



## In This Issue

Ash Wednesday	2
Meet the Schuller-Videkas	3
St Catherine's News	5
Maltese Reflections	6
Bushfire Responses	8
WDP's Zimbabwe Focus	9
Coronavirus Update	10

## Our commitment to a new culture of safety

By Fr Fred

Every year our parish works more closely on one of the Eight Gospel Pathways outlined in 'In the Footsteps of Jesus'. In 2018, the Year of the Youth, we reflected on how we as a parish work more closely with our young people. Last year we were called to ecological conversion.

As I contemplated 2020, I came across an article which said that the Catholic Church has acknowledged the number of priests identified by the child abuse royal commission as indefensible, and said it was working hard to make sure the abuse is never again repeated. This prompted me to put forward to the Parish Pastoral Council that, in line with the Eight Gospel Pathways, we should focus on Welcoming and Child Protection.

As a parish, we need to ensure that every child and young person feels that they are safe, each member of the community is well informed on all that must be implemented to make our parish safe and understand why it is important for each member to protect themselves with police checks and the like. Finally, it is of utmost importance that everyone feels welcome in our parish without any distinction or prejudice, especially those on the fringes of society.

But what does that mean for our parish to make changes to protect children, young people and myself into the future?

As a parish priest I know that I am a leader within my parish and need to be instrumental in setting the culture to ensure that my parish is a child-safe environment and that the culture within the parish recognises and values every child and young person. Despite the poor image clergy have suffered because of the scandals, my responsibility is to bring about change.

That's why I believe that one focus of safeguarding our parish is to continue to inform myself, along with other important figures in parish settings, to be leaders of cultures of change. The continuous message is also the key to success. It's paramount that training and awareness-raising sessions are completed by all involved with children and young people. Such people need to be informed of both statutory responsibilities and the expectations of the Archdiocese's Policy and Protocols.

My aim is that no-one misses out and that everyone is well informed in matters such as how to safely recruit, conduct effective background checks and identify potential issues – and what to do if any concerns rise. In other words, it's vitally important that a much greater understanding and awareness of safeguarding principles and how these are applied is developed.

[Continued on page 2](#)



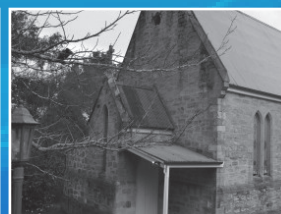
St Matthew's  
Bridgewater



St Joseph's  
Lobethal



St Matthew's  
Birdwood



Our Lady of the  
Rosary



St Catherine's  
Stirling

## *Bushfire ashes a symbol of diocesan solidarity*

*By Fr Fred*

With Ash Wednesday 2020 falling just a few short months after the dreadful fires that resulted in the deaths of more than 200 people, devoured hundreds of homes and other buildings, killed thousands of native animals and livestock and razed millions of hectares of countryside, it's likely that many people, especially in affected areas of the Adelaide Hills, associated the term 'Ash Wednesday' more strongly with bushfires than with an important date in the liturgical calendar.

In a letter dated 3 January 2020, Administrator Delegate Fr Philip Marshall invited parishes "that have experienced fire to collect ashes from the fire which we will collect and which may be used for the approaching Ash Wednesday liturgies as a symbol of our diocesan solidarity with all who have suffered."

After accepting Fr Philip's proposal and while I was on holiday in Malta, I contacted Leon Holmes who patiently sifted burnt wood into ashes and sent them to the Diocese. This made our Ash Wednesday services on 25 February a most moving experience, especially when I told the congregation that our ashes, initially prepared by Laurie Manna from last year's Palm Sunday palm and olive branches, now contained ashes from the bushfires that devastated parts of our parish.

At St Catherine's Catholic School, the children were moved when told the crosses on their foreheads contained ashes from the bushfires. As we were all signed with ash, our thoughts were with all those who have been affected in any way by bushfire.

We prayed that new life arises from the ashes of their hopes and dreams and that the love of God, the joy of Christ's presence and the strength of the Holy Spirit will be with them always. Surely the phrase 'ashes to ashes, dust to dust', the ashes were associated with mourning and sorrow especially those affected by bushfire in our parish who know what it is like to experience feelings of insignificance, powerlessness and mourning.

While natural disasters like bushfires bring death and destruction, they also bring out the best in human nature. Out of the tragedy have come numerous tales of bravery, selflessness and compassion. Volunteer fire fighters put their lives on the line, community groups feed and house the displaced, and people donate generously to fundraising appeals. It is the Easter story, where good emerges from evil, death gives way to new life and hope rises amid despair.

*"It is the Easter story,  
where good emerges  
from evil, death gives  
way to new life and  
hope rises amid despair"*

The bushfire ashes also reminded us of the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires when major fires in the Adelaide Hills, Clare Valley and around Mount Gambier resulted in the death of 28 people, including three Country Fire Service volunteer fire fighters. More than 1,500 people were injured, 383 homes and 200 other buildings destroyed, and some 160,000 hectares burnt.

*Continued from page 1*

## *Our commitment to a new culture of safety*



*We all need to ensure that child abuse never happens again,  
especially in our parish*

And while safeguarding involves training and spreading awareness, its core is prevention. That's why throughout this year, we will host several awareness-raising sessions and exercises in areas such as how to be alert to – and spot – potential signs of grooming and to conduct proper screening of volunteers.

There has been hesitancy and uncertainty about what parishioners should be doing because of the unprecedented nature of the crisis. However, they need to understand how abuse can be detected and prevented. I need to confront the perception among many parishioners that the Church continues to ignore this issue. I am passionate about child protection and want to ensure that child abuse never happens again, especially in my parish.

We all need to respect each other's roles – and the contribution we are each trying to make to the Church – and work together with everyone, within and outside the Church. Complacency among parishioners on this issue cannot be allowed.

To me personally, it is clear that where honest collaboration and consultation occurs among parishioners, we should feel confident that the best systems of reporting, recording and acting are at the forefront of my mind to protect our children today and in the future.





## Adelaide Hills a natural fit for Schuller-Videka family

*As relative newcomers to the Adelaide Hills Catholic Parish, we invited **Margit Schuller-Videka** to introduce herself, her husband and her young daughter to those in the parish who might recognise the faces but know little more. Here's her story...*

My husband Hrvoje, daughter Eva and I moved to the Adelaide Hills in 2018. We were warmly welcomed into St Matthew's Parish in Bridgewater and I still recall with great fondness the first Sunday we attended Mass, Eva was about two years old and Colleen Sim was kind enough to keep her entertained with some books.

As the weeks passed, we came to know more and more people in the congregation and without fail, they have all been friendly, introducing themselves and starting up a conversation. We have found it has helped us settle into what we know is a loving and giving community, led by Fr Fred.

A little about our family: Hrvoje has a Croatian background while I have a Hungarian ancestry. We are fortunate to both speak a second language and last year had the opportunity to travel overseas and show Eva her heritage and meet family. Both Hrvoje and I have been raised in the Catholic faith and are keen for Eva to be similarly raised. We hope that she can connect with God spiritually and socially, learning the positives of Christian values and how these can enrich our lives, guiding us in how we conduct ourselves day-to-day and how we treat each other.

The programs St Matthew's Bridgewater has for children and youth is wonderful to see in action, including the musicians and the weekly Sunday liturgy for children.

Hrvoje and I moved to Canberra for work in 2007 and returned to Adelaide in 2015, before Eva was born, so we could be closer to family.

Eva, Margit and Hrvoje at home in the Adelaide Hills



We were married in 2013 by Fr Alex Vickers in St Laurence's, North Adelaide. Fr Alex also baptised Eva in 2015 at Rosary Church, Prospect. When we moved back from Canberra, we were keen to live somewhere with a community atmosphere, a cooler climate similar to Canberra and somewhere with a connection to the outdoors, as nature has always been important to us.

The Adelaide Hills was a natural fit and we have been very thankful that we are establishing ourselves here and can raise Eva in such beautiful surroundings. Thank you to Fr Fred and all the parishioners for being so generous in your commitment to making St Matthew's Bridgewater the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.

## Wine and cheese evening raises refugee funds, awareness

By Cathie Oswald



Guests seated in a circle engage in conversation with the two speakers

About 40 parishioners, friends and family gathered at St Catherine's School on the evening of 20 February for a Social Justice Group wine and cheese evening to raise funds for the Migrant and Refugee Centre, as well as awareness of the challenges faced by migrants and refugees in their quest for a new life for themselves and their families.

The school library filled with the noisy but pleasant buzz of voices and with a glass in their hands, guests were invited to sit in a circle for a conversation with our two speakers, centre coordinator Mary Ireland and Henrietta from special projects.

With the opportunity for questions and comments, the conversation soon became interactive as members of the audience shared their knowledge of the difficulties faced by migrants and refugees. The stories of individual refugees and the challenges which they face in day-to-day living – like finding housing, feeding and clothing themselves and their families, obtaining visas, completing Centrelink paperwork and finding paid work – gave us a profound appreciation of exactly how high the wall is that they must clear to become members of our Australian community.

The Migrant and Refugee Centre, located on Port Road in Hindmarsh, seeks to offer a 'hand up' to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in need, and in a manner that respects their dignity, shares hope and encourages self-reliance. The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm. It requires almost \$372,000 per annum to operate, with funding almost entirely from community and business donations, together with some 'emergency relief' funding from the Federal Government.

The Social Justice Group was pleased to present Mary Ireland with \$360 raised during the evening. Should you wish to donate to the Migrant and Refugee Centre, cash is always appreciated as the Centre is chronically short of funds. However, there is also a need for blankets, coats and jackets, especially as winter approaches.

## Information sadly lacking in current efforts to attract Maltese chaplains

By Fr Fred



Fr Fred says more needs to be done to encourage Maltese priests to Australia

During my recent visit to Malta, I had the opportunity to speak with my fellow Maltese priests about the situation of the Maltese community in South Australia regarding the Maltese Chaplaincy.

During these conversations, I was given a copy of an email Fr Noel, the Priest's Delegate in Malta, sends to all Maltese priests. The content highlighted the need for chaplains to the Maltese communities in Australia and encouraged those interested in this venture to contact him. We all agreed that given the scant information shared in the email, just about everyone would think twice about moving to Australia as a chaplain.

The e-mail does not guarantee work, not does it give the kind of information that's vital if it is to encourage any priest to come over and work in Australia. While in total agreement, I told them I had no details of the kind of information sent to the Church authorities in Malta by the various Maltese diplomatic missions and other

Maltese organisations across Australia.

That said, I feel inclined to comment at face value on the content of the e-mail by stating the important feedback handed to me by my fellow priests:

First and foremost, it doesn't say which state needs a chaplain for the Maltese community. Neither does it give any sense of security, and you cannot expect a priest to travel to the unknown, live alone and without knowing who will be responsible for him during his stay in Australia.

There is no job description, either. These priests need to know what such a move entails, the visa requirements and the new regulations every archdiocese in Australia applies to all foreign priests coming to serve and help in the Australian Church. They need to know what responsibilities they have as Maltese chaplains, who pays for their airfare and how they will maintain themselves.

Without this important information, hardly any priest would show any interest. And while it may be argued that such details will be discussed with those interested, I can only reiterate the feedback I received: it's extremely difficult for anyone to commit if no such important information is given upfront.

To underline what I'm saying, when I came over to Adelaide in 2009, I was fortunate enough to have been welcomed by Bishop Charles Gauci who, at that time, was parish priest at Noarlunga. I immediately felt 'at home' and he helped me to gradually acquaint myself with the Australian way of life. He journeyed with me to make the

right decisions to stay and above all, he shared his experience – and this helped me to take the responsibility of accepting my role of parish priest in Adelaide.

I can say clearly that without his help, I wouldn't have survived for long in South Australia.

My appeal to the Maltese diplomatic missions and organisations who are in contact with the Church authorities in Malta seeking priests to work with the Australian Maltese communities, especially here in South Australia, is to urgently include such vital information to your requests to encourage any priest from Malta to come and work here in Australia.

"It's extremely difficult for anyone to commit if no such important information is given upfront"



### Are you thinking about selling?

Would you like to know what your most valuable asset could achieve in today's market.  
Call Robert today for a free market appraisal.

Robert D'Amato  
M 0452 544 668 P 08 8271 1111  
robert.damato@harcourts.com.au  
Harcourts VennMillar RLA 266403 414 Goodwood Road

**Harcourts** VennMillar

If your property is currently listed with another agent please disregard this communication.





## St Catherine's Catholic School News

Our correspondent **Krystina Dawe** delves into several Lent-related fundraising initiatives at St Catherine's Catholic School that seek to raise much-needed cash for charities, introduces us to the school captains for 2020 and shares the Year 6 class' Leaders Reflection Day.

[Catholic schools converge for Project Compassion launch](#)



Fr Philip Marshall joined St Catherine's School Captains at the Project Compassion launch

Our School Captains were fortunate to attend the 2020 Project Compassion Launch held this year at St Francis de Sales College in Mount Barker. Attended by several other Catholic schools, the launch adopted the 2020 theme of 'Go Further Together' and we look forward to exploring this within our school community during Lent.

Our representative did our school proud, undertaking numerous activities focussed around the Catholic Social Teaching Principles. There were also speakers who shared with the students their work and the important role that their faith and these Catholic Social Teachings play in their daily lives. We were joined by Fr Philip Marshall and Fr Richard Morris for a liturgy before sharing in lunch together. We extend warm thanks to Oreste Farrugia and the St Francis de Sales community for the hospitality on the day.

[Busy Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday](#)



Project Compassion's 2020 theme is 'Go Further Together'

We have started off Lent with the celebration of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. I extend a huge thank you to our parents and friends who arranged to cook and serve pancakes to the students to support the classroom learning around Shrove Tuesday.

This year we held both an Ash Wednesday Liturgy followed by an Ash Wednesday Mass. Thank you to Fr Fred for guiding us through these and to all the parishioners, friends and family who also attended. The students were engaged in the theme and everyone was encouraged to think about ways in which they can be more like Jesus during this Lenten period.

Finally, Project Compassion boxes were sent home with families and distributed to classes to assist in our fundraising efforts through Caritas for the remainder of the term.

[We salute our 2020 School Captains](#)



Congratulations to our School Captains for 2020

We are thrilled to share the appointment of our School Captains for the year ahead. Chloe, Lucy, Eamon and Jozef are part of our year cohort and were selected as our School Captains as a result of their hard work, positive attitude and the way in which they bring the best of themselves to school each day. We congratulate all our Year 6 students on the dedication they have already shown this year and appreciate the leadership they continue to show within our school, regardless of whether they have the title of School Captain.

*O Lord, bless the 2020 students when they are facing the challenges of being leaders. Give them wisdom, courage and perseverance to do what is good. Make them a good example for their fellow schoolmates as they too follow in your footsteps. Help them to develop into good stewards of time and talents. Help all of us too, dear Lord, to support them in their duties and to nurture them as they grow into young adults.*

[Year 6s contemplate final year of primary schooling at Reflection Day](#)



Year 6 students take time out at Sunset Rock during their Leaders Reflection Day

Our Year 6 students took part in a Leaders Reflection Day at Sunset Rock Uniting Church earlier this term. The day began with Mass with Fr Fred and then was filled with a variety of art and team building activities. The occasion was a great opportunity to step out from the formalities of school life and celebrate their strengths as a united group.

It was wonderful to see students engaging with each other and reflecting on the year which lies ahead in their final year of primary schooling. Thank you to the parents who were able to join us for Mass and to Fr Fred for sharing with us the many forms that compassion and leadership can take.

## My holiday in Malta – in words and pictures

By Fr Fred



Fr Fred with his brother Lino, his sister Tanya and to his right, his sister Maryanne

I arrived in Malta and was so pleased to see my family at the airport. Two years in not that long but it seems to be a long time when you haven't seen your family. Thank God everyone was in good health.

During my stay I lived at the Seminary, a good place to have some quiet time and the opportunity to be by myself.

Although the weather was cold, not unusual in the months of January and February, I was fortunate enough that during my stay I had really good weather. While glad to be living in Australia, you are always attached to your original roots. Even speaking and listening to your language makes you feel proud of your Maltese identity.

The economy is going through a positive phase with around 40,000 new migrants, mainly from Western Europe, working here. However, like anything else, this increase in population has both positive and negative effects.

In December last year, Malta was in the news when our former Prime Minister resigned after months of speculation and, unexpectedly, Dr Robert Abela was elected leader of the Labour Party.

A backbencher in parliament at the time, just 42 years old and with little experience in politics, he is now our Prime Minister. We all hope that he will set the country in the right direction after all the political upheaval of the last few months.

After two years, I had the first taste of my favourite food, rabbit and chips, and Cassata Siciliana, a special cake made from ricotta and covered with a green tasty icing pastry. And while I was careful not to gain weight, I can tell you it wasn't easy not to fall into temptation!

"After two years, I had the first taste of my favourite food, rabbit and chips, and Cassata Siciliana, a special cake made from ricotta and covered with a green tasty icing pastry"

As I said before, I usually mingle with the seminarians, especially during meals, and while much of our conversations were about the bushfires, they were also eager to learn more about my experiences as a pastor in Australia.

I admire their dedication to their vocation as it's not that easy in today's modern world. Still, I am thankful to God that there are 11 seminarians which, although by Maltese standards, it's a very low number.

I also had the opportunity to meet with old friends and some old boys from the college where I taught for so many years. I also caught up with Fr Leonard, who you will remember stayed with me around four years ago. He sends his regards and hopefully he will come back to visit us one day.

I went over to my favourite sister island of Gozo. It's a smaller island but still has that special characteristic of having small villages surrounded by hills and valleys.

Agriculture dominates the landscape and its main citadel on top of a hill dominates the island. I always visit our national Marian Shrine, Ta' Pinu Sanctuary.

It was great that I had the opportunity to celebrate the feast of the Shipwreck of St Paul in my native city, Valletta. This is celebrated every year on 10 February which this year was a Monday. It commemorates St Paul being shipwrecked on the shores of Malta after a severe storm in 61AD. This is recorded in Chapter 27/28 in the Acts of the Apostles.

I also baptised a baby girl, Sirena, who happens to be the niece of my friend Joe who passed away last December. Although it was a happy occasion for the family, they still feel the loss of their beloved Joe.

Thank God that Joe was still alive when his daughter-in-law gave birth to Sirena.



The city of Valletta is decorated for the Feast of St Paul

Continued on page 7





*Continued from page 6*

## *My holiday in Malta – in words and pictures*

My stay in Malta provided the opportunity for me to reflect on myself and my future and it was heartening to realise that my mind and heart is committed to continuing as pastor among you in the Adelaide Hills Parish.

Although I loved being in Malta, I am thankful to God that I am missionary sent by Him to work where I feel that I am really needed. I knew what awaited me on my return, having to deal with issues that arose during my absence. I appreciate, too, that I only need to tackle one challenge at a time.

Finally, I wish to thank all those who took different responsibilities so that the parish ran smoothly during my absence. Without their time and generosity, it would have been very difficult for me to enjoy my holiday.



Fr Fred baptises baby Sirena, the niece of his recently departed friend, Joe

The main altar at Fr Fred's parish church in Malta, St Paul's, is splendidly decorated in celebration of the Feast of St Paul



The famous Cassata Siciliana



Fr Fred's favourite dish, rabbit with chips

EST  1867

**FRANK J  
SIEBERT**

FUNERAL  
DIRECTORS

24 hr phone  
**08 8223 5879**





*precious moments become precious memories*

## *Vinnies volunteers come to aid of those affected by Hills bushfires*

**By Sue Arthurson**

With homes and properties in areas such as Cudlee Creek, Lobethal, Woodside, Harrogate and Mt Torrens badly damaged in the recent bushfires, St Vincent de Paul South Australia (Vinnies) has been collecting donations to distribute to those affected since Christmas 2019.

These funds are being distributed to approved applicants as a grant placed directly into a person's bank account, while Vinnies is also distributing federal government grants of \$1,000 to aid people who are financially stretched following bushfire damage.

To receive one or both grants, applicants need to present in person with identification proving they live or work in a bushfire affected area. Members of the Stirling Vinnies conference have been volunteering at the Lobethal Recovery Centre to help applicants. We were also able to supply vouchers and gift cards for use in Vinnies shops.

Driving into Lobethal, it was quite shocking to see the burnt fields, vineyards and trees, some houses just blackened rubble and fence lines where many of the posts had burnt to ashes. Once in Lobethal, it was clear that the township had been ringed with fire.

We have been talking to people about their experiences and losses in the bushfire. There were extended power outages so that even those whose homes were still intact, lost their Christmas provender due to lack of refrigeration. Many houses had smoke damage often requiring fabric covered lounges, curtains, woollen clothing and carpets to be thrown out. Houses close to the fires sometimes had cracked or broken windows, others water damage, while the more major damage included burnt out houses, sheds with all the farm machinery and tools, loss of hay and stock, loss of tack for horses, plus fences and grazing.

Talking to these people I came to realise that shocking as it may be to lose one's home to fire, it is often worse to lose your present and future livelihood. I spoke to farmers who had worked to save their homes but realised in retrospect that it would have been better to save their sheds with stock feed and tools.

Our work at the Bushfire Recovery Centre continues but is limited to federal loans now as remaining funds are needed in Kangaroo Island. I would like to thank all the generous volunteers who gave up their time to assist.

## *Parish pitches in to prepare and serve meals to Hills Blaze Aid volunteers*

**By Leonie Holmes**

I was very happy to accept the challenge of serving dinners to the Blaze Aid Volunteers on behalf of the Adelaide Hills Catholic Parish when the local Lions Club, who are coordinating the roster, contacted me on Christmas Eve. I knew that I could rely on my fellow parishioners to support me with this effort and I have not been disappointed.

I was given an anonymous donation of meat, so I got my hot pot out and cooked up enough beef curry for 40, enough beef stew for 40 and enough lasagne for 40 and tucked it away in my freezer.

Our first dinner was on 22 January when we served 50 dinners and became quite famous with our photo appearing in the Southern Cross.

Helpers from both ends of the parish arrive at about 4pm bearing desserts and ready to give a hand with preparations, serving and cleaning up afterwards. They also have a chance to enjoy the comradery of the volunteers, when they sit down and enjoy a meal themselves once finished serving everyone at around 8pm.

Before serving dinner, I make a point of saying grace and introducing my wonderful volunteers to the Blaze Aiders. I was surprised when a gentleman came out into the kitchen to thank me for saying grace and said that he had attended several of the dinners and none of the other volunteering churches had said grace, which I found quite surprising.

We have since served 40 dinners on 19 February and a further 30 on 28 February, with the next two lined up for Wednesday 18 March and Tuesday 31 March 31. I'm still looking for volunteers who may be able to come and help or send a dessert for either of these dates, so if you're able to help, please ring me on 0429 679 199.

We all find it very rewarding to serve dinner to these wonderful volunteers, who have been out all day removing burned fences and building brand new ones, which is such a



**Cathie Oswald, Leonie Holmes and Jo Brickhill  
lend a hand at Blaze Aid**

a blessing for people who face the devastation caused by the fires. The dinners are served in the clubrooms at the Lobethal Oval, where the volunteers are camped for however long they have decided to stay. Most of them are grey nomads travelling around Australia or city slickers looking to give service to their country cousins.





## World Day of Prayer raises its voice for a miracle in Zimbabwe

By Pam Broadbridge

The Hills Baptist Church in Aldgate played host to this year's World Day of Prayer event on 6 March where the southern African nation of Zimbabwe came under the spotlight, with former Zimbabwean journalist, TV newsreader and author, Jill Elford (she writes under her maiden name of Baker) sharing insights into the beautiful though troubled country.

Adhering to the theme of 'Rise, take up your mat and walk' and the motto of 'Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action', Jill highlighted the plight of Zimbabwe in recent years and stressed how despite her deep love for Zimbabwe, she, like many of all races, had to walk away.

She added, in unison with her husband Ray, that when it comes to prayer, Zimbabwe requires it in abundance as it is a nation in need of a miracle.

The country, formerly Rhodesia, lies between the Zambezi and Limpopo rivers, with the largest city Harare its capital. Following a protracted guerrilla war, Zimbabwe – which means house of stones – gained independence in 1980 when Jesuit-educated Robert Mugabe became its first Prime Minister and later President, promising a non-racial paradise. Sadly, despite an encouraging start, he increasingly became a power-hungry despot, responsible for countless atrocities and widespread corruption.

"Wherever we are, we continue to dream dreams alive with imaginings of a country where men and women co-exist peacefully, making endless plans together for the good of God's own country."

*Quote from Jill Baker's latest book, 'THE HORNS: Book One of the Zambezi Trilogy'*

Jill with husband Ray at a book signing after her speech



Following a grab of commercial farming land in 2000, the nation spiralled into economic chaos from which many believe it might never recover. Mugabe ruled with an iron fist until overthrown in a bloodless coup in November 2017. He died in September 2019, aged 95.

Jill further noted that while the Australian Government serves the people, Zimbabwe's Government is there to serve themselves, with those in positions of power acquiring obscene wealth while keeping the population in poverty as "starvation is the greatest disciplining force the world has known." The moving and enlightening speech followed a service led by Hills Baptist Aldgate's Fran Spencer. Three candles, representing love, peace and reconciliation, were placed on the altar and Senior Pastor Mark Sanders welcomed the approximately 80 people in attendance while the Riversong Choir was ably led by Janet Leitch.

The morning concluded with a Zulu parting song after which a lovely tea was served.

Our thanks to Hills Baptist Aldgate for a memorable, enjoyable, colourful and musical morning.

## Vinnies Christmas Appeal brings a little Christmas cheer to less fortunate

By Sue Arthurson

The Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2019, which involved receiving monetary donations, non-perishable foods and gifts and selling Columban calendars and cards, raised over \$2,000 for the Stirling conference to use for good works – primarily making hampers.

These contain both staple and festive foods, along with gifts for children, and are provided to needy families as well as lonely individuals.

The generosity of the people of the Adelaide Hills is always a delight, with non-perishable food donations collected at Woolworths in Stirling, Coles Bridgewater and at church. Primary schools in the district also collect food and toys, among them St Catherine's Catholic School, Crafers, Heathfield, Aldgate, Bridgewater, Mylor and Uraidla Primary Schools. The Jesse Tree in the foyers of our Adelaide Hills parish churches further calls for donations of gifts.

Once again, we had a bounty of food and needed to only buy a few items to complete our hampers.

With the Church of Christ kindly giving us rooms in the Aldgate Village Well to store food and gifts and the kitchen and café area to pack the hampers, Fr Fred opened our packing sessions with a blessing and a prayer. We packed 62 hampers and 10 care packages for 72 households, providing a Christmas lift for 235 people, of



Parishioners help with the packing of Vinnies Christmas hampers

for 72 households, providing a Christmas lift for 235 people, of which 110 were adults and 127 children.

Donations received after the packing days will be used to help companions in need, particularly those families affected by the catastrophic Cudlee Creek bushfires.

A special thanks to Jo Jarvis and Pastor Antoni from the Church of Christ, as well as the people of the Adelaide Hills parish who donated and collected goods from schools and supermarkets and helped to pack the hampers.

## Archdiocese guidelines to help prevent coronavirus spread

*With the threat of coronavirus impacting many areas of our lives, the Archdiocese of Adelaide and the Diocese of Port Pirie have written to parishes recommending how we might help to prevent its spread in our communities. We share the letter, from **Apostolic Administrator** and **Bishop of Port Pirie**, **Bishop Greg O'Kelly**, co-signed by **Administrator Delegate Fr Philip Marshall***

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

At present there is no indication of the spread of coronavirus in South Australia. This offers us time to consider how we might respond to the virus before any urgency arises, and to play our part in preventing spread in the community. After extensive consultation with medical experts, and in order to be well prepared I am implementing the following guidelines effective from this coming weekend, Sunday 8 March.

I ask that parishes and communities throughout the Archdiocese of Adelaide and Diocese of Port Pirie observe the following temporary protocols until the risk of spread has passed:

1. Ensure that shared church and office surfaces and equipment are kept clean with use of disinfectant. (Clinell Universal Wipes are effective and inexpensive.)
2. Cease distribution of Holy Communion by Chalice for the time being.
3. Cease distribution of Holy Communion on the tongue for the time being in order to avoid transfer of saliva.

4. Ensure that all Ministers of Holy Communion clean their hands with an alcohol-based gel or rub before and after distributing Holy Communion and avoid all skin to skin contact.

5. Temporarily empty Holy Water stoops of water.

6. Make alcohol-based gels or rubs available at entrances and around our churches and shared spaces.

7. Avoid physical contact at the Sign of Peace for the time being.

8. If anyone has been in contact with a coronavirus-affected place or person within the last 14 days and is experiencing cold- or flu-like symptoms, remain away from Mass till the symptoms have passed or cleared by a doctor. Their Sunday Mass obligation will be met by a time of prayer at home.

I thank you for your support in implementing these temporary measures which may offer comfort to those who are experiencing any anxiety at this time and will hopefully assist in supporting the general welfare of our Catholic and wider community.

Yours in Christ

### ADELAIDE HILLS PARISH MASS TIMES

St Matthew's Church, Bridgewater  
1 Wembley Avenue  
Saturday Vigil – 6.00pm  
Sunday – 10.30am

St Matthew's Church, Birdwood  
Lot 95 Shannon Street  
First & Third Sunday – 8.30am

St Joseph the Worker Church, Lobethal  
38 Ridge Road  
Second, Fourth & Fifth Sunday – 8.30am

Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Stirling East  
135 Old Mount Barker Road  
Sunday – 5.30pm



### Deadlines for forthcoming issues of *The Bridge*

If you're planning to submit something to The Bridge for the next three issues, please note the following deadlines:

- April – Friday 27 March
- May – Friday 24 April
- June – Friday 29 May

Your contributions can be emailed to [paul@wordcafe.com.au](mailto:paul@wordcafe.com.au) or dropped off at the parish house.

Thank you

Paul Robinson (editor)  
Lorraine D'Amato (graphic designer)





## Teutonic times in Betty's kitchen

*There's a definite Teutonic thread to **Betty White's** latest recipe offerings, with the much-loved potato salad – although she has applied an interesting twist to this one – and a mouth-watering take on the classic old apple cake. Over to Betty...*

Let's get things underway with a real family favourite, my **Caramelised Onion Potato Salad**.

This recipe comfortably feeds four people and requires:

2 tablespoons of olive oil

600g of red onions, halved, thinly sliced

1½ tablespoons of white balsamic vinegar

1 tablespoon of brown sugar

1kg of chat potatoes, halved (see note)

½ cup of thinly sliced chargrilled red capsicum

½ cup of whole-egg mayonnaise

2 tablespoons of finely chopped fresh dill

1 tablespoon of lemon juice

1 tablespoon of drained baby capers, rinsed and chopped

Heat oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Cook the onion, stirring, for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden. Add vinegar and sugar. Cook, stirring occasionally, for two minutes or until onion is golden and soft. Set aside.

Meanwhile, place the potatoes in a large saucepan. Cover with cold water, bring to the boil over high heat, reduce heat to medium and cook for 10 to 12 minutes or until just tender. Drain and set aside to cool completely. Place the onion mixture, potato and capsicum in a large bowl, combine the mayonnaise, dill, lemon juice and capers in another bowl and season with salt and pepper. Add the potato mixture, toss to combine and serve.

NOTE: If potatoes are different sizes, cut the large ones into thirds and leave the very small ones whole. This will help potatoes cook in the same amount of time.



Caramelised onion potato salad goes with everything, it's even good on its own



German apple cake is Gwen Noye's favourite...

Now for one of Gwen Noye's favourite recipes, the **German Apple Cake**.

Ingredients comprise:

125g of butter or margarine

90g (½ cup) of white sugar (I use caster)

1 cup of self-raising flour, sifted

1 egg

Then there's the filling:

3 cooking apples

½ teaspoon of cinnamon

¼ teaspoon of nutmeg

2 tablespoons of sultanas

1 tablespoon of brown sugar

Lemon juice

Melt the butter in large saucepan, add the white sugar and stir until it is just beginning to dissolve. Add the flour and stir well, beat egg and add to form a mix very much like a dough. Grease a seven-inch round cake tin and, using your fingers, spread half the cake mixture on the bottom of the tin before covering with sliced apple. Mix the sultanas, sugar and spices and sprinkle over apple slices and then sprinkle with lemon juice. Roll the remainder of the dough into teaspoon size balls, press lightly and place evenly on top of apples. Cook in a moderate oven for about 45 minutes, remove, sprinkle with icing sugar. It's great served hot or cold with whipped cream.

### Our Lady of the Rosary Church

Is an attractive, historic (1881) stone church in a lovely garden setting. It is available for weddings. The church has seating for 80 to 100 people. To make a booking or to enquire, please call the Parish Office on 8339 1608



This directory is constantly changing. If you want to volunteer for any of the Parish activities please contact the Parish office.

1 Wembley Ave (PO Box 718), Bridgewater SA 5155.

P: 08 8339 1608 W: [www.adelaidehillsparish.com.au](http://www.adelaidehillsparish.com.au) E: [adelaidehillsp@ozemail.com.au](mailto:adelaidehillsp@ozemail.com.au)

## Parish Priest

Fr Alfred Farrugia 8339 1608

## Pastoral Coordinator

Cathie Oswald 8339 1608

## Parish Secretary

Therese Franco 8339 1608

## Baptism Teams

Helen Cantwell 8390 3290  
Maria Thompson 8388 7742  
Anne Moore 8568 2800  
Sue Streich 8568 2858  
Deb Stapleton 0408 835 990  
Pam Broadbridge 8339 5013

## Catholic Women's League

Barbara Mott (Bridgewater) 8339 1083  
Anne McEvoy (Birdwood) 8568 2394

## Child Protection

Teresa Hudson 8301 6629

## Children's Liturgy

Jane Van Mierle 8339 2609

## Choir

Damien Mansfield 8339 4133

## Christian Life Communities

Helen Cantwell 8390 3290

## Finance and Maintenance Committee

Chairperson - Paul Howe 8388 5281

## Birdwood Contact

Leon & Leonie Holmes 8568 2319

## Hills Combined Christian Churches

Cathy Oswald 0428 244 956  
Francis McEvoy 8568 2394

## Liturgy

Birdwood - Fr Alfred Farrugia 8339 1608  
Lobethal - Fr Alfred Farrugia 8339 1608

## Men's Spirituality Coordinators

Paul Somers 8339 5118  
Dan De Fazio 8339 3393

## Music Coordinator

Sean Van der Linden 8339 8195

## Our Lady of the Rosary Community Rep

Debbie Somers 8339 5118

## Parish Atrium

Sue Sachse 0431 117 840

## Parish Pastoral Council

Chair Catherine Simes 0411 759 491

## Prayer Group

Christina Way 8339 1825

## Sacraments

Please contact Parish House 8339 1608

- Baptism
- Weddings
- Reconciliation
- Communion to the sick
- Religious Education

## St Catherine's Catholic School

22 Ayers Hills Rd, Stirling SA 5152 8238 8238  
Acting Principal - Erika Dixon  
School Board Chair - David Hutton

## St Martha's Meals

[meals4stmartha@gmail.com](mailto:meals4stmartha@gmail.com)

## St Matthew's Sewing Group

Stasia Duszynski 8339 4396

## St Vincent de Paul Society

Sue Arthurson 8339 8312  
Leonie Holmes 8568 2319

## Social Justice Group

Cathie Oswald 0428 244 956

## WHS Volunteer

Pat Wheeler 8339 2222

## Youth Group

Jessica Sachse 0413 915 800

Parish office email: [adelaidehillsp@ozemail.com.au](mailto:adelaidehillsp@ozemail.com.au)

Parish website: [adelaidehillsparish.com.au](http://adelaidehillsparish.com.au)

Bridge email: [thebridge@ozemail.com.au](mailto:thebridge@ozemail.com.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/adelaidehillsparish](https://www.facebook.com/adelaidehillsparish)