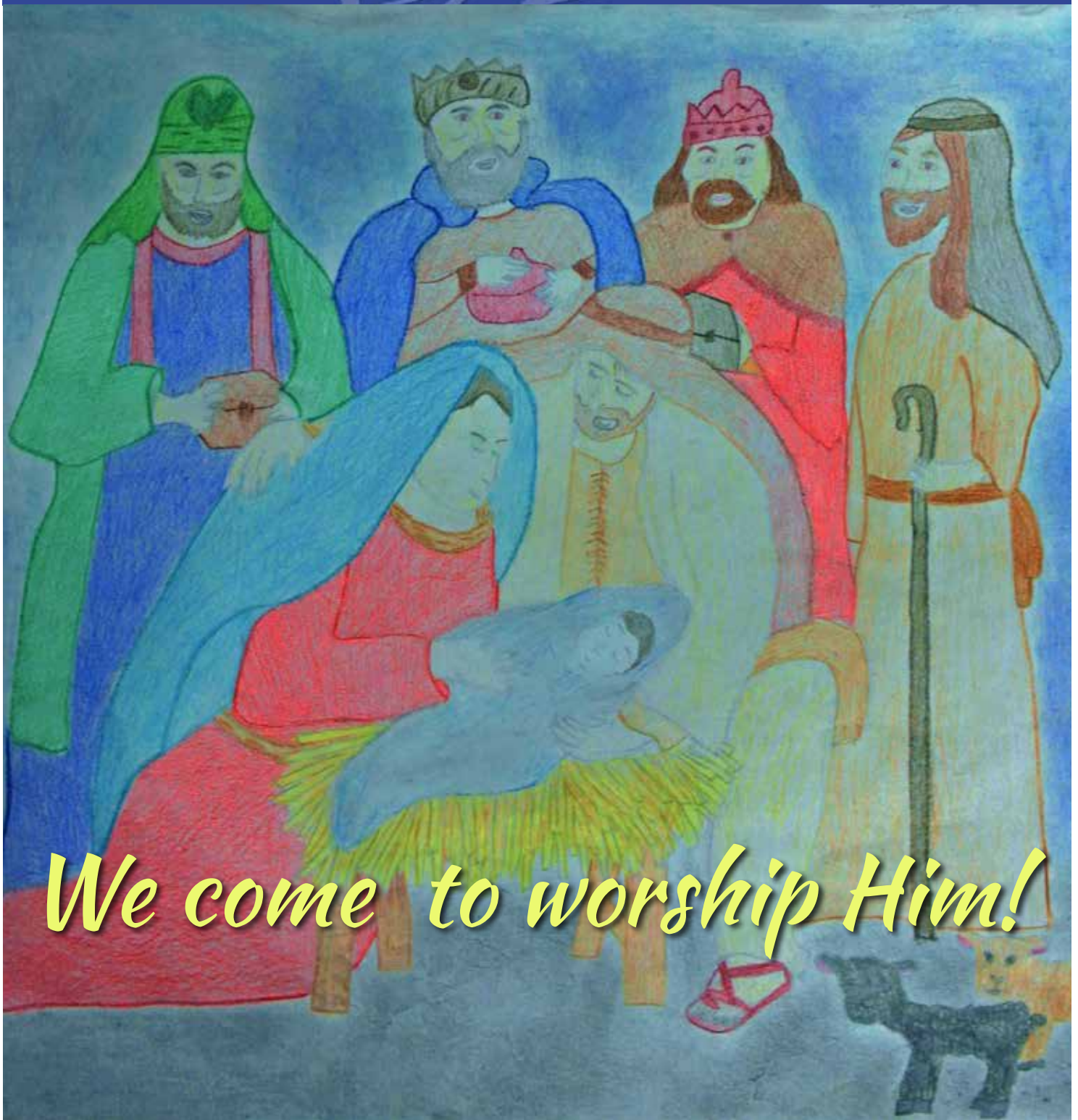


Light and Life

Term 4, 2013



We come to worship Him!

Archdiocese of Sydney
CCD Newsletter

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FRONT COVER

Artwork details from *The Birth of Jesus Christ* by Chanel Reeves, Year 5, Ramsgate Public School.

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Central	Sarah Christie
Eastern	Robert Milan
Northern	Christopher Cox
Southern	Denise Humphreys
Western	Teresa Culjak

NEWSLETTER LAYOUT

Mimi Jane Rivera

From the Acting Director Eddie Kropkowski



As we approach the end of the year all catechists will no doubt welcome a break from teaching duties and look forward to a well earned rest over the summer holidays.

In most respects it has been a very successful year for CCD, particularly in the curriculum resource area. The new *Gratia Sacramental Program* continues to be in high demand. It is pleasing that many NSW country parishes are also embracing the program. It is anticipated that sales of around 25,000 books will be achieved by the end of this year. Sales of *Christ our Light and Life* series continues to increase, albeit at a slower pace, now that the Third Edition revision process is well behind us.

Despite not having a Director since January, all current experienced Faith Education Officers and Administrative Staff are to be congratulated on a great job in maintaining all planned CCD programs and services to parishes without too much disruption.

The Annual Catechist Mass held at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 22 September was one of the best-attended events during the past decade. Up to 800 catechists, awardees, Catholic school student catechists, their families and special invited guests were present. It was also pleasing that ten Sydney Archdiocesan priests and Deacon Matt Ransom from Canberra/Goulburn Archdiocese, assisted His Eminence George Cardinal Pell concelebrate this wonderful occasion. The enchanting choir provided beautiful vocals and the organist added elegance to the celebration. A special mention to our very long serving 50 year catechist awardees: Noelene Byron, Margaret Collimore and Pauline McNuff.

This year's gathering held at Lidcombe Parish Hall on Friday 11 October was well attended by over 90 catechists. Presentations by Dorothy Makasa and Anita Lee from Catholic Mission highlighted the enormous amount of poverty that exists around the globe. After a light lunch, a touching story from keynote speakers, Paul and Juliana Elarde on the theme *The Love of Mary* captivated the audience, with Juliana relating her miraculous journey and recovery from a severe chronic injury cured after a visit to Lourdes.

Thank you to all catechists and parish coordinators for the wonderful work that you do - your efforts are very much appreciated. Have a merry and holy Christmas as we look forward to celebrating the birth of our Saviour.

God bless.

From the Faith Education Officers

EASTERN	SOUTHERN
<p>Robert Milan</p>  <p>The Annual Catechist Mass lived up to every expectation with an encouraging turnout. His Eminence George Cardinal Pell spoke of the continued growth of catechists in this apostolate, which now exceeds 2,300, and of the importance of the work.</p> <p>The Eastern Area is proud to congratulate its awardees: Accreditation awardees - Minerva Alimario (Daceyville) Patricia Burge-Lopez, (Annandale) and Lila West Csillag (Bondi). Catechist Ministry Certificate Awardees namely Timothy McCarthy (Elizabeth Bay), Minerva Alimario and Rosevelyn Houghton (Daceyville). Likewise, service awardees Narelle Hills (Rose Bay), 20 years; Anne MacNally (Clovelly), 25 years and Dulcie Said (Mascot), for 40 years.</p> <p>The Archdiocese is blessed to have over 300 students across 20 Catholic high schools as part of its Student Catechist Program. The Eastern Area would like to congratulate and thank the following schools that have served parishes and public schools in their respective areas: St Clare's College Waverley, St Mary's Cathedral College, St Scholastica's College Glebe and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Kensington.</p> <p>I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued work and support of this important apostolate. Your example inspires us.</p> <p>The Art Competition has now closed. I would like to thank the following schools for their contributions: Waverley Public School, Bondi Public School and Surry Hills Public School. I also thank the catechists who helped make this happen.</p> <p>The year has certainly flown by. May the coming year be filled with joy, success and fulfilment. To all your families and friends who are your number one supporters, just send a simple word of <i>thank you</i> for without them this work would not be possible.</p> <p>I look forward to seeing some of you during your Christmas celebrations and in 2014. Our Lady's protection be upon you and may the infant Jesus be always your path to holiness. I wish you all a Holy Christmas.</p> <p>Robert Tel: 9390 5122 Fax: 9283 5146 robert.milan@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au</p>	<p>Denise Humphreys</p>  <p>Congratulations to Rhonda Ashley (Sutherland), Kathleen Cattanach (Como-Oyster Bay) and Margaret Edwards (Gymea) for 30 years of service. They will be honoured at the Life Members' Function at Lidcombe on Friday 29 November. At the Annual Catechist Mass we celebrated with the following people from our area. 20 years service: Michael Borg (Como-Oyster Bay), Maria Cencich (Brighton-Le-Sands), Ann Di Leo (Menai), Brigid Love (Gymea) Annette Tessolin (Menai) and Amal Yousif (Menai). 25 years service: Josephine Mamo (Sylvania) and Dr Bill Monaghan (Oatley).</p> <p>I would also like to congratulate all those who participated in the various levels of accreditation this year – the Basic One/Two, Intermediate, and Advanced and Catechist Ministry Certificate courses. These courses can be run in your parish - ask your coordinator to arrange this.</p> <p>Is your parish running a recruitment drive for more catechists and helpers? The DVD produced by Wollongong CCD <i>I'm a Catechist</i> is very suitable for this task. Please remember that each new catechist must complete the Basic One Course. This course covers the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to CCD 2. Child Protection Essentials 3. Use of the Curriculum 4. Classroom Management Basics <p>Thank you for all the effort you have put into the Yr 5 and Yr 6 Art Exhibition. We received entries from 23 schools in our area. Once again there has been some very good artwork produced. The successful artists will be informed through their school of their invitation to the opening of this exhibition. Pictured are students and catechists from Bexley North Public school.</p> <p>By the time you receive this newsletter you may be close to your last lesson for the year.</p> <p>I wish you all the very best for the Christmas season and hope you intend to continue this work in 2014. Call or email if you need help.</p>  <p>Denise Tel: 9524 6400 Fax: 9524 6400 denise.humphreys@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au</p>

From the Faith Education Officers

CENTRAL

Sarah Christie

Greetings to all in the Central Area.

"Dear Catechists...I thank you for everything that you do, but above all, because you are part of the Church, the pilgrim People of God, and you accompany God's People on that pilgrimage." - Pope Francis



What a pleasure it is to be able to share with you the words of the Holy Father from the address he gave catechist representatives from around the globe as part of the Annus Fidei (Year of Faith) Conference for Catechists held at the Vatican in September.

I was privileged to represent CCD Sydney at this event, and Pope Francis' address was the highlight of a series of presentations aimed at discussing catechesis in our modern world. In it he reminded us that it only takes three qualities to fulfil a mission that is fruitful:

1. Being close to Jesus.
2. Imitating Him.
3. Not being afraid to go out into intimidating territory to share Him with others.

He also acknowledged that although it may be difficult at times, teaching the faith is the best legacy we can pass on. All of you are already such a great example of this, persevering with your work over many years and in critical moments – something we saw at the Annual Mass and Life Members Function with our long-service awards.

Congratulations to our 50 year awardee Noelene Byron and 40 year Awardees Pat Hanrahan and Joan Klein and; all other catechists who received awards and accreditation on the day. I'd also like to welcome Kathleen Hanrahan, Catherine Whelan and Gail Instance as CCD Life Members.

All of you, dear catechists, are an asset to the Church and the Archdiocese. Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sarah

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WESTERN

Teresa Culjak

Greetings to all in the Western Area!



Special congratulations to all the awardees from our Annual Catechist Mass held earlier in September. A special mention to Margaret Collimore and Pauline McNuff who both received the 'John Paul II' Award for 50 years of service to the catechetical ministry. Margaret and Pauline continued their celebrations with Mass at their parish at All Saints, Liverpool. This allowed the entire parish to celebrate, recognise and give thanks for this great work and achievement. Well done!

The census results are in for 2013 with great news for the Western Area. The numbers of catechists increased to 455 and the number of primary school students attending SRE has increased by almost 100 students. The Western Area now spreads the Gospel weekly to over 6,260 students. This is fantastic! Thank you for your great work throughout the year. These children's lives have been changed through your great love and service.

There is more great news for Catholic SRE in high schools. Fairvale High School will host its first retreat day for Catholic students from Year 7 to Year 10 in November. This has been in negotiations for a number of years and is finally coming to fruition. Thank you for your prayers. Please continue to pray for Catholic SRE in high schools. It is extremely important that we spread the Gospel to these young hearts who so desperately need to hear the truth. If you or someone you know would like to help assist in opening the 'door of faith' in high schools, please contact me by phone or email listed below.

As the Year of Faith draws to a close, may our hearts be ever open to all that our Lord wishes to give.

Thank you for helping to build the civilisation of love.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Teresa

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From the Faith Education Officers

NORTHERN

Chris Cox

Hello Northern Area!

Congratulations to all Northern Area catechists who received awards at the Annual Catechist Mass. I was pleasantly surprised to see so many Northern Area catechists completing their accreditation. A big thank you to all the Northern area volunteers who graciously dedicated their time and effort. CCD is very grateful for the support, preparation and facilitation of the most important event in the CCD calendar.

I will leave you with a practical way of praying as promoted by Pope Francis. It is a finger prayer guide that is a simple and practical way to show our children how to pray.

1. The thumb is the closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a *sweet obligation*.

2. The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.
3. The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God's guidance.
4. The fourth finger is the ring finger. It is surprisingly our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.
5. And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs but in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.

God bless.

Chris

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Teaching Tips

by Denise Humphreys

We learn by doing. We don't learn much at all by listening for long periods of time.

There is an interesting relationship between the length of time a teacher talks to a class and the amount the children learn.

Children usually remember:

- 20% of what they hear
- 30% of what they see and hear
- 70% of what they say
- 90% of what they do

Since human knowledge always begins with our senses, we learn better when many senses are involved. Thus, a good teacher uses many techniques. Today's child learns about faith in the same way as everything else - by dancing, singing,

reading, making, acting, studying, reciting, watching, experiencing and listening.

In my visits to classrooms I was very pleased to see catechists interacting with and involving their students. I observed a lesson on Noah's Ark enhanced with 3D materials. The children were engaged with the story. Each child was thrilled to place their animal safely on the Ark as the catechist retold the story.

Another Kindergarten class was 'learning' the Hail Mary in Lesson 28. The catechist chose students to role play the Annunciation (*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

the Lord is with thee) and the Visitation (*Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus*).

The whole class then responded with actions for the second part of the prayer. This was repeated several times choosing different students to enact the first two scenes in the prayer. The children enjoyed the repetition because they each had a turn to do something.



Accreditation Courses - Nov to Dec, 2013

BASIC ONE

Central	November 19 (Intensive) Tuesday 9:30am to 3:30pm	CCD Bankstown 15 Cambridge Ave, Bankstown	Sarah Christie
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BASIC TWO

Eastern	November 1, 8, 15 Fridays 10:00am to 2:00pm	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney	Robert Milan
Central	November 21 & 28 Thursdays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Bankstown 15 Cambridge Ave, Bankstown	Sarah Christie

INTERMEDIATE

None available

ADVANCED

Central	November 4, 11, 18, 25 & December 2 Mondays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Bankstown 15 Cambridge Ave, Bankstown	Sarah Christie
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Catechist Ministry Certificate Nov-Dec, 2013

Fathers of the Church (MI10)

Sarah Christie

Dec 5 & 12
Thursdays 10am -2pm
Polding Centre
133 Liverpool St, Sydney



Please note that pre-requisites for enrolment to the above units of the Catechist Ministry Certificate (CMC) program have changed. Catechists who wish to enrol in CMC subjects must have completed Basic One, Basic Two, Intermediate and Advanced Accreditation Courses (or their pre-approved equivalent) prior to CMC course attendance.



Interactive Whiteboard Courses Nov-Dec, 2013

Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
From 10am to 3pm

SMART Board Beginner Classes

Nov 22 (Fri) Dec 11 (Wed)

SMART Board Master Classes

Dec 13 (Fri)

All held at the Polding Centre,
133 Liverpool St, Sydney From 10am to 3pm



November 2013

14 Nov & 21 Nov (Thurs)	10:00am to 2:00pm	Secondary SRE Course L6, Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney
29 Nov (Fri)	10:30am to 3:00pm	Life Members Function Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club Church Street, Lidcombe
20 Dec (Fri)		End of Term 4



All pre-bookings essential: Ring 9390 5122 or via email to mimi.rivera@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Please note that the CCD bookshop closes at 12 noon on 24 December. It then closes for Christmas holidays and does not open until 6 Jan 2014. Online orders accepted anytime as normal, however, they will not be processed until January.

My Parish Story

By Kerry Kenny of Liverpool Parish



Cardinal Pell at the Annual Catechist Mass



Fr Remy Lam Son Bui presented Pauline's award at All Saints.



Catechist service awardees Margaret Collimore (50 years), Willette Upsall (25 years) and Pauline McNuff (50 years).

September 22, 2013 was a day of historic significance for All Saints Parish, Liverpool. At the Annual Catechist Mass at St Mary's Cathedral two amazing women, Margaret Collimore and Pauline McNuff, were recognised for 50 years service to Catholic children in public schools with the John Paul II Award. At the same mass, Willette Upsall received the Cardinal Freeman Medal for her 25 years service.

The celebrations continued at 9:30am Mass the following Sunday at All Saints, when Fr Remy Lam Son Bui presented Pauline with her award, as she had been unable to travel to the Cathedral. Past and present catechists and the parish community watched as Fr Remy thanked all three ladies for their wonderful example and presented them with flowers from the parish.

Both ladies began their ministry in 1964 under the leadership of the dynamic Sr Mary Vincent and Sr Mary Xavier. They remember not really having much choice: they were just asked when they could start! Both of them completed the early training courses offered by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Margaret has always taught at Marsden Road Public School

and has long been considered part of the school community, as her house shares its back fence with the school. She remembers taking her own children to lessons with her when they were preschoolers. Over the years she has reconnected with many families, as she has taught the children of former pupils. Despite many changes in staff, she always remembers being made welcome and has found the children to be well behaved. With Years 3 and 4 being combined into one class this year, Margaret has been a catechist helper in the classroom. She has no plans to retire as yet.

Pauline remembers practising her lessons with her daughter, Maria, and her niece, when she first started teaching at Liverpool Public School. She also pays tribute to Sr Vincent for the support she offered to the early catechists. Five years after becoming a catechist, Pauline returned to the workforce, but for the next thirty years was allowed to take her lunch hour on Wednesdays at the same time as the Scripture lesson. During her time at Liverpool Primary School, Pauline also worked as a volunteer. She has fond memories of one Year 6 student, whom she taught to read. Mobility has recently become a problem for Pauline, but making the decision to retire has been a struggle, because she will miss the children so much. However, she will continue to support her fellow catechists as a Prayer Partner.

Highlights of the **2013 Annual Catechist Mass** **22 Sept 2013 St Mary's Cathedral**



His Eminence Cardinal Pell with 50 Year Service Awardees
Margaret Collimore and Noelene Byron
(Awardee Paulene McNuff not in photo)



His Eminence Cardinal Pell also acknowledged 40 Year
Service Awardees Dulcie Said, Joan Klein, Pat Hanrahan,
Ronald Graham, Mary Dicconson and Concetta Bernard.





Above left photo has 25 Year Service Awardees. From left to right in this photo are Willette Upsall, Bertha Silva, Veronica Tindall, Angela Panetta, Mary Rudolph, Cardinal George Pell, Fr Danai Penollar, Mary Coleman, Margaret Cudmore, Anne MacNally, Nina Laureti and Josephine Mamo. (Awardees John Camilleri, Nerina Frisone, William Monaghan and Avril Vaguez are not in the photo.)



From left to right, the 20 Year Service Awardees in these photo are Amal Yousif, Kathleen Ryan, Lucy Papalia, Gail Palmer, Brigid Love, Faye Hockings, Lia Newhouse, John McGrath, Gaitu Borg, Lorna Basha, Maria Cencigh, Narelle Hills, Helmarri Anziliano, Angelina Gullo, Julie Di Filippo and Neda Lozina. (Awardees Gabrielle Claridge, Catherine Everett, Ann Di Leo and Annette Tesolin are not in the photo.)



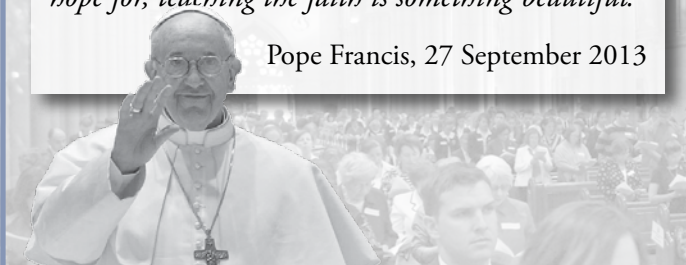
Congratulations to Catechist Ministry Certificate graduates Minerva Alimario, Rosevelyn Houghton, Rose-Marie Rahme, Barbara Martin & Tim McCarthy.



This year, 30 catechists completed the Catechist Accreditation Course. From left to right in the **front row** are Anne Daly, Marianna Tallaridi, Ana Echeverry, Mary Drummond, Connie Campagna, Marlene O'Connor, Royola Fernandes, Praneeti Cyril, Maria Battikha, Anto Ambrose, Mary Abdul-Rahman and Minerva Alimario. At the **back rows** are Sinead Kent, Kevin Smith, Elizabeth Chung, Cathy Filastro, Norina Indorato, Muna Shabo, Eileen Gallagher, Luis Zuluaga, Lila West Csillag, Terence Evans, Helmarri Anziliero, Margaret Collins and Josephine D'accaiario. **Apologies** were sent by awardees Patrica Singleton, Patricia Burge-Lopez, Aniva Nickel, Cynthia Dickinson and Gloria Klein.

Catechesis is a pillar of faith education and we need good catechists! Thank you for your service to the Church and in the Church. Even if at times it may be difficult and require a great deal of work, and although the results are not always what we hope for, teaching the faith is something beautiful!

Pope Francis, 27 September 2013



CCD is also grateful for the participation of 20 Catholic schools in the Student Catechist program. Student catechist certificates were presented to school delegates from Bethlehem College (Ashfield), **New** De La Salle College (Bankstown), De La Salle College (Cronulla), De La Salle College (Revesby), Domremy College (Five Dock), Freeman Catholic College (Bonnyrigg), Holy Cross College (Ryde), Marist Sisters College (Woolwich), Mary MacKillop College (Wakeley), **New** Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (Kensington), Patrician Brothers College (Fairfield), Rosebank College (Five Dock), Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College (Burwood), St Aloysius College (Milton's Point), St Charbel's College (Punchbowl), St Clare's College (Waverly), St Mary's Cathedral College (Sydney), St Patrick's College (Sutherland) and St Scholastica's College (Glebe).



Student catechist delegates from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College at Kensington.



Student catechist delegates from De La Salle College of Bankstown.



Annual Catechist Mass photos courtesy of Gerry Dizon and Enrico Rivera.

Christmas Art Competition Results

By Denise Humphreys



This year there were over 200 entries from Yr 5 and Yr 6 students in 35 public schools. The *Christmas Story* was depicted in paint, oil, crayon, pencil and collage. The entries were judged on artistic merit, use of medium and the artist's written reflection. Size of the artwork did not matter but the reflection did. A well executed and completed art work on A3 cartridge paper was considered to have more artistic merit than a much larger, incomplete artwork or an artwork without a reflection.

Congratulations to the successful artists who have their artwork on display in the Crypt of St Mary's Cathedral from 1 December to 5 January. Catechists are encouraged to go and view this exhibition in the City during Advent and Christmas.



Year 5 Students

Engadine West Public School	Sean
Heathcote Public School	Felecia
Marton Public School	Blake
Marton Public School	Alexia
Ramsgate Public School	Chanel

Year 6 Students

Burke Street Public School	Victor
Clemton Park Public School	Marisa
Hurstville South Public School	Cherin
Lilli Pilli Public School	Chloe
Yowie Bay Public School	Daniel
Yowie Bay Public School	Sophia



Bethlehem Celebration
by Chloe



The Annunciation
by Victor



Angel Helps Mary
by Felecia



Majestic Kings
by Marisa



Mary the Mother of God
by Lubica



Follow the Star
by Sopia



A Shepherd for Everyone
by Daniel



The Shepherd's Message
by Cherin

The Birth of our Lord Jesus by Sophia
(top left of page)



Beautiful Bibles



\$16.00

Baby Blessings Catholic Bible

By Alice Joyce Davidson

From Creation through Easter, here are some best loved stories from the Old and New Testament.

Baby's Little Bible

By Sarah Toulmin

This Bible introduces the very simplest of concepts from key Bible stories for babies. Recommended gift suggestion. Available in pink and blue.



\$15.00

St Joseph Illustrated Bible

By Rev Jude Winkler OFM

Classic Bible stories for children with a Presentation Page. Illustrated in full colour.

Catholic Bible for Children

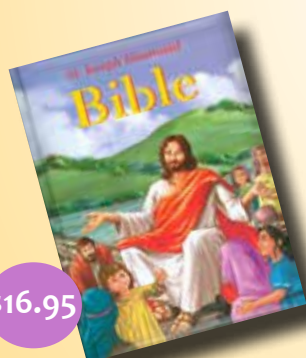
By Tony Wolf

This Bible compilation contains the Old Testament and New Testament. It comes brightly illustrated. Suitable for junior primary 5 to 8 year old children.

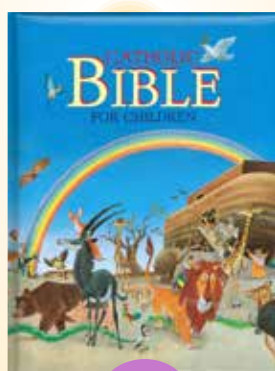
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Saint Joseph Edition

This special First Communion Edition is a treasure with eight pages for a family record, colourful Rosary Prayer Section, Stations of the Cross, etc. Available in blue or pink coloured edging.



\$16.95



\$19.95



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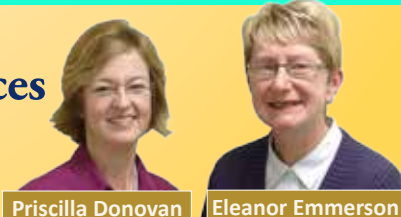
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Email: books@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Online bookshop: www.sydneycatholicbooks.org.au

Available from



Priscilla Donovan

Eleanor Emmerson

Conditions apply. Birthday Vouchers cannot be used in conjunction with *Christ our Light and Life*, *To Know Worship and Love* Text Books, Big Books, Sacramental Programs and already discounted stock. The voucher can be used within a year of the catechist's birthday.