

# A lesson of acceptance, respect and goodwill

Last week was Migrant and Refugee Week which was celebrated by the entire Australian Catholic Church. This year, all parishes, schools and dioceses around the world were asked by Pope Francis to pray for, and to look at ways of how we can support "Child migrants, the vulnerable and the Voiceless".

During Migrant and Refugee Week, I had the privilege of attending a workshop put on by the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office, for the National Catholic immigration directors. Fr Fabio Baggio C.S presented to us about the migrant and refugee section of the new Dicastery for Promoting Integral Development, which was set up by Pope Francis. Fr Baggio is one of two under-secretaries of this new section. Pope Francis has taken personal charge of the direct guidance of the migrant and refugee section of the new Dicastery. It was heartening to hear about why the Church cannot stand back and allow

the erosion of integral human development to take place around the world. This begins with "child migrants, the vulnerable and the voiceless".

On my way back from the national workshop in Melbourne with Fr Baggio, I called a taxi. That 35 minute trip was one of the most informative taxi rides I have ever had in the procession of taxi trips that I have taken in my life. The taxi driver, who owned his business, came from a middle Eastern country 10 years ago and started a new life in Australia with his brother. Between his brother and himself, they share a 24 hour taxi shift. His motto, he told me, was "service with a smile, to be on time for the customer, and to treat the customer with respect at all times". I felt completely at home chatting to this man about a lot of things - which is quite unusual for me as the lawyer in me is always more careful about what he divulges.

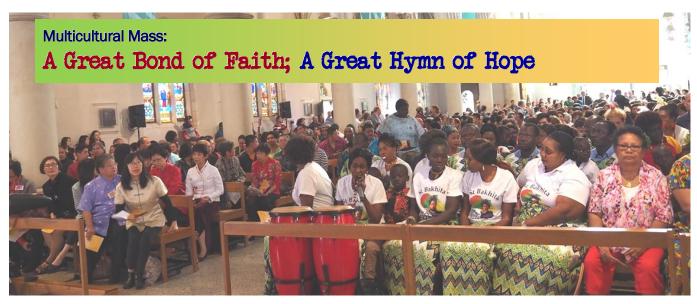
One of the marvellous pearls of wisdom that I will always remember from him was that, since coming to Australia, this taxi has been his life. It is where he has met so many wonderful people. Where he has learnt his English language. Where he has had the opportunity to listen to the problems of many people, and been given the marvellous opportunity to provide some comfort in the answers he gave back to them. He said to me at the end of all this that "My taxi is my tutor - it is vehicle into the lives of so many people in this great country".

This taxi driver epitomised why we celebrate cultural diversity in this country. Let nobody tell us otherwise. I would like to thank this taxi driver (whose name will remain anonymous) for teaching me the lessons of acceptance, respect and good will to all."

> Clyde Cosentino Director

Our Multicultural Mass Planning Team consists of representatives from various Catholic ethnic communities in the archdiocese of Brisbane who are appointed by their Chaplains. The photo below shows the people who are the backbone of our archdiocesan Multicultural Mass this year. The community representatives + Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care staff had their second and last meeting held on 31 July. More on Multicultural Mass 2017 on pages 2 and 3.





The archdiocesan Multicultural Mass held at the Cathedral of St Stephen on the 27th of August, once again, drew a large number of people from many different countries of origin.

#### The Archbishop's message

Main Celebrant Mark Coleridge remarked at the start of his homily that this Multicultural Mass gathering reminds him



of one of the great Masses at St Peter's in Rome where people gather from all over the world to worship.

"Every skin colour, every language, every culture – it's magnificent!" the Archbishop commented.

"And yet for all the variety, there is an astonishing sense of unity; and not just unity, but a sense of family. I don't know how else to describe

the bond that is there. And it's all the more extraordinary because this is such a huge crowd and yet the bond is almost intimate like a family," he said.

This bond that brings people together in the Cathedral is reflected in the unity and cooperation among various communities which makes Multicultural Mass possible. interpreted in a local setting the universal theme embodied in Pope Francis' message for the 2017 World Day of Migrants and Refugees: '*Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless*' -- a parent/guardian leads a child migrant in a safe and nurturing environment.

In the global phenomenon of migration that has made itself comfortable in the movement of people from around the world in the last few decades – from an engaging exchange of cultural experiences, trade and technology to the more sinister maze of human trafficking, what the Pope says rings true:

"Each person is precious; persons are more important than things, and the worth of an institution is measured by the way it treats the life and dignity of human beings, particularly when they are vulnerable, as in the case of child migrants."

On addressing this pressing challenge, Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, Bishop Delegate for Migrants and Refugees, issues a plea:

"We need to raise awareness of those issues which face vulnerable, and particularly trafficked children. We cannot remain silent. Raising awareness and as a community bringing about concrete change will help child migrants in all situations grow and flourish..."

In Archbishop Mark's words, "In one way or another, in one language or another, from one culture or another, we all put our faith in Jesus Christ crucified and risen."

"The hymn that we sing today in all our different tongues but with one heart, is in fact the hymn of hope grounded upon the fact that Jesus Christ destroys all the barriers and makes us one people."

#### The Theme

The entrance procession at this year's Multicultural Mass acknowledged and







### As It Happened

A quick run through the order of liturgy: The entrance procession hymn was led by the Korean Gloria Choir; acknowledgement of Country was delivered by Uncle David Miller accompanied by didgeridoo player Elwyn Henaway; first reading in Brazilian Portuguese; responsorial psalm by the Latin Americans; second reading in Albanian; gospel acclamation by the Fijians; the

Gospel sung by Melkite Priest Fr Elie, Prayer of the Faithful petitions read by representatives from the Chaldean, Latin American, Timor Leste, Filipino, Maltese, Croatian and Polish communities; procession of gifts by the Samoan Choir; the 'Holy Holy' sung in Aramaic by the Syrian Catholic Choir, the Mystery of Faith and Amen sung by the Tongan choir and 'Lamb of God' sung in Cantonese by the Chinese Choir. Communion hymns were sung by the Maronite, Syro Malabar, Vietnamese and Burundi choirs. The recessional hymn and procession was sung and led by the Papua New Guinean community.

As in the past, this year's Mass was a result of cooperation between the various ethnic communities in the archdiocese.

their Chaplains, the Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care and a number of agencies in the Archdiocesan Precinct.

Refreshments were made available after the Mass through the generosity of various ethnic communities. Archbishop Mark and the Chaplains mingled with the crowd after the

Mass and were very obliging with those requesting for snap shots and selfies.

The afternoon's cultural performance line up included a Peruvian solo dance, an Indonesian modern dance, a Tongan *Mako*, a Papua New Guinean traditional song, and a Syro Malabar prayer dance. But there's more: an added surprise was an impromptu cultural dance by a group of Syrian and Iraqi newly arrived migrants. This wonderful sense of 'family of different cultures' joyfully ended with almost everyone in the crowd joining in to dance the *Macarena*.

This is, so far, my 22<sup>nd</sup> Multicultural Mass. With God's guidance, I am looking forward to many more.

#### Percy Pamo Lawrence

Photos of the Mass, refreshments and cultural performances are available on the CMPC Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>multiculturalpastoralcare/</u>

Acknowledgement of Country was delivered by Uncle David Miller accompanied by didgeridoo player Elwyn Henaway.



# HIGHLIGHTS Catholic Ethnic Communities Brisbane

## **Burmese Community** Sacramental Journey

Seven Burmese (six adults and one child) received their First Communion during the 9am parish Mass at St Paul's Church in Woodridge on Sunday, 23 August.

Sr Rosa Vazzano fdcc has been preparing them since September last year and shared in their sacramental journey with the assistance of an interpreter. Sr Rosa guided them from baptism in December through to reconciliation and finally first communion. Our thanks to Sr Rosa for these photos.





# Italian Community 71st anniversary of Italian Republic

On Sunday, 4 June, the Italian Community in Brisbane gathered to celebrate the 71st anniversary of the founding of the Italian Republic (2 June). Mass was celebrated by Scalabrinians Fathers Fransiskus Yangminta cs and Ignacio Rodrigues cs from New Farm Parish. Refreshments and cultural performances followed. The gathering drew a crowd of about 450. The gathering drew a crowd of around 450 people including representations from the various Italian Associations -Dante Alighieri Society Gold Coast, Dante Alighieri Society Brisbane,

Fogolar Furlan Inc., Piemonteis Association of Queensland, Sicilian Association of Queensland Inc., Associazione Toscani nel Mondo del QLD & NT, Associazione Trevisani nel



Mondo Sezione di Brisbane Inc., Associazione Lucania del Queensland Inc., Italian Catholic Federation – North Brisbane, Co.As.It. Community Services Inc., Three Saints Feast Brisbane Inc., Associazione Nazionale Famiglie Emigrati (ANFE) and Italian Catholic Federation – Friends in Faith Section.

Special guests included Hon Grace Grace (State Member of Brisbane), Cr Vicki Howard (Central Ward, Brisbane City Council) and Mr Ludovico Carlo Camussi, Italian Consul for Queensland and Northern Territory.

CMPC thanks Dino Varrichio, Editor of Italian magazine *Rintocchi* for providing information and photos.



# HIGHLIGHTS Catholic Ethnic Communities Brisbane

# South Sudanese Community Pastoral Council members' formation gathering

The new members of the St Bakhita Pastoral Council members and their Chaplain, Fr Stephen Kumyangi recently gathered for a formation day at St John Fisher's in Tarragindi.

The pastoral council formation session held on Saturday, 29 July, was facilitated by Evangelisation Brisbane's Rob Cosgrove. The group found the session insightful and informative. A follow up session is being arranged in September.

Our thanks to Mary Kenyi, Pastoral Council secretary, for sharing these photos.



### Indonesian Community New Pastoral Council

With the previous members completing their term of service, the new members of the Indonesian Catholic Family Pastoral Council inspirited their service with a recent Formation Day.

The group invited Evangelisation Brisbane Project Officer Mike Humphrys for the morning session where he discussed the role and function of a pastoral council and the responsibilities of its members. Mike also provided the group with useful resources for their programs.

ICF Pastoral President Andreas Ong reported a positive feedback from the group commenting, "It was a great session, with a lot of learning and laughing,". Andreas, the ICF Pastoral Council and their Chaplain, Fr Pionius Hendi OFM Cap thank Mike and Evangelisation Brisbane for the valuable assistance.

[Photos courtesy of Andreas.]



**Fr Zenon - Rest in Peace** We keep in our prayers Fr Zenon Broniarczyk SChr who passed away on 10 June 2017. Our deepest sympathy for Fr Zenon's family, the parish of Bowen Hills, Parish Priest Fr Andrew Kolazckowski, and the Society of Christ.

Fr Zenon was Associate Pastor of Our Lady of Victories Parish, Bowen Hills and Assistant Chaplain of the Polish Community in Brisbane. Fr Zenon ministered to the Polish community in the Archdiocese of Brisbane for in the early '80s and from 2013 to 2017.



# Update on Chaplains of Multicultural Communities

### Engagement and collaboration

Representatives from three archdiocesan agencies shared information on their roles and services at the 10 August meeting of the Chaplains of multicultural communities in the archdiocese.

**Catholic Foundation**'s Anne Herbert and Charlene Stephenson gave the Chaplains a brief introduction about their services, in particular, Gifts and Bequests and the upcoming Annual Catholic Campaign.

Archdiocesan Development Fund's Tina Disiot explained how the Chaplains can access forms and useful documents from the archdiocesan intranet (AI).

Youth Evangelisation Office's Melissa Fenech gave the Chaplains an outline of their work and activities and future engagement and collaboration with youth groups in various ethnic communities.

Meanwhile, here's a snapshot of some of the Chaplain's ministry in their communities:

**Syro Malabar Community** (Fr Abraham Kazhunadiyil. The Syro Malabars have six Mass centres in the north and south of Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. They have daily Masses in Northgate. and around 700 people attend Mass on Sundays. They also have a youth group and catechism classes for children.

Latin American Community (Fr Nacho Gutierrez CS). Latin Americans (made up of 16 nations) have Masses in New Farm, Ashgrove and Gold Coast with attendees of about 350 to 400 people. They have many of international students, many have issues including struggles in the workplace, personal issues, accidents, depression, etc. They are currently meeting with politicians, presenting to their parties the stories, experiences and struggles of international students.

Samoan Community (Fr Epati Tamati) – The Samoan youth in Brisbane is hosting a youth event accommodating





Samoan youth from New South Wales from 29 September to 2 October. The Brisbane Samoan youth will also start fundraising activities for a Samoan World Youth Day, a post WYD event where all Samoan youth groups from various countries come to Samoa following WYD.

The Samoan Community is fundraising to build a new Carmelite place in Samoa. They have Mass in Samoan every Sunday on roster in a number of churches across the archdiocese.

**Melkite Community** (Fr Elie Francis). The Melkite community continues to welcome refugees from Syria and Iraq, helping them engage with the Australian society. Parish Priest Fr Elie is also Vicar for Youth. He is currently preparing their young people for a Youth Camp in January.

**Maronite Community** (Fr Fadi Salame). On 27 August, the Maronite parish celebrated the second year anniversary of 24-hour perpetual adoration in their Church on 27 August. Theirs is the only rite in the world that does 24-hour adoration. Fr Fadi also celebrates Masses for refugees from Iraq and Syria in Toowoomba and the Gold Coast. He also continues to visit these families whose main challenge at present is grasp of the English language and employment.

For the first time in 150 years, the Maronite diocese will have their first Assembly from 23 to 26 November in Sydney.

Vietnamese Community (Fr Joseph Vu SVD) – Msgr Peter Meneely officiated the commissioning of the Community's new Pastoral Council members. About 150 people attend weed day Masses and there is a presence of over 300 children at every Sunday Mass

### Fr Pio Hendi OFM Cap (Indonesian) -

The young people in the Community are preparing to participate in the Indonesian Youth Conference in Perth in July next year. This event will draw around 150 Indonesian young people. The Community also recently celebrated their Independence Day on 17 August.

Chinese Community (Fr Albert Chan MSC) – The Chinese Community

# National Conference on Pastoral Care in a Multicultural Church and Society



The National Conference on Pastoral Care in a Multicultural Church and Society organised by the <u>Australian</u> <u>Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office</u> (ACMRO) on 18 and 19 August brought together over 100 participants from across Australian dioceses -- clergy, religious, pastoral workers and lay people who are involved in ministry to migrants and refugees.

The conference provided an opportunity for delegates to reflect on the Church in Australia as a community made of one faith and many cultures.

At the beginning of the first day, Australian Catholic Bishop Conference (ACBC) Vice President and Brisbane Archbishop Mark Archbishop Mark Coleridge gave the opening address. Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana welcomed the Conference participants. The conference provided an opportunity for delegates to reflect on the Church in Australia as a community made of one faith and many cultures.

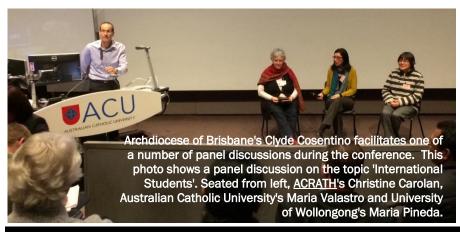


ABOVE (Left) Cardinal Peter Turkson addresses the topic "Integral Human Development in our Parishes. (Centre) Cardinal Orlando Quevedo: a move from multicultural to intercultural, from transactional to inter-relational. (Right) Bishop Bosco Puthur of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy provides a backgrounder on the Syro-Malabars in Australia.

The conference theme '*Cast into the Deep*' featured a line up of 21 speakers and workshop presenters.

Keynote speakers were Cardinal Peter Turkson, Head of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, and Cardinal Orlando Quevedo, Archbishop of Cotabato, Philippines.

Cardinal Turkson discussed the workings of the newly formed Dicastery from where the Migrants and Refugee Section operates. The Dicastery's M & R Section is currently managed by Fr. Fabio Baggio C.S. and Fr. Michael Czerny S.J. on behalf of Pope Francis.



Cardinal Orlando Quevedo addressed the topic 'Pastoral Models for the Care of Migrants and Refugees in our Community' using the Filipino OFW (Overseas Filipino Workers) program scenario.

Mass held at the end of day one was followed by a conference dinner where the ACMRO Migrant and Refugee kit was officially launched. This resource distributed to all parishes and schools across Australian dioceses aims to assist parishes, schools and communities in the celebration of the National Migrant and Refugee Week. The resource is also available on the ACMRO website.

The conference discussed a number of other relevant and challenging topics:

#### (Day One)

- Integral Human Development in our Parishes
- The Church in Australia: make up and composition
- Pastoral Landscape where we are and where we can go

(Continued on page 8)



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the 'newsletter' tab

Thank you!

Our gratitude to Clairvaux MacKillop College for their donation to assist in the resettlement of newly arrived refugees from Syria and Iraq.

### Update on Chaplains...

(Continued from page 6) consists of people from Taiwan (Mandarin speakers), Hong Kong (Cantonese speakers), and Papua New Guinea (mostly English speakers with a little Mandarin/Cantonese). Their Sunday Mass is celebrated alternately in Mandarin and Cantonese languages. Fr Chan believes that their multi-purpose hall, the Sacred Heart Centre in Runcorn keeps them together.

### National Conference...

- (Continued from page 7)
- Care for our Clergy and Religious
- The Church Post Royal Commission

### (Day Two)

- Pastoral Models for the Care of Migrants and Refugees in Our Community
- Pastoral Care in a Multi-ethnic Church, one-size fits all?
- Eastern Catholic Traditions
  Vocations from Migrant
- Communities
- International Students
- Spiritual Identity and Culture

The Migrant and Refugee resource kit was officially launched on the first day of the conference.

Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care Director Clyde Cosentino and Catholic Immigration & Multicultural Office Directors in other dioceses were involved in the organisation and facilitation of the event.

Brisbane participants included Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Monsignor Peter Meneely, Lisa Forbes (Presentor), Fr Stephen Kumyangi and CMPC staff member Percy Pamo Lawrence. Percy gave a short PowerPoint presentation on multicultural pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Brisbane addressing the panel discussion topic 'Pastoral Landscape, Where Are We and Where We Can Go'.

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# FACTS and FIGURES

Figures on the tables below are sourced from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Pastoral Research Office based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics' 2016 Census preliminary estimate. Of the 24,385,600 people living in Australia, United Kingdom continues to be the largest group of overseas-born residents, followed by New Zealand, China, India, the Philippines, Vietnam, Italy, South Africa, Malaysia and Germany. Of the 4.7 million Queenslanders, about 1 million are Catholics. The top 10 Catholics in Queensland by country of birth are: Australia, the Philippines, New Zealand, England, Italy, Ireland, India, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea and South Africa.

Catholics in Queensland 2016				Queensland: 4,703,193	Statistics - ABS 2016 statistics - Australia		24,385,600
Catholics by Country of Birth					ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Australia		
Country	Greater Brisbane	Rest of Queensland	Other areas	Total Queensland	Top 10 countries of birth - 30 June 2016		
	488,563	532,254	1,697	1,022,518	Country of birth	Persons no.	% of Australiar population
1. Australia	371,537	440,701	1,199	813,439	United Kingdom	1 198 000	5.0
2. Philippines	15,168	14,058	32	29,261	New Zealand	607 200	2.5
3. New Zealand	14,221	12,069	65	26,353	China	526 000	2.2
4. England	11,042	9,185	66	20,292	India	468 800	1.9
5. Italy	5,060	5,281	40	10,383	Philippines	246 400	1.0
5. Ireland	4,999	3,003	27	8,026	Vietnam	236 700	1.0
7. India	3,941	2,129	0	6,073	Italy	194 900	0.8
3. Vietnam	3,784	585	3	4,372	South Africa	181 400	0.8
9. Papua New Guinea	3,033	2,294	11	5,341	Malaysia	166 200	0.7
10. South Africa	2,792	1,916	6	4,716	Germany	124 300	0.5