

CELEBRATING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

2014 Catholic Education Week celebrations were launched on Friday May 23 with Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church East Warrnambool. This was an exciting moment for Catholic Education in the Diocese as the launch moves around the Diocese. Another event coinciding with the start of the Catholic Education Week was the annual 30 Years of Service Award Dinner. For more on these events read below:

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK LAUNCH:

Warrnambool was blessed with fine weather for the Year 6 and 7 Catholic Education Week Mass to launch this year's event for the Diocese of Ballarat on Friday May 23.

Balloons in school colours flooded OLHC Church in East Warrnambool. Year 6 classes from St Patrick's School Port Fairy, St Patrick's School Koroit, St Pius X West Warrnambool, St Joseph's Warrnambool, OLHC East Warrnambool, St John's Dennington and Year 7 students from Emmanuel College Warrnambool all took an active role in helping celebrate together as a network of Catholic Schools in the Southern Zone. Thank you to Fr. Lawrence O'Toole Parish Priest of OLHC and Fr. Michael Linehan from St Pius X Parish for celebrating our Mass.

Each school took part in a water ritual by pouring water into one central vessel as an introduction to the theme.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly" John 10:10

"Water is a vital resource we all share and need for life.

Water brings about new life; growth, it refreshes and cleans.

It is a symbol of all the members of the diocese coming together. Just like the rivers, we blend, merge and flow into one.

Water is a sign of life. Without water, nothing can grow. Water is essential to all life, we use it today to symbolize the essential nature of each one of us, working together to strengthen our Catholic communities and to do the best we can do, be the best we can be.

Water in Baptism is a sign of new life and new beginnings. As we celebrate the beginning of Catholic Education Week, let us think about the challenges that Jesus puts to us.

We are challenged to live our lives to the full, not just for ourselves, but to live the Gospels in the service of others, to help create a community of compassion, forgiveness, hope and love."

The Mass was a very positive start to kick off Catholic Education Week in the Diocese and I thank all of the students for their reverence and enthusiasm shown.



*John O'Sullivan
Religious Education/ Faith Formation Coordinator
Emmanuel College Warrnambool*

ANNUAL 30 YEARS OF SERVICE AWARD DINNER:

The annual 30 Years of Service Award Dinner was again held at St Patrick's College Pavilion on Friday evening, May 23 where guests gathered to celebrate and acknowledges staff who have contributed thirty years of service to Catholic Education. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated prior to the dinner in the St Patrick's College chapel by Bishop Paul Bird and concelebrated by Fr Brendan Davey, Fr Eugene McKinnon and Fr James Kerr.

Nineteen staff were recognised this year for their significant contributions. Audrey Brown, in acknowledging the awardees, said "we celebrate those staff who have given thirty years of service to Catholic education – contributing to the partnership between families, schools, parishes, the Catholic Education Office and local communities; being open to God's presence in their own lives and in their various education settings; and through their dedicated service, enabling fullness of life for all the members of our education community whose lives they have touched. We are grateful indeed for the gift of each awardee in our Catholic education community, we thank them for all that they have brought to Catholic education in the last thirty years and we offer them our blessing in the years ahead."



The dinner provided guests with an opportunity to share in great company and to catch up with colleagues, some who they may have studied with thirty years ago. During the evening, students from Damascus College, Loreto College and St Patrick's College entertained guests with music. We thank Jason White, Charlotte Crowley, Lily O'Shea and James McKinnon for their accomplished performances.



Guests were privileged to be addressed by guest speaker Sabra Lane, a former student of Sacred Heart Primary (for a short time) and St Joseph's School Mildura. Sabra was a student at St Joseph's College in Mildura from 1980 to 1985. After University, Sabra went into journalism full-time in Adelaide in 1989, as an assistant to the chief-of-staff. Sabra then moved on as an on-the-road television reporter, before delving into the art of producing and line-up producing. Sabra next became the chief of staff of the ABC's TV newsroom in Sydney before switching back to the commercial TV world, eventually taking on the role of executive producer of the Seven Network's "Sunday Sunrise". During 2008, Sabra moved to Canberra, and achieved a long-held dream in 2011 becoming the chief political correspondent for the ABC's Radio Current Affairs division - leading the national broadcaster's radio coverage on the prestigious program 'AM', as well as 'PM' and 'The World Today'. Last year, Sabra switched mediums and was appointed chief political correspondent for the ABC's flagship TV current affairs 7.30 program. Sabra's address demonstrated some wonderful insights into the life of a political journalist and the pressures experienced working with tight deadlines. Sabra was able to relate her experiences and enthusiasm for life as a political correspondent to the enthusiasm given her whilst a student at St. Joseph's College, Mildura. Many would agree our guest speakers are an integral part of the evening. We are certainly blessed to have ex-students willing to speak about their Catholic education and post education experiences.

Once again we thank St Patrick's College for their outstanding hospitality during the Catholic Education Week Dinner. For others the Catholic Education Week launch was the beginning of many celebrations throughout the Diocese so we congratulate all for the work we do in celebrating Catholic Education Week.

*Brad Carr
Planning & Promotions Officer
Catholic Education, Ballarat*



Left: Leigh Mitchell, Pat O'Shea and Barbara O'Shea



Right: Enjoying the evening



Left: Debbie Stabek, Bronwyn Gallagher, Lynn Dwyer, Leona Ryan

Thirty Year Recipients are named below:



30 Years Service to Catholic Education

2014 Recipients

Neal Arthurson	St Patrick's College, Ballarat
Patricia Barclay	Trinity College, Colac
Maree Bell	Monivae College, Hamilton
Anne Bone	Catholic Education Office
Catherine Crameri	Lumen Christi Primary School, Delacombe
Joan Davies	St Patrick's Primary School, Ballarat
Pauline Fahey	Catholic Education Office & Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School, Warrnambool East
Trish Foran	St Augustine's Primary School, Maryborough
Serafina Fuoco	St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs
Pauline Haberfield	St Patrick's Primary School, Port Fairy
Christine Hoggard	Trinity College, Colac
Kerri Loader	Loreto College, Ballarat
Catherine Pearson	St Francis Xavier Primary School, Ballarat East
Christopher Pollard	St Michael's Primary School, Daylesford
Cathryn Rowles	Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura
Damian Ryan	Loreto College, Ballarat
Lee Schlooz	Catholic Education Office
Veronica Slattery	Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School, Murtoa
Adele Webster	St Pius X Primary School, Warrnambool West

