



MFP NEWS

MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM

MARCH 2021

Welcome to our first E-News for 2021. An E-news will be sent out quarterly to keep you up to date with events, celebrations, forthcoming happenings and any news items we come across. Let's hope that this year gets back to some sort of 'normality' knowing full well that we don't really know what the new 'normal' will look like.

2021 SO FAR...

ORIENTATION DAY, Saturday 13 February 2021

The MFP welcomed its' new Acting Director, Annette, its' new coordinator, Tee Ping and its' new Executive Assistant, Sonia. It also welcomed 31 students (20 returning and 11 new) to the program this year.

Fr Paul Cashen shared some insights into Ministry, Annette provided an update on the Plenary Council and Aldo went through some of the basic organizational and administrative aspects.



THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION SEMINAR, Bishop Greg O'Kelly SJ Saturday 27 February 2021

Bishop Greg facilitated a very spiritual and theological day on the beautiful grounds of St Ignatius College, Athelstone. He led us through several experiences to allow us time to consider God in our daily lives.

The Lord has opened my ear **Isaiah**

We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus **Ephesians**

Sir, I would like to see Jesus **John**

The goal of our life is to live with God forever **Ignatius**

The day concluded with reflection time and Mass with Bishop Greg presiding.

SEMINAR, Fr Frank Brennan SJ Monday 22 March 2021

The Goodness of the Gospel: a Church that is joyful, hope filled and a servant community. Something worth handing on to future generations.

We were extremely privileged to be able to spend a day with Fr Frank Brennan. Fr Frank shared the wisdom of the Gospels, especially Pope Francis' encyclicals and related them to the upcoming plenary council. He also gave us many opportunities to interact with one another to explore the different meanings and the application to our own lives and the lives of our community. We were also privileged to be able to use technology to share the seminar with our regional students.

PRAYER EVENING, 25 March 2021



In the quiet and peaceful autumn evening, at the Adelaide ACU campus, those present were introduced to Ignatian Spirituality by Judy Foster.

Stillness is key to be in touch with God. Readings and a painting were used to help discern God's calling. It was a reflective time for all participants.

The sharing by the students made the evening an exceptionally rich experience to those on site and for two students miles away. Paul on Kangaroo Island and Anthony in Perth, were intimately part of the prayer group through ZOOM. We enjoyed having them with us for the evening.

STUDENT REMINDERS

Pastoral Formator

You should have been contacted by your Pastoral Formator to arrange a first meeting for this year. The rationale for these contacts is explained in your **Student Record Book**. Please let us know if you haven't received this communication yet.

Please remember that we are always available to assist when and where we can if you have a question or point of clarification that you would like a more immediate response to.

Theological Reflections

One of the most valued parts of the MFP is the requirement to complete NINE Theological Reflections this year. These are times when you 'sense' or 'feel' God at work in your life or in an event that you has inspired you to reflect (a reading, from your study, a family happening, a sudden thought, an ecological witness), a time when you feel the presence of the Holy Spirit.

These can take the form of a short series of notes, a poem, a song, a slide show, a short essay – something that you feel comfortable with. Please submit your responses to your Pastoral Formator for his/ her consideration and response.

Mentors and Spiritual Directors

You will soon be contacted by one of the Team regarding a Mentor and/or Spiritual Director (if this concerns you at this time). Once again please refer to your **Student Record Book** for the details around these two important parts of the MFP.

Incidental Offerings

From time to time we might send out information regarding other offerings that are available in the Archdiocese particularly from agencies like the Australian Catholic University, Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults, the Plenary Council, Office for Worship, Multi-Cultural Office and so on.

These are for your interest should you wish to attend and are not seen as a compulsory part of the MFP.

Welcome to the MFP team Judy!

We would like to introduce a new member of the Team, Judy Foster as Spirituality Coordinator. Judy lives in the country and brings with her a knowledge of life in the country. Judy is a trained Spiritual Director in the Ignatian tradition and as a giver of the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola according to the 19th and 20th Annotations.

Judy has joined the MFP team one day per week and will work with some students, particularly those that join us from the country. Judy will also take care of the Spirituality component of the MFP.



STUDENT NEWS

Mandy Bosson is a past MFP student who underwent a commitment ceremony to become a Mercy Associate on 26 November 2020.

CONGRATULATIONS MANDY!



L to R: Mandy Bosson and Sr Marita.

BEREAVEMENT

Yuggu Sebit's father died in the Sudan on 26 December 2020.

Mary Ann Koh's mother died in Singapore on the 31 December 2020.

Tee Ping Koh's mother died in Adelaide on the 12 January 2021.

Bianca Cotton's grandmother passed away in February 2021.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine on them.

May they Rest in Peace.



STOP A MINUTE

Emeritus Bishop Greg O’Kelly SJ sends out a daily (Mon to Fri) “Stop A Minute” Reflection. He offers a short sentence or phrase for a quiet moment to reflect and begin your day.

If you are interested in receiving ‘Stop a Minute’ email, please register by sending your email address to: gokelly@pp.catholic.org.au

Below is a recent reflection from Bishop Greg:

First day of the working week. Haul off for a moment to recollect yourself, and offer the activities of the day as a prayer of praise to the Lord.

“Lord, be with us as we start a new day; move our hearts to seek you and our wills to serve you. We adore you, Lord our God.”

Catching up with Darryl McManus



Some of you might know that Darryl has not been particularly well over the last year or two which has precluded him from more active involvement in the MFP.

Annette and Tee Ping recently visited Darryl and his wife, Debra.

Darryl recently graduated from ACU with a Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies, scoring a high distinction for his final assignment. Congratulations to Darryl for an outstanding achievement.

Darryl continues with life in an amazing spirit, supported by his loving wife, Debra. His determination and faithfulness to God is a source of inspiration.

Please continue to pray for both Darryl and Debra. May the God’s love hold them in tenderness and that motherly love of Mary is a source of peace.

Darryl is happy to hear from you and Annette is able to forward your email contact or messages to Darryl.



UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>Humble, Healing and Merciful. Exploration of our response to topical Ethical issues with David Kirkhoffer.</i>	Wed 21 April, 5.30pm to 8.30pm	Location: CEO Room 6
<i>Retreat in Daily Life (1st Year Students only).</i>	Commences Monday 3 May	Location: CEO Room 7 and 8
<i>Open to Conversion, renewal and Reform with Fr Jamie Calder SJ.</i>	Thurs 13 May, 9.30am to 3.30pm	Location: TBA

Please note: Information on upcoming events will be sent out by MFP Admin closer to the event time. Please ensure you RSVP as per the information on the individual flyers. Remember that venues are likely to change at the last minute so keep an eye out for updates!



“Peace be with you” (Luke 24:36)

is the greeting from the Risen Christ to his disciples.

May we as believers of the Risen Lord bring Joy and Peace to our world as we kick off on the 50-day of Eastertide celebrations.

From all of the MFP team, we hope that your Easter break gave you the opportunity to reflect on the message of renewal shared during Easter as we move forward together.

Annette, Aldo, Tee Ping and Sonia

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