



Spotlight on Pastoral Services

Parker-Moffit Bequest Society
– a lasting legacy

Staff member Tomasa Morales
wins CSSA Award

80 years of caring
for the community

Message from the CEO



While Christmas is a time of celebration, joy and togetherness it is also a time for reflection and giving thanks to those who surround us and bring richness to our lives.

When I reflect on the past year, I am at the one time proud and humbled by our organisation and the outcomes we have achieved for our clients and

those who came to us for care. This pride extends to those whom we go to care for, through the chaplaincies of our Pastoral Services.

The strength and grace of a Chaplain is something to celebrate and commend, and in this edition of CONNECT we put the spotlight on our Pastoral Services and the chaplaincies that fall within it. As a former Prison Chaplain, I'm all too aware of how Christmas can bring to the fore loneliness, loss and despair. That experience will be common to many of those in hospital, in prison or juvenile detention, or living within the isolation and loneliness of a chronic condition such as HIV/AIDS.

The effect of the work of our chaplains cannot be underestimated as is well illustrated by some fantastic testimonials in the recently launched "An Exploration of Catholic Prison Ministry" report authored by CatholicCare Board member Dr. Ruth Webber.

As the year comes to a close, there is much to be grateful for and much to look forward to. I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of our Board, staff and clients, to thank you all for supporting our work. It is because of you that in 2015, we will celebrate 80 years of CatholicCare caring for the community. We are planning a range of events and activities to celebrate our achievements and look forward to commemorating this milestone with you.

On behalf of everyone at CatholicCare, I wish you and your families a happy Christmas and much love, hope, peace, joy and success in the New Year.

Blessings

Fr Joe Caddy



BEQUEST Parker-Moffitt Bequest Society – a lasting legacy

Bequests are of lasting significance to CatholicCare and play an important part in ensuring our work continues into the future.

We rely on the generous support of philanthropists and visionary people to help us achieve our vision of 'life to the full' for families and communities.

In March 2015, Fr Joe Caddy will host an exclusive INVITATION ONLY soiree at the Cardinal Knox Centre to talk about our work, and acknowledge the generosity of those who remembered us in 2014.

It is a fantastic opportunity for like-minded people to come together, meet Fr Joe and learn more about our activities and how we make use of our bequest income.

If you are considering a gift or would like an exclusive invitation to attend this event, please email bequests@ccam.org.au.

For information on the Bequest Society or the type of bequests that can be made visit www.ccam.org.au/bequests or call Sharyn McBride on 9287 5529 or 0418 984 681.

Parker Moffitt Bequest Society

<p>1992 Agnes Stone 1993 Sheila Jane Kennedy 1994 Charles Jane O'Brien 1995 Julia Anne Galt 1996 Margaret Demerouti 1997 Anne Cook 1998 Philip Perkins 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100</p>	<p>1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100</p>	<p>1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100</p>	<p>1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100</p>
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www.ccam.org.au

Roll Call of Gratitude 2014

- Estate of Desmond Michael Fricker
- Estate of Margaret Rose
- Estate of Mrs E M Walker
- Estate of Warren Ross Sloan
- Estate of David John McKenna
- Estate of Georgena E Bradshaw
- Estate of Jean St George Kerr
- Estate of Margaret Ann Pearce



SPOTLIGHT

'Enabling the expression of the soul'

By Paul Zammit, Senior Manager, Pastoral Services

As Christmas draws near, and the commercialisation of it aside, we especially think about the faith and familial aspects that make this a very special time. But what if you were in hospital with a serious illness; dealing with a profound loss; in prison and separated from those you love; or maybe on the inside of a youth correctional facility; or living with the isolation and loneliness of an illness like HIV/AIDS?

Pastoral Services at CatholicCare supports the ministry of our teams of Chaplains that pastorally accompany people and their families in various public hospitals, in the broader community with people living with HIV/AIDS, with the men and women in our prisons across Victoria, and with our young people in the youth justice correctional facilities in Parkville and Malmsbury.

What is chaplaincy?

It is important to firstly say something about pastoral care, because Chaplaincy is a very particular form of pastoral outreach. All of us are called to be pastoral in one way or the other: to have a concern about the wellbeing of the other, to demonstrate warmth and positive regard, to bring a sense of compassion and empathy to all that we do – these are all important ingredients that make up what I like to call a “pastoral sensibility”.

Chaplaincy can best be described as a ministry that gives a particular form of expression to the Church’s pastoral sensibility: its concern for those who are experiencing a sense of disconnection from those things in life which ordinarily give us a sense of meaning, purpose, and being loved and valued for who we are.

Where ever one may be in their journey of faith, chaplains glean from the very example of Jesus, to meet the person at where they are, listen to their story, create a relationship of trust, and engender in the person the possibility that even in the darkest and bleakest of moments, that hope is always there, ready to be “rediscovered” in our deepest self.

Why are chaplains so passionate about their work?

Try to imagine some of the things that may be going on for you if you, or someone very close to you, was seriously ill in hospital, or alone and frightened in their first week of a very long sentence in prison, or just a kid in a Youth correctional facility, or silently grappling with the prejudices and judgments that come with living with HIV/AIDS.

What is most affirming for our chaplains is the feedback that sometimes comes back to them when people in these situations share something of their pastoral encounter with a chaplain.

An example that comes to mind is that of a woman, towards the end of a long stay in hospital, who was



Our dedicated Chaplains

PICTURE SUPPLIED BY CATHOLICCARE

Chaplaincy is both a ministry and a professional discipline. It requires much more than good intentions. Certainly, the capacity to truly listen without imposition or judgment is integral to the role. In addition however, there are qualifications and competencies such as studies in theology and the social sciences, supervised field training and much more that are vital if one is to be an effective chaplain.

keen to introduce the chaplain who had been regularly visiting her, to her family.

“This is John, from pastel care...” After much shared laughter, she continued, “Oh dear did I say pastel, I meant pastoral care. You see, one of the things that I got in touch with was the need to make some changes to my life, to reconnect with the things that I have let go of for so many years. One of these is pastel drawing... and other things that nourish the soul. I ended up in hospital because my heart gave in, medically, but also spiritually.”

This is why we are so passionate about our work. We seek to enable the expression of the soul, to help a person reconnect with all that nourishes their spirit; and when you see this really happening for a person it is a wonderful affirmation of why we do what we do.

Church appeal

Thank you to all donors who supported our Church Appeal.

To date, you have raised \$278,498 to help us to fulfil our mission to build stronger families and communities.

It is an amazing effort and we are truly grateful.



How do Pastoral Services make a difference?

One of the ways of showing how chaplaincy can make a difference is by telling the stories of people who have been pastorally accompanied by a chaplain. There is research from around the world that talks about the ways in which the ministry of the chaplain can make a difference.

A good example of this research is the work done by Dr. Ruth Webber, Honorary Professor at Australian Catholic University and member of the CatholicCare Board of Directors. Ruth authored a research paper about Prison Chaplaincy and the ways this ministry makes a difference in the lives of women and men in the prisons and their families. It is captured beautifully in the words below of Sr Mary O'Shannassy who leads the Prison Chaplaincy team.

'We believe that at the heart of our Ministry is to bring the good news of God's love to people who, in general, are used to anything but good news. We meet people at their most fragile...and this is as close as you can get to the gospel spirit. We try to offer women and men the space to share their story ... so we build bridges of trust. Through our Ministry the prisoners have the opportunity to recognise love in their frequently chaotic lives. As chaplains it is a matter of discovering the goodness that is at work in their lives, assisting them in getting to know their God, who has always been there'

(see report, 'I was in prison...' An exploration of Catholic Prison Ministry Victoria which can be found on our website)

To sum up

Listening with infinite respect and non-judgmental care is the hallmark of Chaplains, workers and volunteers. Their work is embedded in the ministry of hope and compassion and most importantly acknowledges the dignity of each individual whom they serve.



L-R: Sr Mary O'Shannassy, Dr Ruth Webber, Fr Joe Caddy and Monsignor Greg Bennet

PICTURES BY FIONA BASILE

'An exploration of Catholic Prison Ministry'

'I was in prison... an exploration of Catholic Prison Ministry' was launched on 7 October by Monsignor Greg Bennet, Vicar General, Archdiocese of Melbourne at the Cardinal Knox Centre.

The report, authored by Dr Ruth Webber, and commissioned by Catholic Social Services Victoria and CatholicCare, builds on interviews and literature to explore the operations of Catholic Prison Ministry Victoria.

Dr Ruth Webber is a distinguished sociologist, CatholicCare Board member and an honorary Professor at Australian Catholic University.

To view the report visit www.ccam.org.au/reports



Dr Ruth Webber



Save the date Mass of Appreciation

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral,
East Melbourne

Date: Sunday 1 March 2015

Time: 11.00am.

Formal invitations with further details will be sent to donors in mid-January 2015.



Congratulations to Tomasa Morales – winner at CSSA Awards

Tomasa Morales, Team Leader for our Refugee Settlement Program in Dandenong was acknowledged with a Merit Award for Excellence in Service by an Individual, The Perkins Award, at the 2014 Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) Awards on Tuesday 4th November.

Tomasa, a refugee herself, has overcome many obstacles in her life. She was 14 years old when soldiers came to her village in El Salvador and massacred 60 people. Tomasa and her family ran and hid in the mountains to escape and that is where they, along with nearly 100 other villagers, spent the next 3 years. They kept on the move; the soldiers never far behind. They travelled on foot, often for days at a time, with no rest. In winter they slept under sheets of plastic. Eventually after three years she and her immediate family arrived at San Antonio refugee camp in Honduras and were granted asylum.

Just before her 18th birthday, Tomasa joined CRIPDES, a social justice movement in Honduras. She spent the next ten years as a human rights activist, before arriving in Australia, with her husband and children, as a refugee herself.

In the words of the CSSA judges, Tomasa is a fantastic example of someone using their own experiences to help others.

“Besides our Indigenous brothers and sisters, every Australian has come from somewhere else, though we often forget this,” noted the judges. *“Tomasa though has not forgotten her past and builds on her heritage and experiences to assist others through the Refugee Settlement Program.”*

It is through her understanding and shared experience that Tomasa offers hope and support to those who have experienced a similar journey, fleeing their homeland to come to Australia seeking a new life.”

All of us at CatholicCare are extremely proud of Tomasa and her achievement. She provides exceptional leadership and service to our Refugee Settlement Program; and demonstrates empathy, passion and dedication to the families whom she supports.

The 12th Annual Catholic Social Services Australia Awards were announced at Parliament House, Canberra in the presence of Senators and Members of Federal Parliament.



PICTURE COURTESY OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AUSTRALIA



In 2015, CatholicCare will celebrate 80 years of caring for the community.

To commemorate and celebrate our history, we are planning a range

of special events and activities to involve our donors, clients and the community.

Please keep an eye out for the events calendar on our website – we would love you to join in the celebrations.

We would also love to hear from any of our supporters who may be celebrating their own 80th birthday milestones. What does turning 80 mean to you?

Send us an email at fundraising@ccam.org.au or phone us on 9287 5588.

Christmas tips

Make your own gift tags

Cut up those left over Christmas cards and create your own gift tags – a fun activity where the little ones can join in.

Share the cost

If you're hosting a get together, ask everyone to bring a little something. Whether it's food, drink or crackers, guests won't mind spending a few dollars each.

Don't get caught out with baking

Stock up early on the basics: eggs, butter, flour, granulated, brown and icing sugars, baking powder and soda, yeast, and vanilla extract. Nothing is more annoying than a last minute trip to the shops because you've run out of eggs!

Feel festive for cheap

For an easy decoration idea, press some cloves into an orange and tie a nice ribbon around it and hang somewhere in the house; or bundle up aromatics like cinnamon sticks, tie some colourful ribbon around and use as table decorations.



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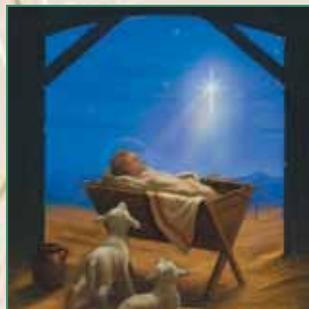


The Spirit of Christmas

A beautiful selection of cards that depicts the holy family and the Christmas message of peace.

Each card reads:

May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you always



Cards are packaged as 2 x 5 kinds plus 10 envelopes.

Cards are not available for individual sale.

To order the Spirit of Christmas series, please fill in the order form below or **purchase online at www.ccam.org.au**

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Return via fax on 03 9287 5599 OR

Order via telephone on 03 9287 5517



Description	Price (Inc GST, P&H)	Quantity	Amount
Spirit of Christmas Series - 2 x 5 kinds + envelopes	\$10		
TOTAL			

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Cheque Cash Money Order

Mastercard VISA

Card number: _____

Name: _____

Expiry: ____/____ Signature: _____