

Light and Life

Term 1, 2013



**The Door
of Faith
is always
Open
for us.**

- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

In the **Year of Faith**, catechists share
how they opened their doors to Christ.

Archdiocese of Sydney
CCD Newsletter

CONTENTS

- 2 From the Acting Director
- 3 From the Faith Education Officers
- 5 Invitation to Archdiocesan Catechist Gathering
- 5 Invitation to the Inservice for Christmas Art
- 6 Schedule of CCD Courses and Events
- 8 Conversion Story
- 9 My Story
- 10 Life Members Function 2012 Photo Gallery

FRONT COVER

Conversion of St Paul (1542-1545) artwork detail by Michaelangelo Buonarroti. Based on Acts 26:15-18.

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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



Welcome back to the start of a new year! Hope you all had a pleasant, holy and restful holiday break over summer despite the inclement weather.

As you will no doubt be aware, Director Robert Haddad has since moved on to take up a position with the Sydney Catholic Education Office at Leichhardt. His final day at CCD was 25 January 2013 – a small farewell luncheon was organised by staff at Polding Centre. We wish him all the very best in his new job. The extensive and dedicated work carried out by Robert Haddad during his tenure in revising the primary curriculum and establishing a new secondary one is very much appreciated. Coupled with this, late last year, a new sacramental program (Gratia Series) was launched. The project initiated by Bishop Julian Porteous, some two years ago, was supervised and edited by Robert. It is therefore pleasing to report that the new program is being very well received. Over 8,000 individual books have already been sold, indicating that a need obviously existed among many parishes for a new updated version. Apart from the local Sydney and NSW markets, orders are now being received from all states in Australia and even a good number from New Zealand.

The popularity of the 3rd Edition *Christ Our Light and Life* series also continues to do well. We apologise for the small delay (to some parishes), in receiving Years 5 & 6. This was caused by rectifying minor errors late last year, which then held up the printing process.

SMART Board courses continue to be very popular, especially the Beginners course, so much so that additional courses have to be regularly scheduled. This is obviously the way of the future, and I encourage all catechists to get in early, book one of these courses and learn the basic elements.

In conjunction with Wollongong Diocese, a new initiative to provide music to accompany the Electronic White Board is currently being developed and tested. A group of four popular music groups have been selected. Copyright issues have been granted with certain conditions. More news on this new project later.

Thank you to all catechists and parish coordinators for the wonderful work that you do, especially at this time of year in organising and arranging new classroom times and providing the necessary SRE resources to the children.

Eddie

From the Faith Education Officers

EASTERN

Robert Milan

Beginning a new school year with a positive attitude sets the pace for a good year. Challenges become opportunities. Those who know me see how a positive attitude enables one to face any challenge. As the late motivational speaker Zig Ziglar said, *"You cannot do everything with a positive attitude but you can do so much more than with a negative attitude."*



February and March recruitments were encouraging. The parishes of Mascot, Botany, Randwick and Rosebery showed tremendous results. Coordinators excitedly report new catechists and team growth. Let us keep building this ministry. To recruit, I urge the use of media marketing tools represented by the acronym AIDA. AIDA stands for **Awareness, Interest, Desire** and **Call to Action**. Raise parish **awareness** through your presence and speaking engagements at weekend Masses. Trigger **interest** and **desire** to help through the sharing of actual experiences that illustrate reality. **Call to action** by extending an invitation, presenting the available support network, promoting the free training and the solid curriculum. Approach people after Mass and in every opportunity you have. Sometimes people just need to be asked.

The Student High School Catechist Program continues to grow in the Eastern Area. I trained 42 students of St Vincent's College at Potts Point. These new high school catechists from St Vincent's College will provide extra catechists and support to Paddington Public School and Elizabeth Bay's Darlinghurst Public School. I wish to thank the College Principal, Fay Gurr and Director of Faith and Mission, Rachel McLean, for making this possible. Three to four other Eastern Area Catholic schools expressed interest. I will keep you informed of the progress as information comes to hand.

I wish you all a great year. As always, please feel free to contact me if you require any assistance.

Robert

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SOUTHERN

Denise Humphreys

A special welcome to all new catechists. Remember you must attend an inservice on the Child Protection guidelines and use of our curriculum before you go into the classroom to teach on your own. Your coordinator will arrange this for you.



The Southern Area Mass will be held at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Sylvania on Thursday 16 May. All catechists and prayer partners are invited to attend. Mass will start at 11:30am. After Mass there will be an opportunity to gather for a BYO lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.

During Term 1 an enthusiastic group of catechists completed the Basic One Accreditation Course at Miranda, Menai and Brighton Le Sands. This course is designed to help with classroom management, lesson preparation and covers Child Protection issues, as well as giving basic understanding of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Bible. This course will be repeated each term in various locations.

Term 2 has nine weeks of lessons for most catechists. This can be a very busy period. Remember to change the prayer cloth to white as we are now celebrating the great feast of Easter. The Easter season lasts until Pentecost Sunday (May 26), so you have five weeks in which to tell those Easter stories. Do not rush these lessons. Hopefully each catechist has access to Br Julian's Easter lesson materials. These make great additions to the telling of the Easter story. There is also a selection of pictures at Miranda that might be just what you are looking for. As I am at the Miranda office most Mondays, just come down and browse.

There will be more accreditation courses held at CCD Miranda, 50 Kiora Road Miranda. The Advanced Accreditation Course (AAC) commences on Monday 29 April, and the Basic One Accreditation Course (BA1), commences on Friday 17 May. Both of these courses will run from 10am to 2pm. A special catechist inservice on *The Christmas Story Art Exhibition* will be held on Friday 31 May. Further details about courses can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and on our website.

Please contact me if you need help and I will get back to you.

Denise

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Recent Basic Two class participants at Miranda

From the Faith Education Officers

CENTRAL

Sarah Christie

Welcome back to another year of Catholic SRE! The 2013 year is already in full swing, with many of you using the CCRESS Recruitment DVD to help with your recruitment. I think it's a valuable tool because it highlights what goes on in the SRE classroom, the people drawn to be catechists, and the fruit that comes from catechist work in a beautiful, easy way.



Most of you have now heard about the changing Child Protection legislation. Keep yourselves alert for our announcement of the date that new checks – which involve ID checks and an RTA clearance number – come into effect. If you struggle with the process, let me know. Although this change might be cumbersome, it is also welcome to ensure the school environment is free from unqualified volunteers.

As you all know, I now work at the CCD Bankstown office. The new location has been a welcome change for some - and it was great seeing some new faces at our Area Coordinators Meeting. I'm currently looking into a Craft Day, similar to the one run at Miranda last year, but if there are any other courses you wish to do here, please let me know.

As per your requests, I'm also planning a spiritual retreat day here at the Bankstown office in October. All of these plans – in addition to my regular job training and teaching in classrooms – mean things have been quite busy, especially as I train new groups of high school catechists.

I hope this is a fruitful year for all, and look forward to seeing you at the Area Mass at St Therese in Padstow. Remember to bring a plate as it is a small parish. Coordinators please register your parish attendance with me or Mimi. Thanks once again for your wonderful work. I hope you have a great Lent and Easter.

God bless you and your pupils,

Sarah

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WESTERN

Teresa Culjak

Greetings to all in the Western Area!



Welcome to 2013, the Year of Grace and Faith. I'm sure there will be many blessings given and received during this momentous year.

Pope Benedict XVI has encouraged all Catholics to recite the Nicene Creed daily in the Year of Faith. This is a wonderful opportunity to share and teach your students what we believe as Catholics and to recite the Creed at each lesson.

It is an opportune time to deepen your knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith. Catechist Ministry Courses and Accreditation Courses are highly recommended. They are free and taught in a relaxed environment. I encourage each catechist to attend at least one course during the Year of Faith. (Please see page 6 to 7 for a list of courses available).

Sam Clear will be our guest speaker at the *Lunch & Learn* in May. Sam will share his story as he travelled the world for Christian Unity, having to find food and water every day. He relied on the hospitality of complete strangers. He was mugged with a knife, threatened at gun point, bashed on the side of the road, came face to face with dangerous animals and experienced extreme weather conditions. Yet through it all, God's love in action stood out under the most incredible circumstances. Sam now works as Managing Director at Harvest Pilgrimages for their Inroads Division. For more on this *Lunch & Learn* session, see page 6.

The Western Area Mass is a special time to come together, celebrate and give thanks for the catechetical ministry. It will be held at 11am on Friday 24 May 2013 at John the Baptist Catholic Church, Bonnyrigg. Parking is limited. I encourage you to car pool with others in your parish. There will be a special car park open for the event on Gloucester Street. Following Mass, there will be a shared lunch. Please bring a plate. I hope to see you there.

Thank you for helping to build a culture of love.

Teresa

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From the Faith Education Officers NORTHERN

Chris Cox

Welcome back to all catechists in the Northern Area!

I do hope you have settled well into 2013 and had a fantastic start to the teaching year. Welcome to all new catechists who may have just started. Term 1 has been busy for me, full of teaching, meetings and courses.



Congratulations to all catechists who received awards on Catechist Sunday. You are an inspiration to your church community.

Once again I will be teaching accreditation courses that provide an opportunity to immerse yourselves in new ideas for classroom practice and faith exploration. These are beneficial for coming to know, worship and love God through teaching others. I would like to thank all those catechists and coordinators who attended the Basic One course to increase their knowledge and skills.

The High School Catechist program is up and running again in the Northern Area. Students are being trained and entering schools as helpers and catechists. Several schools within the region expressed interest in the program. Selection and training of student catechists are progressing. Please advise me if you know of any school that may be interested.

The commencement date for the *New Working with Children Check* has not yet been announced. We anticipate an announcement over the coming weeks and will keep you informed of any updates.

In the interim the current legislation and processes are in place.

None of the online forms for the *New Working with Children Check* will be available until implementation date. Information will be available through the website: www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au.

Please let me know if you require any assistance.

Chris

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ARCHDIOCESAN CATECHIST GATHERING

Friday, 10 May 2013

10.00am - 1.30pm

Polding Centre
Combined Taylor & Barlow Room
133 Liverpool Street, Sydney

Guest Speakers/Topics:

10:00am **Introduction and Welcome**
Eddie Kropkowski, Acting Director CCD

10:30am **Vatican Council 50 Years On**
Speaker to be confirmed

11:30am **Break for Refreshments**

12:15pm **Teaching with a Twist**
- Strategies to make your lesson sing
CCD Sydney Faith Education Officers

1.15pm **Closing Remarks and Acknowledgements**

Places are limited. Catechist coordinators please email CCD on mimi.rivera@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au or ring 9390 5122 by **April 19, 2013** with the number wishing to attend.

INSERVICE *Art in the Classroom*

Friday 31 May 10am -1pm

By Denise Humphreys

CCD Miranda, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda

Each year our Year 5 and Year 6 students are invited to participate in *The Christmas Story Art Exhibition*. Artworks are to be completed by the end of Term 3. All artwork must be started in the classroom.



This inservice is designed to enable catechists to help Year 5 and 6 students:

- reflect on the Christmas Story scriptures and
- start their artwork in the classroom

Come along and experience some of the artistic mediums available to your students.

Pre-book your places early. Ring 9390 5122 today.

Accreditation Courses - April to July 2013

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

BASIC ONE

Northern	April 5, 12 Fridays 10:00am to 2:00pm	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney	Chris Cox
Southern	May 7, 14 Fridays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda	Denise Humphreys
Western	May 13, 20 Mondays 10:00am to 2:00pm	St Gertrude's (demountable) 6 Justin Street, Smithfield	Teresa Culjak
Central	June 3 (Intensive) Mondays 9:30am to 3:30pm	CCD Bankstown 15 Cambridge Ave, Bankstown	Sarah Christie

BASIC TWO

Western	May 27, June 3, 17, 24 (no June 10) Mondays 10am to 2pm	St Gertrude's (demountable) 6 Justin Street, Smithfield	Teresa Culjak
Southern	June 7, 14, 21 Fridays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda	Denise Humphreys
Central	July 17, 14, 31 Wednesdays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Bankstown 15 Cambridge Ave, Bankstown	Sarah Christie

INTERMEDIATE

Northern	May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesdays 10:00am to 2:00pm	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney	Chris Cox
Eastern	May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28 Fridays 10:00am to 2:00pm	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney	Robert Milan

ADVANCED

Southern	April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 3 Mondays 10:00am to 2:00pm	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda	Denise Humphreys
Northern	June 4, 11, 18, 25 Tuesdays 10:00am to 2:00pm	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney	Chris Cox

Secondary SRE Training

June 17 and 24 (Mondays) 10am to 2pm
Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney
Robert Milan
Ring 9390 5122 to register for the course.



Gain and share ideas and tips for your
High School scripture classes.

LUNCH & LEARN



Sam travels the world for Christian Unity. He saw God's love in action when he was bashed, held at gun point and came face to face with dangerous animals.

The next Lunch and Learn is on
31 May 2013, Friday, at St Gertrude's Parish
8 Justin St (demountable), Smithfield

9:15am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:00am Testimony of **Sam Clear, Harvest Pilgrimages**
12:30pm Lunch (Please bring a plate to share)

You are welcome to attend all or part of the program.
RSVP Essential: CCD on 9390 5122

CCD Calendar

April 2013

1 Apr (Mon)	Easter Monday
12 Apr (Fri)	End of Term 1
29 Apr (Mon)	Start of Term 2

May 2013

9 May (Thurs)	11:00am to 2:00pm	Central Area Mass	St Therese's Catholic Church 11 Harvey Avenue, Padstow
10 May (Fri)	10:00am to 1:30pm	Catechist Gathering	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
16 May (Thurs)	11:30am to 2:30pm	Southern Area Mass	Our Lady of the Way 191 Princess Highway, Sylvania
17 May (Fri)	11:00am to 2:00pm	Eastern Area Mass	St Joseph's Catholic Church 1a Morley Avenue, Rosebery
24 May (Fri)	11:00am to 2:00pm	Western Area Mass	John the Baptist Catholic Church 45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights

June 2013

19 Jun (Wed)	12:30pm to 2:30pm	Northern Area Mass	St Mark's Catholic Church 33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne
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Interactive Whiteboard Courses - Term 2, 2013



SMART Board Beginner Classes

21 May (Tues)	10am to 3pm	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
3 Jun (Mon)	10am to 3pm	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
17 Jun (Mon)**	10am to 3pm	15 Cambridge Avenue, Bankstown
19 Jun (Wed)	10am to 3pm	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
24 Jun (Mon)**	10am to 2pm	CCD Miranda, 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
5 Jul (Fri)	10am to 3pm	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney

SMART Board Master Classes

May 17 (Fri)	10am to 3pm	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
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CCD is able to take people on waiting list should the maximum student count be reached.

**SMART Board Classes held in locations other than Polding Centre use the Mimio portable interactive system.

Catechist Ministry Certificate 2013

Term 2, 2013 - All held at the Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney

Controversies in Church History (MI22)

Sarah Christie



Mon & Tues 10am to 3pm
Apr 29 & 30

Theology of the Body (MI15)

Chris Cox



Mon 10am to 2pm
May 13, 20 & 27

The Eucharist (MI19)

Denise Humphreys

Chris Cox



Thurs 10am to 2pm
May 23 & 30

Place of Scripture in Catholic Tradition (MC01)

Denise Humphreys



Thurs 10am -1pm
June 6, 13, 20 & 27

Hurry, book now! Ring 9390 5122 or send an email to mimi.rivera@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au.



Conversion Story

Lee Leo's curiosity led her to explore the Catholic Faith.
Now she can't imagine life without daily Mass.

Lee Leo grew up in a family that identified itself as Church of England. Although she did not undergo any formal religious education, Lee always assumed that she had been baptised, but was later surprised to discover that this was not the case. Her family was not religious. She found herself overwhelmed and confused.

Lee's journey to the Catholic faith took time. She was troubled by the grief of losing her husband to terminal illness in 1987 but later found herself at peace.

She started attending the Parish of St Andrew's Malabar. She admits that initially she did not take a lot of notice as to what was happening. However, her curiosity led her to heed a church advertisement and receive a series of pamphlets from the Catholic Inquiry Centre. The pamphlets covered one subject each week.

The Catholic Inquiry Centre presented a very friendly and caring attitude towards Lee and would check on her regularly, something that would eventually help her decide to embrace the Catholic Faith. By this time, it had dawned on her that she would like to receive Holy Communion or in her words, "*be part of what everyone else is [doing]*".

Lee then took the momentous step to speak to the Parish Priest, Father Pat Hurley, who would be instrumental in her conversion and overall commitment and involvement in Catholic life.

After consulting with Father Pat, who provided Lee with instruction through the RCIA program, Lee was welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday 25 March 1989, which also happened to be the Feast of the Annunciation.

Since her conversion Lee has not looked back and feels very secure and committed to the Catholic Faith. This is demonstrated in her many varied roles within St Andrew's Parish, Malabar, which begins with her daily attendance at Mass. From 1990 Lee responded to the call of the catechist apostolate and has been teaching for over 20 years. In 2010 she received the Apostolic Blessing for 20 years of Service as a catechist. For four years from 2004 to 2008 she was also nominated as the Eastern Area Representative for the Sydney Archdiocesan Catechist Council.

Lee also coordinates the catechists at Malabar and has been in this leadership role since 1999. Lee's talents extend beyond

the classroom where she is an Extraordinary Minister of Communion taking the Body of Jesus to those unable to attend Mass, to the sick and less mobile in the community; she conducts Communion Services at the local nursing home; prepares the altar for daily and weekend Mass as a sacristan and an "*event manager*" for her informal role in organising the annual Pere Receveur Mass, also known as Pere Mass. Pere Receveur is the first French Priest to hold a Mass at Le Perouse. The Pere Mass is celebrated annually in mid-February, usually on the 17th.

Besides her parish life, which in itself is filled with service to God, His Church and the Parish and extended community, Lee is a mother of three children (one son and two daughters) and grandmother to four lovely grandchildren. Her husband's Catholic background had meant that her children were all baptised Catholic.

Lee's experience shows how something good can arise from the tragedy of losing a loved one. The once shy and reserved woman has gained the confidence to rise up to new challenges and find strength in her commitments. Lee sums it up saying, "*Based on my experience it [becoming a Catholic] is the best thing I've done. I can't imagine life without daily Mass. Anyone thinking of becoming Catholic, should find out about it.*"



In 26 September 2010, Cardinal George Pell acknowledged Lee Leo's 20 years service to the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

My Story



I have lost count of how many schools I have taught in my time. I currently teach at eight schools, including two high schools.

By Zlata Bozanic (nee Kuzmanic)

I was born in Croatia on the island of Vis. Here my parents taught me to pray and to love Our Lady. During the Second World War we left our country to escape the communist regime. We spent five years at the City of Alexandria in Egypt where I received my early education from the French nuns at the College of the Mother of God.

Here I also received my first education in Sacred Scriptures because my parents did not dare teach me any of it during Communism. When the nuns and priests offered special advanced religious lessons, I expressed interest. I took in all the heavenly lessons which made me feel as if I was "*walking on air*". At the end of the three year course we made a pledge to use our knowledge to defend and propagate the faith whenever the occasion presented itself. We were made crusaders and wore a white banner across our shoulder with a big blue cross. When I came to Australia the nuns at Holy Cross, Woollahra kept my faith flame alive and added to my knowledge.

I married and had three children and exercised my pledge many times during my life entering into debates concerning

my faith. When my children grew up, the Lord gave me the task of looking after my old and invalid parents for 14 years. Dad was paralysed from a stroke and mum had permanent amnesia after a car accident. After they died I knelt in front of the Sacred Heart statue in my lounge room and asked, "*Where to from here Lord? I am free and at Your service again.*"

The following Sunday at Mass, a catechist was speaking and asking for volunteers to join the catechist 'army'. My daughter was sitting next to me. We looked at each other and we both knew what the Lord was asking me to do from now on. He gave me a new task. I became a catechist and I promised to do my best and never refuse a vacancy if I can possibly take it.

That was 15 years ago. The Lord kept throwing into my lap school after school, class after class, so I have lost count of how many schools I have taught in my time. I currently teach Kindergarten to Year 10 at six primary schools and two high schools. I have 14 classes each week. I see 250

students. This is my full time occupation now, besides looking after my sick husband. I have never been happier in my life. I am being rewarded each time I see some of my pupils make progress or change from someone who knew nothing about God to someone who now knows and loves Him. Being a catechist is the greatest achievement in life. I thank the Lord for calling me into existence, for letting me know Him and taking me into His Church. I also thank Him for calling me to be a catechist.



Zlata shown here in striped jumper with catechists and seminarians.

Life Members Function 2012 Photo Gallery



Robert Haddad with awardees from left to right, front row: Catherine Inez Mary Brock, Mary Bowler, Maureen Sullivan, Viviane Felice, Mary Grace McGregor, Anna Rose Furfaro; **Back row:** Valerie Royle-Polkamp, Beryl Dinos, Angela Mangini, Barbara Joan Sherry, Rosaria Rita Caltabiano (Apologies from Isabel Scullino of Austral and Joan O'Grady of Malabar).

Fr Anthony Percy was guest speaker.



2011 Life Member Jamelie Morabito with guests.



Barbara Joan Sherry with guests.



Valerie Royle-Polkamp and Mary Bowler with guests.



CCD friends and catechists joined the celebration.



Rosaria Rita Caltabiano, Mary Grace McGregor and Catherine Inez Mary Brock with guests.

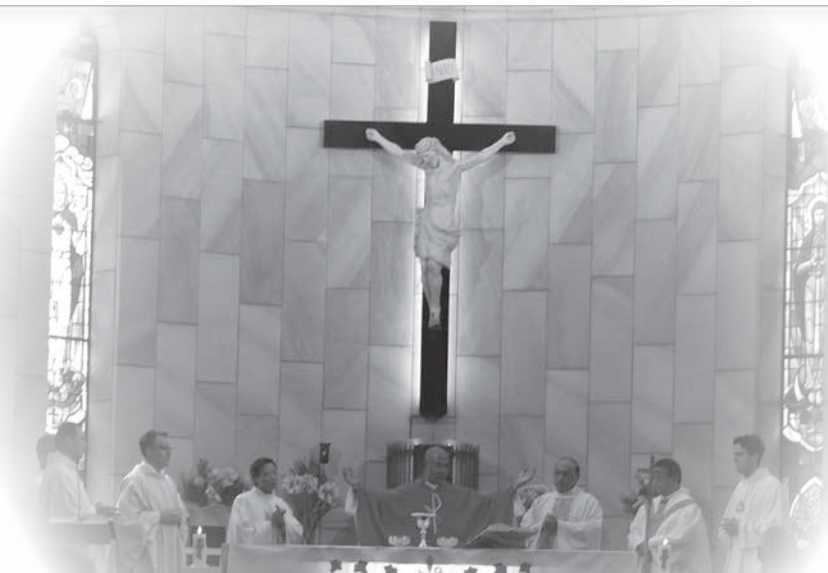
CCD warmly welcomed 13 new Life Members in a special Mass at Lidcombe and lunch at Dooley's Catholic Club on 30 November 2012. Catechists are awarded Life Membership after serving at least 30 years.



Director Robert Haddad



The music led by the choir was beautiful.



Concelebrated Mass at Lidcombe Parish Church



Angela Mangini and Beryl Dinos with guests.



Viviane Felice with husband and daughter.



Anna Rose Furfaro with guests.



Maureen Sullivan with guests.



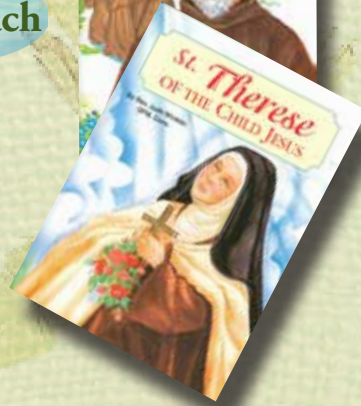
Nurture Faith and Grace



St Joseph Picture Books

Books by Father Lovasik, SVD and by Rev Joudé Winkler, OFM Conv **\$3.45 each**

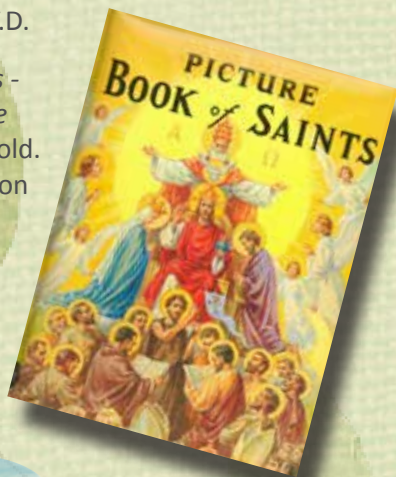
St Joseph Picture Books presents a series of religious books for children. Books are illustrated in full colour and are written simply. The books help young readers better understand the Catholic Faith. Ideal for home or school.



Picture Book of Saints

By Father Lovasik, S.V.D.

Picture Book of Saints - Illustrated Lives of the Saints for young and old. Contains a presentation page. Suitable gift for Confirmation.

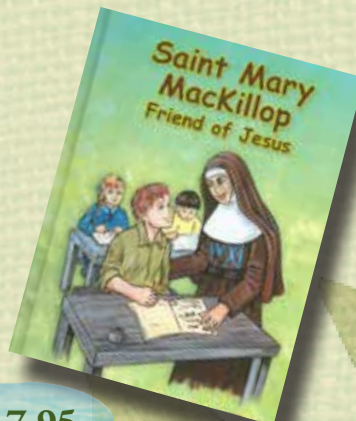


\$14.95

Saint Mary MacKillop Friend of Jesus

By Judith Steers

Its appealing text, accompanied by beautiful colour images, makes this a book children will cherish. A simple quiz on the final pages will aid the children's understanding. For ages 7-11



\$17.95

Join our Birthday Club and receive a 25% discount voucher for your birthday.

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 Polding Centre, Level 1, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney
 PO Box 111, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235
 Tel: (02) 9390 5130 Fax: (02) 9283 5146
 Email: books@ccdssydney.catholic.edu.au
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Online bookshop: www.sydneycatholicbooks.org.au



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.