



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ADELAIDE

# WEEKLY E-NEWS

*Information for parish and  
community weekly newsletters*

*Living Catholic*  
16 December 2024

## ***Important information for parish teams:***

### **Adelaide Diocesan Centre – Closure Over Christmas/ New Year Period**

The Diocesan Centre will be closed from 3pm Friday, December 20 and will recommence normal business hours on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

### **Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal**

As indicated in the 2024 Parish Appeals Calendar, the leaving collection for Christmas has been allocated to Catholic Charities. This is a change from previous years when the collection was held for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, which receives funding from Catholic Charities. Please see attached Bulletin Notice ([click here](#)) and Commentator Notes ([click here](#)) to assist you with promoting this important appeal which helps the most vulnerable in our community. The money should be deposited in parish accounts for payment to Catholic Charities. Anyone requesting a receipt needs to donate online or via the app.

### **Archbishop O'Regan's 2024 Christmas message**

The Archbishop's annual Christmas message, filmed at St Margaret Mary's Church, Croydon Park, is now available via this YouTube link. <https://youtu.be/icAyjur78vs>

You are welcome to distribute the link through your networks. Thank you to the Croydon Park parish and St Margaret Mary's Catholic School for their assistance this year.

### **CDF Closure Over Christmas/ New Year Period**

The CDF Office will close at 3pm Friday, December 20 and reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2025. Please [click here](#) to read the CDF Memo.

### **2025 CDF Interest Rates**

The Archdiocese has reviewed CDF's interest rates, and now announces the following changes that will become effective from January 1, 2025. To read about the new rates, please [click here](#).

### **CDF - Online Changes Memo 2 - Update**

CDF is introducing significant changes to the CDF ONLINE website, which will greatly improve the look and functionality of CDF Online and provide an improved experience for users. For more information [click here](#) to read the updated memo.

### **Safeguarding at Christmas**

While Christmas is often a time of joy and family togetherness, it can be a challenging period for vulnerable individuals. The pressure to meet expectations of a "perfect" holiday can create anxiety, particularly for those experiencing domestic abuse, mental health struggles, or a lack of family support. Children and young people, who spend more time online during the holidays, are also at risk of cyberbullying and exposure to inappropriate content. As we celebrate, let's remember that safeguarding isn't just about protecting against harm; it's about creating safe, supportive spaces where everyone feels valued. Even small acts of kindness can make a big difference to those who are vulnerable within our communities.

Please see the [attachment](#) for an activity that includes colouring, a word search, and a star message for

children and young people. This can be completed together at your parish or taken home to finish  
For further enquiries: Integrity and Safeguarding Department 8210 8150 or via email at  
[ccasafeoperations@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:ccasafeoperations@adelaide.catholic.org.au)

### **You can support the 2025 National Deacons Conference!**

Would you like to support the deacons of South Australia and Northern Territory, chosen to host the 2025 National Deacons Conference early next year (Hahndorf, 27 February – 2 March 2025)? Deacons of the SA/NT region represent 10% of deacons in Australia (200). Each biennial National Deacons Conference is locally funded, relying entirely on nationwide registrations and generous local sponsors. Deacons (often married men) are the fastest growing ordained ministry worldwide and can be the face of creative ways in which the Spirit moves within the Church and community. Your personal financial support of the Conference will be greatly valued. **To donate today** (whether \$200, \$100, or any amount), **please contact the Events Office via [caaevents@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:caaevents@adelaide.catholic.org.au) or 8210 8220 by Monday 22 December.** [Attached Note](#)  
Deacon Paul Crowe, National Deacons Conference Convenor

### **Caritas Australia**

#### **Lebanon Crisis Appeal**

The situation in Lebanon continues to deteriorate. In response to a heartfelt plea for assistance by Bishop Tarabay and Bishop Rabbat, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in partnership with Catholic Religious Australia, Caritas Australia and Caritas Lebanon, has launched a special Lebanon Appeal. This appeal aims to provide essential humanitarian aid to our brothers and sisters suffering in Lebanon, especially those who are displaced and without homes or shelter.

The parish newsletter notice is attached and an accompanying PPT slide can be downloaded from our website: [Parish Bulletin - December](#)

#### **Christmas Appeal**

As we prepare for Christmas, we think of families like Sakhina's who are facing the devastating risk of disease due to a severe lack of clean water and proper sanitation in the world's largest refugee camp.

A parish bulletin notice is attached and can also be downloaded from our website: [Parish Bulletin - December](#)

### **'Indulge Responsibly' this Christmas**

Ethical Christmas gift-giving has been made super easy through the energetic and collaborative efforts of Young Mercy Links (YML) and ACRATH. Focussing on chocolate and sweet treats, the collaboration has produced a video which highlights a range of ethically sourced chocolates available in local supermarkets and shops. [Click here](#) for the video. Supporting brands committed to ending slavery in their supply chains has been simplified to a two-step process: look for the rainforest alliance and/or Fairtrade certifications and double-check Be Slavery Free's chocolate scorecard ([chocolatescorecard.com](http://chocolatescorecard.com)). If you would like to know more about Indulge Responsibly, contact [sacoordinator@acrath.org.au](mailto:sacoordinator@acrath.org.au).



### **Job Vacancies**

#### **Claims Management Business Partner - Catholic Safety and Injury Management Team**

Reporting into the Director Safety and Injury Management, and overseeing multiple sites, the Claims Management Business Partner plays an integral role in providing responsive claims management to optimise

functioning and reduce disability in individuals, assisting in the delivery of a responsive, flexible, and effective service. For more information about the role and how to apply, [click here](#).

**Bulletin notices** ([Click here](#) for related flyers or attachments)

### **Your invitation to Advent Vespers at Blackwood St Paul of the Cross**

The ancient Gregorian chants of the Catholic liturgy echo off the walls of the candlelit church in Blackwood as the sun sets and the day comes to a close. This Advent we will sing Vespers, the evening prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours, in Latin and English, through December on Sunday evenings and Christmas. All are invited to join and experience the Vespers at Blackwood traditional Catholic worship at St Paul of the Cross (corner of Coromandel & Simla Pde) in Blackwood, at 5pm on the 4th Sunday of Advent. On Christmas Day and on December 29, the Feast of the Holy Family, adoration is celebrated along with vespers.

Holy Family Catholic Parish. T Blackwood Office 08 8278 6100

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### **Brighton Catholic Parish – Special Family Mass on Christmas Eve**

St. Joseph's Parish, Brighton, invites you to join them in celebrating a special family Mass on Christmas Eve at Sacred Heart College, Marcellin Campus gymnasium on Tuesday, December 24 at 7pm. All children are invited to come dressed up as angels and shepherds and join in the enactment of the Gospel story. Please see the flyer for more details.

### **Simbang Gabi – All are welcome to the Novena to Christmas – celebration with the Filipino Catholic Community**

Simbang Gabi is a **devotional, nine-day series of Masses** attended by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas. The Filipino Community is hosting Simbang Gabi across churches in Adelaide at **8pm every day from December 15 to December 24. All are Welcome...** Please check with your parish about dates and venues near you! (Seaton, Adelaide, Glenelg, Hectorville, Salisbury, Payneham, Gawler, Noarlunga) For more information, please contact the Justice Healing and Inclusion Team – [jhi@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:jhi@adelaide.catholic.org.au).

### **Carols on Christmas Eve**

All children are invited to sing with the Cathedral children's choir at the Christmas Eve 6pm Family Mass. There will be a rehearsal before Mass. Children are welcome to dress up. For more information:

[music@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:music@adelaide.catholic.org.au)



### **Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose!**

Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will

bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card.

View the range of Global Gifts: [www.globalgifts.org.au](http://www.globalgifts.org.au)

