus’ mother, as a disciple of Jesus and as a model for us in living as Jesus wanted.

Isla Cameron
Faith Education Officer
City Area

JOY FOR LIVING
BULK ORDER MAILOUT FOR 2003

The Bulk Order mailout will be distributed on Monday 4 November 2002. If parish coordinators have not received their copy of the bulk order form by Wednesday 13 November please contact Sydney Catholic Books and Resources (tel: 9390 5122) so that a copy can be sent to you.
## Specific Lessons on Mary in the Joy for Living Series

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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>LESSON</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Unit 3 lesson 7</td>
<td>The story of baby Jesus</td>
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<td>Unit 4 lesson 4</td>
<td>We celebrate Jesus’ birthday at Christmas</td>
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<td>K</td>
<td>Unit 7 Appendix 3</td>
<td>A special Mother called Mary</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>God chose Mary and Joseph to love and care for Jesus as he grew up</td>
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<td>Mary was Jesus’ Mother</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Jesus belonged to a family. Mary’s parents Anna and Joachim</td>
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<td>Mary visits Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Mary and Joseph go in search of the child Jesus in the temple</td>
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<td>Jesus entrusts Mary to John</td>
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<td>Jesus knew all the experiences of being part of a human family</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Who was Mary of Nazareth?</td>
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<td>The Annunciation</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Unit 7 Appendix 3</td>
<td>Marian Feast Days</td>
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### Life Members 2002 (30 Years of Service)

Life Membership of the CCD will be bestowed on the following catechists who have given 30 Years of Service at a special luncheon which will take place at Lidcombe Catholic Workmen’s Club on Friday, 22 November 2002 at 12 Noon.

**Cost $30 per person**

Any catechists who would like to attend please contact Mrs Carmel Duffy  
Tel: 9390 5122

- Bankstown: Campsie - Nellie Cross  
- Bankstown: Enfield - Veronica Fitzgerald  
- City: Mascot - Elisabeth Roth  
- City: Rose Bay - Sr Geraldine McGowan RSC  
- City: Mascot - Denise Barbara  
- City: Malabar - Reverend Pat Hurley PP  
- City: Daceyville - Vonnie Meyer  
- Concord: Haberfield - Beryl Cooper  
- Western: Smithfield - Mary Di Bona  
- Western: Smithfield - Elaine Thompson  
- Western: Liverpool - Betty Nolan  
- Western: Moorebank - Ronald Graham  
- Western: Cabramatta - Beryl Cummins
Preparation: On a prayer table place a lighted candle, a Bible, and an image of Mary. (You will also need a tape player and Fr Jim Cosgrove’s Seeds of Sonshine)

Leader: We are inspired by the example of Mary, the teenager who said yes to God, who agreed to bear God’s own Son. She had no idea where this “yes” would lead, but she continued to do God’s work and God’s will, no matter how difficult it was. We believe that she was sinless. Her closeness to God is marvellous for us to contemplate. Her courage and obedience help us have the courage we need as well, to say “yes” to God in our own lives. Let us contemplate the life of Mary.

Allow a short time for silent reflection.

SONG: Mary from Seeds of Sonshine or M.A.R.Y from Simple Songs your Children Sing both by Fr Jim Cosgrove.

Leader: Every evening, Catholics around the world pray this canticle as part of the Divine Office, which with the Mass composes the Church’s public prayer and consecration of time to God. It is taken from Luke 1: 46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

ALL O Lord our God we praise you for the great things you have accomplished in Mary, the Virgin Mother of your Son. By the power of the Holy Spirit she is for us a model and sign of faith and hope. May we come to welcome you as she did, to treasure all that you send us in love, and to ponder the Great Mystery, hidden for ages, and now made known to us in Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Denise Humphreys.
Faith Education Officer
Sutherland Area
As a supplement to the *Signs of the Times Curriculum Document* (and in an attempt to explore more flexible delivery options for secondary students), the Confraternity has begun trialing a resource that has been titled *Youthspeax*.

The material contained in this resource may be used in a variety of ways:

- By an individual browsing on the internet;
- As a discussion starter for parish youth groups; or
- As the basis for a session to be used in the religion classroom.

The material in this resource is being developed as a number of series. **Series One** has the subtitle *Young People and the Church*. The sessions in this series explore issues that young people themselves raised as part of the youth consultation undertaken by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (as summarized in the report, *Lean On Me*). The following sessions of *Youthspeax: Young People and the Church* will be released on our website (www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au/youthspeax.htm) on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Young People in the Church</td>
<td>7 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Racism and multiculturalism</td>
<td>28 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>11 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirituality</td>
<td>25 November</td>
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Each of these sessions can be downloaded from the website (in PDF format) from the dates indicated above. If you do not have access to the Internet, but would like a copy of these sessions, please contact Mrs Carmel Duffy (tel.: 93905122) and a copy will be mailed to you.

**UNDERSTANDING WORLD RELIGIONS BUS TRIP A GREAT SUCCESS**

*Church of Reconciliation- La Perouse*  
*Lakemba Mosque*

Director of CCD- Sydney, Mr Peter Ivers, declared yesterday's bus trip a great success. "I think it exposed catechists to two major world religions in a way that reading from a book could never do," he said.

In all, ninety catechists (accompanied by the Area Faith Education Officers) participated in the bus trip. During the day, the catechists visited the Lakemba Mosque, Church of Reconciliation (Aboriginal Catholic Ministry), and Temple Emmanuel. At each venue, leaders of the respective communities addressed the catechists.

Following the success of the bus trip, Mr Ivers commented that it is likely that CCD- Sydney will hold another bus trip in 2003.
OVERVIEW

It is hard to believe that Term Four is now upon us! As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, Term Three was very productive with lots of good things happening in many parishes. Congratulations to the ninety catechists who made the Understanding World Religions bus trip such a success.

During Term Four, our emphasis turns to celebration and preparation for 2003. Beginning in late-October, Area Masses will be held to give thanks for our work in 2002 (see p.10 for the dates of these masses). In the case of the Sutherland – St George area, the Mass will be a Memorial for Sr Mary Horan rsj. I encourage as many catechists as possible to join us at their Area Mass.

We have also included some date claimers for 2003 in this newsletter (see p.11). Hopefully, this will give catechists sufficient notice so that we experience a smooth start to the 2003 school year.

No doubt many parishes will begin recruitment drives in earnest during Term Four. With this in mind, I would like to remind you of Options: A Four Step Plan for the Recruitment of Catechists in Your Parish. This resource was sent to all parishes in 2001 and is also available on the CCD-Sydney website (http://www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au/Options.pdf). If you are unable to access the Internet or cannot find your copy, please contact Mrs Carmel Duffy (tel.: 93905122). Carmel will then send you another copy. We also have copies of the recruitment brochure that was issued with the Catechist Sunday 2002 resource material. Once again, contact Carmel if you need some more copies of these brochures. If required, your Faith Education Officer can also support you in planning a successful recruitment drive.

Peter J Ivers
DIRECTOR

BANKSTOWN

Multiculturalism is where many different types of people with diverse cultural backgrounds and religious beliefs live side by side. One of the greatest aspects of the Bankstown area is that it is a melting pot of all these things. At times, however, this can also be a confronting and challenging thing for some people.

Therefore a feature of Term 3 was the ‘Understanding world religions’ bus trip. This was an all day event which visited three places of worship from monotheistic religious traditions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. It is important that the CCD provide this kind of forum for catechists to learn, question and experience first hand what people from other religious traditions believe in. In the encyclical Novo Millennio Inuente, Pope John Paul II encourages us to engage in interfaith relations. He asks us to become aware of God’s action in various religions across the world while challenging us to remain faithful to our own tradition.

The response to the day has been very successful, with close to one hundred catechists attending.

Please remember that all catechists are invited the celebrate our Bankstown Area Mass together on the 1st November, at St. John of God Parish, Auburn at noon. Catechists are asked to bring a plate to share for lunch, as this will also be our end of year Christmas gathering. I hope to see you all there in jolly spirits!

Anita Sicari
Faith Education Officer
Tel: 9554 5569
**CITY**

The fourth term to me means “Celebration Time”. Time to celebrate the successes and struggles we have had during this year and the myriad little things that make up everyday life. In the City Area we will be coming together for our **Area Mass** at Mascot on 18 October and all catechists, prayer partners and supporters are invited to come along to St Therese’s to celebrate Mass and share lunch together. The **City Area Christmas Party** at the City Catholic Club on 25 November is also a wonderful opportunity to conclude the year with friends and acquaintances.

Term three was a happy one for many reasons. Basic workshops and daytime Intermediate Accreditation courses have been completed. Fun is part of the reward for me in working with catechists. Both were very satisfying programs to be involved in and were both most successful courses. It showed the commitment not only of those who were completing these as part of their full accreditation, but those who were updating their knowledge by doing the workshops as a refresher.

I was very pleased to have the opportunity to visit and support some catechists in their classrooms and thank them for the opportunity to see SRE in action. It gave me further insight into the workings of schools and classes and what the weekly commitment means in practice. Visiting parish meetings was also a highlight, since it allows me to meet many people and hear their stories as well. I look forward to further similar opportunities. I look forward to celebrating with everyone this term and recognising the commitment and friendship of catechists and supporters in the City area.

**Isla Cameron**  
Faith Education Officer  
Tel: 9580 4263

**CONCORD**

The annual statistical returns for the Concord Area indicate 29 new catechists/helpers were recruited this year! Congratulations! Other pleasing news is that the Basic Catechist Accreditation workshops were completed at Five Dock (evening sessions) and at Croydon (Saturdays in August) and a number of catechists from the Concord Area will have completed the Advanced Catechist Accreditation program by the end of the year.

I hope that everyone had the opportunity during the holidays to take time for themselves and now feels refreshed and ready for Term 4. During the next few weeks there will be several opportunities to meet with other catechists from the Concord Area. At the Archdiocese Catechist Gathering, our **Area Mass** and luncheon on **Friday 25 October at St Vincent De Paul Parish, Ashfield** and our **workshop cum-end-year celebration** to be held at **St Michael’s Parish Hall, Lane Cove** on **Friday 15 November**. The theme for the workshop will be ‘Preparing for Advent and Christmas’. Last term, I visited a number of schools and attended several catechist meetings. I hope to continue these activities this term. As well, the two secondary meetings that were held were also opportunities to meet with catechists working in the secondary schools. There will be several more workshops next year for secondary based catechists.

It is time to start planning for 2003. At this stage, there will be Basic Accreditation workshops at Lane Cove. If you would be interested in hosting any of the Accreditation programs – Basic, Intermediate or Advanced, the Reflection Day or the Concord Annual Mass (2003) please let me know. Workshops can be presented at a time that suits your parish including evenings or Saturdays. I can be of assistance with parish-based sacramental programs or Liturgy of the Word with Children and, of course, with school visits, advice with lessons and discipline and with recruitment.

Finally congratulations to Beryl Cooper (St Joan of Arc, Haberfield) who this year clocks up 30 years as a catechist and will receive life membership at a special luncheon on 22 November.

**Therese Newell,**  
Faith Education Officer  
Tel: 9579 5917
SUTHERLAND

Last term we were saddened to hear that after a short illness, Sr Mary Horan died on 27th July. Sr Mary worked with the catechists of Sutherland - St George area for many years. Many of our area catechists travelled to Hunters Hill for her funeral. We will especially remember Sr Mary at this year’s Area mass, which will be held at Cronulla this term on Friday 8th November. All catechists, past and present, are invited to attend. Mass will start at 12 noon. After Mass there will be an opportunity for the area catechists to gather for a BYO lunch.

Workshops last term were held at Brighton-Le -Sands, Bexley, Engadine, Miranda, Arncliffe, Hurstville, Caringbah, Cronulla, Menai, Gymea, Como-Oyster Bay and Sutherland. Catechists explored ways to better manage their scripture classes by the way they communicated with the children and discovered ways of finding resources for lessons. Other groups have been exploring the Old and New Testaments. In Term 4 there will be workshops on classroom management, lesson planning and scripture in the classroom. Please remember the basic accreditation workshops are open to all catechists. These can be held in small groups in your parish at a time to suit your catechist group.

Denise Humphreys
Faith Education Officer
Tel: 9548 2639

WESTERN

How quickly the year has passed and yet as the school year winds down the Church begins its liturgical year with the season of Advent. Considering the global scene at the present time of aggression and unrest it is appropriate, especially during this last term, to encourage the students to think about Jesus’ message of peace and forgiveness. Unit Six of the Joy For Living series in all grades has as its focus question ‘How do we contribute to peace?’ with particular emphasis on forgiveness and healing. What a wonderful preparation to use these lessons as a lead up to the Season of Advent. During this time we concentrate on making peace in our own lives as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus, the Messiah, into our world. Lessons built on ideas culled from Unit Seven of Joy For Living “Advent – Christmas’ can then be used to close the year with joy and hope.

There are no timetabled workshops for the Western Area during term four but I am happy to visit any parish on invitation if I can be of any assistance. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment this year. I pray that a spirit of peace and contentment will flood your lives this Advent and Christmas Season.

Judy Day
Faith Education Officer
Tel: 9816 2978

PRAYER PARTNERS

At one of the Area Parish Coordinators’ meetings that was held in Term Three, it was suggested that each newsletter contain some suggestions to help partners focus their prayers for the term. In this way, the role of the prayer partner could become more integral to the process of SRE.

With this in mind, the following intentions are only meant as suggestions. You may like to think of some local intentions for prayer partners. You may also like to advertise these prayer intentions in your parish bulletin as a means of getting other parishioners involved in your work.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR TERM FOUR 2002

- For children and young people that they achieve to the best of their ability during 2002
- For students finishing Year 6, Year 12, or who are leaving school at the end of 2002 that they use their gifts and talents for the benefit of all.
- That catechists might be inspired by the example of Mary in their work
Dates to Remember Term 4, 2002

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<td>City Area</td>
<td>18 October</td>
<td>St Therese’s, Sutherland St, Mascot</td>
<td>12 Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concord Area</td>
<td>25 October</td>
<td>St Vincent de Paul’s Bland St, Ashfield</td>
<td>12 Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bankstown Area</td>
<td>1 November</td>
<td>St John of God Alice St, Auburn</td>
<td>12 noon</td>
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<td>Sutherland Area</td>
<td>8 November</td>
<td>St Aloysius Gonzaga Giddings Ave, Cronulla</td>
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<td>Western Area</td>
<td>15 November</td>
<td>John the Baptist Church Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights</td>
<td>12 Noon</td>
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Please bring a plate for a shared lunch

PARISH CO-ORDINATORS OR REPRESENTATIVES
PLEASE BRING PARISH CANDLE TO AREA MASSES

BANKSTOWN AREA

Workshop
Preparing for Advent & Christmas

When: Thursday, 7 November
Where: Our Lady of Fatima, Kingsgrove
       In the Clune Centre (Hall next to Church)
Time: 11am - 2pm

BYO Lunch
Parking available behind Church

CITY AREA

Basic Accreditation offered at Polding House in Term 4

IF YOU ARE FROM ANY AREA AND:
- Missed any of the Basic Workshops during the year
- Would like to do the course in a shortened time
- Would like to do Intermediate Workshops in 2003
- Would like a refresher on any topic

COME TO ANY WORKSHOP OR EVERY WORKSHOP

15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 October 12, 14 November
10am – 1pm

For further information and to book

Contact: Isla Cameron 9580 4263 or Carmel Duffy 9390 5122 or your FEO 9390 5122

BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED
**SUTHERLAND AREA**

**ARCHDIOCESAN CATECHIST GATHERING**

**Topic:** “Mary In Catholic Thought”

**Presenter:** Ms Sandra Carroll  
Lecturer – Australia Catholic University

**Venue:** The Masonic Centre (In the Ionic Room)  
279 Castlereagh Street, Sydney

**Day/Date:** Monday, 21 October 2002

**Time:** 10am – 1pm

- MORNING TEA WILL BE PROVIDED
- Gold coin donation at door
- Sydney Catholic Books & Resources Display

**PARISH CO-ORDINATORS ARE ASKED TO CONTACT**

Mrs Carmel Duffy, no later than Wednesday, 16 October 2002  
to confirm number of catechists attending from their parishes.  
Tel: 9390 5122
## Bankstown Area

**Co-ordinators Meeting**
Thursday, 13/2/03 | 10am | Polding House, 1st Floor, 276 Pitt Street, Sydney

**Orientation Meetings**
- Monday, 17/2/03 | 10am | Our Lady of Fatima, Kingsgrove
- Monday, 10/2/03 | 10am | St John of God, Auburn
- Tuesday, 11/2/03 | 10am | St Declan’s, Penshurst
- Friday, 14/2/03 | 10am | St Luke’s, Revesby

## City Area

**Co-ordinators Meeting**
Friday, 14/2/03 | 10am | Polding House, 1st Floor, 276 Pitt Street, Sydney

**Orientation Meetings**
- Monday, 17/2/03 | 10am | Polding House, 1st Floor, 276 Pitt Street, Sydney
- Tuesday, 11/2/03 | 10am | St Declan’s, Penshurst
- Friday, 14/2/03 | 10am | St Luke’s, Revesby
- Monday, 3/2/03 | 10am | St John of God, Auburn
- Tuesday, 4/2/03 | 10am | St Joseph’s Parish Centre, Edgecliff
- Wednesday, 5/2/03 | TBA | VENUE TBA
- Thursday, 6/2/03 | TBA | VENUE TBA

## Concord Area

**Co-ordinators Meeting**
Monday, 10/2/03 | 10am | Polding House, 1st Floor, 276 Pitt Street, Sydney

**Orientation Meetings**
- Monday, 10/2/03 | 10am | Polding House, 1st Floor, 276 Pitt Street, Sydney
- Tuesday, 11/2/03 | 10am | St Declan’s, Penshurst
- Wednesday, 12/2/03 | TBA | VENUE TBA
- Thursday, 6/2/03 | TBA | VENUE TBA

## Sutherland Area

**Co-ordinators Meeting**
Wednesday, 5/2/03 | 10am | VENUE - TBC

**Orientation Meetings**
- Monday, 10/2/03 | 10am | VENUE - TBC
- Tuesday, 11/2/03 | 10am | VENUE - TBC
- Wednesday, 12/2/03 | 10am | VENUE - TBC
- Thursday, 13/2/03 | 10am | VENUE - TBC

## Western Area

**Co-ordinators Meeting**
Friday, 7/2/03 | 10am | Liverpool Catholic Club

**Orientation Meetings**
- Tuesday, 4/02/03 | 10am | Parish Meeting Room, Mary Immaculate, Mimosa Rd. Bossley Park
- Monday, 10/2/03 | 10am | CCD Hoxton Park, 21 Twentieth St. Hoxton Park
- Monday, 17/2/03 | 10am | CCD Hoxton Park, 21 Twentieth St. Hoxton Park

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*Understanding World Religions Bus Trip*
*“On the Road again”*
**BOOK OF THE MONTH**

**DIRECTIONS – A Vision for Australia** (Sir William Deane)

Sir William Deane, supported by his wife Lady Deane, won the admiration of many Australians while Governor-General of Australia (1996-2001). Though punctilious in carrying out official duties he at the same time advocated and encouraged those Australian, indeed universal core values of ‘equality’ and ‘a fair go’.

He and Lady Deane made Australia’s disadvantaged their priority by: working hard for reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, praising members of community services, providing courage and leadership, giving comfort in times of national tragedies, being supportive of anti-racism initiatives in a multicultural Australia, extolling and strengthening of interfaith ties, and the nurturing of our country’s soul and identity. They always preferred people to pomp and ceremony.

Sir William also has the gift of delivering pertinent speeches that addressed these issues. A number of extracts from 70 speeches are included in this book. There is also an extract from the speech of Lady Deane at the Reconciliation Convention in 1997. To help the reader these speeches are conveniently grouped according to themes:

- Forging Our National Identity
- Reconciling Diverse Peoples
- Promoting Multiculturalism
- Encouraging Responsibility
- Seeking Solidarity with the Marginalised
- Nurturing Our Youth
- Celebrating Prominent Achievers
- Treasuring Our Environment
- Being Helpful Despite Tragedy
- A vision for Australia.

A word that Sir William uses often in his speeches is *together*. This is a foundational word in his vision for all Australians; *walking together, talking together, caring together, working together, and achieving together*. In each of his Australian Day messages he speaks of this vision. An extract from his 2001 Australia Day message ends the book.

This book is an appropriate one to give as a Christmas gift.

**RRP: $19.95** *(Available from Sydney Catholic Books and Resources)*

**Reviewer:** Therese Newell

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**FOR THE CLASSROOM**

**The Hurt** (Teddi Doleski)

Justin was hurt by his friend Gabriel and his dad. He bottled up his hurt and it grew bigger and bigger. When he finally shared his feelings with his dad, Justin was able to let go of his hurt and experience reconciliation. He could begin to enjoy his life again.

Teddi Doleski presents an appealing and thoughtful book for both children and adults that explore the process of hurt and reconciliation. Doleski’s ability to write about emotions brings the story to life, making it a powerful story for all ages. Catechists and parents would find this a useful resource when introducing the concept of *Joy for Living* (in unit 6) of reconciliation.

**RRP: $15.95** *(Available from Sydney Catholic Books and Resources)*

**Reviewer:** Isla Cameron
Mary Joslin, the author, retells with interesting style the life of Mary the mother of Jesus, while remaining true to the Gospel accounts. It is the beautiful story of the woman who remained faithful to her God and accepted the joys and the sorrows that came with accepting the role of being Mother of Jesus. The illustrations, classically drawn by Alison Wisenfeld, enhance the story and present to children a particular religious style of art. 'This is a timeless tale, simply and charmingly retold for children, with an enduring message of love.'

RRP: $24.70 (Available from Sydney Catholic Books and Resources)
Reviewer: Judy Day

FOR THE PARISH LIBRARY
Listening to God's Word – activities and stories. (Eileen Drilling and Judy Rothfork)

Parents and parish groups who wish to assist children to listen to God’s word using story, journal, prayer and blessing will find this book a useful resource.

Each Sunday of Year B is set out coherently based on the gospel reading of the day. The stories are engaging and aimed at the primary school student. The book is particularly relevant for children's liturgy groups and those preparing RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) groups.

It is a book that can be used every three years so is well worth having in the parish library.

Books for Years A & C are also available.

RRP: $41.75 (Available from Sydney Catholic Books and Resources)
Reviewer: Isla Cameron

MUSIC
Sing God a Simple Song – Music (and CD) for celebrating The Word with children. (Diana Kodner)

This book offers an introduction to the possibilities of using appropriate music and song in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word with children or a Mass where the congregation is predominantly children. Though Diana Kodner, the author of this book, is an accomplished musician with over 20 years’ experience performing and directing adults and children in song, she writes in such a manner that even someone like myself who claims no musical prowess, is encouraged to use the accompanying CD when next I lead a Liturgy of the Word with children.

In the Introduction, Kodner refers to the document “Music in Worship” that offers three judgements when selecting music for liturgy: musical, liturgical and pastoral. She applies these judgements in the selection of music and songs for this book. She also refers often to the Directory for Masses With Children. The Introduction contains many practical hints that a parish liturgy team could consider when planning liturgies.

There are 52 musical suggestions composing of songs, hymns, acclamations and psalms. Each is accompanied by a commentary, using the following headings:

- **When to sing this song** considers the liturgical season, the scriptures of the day, and the ritual movement within the liturgy.
- **How to sing this song**
- **Movement and gesture** suggests ways children can give bodily expression to the song.
- **Background to this song** gives information that can help leaders develop a greater appreciation the music and the text, its history and origin.

There is a Seasonal and Sunday Index from Advent through Ordinary Time for Years A, B, and C. The CD provides the melody of each song, sung by children.

Though an expensive book, it could be an invaluable asset to many parishes.

RRP: $54.95 (Available from Sydney Catholic Books and Resources)
Reviewer: Therese Newell
“Madonna”
Cover Picture- From Church of Reconciliation La Perouse

The Ancient women of this land, Australia, were mirrored by Mary the Madonna, who in love and faithfulness bore Jesus the Son of God. The nature of the land in its simplicity is shown forth through the female symbols of faces and figures of this visual message.

The hands forming the background expresses the eternal message of God in the constant presence.

Large circle connecting to small circle:

The Holy Spirit constantly coming down to us and also represents the connection of heaven to earth. In Aboriginal Spirituality, cylindrical shapes form the cycle of life. We believe we come from the Spirit World and we will return, through our animal totems and that the circle of life continues.

Two small circles connected to the centre:

Action of the Spirit and the Madonna’s response, bringing forth the birth of Christ.

Figures:

Represent our Lady and Baby Jesus.
The small figure is the expression and image of God. No expression on the figures means that there is no doubt or judgement.

The Madonna’s cradled arms:

Represents the vessel of Life, nurturing all in God’s love.

Aura:

Symbolises the Mimi Spirits, our past Elders revealing themselves to us to remind us of their wisdom still present.

White Dots:

Represents the presence of our Creator Spirit, God.

RICHARD PATRICK CAMPELL