

CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

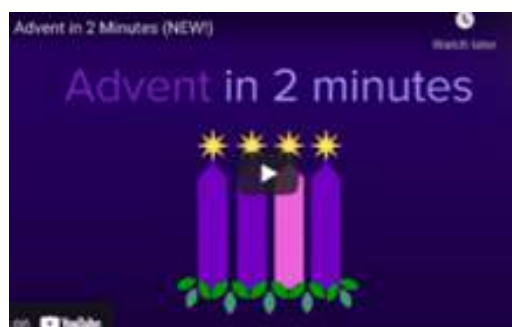
Dear Catechists and Coordinators,

I hope this message finds you well with only 20-something more 'sleeps' until Christmas. Yes, our little ones here at home are on countdown with tangible excitement: two Lego Christmas trees have been built already!

They also like the new **Share Christmas Joy** CCD webpage with its lighting-a-candle Advent-Christmas prayers and Jesus' Birthday ideas. Our favourite video so far in the webpage's My Catholic Advent & Christmas digital booklet is "Advent in 2 minutes" – with thanks to CCD Broken Bay for sharing.

Christmas message for Catholic SRE families

Catechist Coordinators have been sent email templates to ask all schools to make our SRE families aware of CCD's **Share Christmas Joy** webpage and, in primary schools, to help send home Student Activity Books with a hardcopy Christmas message inserted (where possible) along with the new Catholic SRE Certificates for Year 6 students – all of which provide links to our parishes and Sydney Catholic Youth team.



Share Christmas Joy

#ShareChristmasJoy – Advent and Christmas digital booklet to view and other family-fun activities to do

<https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/share-christmas-joy>

*CCD NEWSLETTER INFORMATION/LINKS ARE FOR CATECHIST PERSONAL USE ONLY

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The CCD Office will close on Wednesday 22 December 2021 and will re-open on Wednesday 6 January 2022.



Supporting
Parish Catechists



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY

From the Director ...

...continued from Page 1

Return of SRE

Given NSW's rapidly evolving 'reopening' plan, the revision of health restrictions to allow SRE to return in Term 4 was unexpected, even by the Department of Education.

CCD's Return of SRE Guide was sent to Clergy and Coordinators to help you consider, as a catechist team and with schools, whether or not a return this year was possible. I've heard good reports of how grateful schools have been for your kind negotiations and how willing schools are to send your tailored SRE Update/Christmas messages to our SRE families.

Please be assured that you are greatly appreciated, including by our government as those of us who were able to join the recent online Celebration of SRE heard from Dom Perrottet, our new Premier; Sarah Mitchell, Education Minister; Chris Minns, Opposition Leader; and, Prue Car, Shadow Education Minister.

Catechist recruitment

Recruitment is vital – even if you have your classes covered, I recommend finding helpers to be a helpful presence and to enjoy a tea or coffee afterwards. Again, our Clergy have been asked to show parishioners Catechist recruitment videos before or after Masses – please encourage them to do so (see video links to the right).

Sacramental Preparation

Gratia Series children's activity book PowerPoints with voiceovers/scripts are available to help run online groups and guide parents at home, which have received great feedback: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/sacraments/>

Thank you for your prayers and constant support of 'the other half' of our Catholic families in public schools. St Joseph, pray for us.

Doug Mawhinney
Director - CCD Sydney

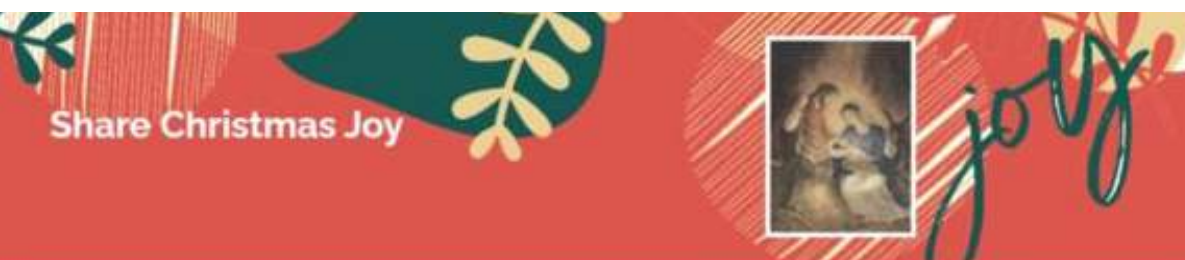


CCD Youtube Recruitment Video Links:

Video 1 - <https://youtu.be/IOtaDbCaVTo>

Video 2 - <https://youtu.be/dfkSB9IPIDk>

Video 3 - <https://youtu.be/oVIB7-NUfu0>



Catechist Coordinator Reminders

COLAL BOOK ORDER FOR 2022



For all book orders and merchandise queries contact:

books@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Phone: Priscilla on 9307 8340

ccd.sydneycatholic.org

www.mustardseed.org.au



Catechist Sunday 2022

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Sydney will be celebrating Catechist Sunday on 6 February 2022. Alternatively, some parishes may choose another Sunday that may suit the parish and catechists.

Coordinators will receive certificates for 5, 10, and 15 years of service before Christmas. Please look out for these.

This pack will also include training certificates for the catechists that have completed all 5 units of a particular level, during the past few months of 2021.

Save the date for the 2022 Coordinator Meetings

Central Area

Monday 24 January - Holy Innocents' Parish Hall, Corner Queens Rd & Cheltenham Rd, Croydon Park

Southern Area

Tuesday 25 January - Miranda CCD Office

or

Wednesday 2 February - St Thomas More Parish Hall, Brighton

Eastern & Northern Areas

Monday 31 January - Polding Centre - to be confirmed

Western Area

Friday 4 February - All Saints Parish (Loreto Place)
48 George Street, Liverpool

Catechist Coordinator Reminders

Catechist Recruitment

The following Catechist recruitment ad is being recommended to Parish Priests this week for inclusion in parish bulletins. This ad may (a) help to meet local needs and (b) to recommend a regular weekly spot, where this is not already the practice, given recruitment is vital:

Become a Catechist or Helper in 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022.

Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools.

Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>

"Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done"- Rose.

Talk with Fr (INSERT NAME) as Parish Priest or Catechist Coordinator (INSERT NAME/CONTACT DETAILS)

Recruitment Posters

Posters for parish display have been delivered or mailed out to all coordinators. Should you require extra copies, kindly contact your FEO.

WWCC - Working with Children Check

Your WWCC needs to be renewed every five years. You cannot teach SRE with an expired WWCC number, or one that has not been verified by your parish. When you receive your new expiry date, remember to advise your parish office.

To update your your WWCC follow link below:

<https://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

FEAST DAYS AND DAYS OF SOLEMNITY

30 November
St Andrew

3 December
St Francis Xavier

6 December
St Nicholas

7 December
St Ambrose

8 December
**Immaculate
Conception of
the Blessed
Virgin Mary**

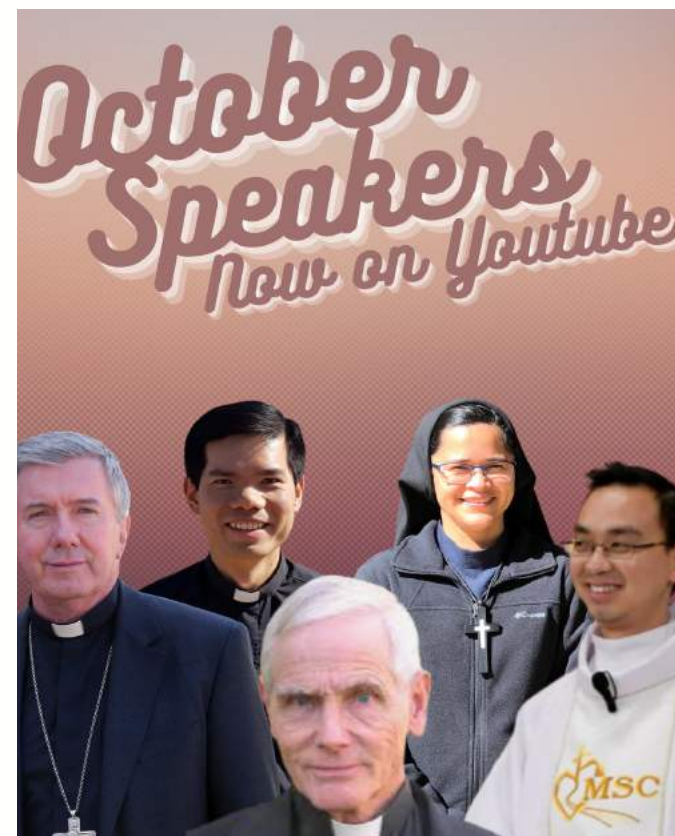
13 December
St Lucy

14 December
**St John of the
Cross**

Catechist Training

2022 training dates will be published in the December Newsletter

CCD Faith Formation Series via Zoom



What is a Catechist by Sr Jose Maria, RSM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8m9Qw4LZS8>

The Power of the Rosary by Fr John Flader

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1ecF77BUAc>

St John Vianney: A Model Catechist during a time of upheaval.

By Fr Dominic Nguyen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LY_kHLjvil8

Heart Spirituality by Fr Khoi Nguyen, MSC

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0qJw1T7_dxo

Meeting Jesus in the Mysteries of the Rosary by Archbishop Prowse (Canberra-Goulburn)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YWJf7cOK2U>

Please visit our YouTube page and enjoy the choices available to you on-demand:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpE0VVfzzuE9F12ngh-9KXA>

We Remember

Margaret Frances Cudmore	Padstow	December 2020
John Francis Cavanagh	Annandale	January 2021
Julie Geer	Engadine	March 2021
Sr Carmel Clancy	Ex CCD Staff Member	March 2021
Dr Bertha de Souza	Cronulla	March 2021
Mary Dicconson	Smithfield	April 2021
Kathleen Latham	Mascot	April 2021
John McGrath	Padstow	May 2021
Vicki Rolland	Cronulla	June 2021
Mary Wilkins	Lurnea	June 2021
Inez Mullen	Peakhurst	July 2021
Marielle Martens	Moorebank	August 2021
Eileen Meier	Punchbowl	September 2021
Pauline Roberts	Randwick	September 2021
Rita Anne Margaret Kirkland	Engadine	September 2021
Charles Watt	Fairfield	October 2021
Sr Judith Clark	Concord West	October 2021
Lorraine Grace	Strathfield South	October 2021
Patricia Sharp	Lurnea	November 2021

*Grant all
those who
have died
the grace
of eternal
light and
life.
Amen.*



Vale Pauline Roberts

Pauline started in this ministry back in 1970. She was one of our oldest Catechists who taught scripture at Rainbow and Cowper Street Public Schools and even coordinated the sacraments for the Public and Catholic schools for Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Randwick.

Despite her fight with cancer and many surgeries, she was wholeheartedly committed to teaching scripture in Rainbow and Cowper Street and was always in full attendance. However, two years ago, Pauline had to become a relief catechist because of her failing health.

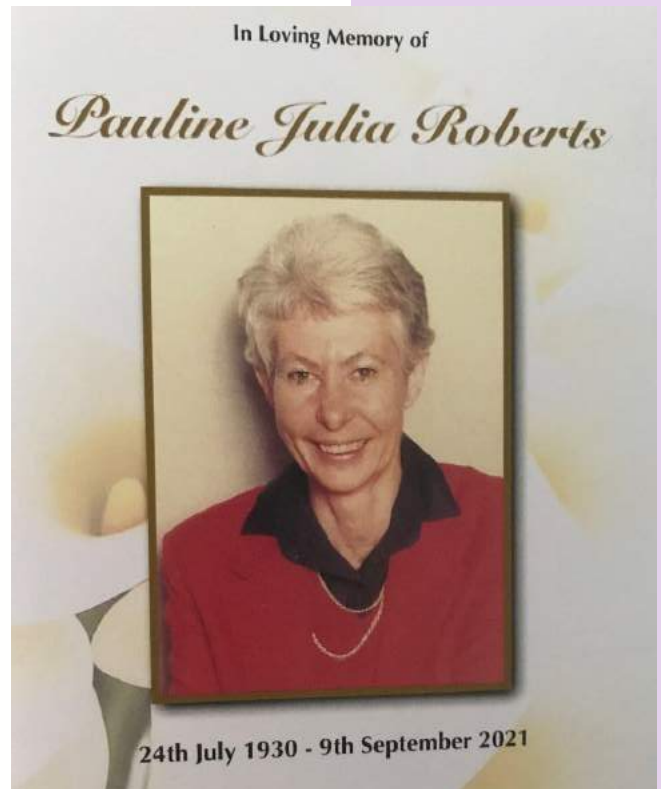
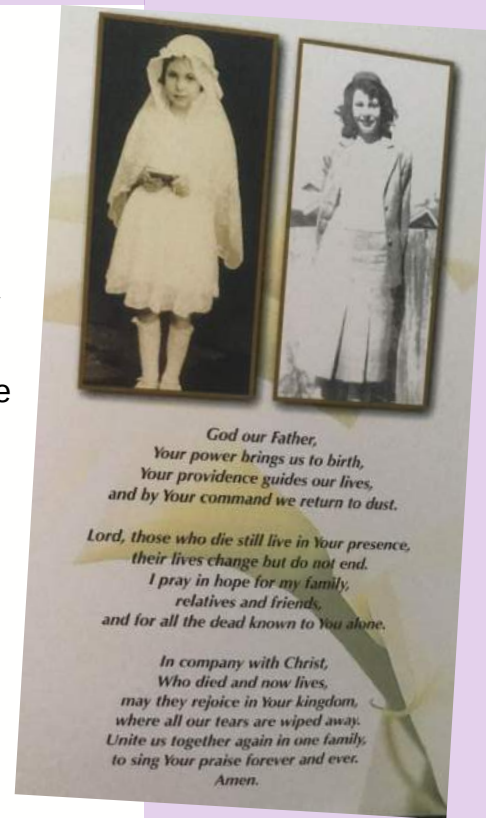
In her words, "Do not ever take me off the Catechists' Team ... it will kill me". It meant so much to her, and her students loved her immensely. We are all going to miss her so much.

Pauline Roberts passed into Eternity on 9 September 2021 after a long fight with cancer, leaving behind three daughters and a son.

Due to Covid restrictions, we couldn't attend her funeral, so Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catechists and the Parish Priest and staff held a memorial Mass on 9 October 2021 for the repose of her soul. Fr Peter Guy MSC officiated the memorial Mass.

Farewell, dear Pauline.
May her soul Rest In Peace.

*by Mary Bhalla
Catechist Coordinator
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Randwick*



As seen on Facebook & Instagram



CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools

November 5 at 4:53 PM · 🌐

Today, CCD Staff - Anita, Suzanne and Vincent went to the Seminary of the Good Shepherd to thank the 3rd Year seminarians for their time and efforts in conducting Catholic Scripture Classes in public high schools this year.

We also got the chance to welcome the 2nd year seminarians and orient them for next year as they embark on teaching high school students as part of their formation.

Thank you to Fr Simon for his guidance and prayers. We look forward to our official training in early February, 2022.

Please continue to pray for all seminarians. ❤️🙏



CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools

November 9 at 5:58 PM · 🌐

This afternoon the Premier of NSW, Dom Perrottet addressed over 800 SRE Providers and Teachers from different faiths to celebrate Special Religious Education in NSW.

He particularly thanked all faith communities for their generosity, care and contribution in enriching Australia's culture and making our society whole. 🍌🍌🍌

Watch this short clip from our Premier from today's celebration.

Let us continue to pray for him and his ministry, as he leads the people of NSW. 🙏

Thank you @dom.perrottet

[#premierofnsw](#) [#specialreligiouseducation](#)
[#celebration](#) [#Catholic](#) [#ccdsydney](#)

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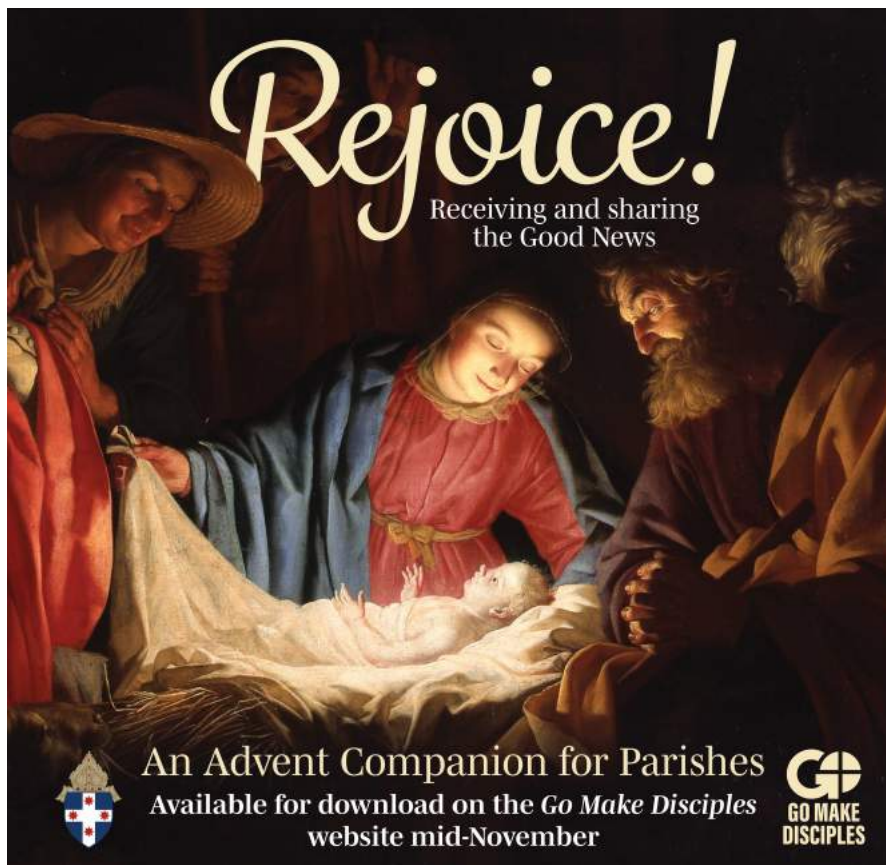
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CCD Sydney -
Catholic Scripture
in Public Schools

Advent



Rejoice! Receiving and Sharing the Gift of the Good News - Advent Companion Coming Soon

Churches have reopened, and Advent will soon be upon us. With gratitude in our hearts, let us gather in our parishes to prepare a welcome for the newborn Jesus at Christmas and to be channels of His peace and joy to those around us. Joining or leading an Advent group is a great way to do this.

The Parish Renewal Team has developed an Advent Companion containing Gospel readings for Sundays and Christmas Day, spiritual reflections by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, Professor Tracey Rowland, Sr Susanna Edmunds OP, Fr Anthony Robbie, and Elizabeth Arblaster, and other resources for meditation.

Designed for individual or group prayer, either in-person or online.

The resource will be available for download on the Go Make Disciples website in mid-November.

For more information, contact Helen Wagner at helen.wagner@sydneycatholic.org

Contact Us

For all general enquiries, please contact the CCD office on 9307 8330. If the office is unattended, kindly leave a message and your call will be attended to as soon as practical. Alternatively, your Faith Education Officer can be contacted via email as listed below.

CCD TEAM AND CONTACT DETAILS

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CCD OFFICE/ADMINISTRATION: Laura Argiro Mon/Tue/Wed
Verna Wing Wed/Thur/Fri

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