



April 2020

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Not since the polio epidemic peak in the 1940s and 1950s (every year half a million people worldwide were paralysed or killed) has Australia and the world faced such a community health challenge as posed by the Coronavirus COVID-19.

‘In everything do to others as you would have them do to you ...’ Jesus proclaims in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:12). Referred to as the Golden Rule, this principle is found in many religions. Through this crisis we will be asked to do things differently for the common good – for the ‘other’.

This will require many Christian virtues: prudence (wisdom), justice (fairness), temperance (self-control), courage (endurance), faith, hope and charity (love of God, our neighbours and ourselves).

Whether the events in the calendar proceed will be dependent on the decisions of governments and the relevant groups. We hope that in the event that you are not able to attend adult faith formation opportunities you may be able to make use of the many online resources.

For the next edition of *The Vine* please send information on diocesan, parish and deanery events by 15 May to: [ebadmin@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:ebadmin@bne.catholic.net.au)

miniCALENDAR – from April 2020

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## A Vision for Faith Formation



Recently I was employed to contribute to the work of adult faith formation here in the Archdiocese. It’s a role I feel I have been preparing for my whole life, as I have sought to answer my own questions about our faith, and what living in response to that faith might mean in our lives as they actually are. The years of ministry, study and teaching have attuned me to a central conviction: that to be Catholic is to understand that we are on an eternal journey, as we come to understand more and more deeply who God is and who we are called to be in response to God. As a result, each of us has the obligation to keep growing in our faith and understanding, so that we can live the vocation into which we have been baptised.

The role of the Archdiocesan Adult Formation team is to assist you with that. As a practicing Catholic I believe you have the right to expect that opportunities will be provided to you, to help you address your questions and offer you support as you wrestle with the things that adults have to deal with as they walk the path of faith. To this end, we are focussing on developing resources and formation opportunities that will be accessible to you.

Whether you take advantage of what is offered will be largely up to you. Each of us is responsible for the choices we make and the chances that we decide to ignore. If you’d like to know more, get in touch: [dwyers@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:dwyers@bne.catholic.net.au) I genuinely look forward to hearing from you.

Shane Dwyer

Associate Director, Adult Formation  
Evangelisation Brisbane

## Evangelisation Brisbane Facebook Page



If you haven't already, we invite you to join the Evangelisation Brisbane [Facebook Family](#). Daily posts include reflections, upcoming events, useful resources and more.

Like our page, and let us know how we're doing! We appreciate the feedback

## WEBSITES

### *The Catholic Leader • Digital Edition*

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The Catholic Leader are making their digital edition free for anyone to view online while Sunday Mass is suspended in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Visit [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au).

### *Mass Online*

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Join us online for Mass broadcast live from St Stephen's Cathedral at 8.00am weekdays, and 8am or 10am on Sundays at [www.archbne.org/bzw](http://www.archbne.org/bzw). You can also watch an earlier Mass recorded on the same website.



For Masses in languages other than English visit <http://multiculturalcare.org.au/diversity/faith-online/>

### *Daily Reflections*

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To assist in these times of change Evangelisation Brisbane is developing an online daily reflection for Mondays through to Fridays.

[Link to Daily Reflections](#)

### *Receive inspiration in your inbox*

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Sign up to receive regular emails, including two-minute homilies, daily readings and updates from the Archdiocese by visiting [www.archbne.org/dwjk](http://www.archbne.org/dwjk)

### *Metanoia: A Journey with Christ into Conversion • Video Series*

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Metanoia, is a new 10-part documentary series produced by The Ministry of the Wild Goose and 4PM Media. Fr Dave Pivonka, TOR, leads us on a journey with Christ through captivating stories and beautiful cinematography, all filmed on location in the Holy Land. This series leads us on an inspirational journey of grace, hope, repentance, and transformation.

Throughout the series, the episodes will unpack the meaning of metanoia. The Greek word means conversion but also to change, to repent, to turn, and to think differently. "As Christians, we are entreated to live an ongoing life of metanoia," Father Dave explained.

"This series invites us to a deeper and more profound conversion—a metanoia—that moves us from something to someone, as metanoia ultimately turns us to Jesus."

These 30 minutes clips give access to the most beautiful and sacred locations in the Holy Land.

The episodes will be accessible to everyone online at no cost at the following link:

<https://wildgoose.tv/categories/category-ZQ5IAf5pr1c>

### *The long journey home: Searching for eucharist today*

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Compass Theology Review was published in print 1967-2016 and online 2002-2016. This website is a source of back copies. To read an excellent article by Fr Frank Andersen go to the [Compass website](#):

The article is called *The long journey home: Searching for eucharist today*. Compass was a Review of Topical Theology published quarterly by the Australian Province of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

You may need to copy the text into another program however as the text is small and a difficult colour to read. However, the website is a treasure trove of excellent reading.

### *The Journey • Catholic Radio*

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The Journey is a weekly program developed by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong and is the only Catholic radio program in Australia aired on general Christian radio.

Visit [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email. Subscribe by [Clicking here](#).



Evangelisation Brisbane have a range of downloadable resources available through our [online store](#).

Some examples are:



### God's Love Poured Out – Prayers and Reflections:

These are prayers and reflections to deepen our appreciation of the Holy Spirit's action in our lives. Ideal for use in personal meditation; group sharing; prayerful reflections; for those involved in the catechumenate; and as a prayer accompaniment to *'Themes for Discussion'*.

Topics covered are:

- Dadirii – our greatest gift
- Fruits of the Spirit (by Rev Dr Orm Rush)
- Discernment of Spirits
- Gifts of the Spirit
- Praying with the Spirit
- Mary and the Spirit
- Spirituality for Today
- Spirituality for Today – another view

[Available as a free download](#) (1 Mb)



### God's Love Poured Out – Themes for Discussion:

Eight Themes for Discussion are offered to assist in the process of discovering *'from the memory of the church'* what has been accomplished by the Spirit, and to cooperate with the Spirit in helping to make it *'alive and active in the soul of each individual'*.

The Spirit in Scripture

- The Spirit in the Old Testament
- The Spirit in Luke – Acts
- The Spirit in Paul
- The Spirit in John

The Spirit Active in the Church and in the World

- The Spirit in the Church
- The Spirit and the Sacraments
- The Spirit and Ecumenism
- The Spirit in the World

Peter Gagen (ed.), Tim Keating, Pat Mullins, Fr Bill O'Shea, Rev Dr Dave Pascoe, Bishop Michael Putney, Denise Quinn and Rev Dr Ormond Rush

[Available as a Free PDF download](#) (3 Mb)

The  
Mind and Message  
of Mark

by Fr. Bill O'Shea

### The Mind and Message of Mark:

Great overview and introduction of the shortest and first Good News of Jesus Christ: the Gospel of Mark. Renowned scripture scholar Fr Bill O'Shea wrote this text many years ago, but the words are just as vibrant and informative today. It provides a wonderful overview of the origin, structure, literary style and themes of the Gospel.

[Available as a Free PDF download](#) (350 kb) – 40 pages

Towards the Light



Living Lent

### Living Lent:

An 8 page booklet on different aspects of the season of Lent: Ashes to Light; Fasting for Enlightenment; the Faith we Live (the Creed); Purple – the Lenten colour; Prayer Light for the Soul (Our Father).

[Available as a Free PDF download](#) (1.5Mb)

## Easter Calendar



Produced by Evangelisation Brisbane, this simple to use Easter Calendar is designed for families and children to journey through the Easter Season. It includes a weekly calendar with a quote from the Sunday Gospel, an action and prayer for each week and a quote from Pope Francis. [Download Free PDF](#)

## Family Prayer Week by Week



This resource is designed for families with young children and has been a joint endeavour of Liturgy Brisbane and Evangelisation Brisbane. An extract from the Sunday gospel is provided, along with some reflection questions, family activities and a worksheet for children.

[Link to Download](#). These resources will be updated each week. We invite you to share these resources widely and to pass them on to anyone who may find them useful.

## Sunday Readings at Home



In these unique times where our Sunday Masses have been suspended, you may wish to read the Sunday readings and associated commentaries at home.

<https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/prepare/sunday-readings-and-family-prayer/>

These resources will be updated each week as the next Sunday approaches. We invite you to share these resources widely and to pass them on to anyone who may find them useful.

## The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage



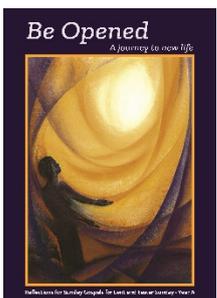
I first heard Sr Joan Chittister OSB speak over 30 years ago at Corinda. I was mesmerised as she spoke about the prophet Amos in ways that were readily understandable and deeply relevant. She drew extraordinary parallels with contemporary issues in the US which were also applicable in Australia. Chittister has authored over 50 books and over 700 articles in numerous journals and magazines including: *America*, *US Catholic*, *Sojourners*, *Spirituality* (Dublin) and *The Tablet* (London). She is a regular contributor to [NCRonline.org](http://NCRonline.org).

In her latest book, *The Time is Now*, Chittister returns to the theme of prophets. While drawing on the wisdom of biblical prophets Chittister challenges each of us to take up the call to be prophetic witnesses in our own time. On the first page Chittister writes:

‘In all my years of traveling around the world, one thing has been present in every region, everywhere. One thing has stood out and convinced me of the certain triumph of the great human gamble on equality and justice. ... Everywhere there are people who, despite finding themselves mired in periods of national darkness or personal marginalization refuse to give up the thought of a better future or give in to the allurements of a deteriorating present. ... They are the prophets of each era who prod the rest of the world into seeing newly what it means to be fully alive, personally, nationally, and spiritually. It is to these average but courageous people who forever seek the truth, defend the weak, bring the peace, and always, always, always, stand up to protest injustice – it is to you – that I dedicate this book.’

[Kindle Preview](#)

## We need your feedback!



If you are a participant in a Lenten group, *Be Opened: A journey to new life*, we want to hear from you – and your group. After Easter we will begin the process of planning new resources for 2021. Your feedback, suggestions and constructive criticism will be the first step in an evaluation of the 2020 resources. Please use the simple online survey [available here](#).

This was the first year that we made all audio and video files available on USB. This was partly because of feedback in previous years concerning the lack of disc drives in modern computers. We would be very grateful for any feedback on this initiative. However, please feel free to comment on any of the resources. Thank you.

Contact Evangelisation Brisbane: Ph: 07 3324 3440, email: [eb@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:eb@bne.catholic.net.au).



We have recently had a shuffle of cubicles and offices. A good part of the process of culling was my discovery of a brochure from 1975 by Peter Gagen, who was one of the first full time adult faith educators in the Archdiocese. At the end of his first year he published a small booklet that outlined all the adult faith education opportunities available for the next year - fascinating reading.

In the first category is a flier for the Adult Faith Education Gathering, organised by my colleague Trish Stapleton. There was a good crowd and the keynote speaker was a drawcard, Fr Frank Andersen MSC. I had heard Frank speak a number of times. We brought him to the archdiocese for regional presentations just before Lent. Thousands attended these gatherings. But nothing could have prepared me for the challenges and wisdom he imparted on the 26th October. The title of the presentation was Forming, Informing, Transforming Adults for Mission and Ministry.

Unfortunately we weren't as adept at recording presentations as we are today. Why did I keep the flier? Because I wrote Frank's 10 headings. They are listed below (text in brackets are my comments):

1. There is a pattern of inner growth for adult maturity and faith development and it is a cycle: engage, stretch, reflect.
2. Constantly be open to discovery and wonder. The movement of God's Spirit is to create. Be aware of the movement and be ready to co-operate and co-create, to be a channel or conductor for the Spirit.
3. Anyone who is not on a journey is not on a journey.
4. Everything starts from where you are, not some idealised perfection. 'What is going on in my life these days?'
5. The only way to know what it is like in Mt Isa is to be in Mt Isa. (A metaphor for understanding local context, history and needs)
6. Always begin with lived experience, never start with theology.
7. Our hearts are made for stories and stories stick. (Over the years I've had people tell me exactly the details of a story in the Lenten program but not much about the Gospel reflection.)
8. Tell ... Don't sell.
9. Change takes place in barely noticeable increments.
10. Every question already contains the seedling of insight. (For adults, as well as children, questions are vital for learning and development. Jesus asks 307 questions in the Gospels and is asked 183.)

*Rob Cosgrove (Editor of the Vine)*

## CONFERENCES / COURSES

### Seasons for Growth upcoming training in Queensland

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This course is suitable for staff who may be interested in training in the Children and Young People's Change, Loss and Grief education program which can be offered in schools and community settings as a small group peer support program.

As an evidence based, highly regarded change, loss & grief education program, Seasons for Growth has a unique and important role to play in supporting students experiencing significant change, loss and grief in their lives whether from a family separation, bereavement, forced migration, illness or other significant change. The Seasons for Growth programs work with schools in promoting mental health and student wellbeing.

For further information and opportunities contact [www.goodgrief.org.au](http://www.goodgrief.org.au) ph: 02 8912 2700

[Download Information Flyer](#) about Seasons for Growth

## EVENTS / RETREATS / PRAYER / REFLECTION

### Australian Catholic Men's Gathering



The Australian Catholic Men's Gathering 2020 is an initiative of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference where the Bishops of Australia invite all Catholic men to participate in a day of gathering. The aim of the gathering is to inspire and encourage men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish and the world. It is important to talk as men of the Church, with the bishops, to ensure the Gospel message is alive in our homes, our parishes and our communities.

The day will begin with prayer, followed by presentations from a number of faithful Catholic men, workshop sessions and time for fellowship.

- Date: Saturday 25 July (9am-5pm)
- Venue: ACU, Strathfield, NSW
- Cost: \$80 (ex GST) before 17 July 2020 (Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon tea provided)

Further information and registration: [www.catholicmensgathering.com.au](http://www.catholicmensgathering.com.au)

## SEMINARS

### Parish Workshops • Training for Liturgical Ministers



Presented by Elizabeth Harrington and Trish Stapleton

- Option 1: Tuesday 14 July (6pm - 9pm) at Upper Mount Gravatt, Aspinall Hall
- Option 2: Saturday 18 July (9am - 12noon) at Rosalie, Denis Power Centre
- Cost: \$10 individual or \$40 parish/school group

Book online at <https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/learn/workshops-and-training/>

[Download flyer](#)

### Run Alpha Online



A great online solution that will enable churches to stream Alpha episodes and host small group discussion times is Zoom. Click the button below to download your guide to running Alpha Online with Zoom, and check out our [Top Tips](#) for running Alpha Online.

Download information on [How to run Alpha with Zoom](#)

If you have any questions, our team are able to assist you. Contact the [Alpha Australia Team](#) or call [+61 1800 811 903](tel:+611800811903)

### miniCALENDAR – from April 2020

\* date claimer (more information in upcoming issues)

Every effort has been made to check details of these events; however, we suggest you check that they are still running closer to the date.

DATE / TIME	EVENT/TOPIC	LOCATION	PRESENTER/FURTHER INFO
May 31 day/night	Pentecost celebration - 50yrs of Charismatic Renewal	St Mary Magdalene's Church, Bardon	Len Airey - 0421977849
<del>Jun 7-10</del> POSTPONED	Laudato Si Conference	Seville Mercy Conference Centre, Cairns	<a href="#">website</a>
Jun 19-21	Women's Retreat: Held in God's Loving Hands	Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, 267 Wellington St, Ormiston	Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries) – <a href="#">See article</a>
* Jul 5 (10am-4pm)	RCIA 1 Day Conference	Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo	Evangelisation Brisbane
<del>Jul 9-11</del> POSTPONED	National Pastoral Ministry Conference: Alive in the Spirit	Wollongong	POSTPONED
Jul 14 (6-9pm)	Liturgy Brisbane – Parish Workshop: Training for Liturgical Ministers	Aspinall Centre, 4 Klumpp Road, Upper Mount Gravatt	Elizabeth Harrington and Trish Stapleton - <a href="#">See article</a>
Jul 18 (6-9pm)	Liturgy Brisbane – Parish Workshop: Training for Liturgical Ministers	Fr Denis Power Centre, 333 Given Terrace, Paddington Qld	Elizabeth Harrington and Trish Stapleton - <a href="#">See article</a>
July 25 (9am-7pm)	Australian Catholic Men's Gathering	ACU, Strathfield, NSW	<a href="#">See article</a>
Aug 15 (9.30am-1pm)	CCR Brisbane AGM	CCR Brisbane Centre, Northgate	CCR Brisbane - <a href="#">email</a>
<del>Aug 23-25</del> CANCELLED	Gather 2020: Encounter the Way	Bowen Hills	BCE – <a href="#">website</a>
Aug 28-30	Women of the Way Retreat	Watson Park Convention Centre, Dakabin	CCR Brisbane - <a href="#">email</a>
Nov 28 (9.30am-1pm)	End of Year Celebration	CCR Brisbane Centre, Northgate	CCR Brisbane - <a href="#">email</a>
* Dec 11-13	Women's Retreat	Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, 267 Wellington St, Ormiston	Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries)



Charles Spurgeon wrote, ‘We are all, at times, unconscious prophets’. It’s a lovely thought, an intriguing one, but, frankly, a little too loose to be a very demanding concept. The world cannot afford ‘unconscious prophets’ much longer. On the contrary. We need to decide on which areas of change we ourselves want to concentrate. We are here to be messengers of God. We are here to be a rudder on the ship of life. We are meant to be heralds and watch guards, lovers and followers of the Jesus who called all of Israel to remember the poor, save the women, embrace the outliers, consort with the foreigners, and wrestle the Law to the ground of compassion. It is a most exalted – most demanding, most dangerous – calling. ... Unless and until we accept the prophet’s call, we may be great caretakers, good scholars, sincere seekers, fine people, but we will never be fully ‘spiritual’. We will be liked, admired, respected, and – safe. But truly spiritual? Not completely. ...

The truth is that every generation and every segment of society has its prophets. ... These people, we recount with pride, were the builders and truth-tellers who exposed corruption and worked with the underlings of society. They were missionaries and holy pioneers, spiritual leaders and protectors of the oppressed. Because of them, the entire society was better in the end—no matter how much resistance they faced as they began their small and local projects for peace, justice, and equality ...

Prophecy is about being a clear voice about a specific need. It is about identifying the clouding forces on the human horizon. ... A prophetic spiritual life does not demand a corporation or a campus, big buildings or great facilities to change the world. Now the call is for a clear and common voice to challenge oppression and discrimination of any kind, to call out injustice and invisibility of every kind. ... It is that new prophetic voice for which the world is waiting. It is the voices of Amos and Hosea, Isaiah and Micah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and now yours that is needed to change the world.

*(The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage, Sr Joan Chittister OSB, Crown, 2019)*



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