



The Witness

Catholic Schools of Evangelisation National Newsletter

August 2006

A Vehicle for Evangelisation.

The Australian Schools of Evangelisation vision is to form Parish Schools of Evangelisation who will:

- 1) Perform Evangelisation Outreach, and help
- 2) Train other Parishioners in Evangelisation.

John Paul II, in Haiti in 1983 said – “Look to the future with commitment to a New Evangelisation, one that is new in its *fervour*, new in its *methods*, and new in its *expression*”.

The Schools have for many years helped form people with the core Gospel message (method) and helped form individuals with Zeal for the Gospel (fervour) and a Mission mentality. If we are to respond to JP II’s request then we must also provide formation training in **expression**.

Many Catholic Communities all around the world and indeed in Australia are gifted in expression when presenting the Gospel. One such Community in the UK is called the Sion Community.

Therefore The Australian Schools of Evangelisation are inviting Monica McArdle from the Sion Community in the UK to deliver a weeks course called “*Formation in Creative Evangelisation*”.

The main objective of this course is to help Catholic Evangelisers develop creativity and expressive skills in Evangelisation. Participants will be challenged to learn how to use Music, Mime, Art, Dance, Power Point and even Australian Sign-Language as expressive tools of Evangelisation. You might compare this course to a crash course in driving as creativity and expression are recognised as vehicles of evangelisation.

The course itself will be delivered over five days. There will be two distinct themes running through the course:

- ▶ **Outreach to children and families** (for Sacraments)
- ▶ **Outreach to Youth.**

The vehicles of expression
- Drama, Art, Mime,

Music & Sign-Language, will run through each of these themes.

Gary Stephens.

Monica McArdle, one of seven brothers and sisters, grew up in Rock Ferry on the banks of the famous river Mersey which opens out into the port of Liverpool.



Monica graduated from Durham University with a degree in Chemistry which took her back into school to embark on a career in teaching.

It was during this time that Monica experienced a Sion Community school mission which gave her a new vision for her future as an evangelist. Monica joined the Community where she spent five years working in youth ministry developing presentational skills in mime, drama, dance and sign-language. Monica then moved into parish mission work bringing a creative dimension to parish liturgies and celebrations.

Monica has been committed to developing her own personal gifting in visual presentation attending summer schools in Poland and the USA. However, Monica’s passion and charisma lies in her ability to draw forth, even from the most hesitant, a willingness and joy in stepping out into the world of creativity.

After her first trip to Australia where Monica directed and performed in an evangelistic presentation entitled, *Passionfest*, Monica is now looking forward to returning to Oz to share her inspirational ministry with the School of Evangelisation.



The Witness

This newsletter is published by the Catholic School of Evangelisation in Melbourne, Australia. It is published in April, August and December.

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*Check out information about the
School of Evangelisation
on the
CCR web page:*

WWW.CCR.org.au

Post, email or fax your articles of an evangelical nature, personal testimonies, jokes, news items, photos, advertisements, competitions, Bible trivia etc. to the Editor at the above address.

The Director and other members of the National Executive Committee of the School of Evangelisation do not necessarily endorse opinions expressed in articles within this publication.

Deadline for the next issue of

The Witness

27th November 2006

The School of Evangelisation acknowledges the efforts of all Coordinators involved in the distribution of this newsletter.

May God bless you!

School of Evangelisation MISSION STATEMENT

To contribute to the formation of evangelising parishes by offering a formation program which:

- ▶ FORMS DISCIPLES
- ▶ TRAINS EVANGELISERS
- ▶ ESTABLISHES PARISH SCHOOLS OF EVANGELISATION.

FROM OSTRICHES TO EAGLES

By Pat Kelly

Over the last few weeks I have been working for the Bureau of Statistics, distributing and collecting census forms. It has been quite interesting and because I live in the country it has been a very social experience. Sometimes it takes ten minutes to hand someone a form by the time you discuss the weather, the cows and the neighbours! As I went around the district I caught up with many people I haven't seen for years, people I used to go to school with, or their siblings or parents. Quite sad really when you think that we went to a Catholic school together and now so many of them are RC's (Retired Catholics). I wonder if the results of this Census will continue the trend of previous years with the number of nominal Catholics increasing while the number of practicing Catholics declines?



Five years ago the figures showed an average of 15% of Catholics went to Mass at least once a month. However in many parishes the reality is more like 10%. What are we going to do about this? Just to continue with an ostrich attitude, ie "we'll just keep doing what we have always done," is not good enough. Our local bishop, **Jeremiah Coffey**, is **always telling us, in the Sale Diocese, that we have to move from Maintenance to Mission. To put it another way we have to move from being ostriches to being eagles.**

I want to present to you **two ways we can move from being ostriches, limited and bound up with fear, to being eagles soaring with the Good News of Jesus.**

The first Gary Stephens has already spoken about in our front page article. **We need to be more creative in our approach to evangelisation.** The message is the same but how we present it is infinitely variable. (After all the Holy Spirit is infinite!) **Attend the course on Creative Evangelisation in November.**

We are bringing out to Australia one of the best teachers available, don't miss out.



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PENTECOST POWER

Bishop Joe Grech: Spiritual Director of School of Evangelisation

"The love of God has been poured into our hearts by his Spirit living in us. Alleluia".

This is the opening exclamation for the church's celebration on the great Feast of Pentecost. At Pentecost we celebrate and remember the life-changing experience of the first Christians affected through the powerful coming of the Holy Spirit on each of them. They were changed. From people unsure of themselves and full of fear and uncertainty, they all became powerful witnesses of the presence of Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:1-13).

Through baptism and confirmation, we have also received the Holy Spirit. What does the Holy Spirit do in us and for us? In his letter to the Romans, Chapter 8, verses 14-17, Paul gives us a short but powerful description of who we are in God through the power of the Holy Spirit living in us. He specifically mentions four basic realities:

Firstly, *"All who are guided by the Spirit of God are sons (and daughters) of God."* (Rom 8:14). What does it mean to be a son and daughter of God?

Many of you who are reading this reflection are parents. By reflecting as how parents generally relate to their children we can come to some understanding of how God feels and how He relates to us as His sons and daughters. There is nothing that good parents will not do, in order to take care of their children. They go to great lengths and work very hard to provide the best possible upbringing for their children. Only God knows the sacrifices that parents willingly undertake for their families. Even when one of the children disappoints them. Even when one of the children acts in a manner that causes them a lot of grief and hurt. Even when one of the children opts for a style of life that is contrary to their principles and values, they will never close their heart. The door is always open - the welcome is always ready. Forgiveness and understanding is part and parcel of good parenting.

This is precisely what our God feels for you and me. This is the length to which our God is prepared to go to remind us how precious and important we are to Him. The prophet Zephaniah gives us a glimpse of how God reacts when we respond to Him, when we acknowledge and strive to deepen our relationship with Him. *"Yahweh your God is*

there with you, the warrior - Saviour. He will rejoice over you with happy song, He will renew you by His love, He will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival". (Zephaniah 3:17-18). What a privilege it is to belong to the family of Jesus!

Secondly, *"For what you received was not the spirit of slavery to bring you back into fear; you received the spirit of adoption enabling us to cry out "Abba Father"*. (Rom 8:15).

As believers in Jesus Christ our call is to change our society according to the direction and vision of Jesus Christ. This is not an easy task. There are always obstacles and difficulties. However, the Holy Spirit alive within us enables us to keep moving forward in our mission. As Christians we are not ruled by fear or by what other people say or think. With the power of the Holy Spirit we remain steadfast in what we believe.

As believers in Jesus Christ, when surrounded by anxiety or fear, we never give up. We do not back off. We do not abandon our mission and our call. In difficult times and in dire situations we claim the promise of the Holy Spirit of God dwelling in us. We pray, *"Lord Jesus, in this situation I am not so sure how I am going to act. This seems too difficult for me. However, I know that you are here with me, through the presence of the Holy Spirit. Take my hand and help me face what I need to face knowing that you will not let me down"*. In difficult circumstances we may be knocked down but we never despair because the Holy Spirit helps us to relate to God our protector as a child does to his all-loving daddy.

Thirdly, *"Further, it is that very spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God."* (Rom 8:16).

The Holy Spirit communicates with our own spirit. He does not simply give us head knowledge about God and about ourselves. It is very important to study, it is very important to read and to be conscious of what the church and the Word of God teaches. However, the Holy Spirit, besides helping us to achieve all this, radically changes us from the inside. Our way of thinking and looking at things is affected. We become changed people and others can see this change in us.

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God on the Air

When I was first asked to take a turn on the radio in East Gippsland for the hour of "Christian Community in Action", I thought what an incredible opportunity to talk about God to people and happily went along with one of my 'tutors', Margaret East of Lakes Entrance, to learn the ropes.

However there is often some cost, and the cost to me was nervousness, fear and trepidation as I viewed the studio board of numerous levers and electrical gadgets and twinkling orange, green and red lights. My certainty that I could never manage this increased as I watched Margaret (and on other occasions Margo and Louise, of the Catholic Women's League, which pays for the weekly Christian hour) handle the microphone, telephone, C.D. and cassette players, sponsor ads and weather forecasts, plus community announcements! I was ready to back out the door and never return. However with great generosity of spirit, the above three ladies, plus some other very kind Community Ra-

dio people patiently showed me my mistakes over the following months and now I can manage it all reasonable well I think.



I try to have a theme, e.g. last week I chose repentance and how that can (does) open up the way in our lives for the Holy Spirit's action. We all intersperse the session with music, which I try to relate to the theme.

Sometimes you get feedback from someone who has listened, e.g. in my early nervous tension days, as I emerged from the studio a lady raced passed me panting. "I'm late for work but I just had to finish listening to that Christian Radio session." That made my day!

I'm also aware that there may be a bit of 'opposition' out there and so I ask for prayer support for people who put on Christian Radio programs.

I just praise God for this wonderful opportunity on air to glorify God and tell people about Him.



R. E. in

SCHOOLS



I want to encourage people to become involved in another incredible opportunity – that is the Religious Christian Education program in State schools. I taught for 4 years in Bendigo and therefore I know the value of it.

This program has just been brought before Parliament for revision, but thankfully, following very active representation by local politicians in response to teachers and parents letters, the Bill has been left in tact and Christian Education in State schools continues as it was (miraculous I think).

It has a three fold presentation.

To teach the children about the Trinity and the Bible and all that that contains plus of course, prayer, Easter and Christmas.

To teach the children of their own value as God's children and their own loveableness (many kids need this badly)

To teach the children about their place in the family, peers, society, environment, about obedience thoughtfulness, kindness, respect, etc.

The course is compiled by the major denomination and the Catholics are represented on the Board of Administrators. All teachers must be accredited with the Council for Christian Education in Schools and are required to do 2 days in service training per year. The teachers are pro-

vided with excellent training guide books for each session and the children have an interesting corresponding work book to follow.

One pupil said it was the best lesson of the whole day and when my class put on a biblical play (in our ½ hour segment of the school day!), 20 parents came to watch it. A side effect too is that the class teacher must be present in the classes as the R.E. teacher gives the R.E. lesson, and so the class teacher also hears the Good News.

The father of two Muslim boys in my class asked that his children be removed. So the boys were put into an adjacent reading room to read. I noticed that they opened the door a little and sat by it so they could hear what was being said in the classroom.

This is a precious teaching resource we mustn't lose, but if we don't get the teachers.....!!!

If anyone would like to participate (and you don't have to be a trained school teacher) to find out the contact co-ordinator in your area phone the



Council for Christian Education in Schools (Vic) on: 03 96021993.

Beryl Tunzi,
Lakes Tyers

FAITH ON FIRE

“Fan into a flame the gift that God gave you”

2 Timothy 1:6

Faith on Fire is how we described the Holy Spirit Day held on 29th July 2006 in Adelaide.

Sister Majella Bollen from Well Springs Ministries in Melbourne was our guest speaker for the day which was attended by more than 30 people.

The day started with a great downpour and Sister believed this was a sign that God was going to drench us with his graces just as he drenched the earth. This was indeed prophetic.

Sister's personality and gentle delivery ensured a captive audience. She spoke about the “Power” from above that Jesus, promised to the Apostles. She gave a beautiful analogy of why sometimes we seem to lack this great power even though we know it has been passed on to us in Baptism and then again in Confirmation.

She said that at Baptism we are plugged into The Power Source very much like a touch lamp would be. At Confirmation the Power Source is switched on at the wall switch. The Baptism in the Spirit that we voluntary ask for as a responsible adults is just like having been plugged in at the power source, switched on at the power source and finally, voluntary touching the lamp to make the light come on. The question is, are we continually touching our lamp on or do we prefer to sit in darkness?

Her personal testimonies of how the gifts of the Holy Spirit manifested themselves in her life were delivered with humor and proved inspirational to all of us.

As always the day starts with Praise and Worship which helped to prepare our hearts to receive of the abundant graces that God had in store for all of us on that day.

Sharing lunch and our stories as we fellowship together adds to the overall spiritual experience of the Holy Spirit day.

After lunch we were blessed with a time of prayer for the Release of the Holy Spirit.

We were honored to have the company of Bill Smith, the Leader of the Charismatic Renewal in Adelaide. He commented that as he walked in the room he was powerfully moved by an almost tangible presence of God's Spirit among His people.

I was reminded of Psalm 33

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity.”

And sisters of course

God who is never outdone in generosity painted the sky with a rainbow as we left to return home enriched and filled with His Spirit.

Carmen Sylvester
Adelaide

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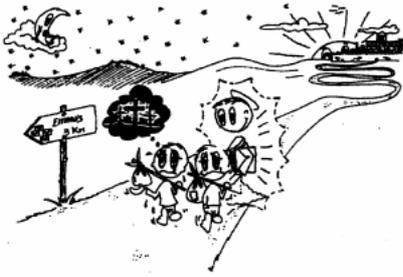
Your generosity will support spreading
the true message of Christmas
through the

“Celebrate Emmanuel”

Christmas Concert
to be held on

Sunday the 26th November 06,
under the canopy in Rundle Mall,
Adelaide, from 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Emmaus at Clayton



With the friendly support of Fr John Quin, Parish Priest, and the coordination by Pastoral Worker, Lucy Lilburne and Cynthia Bernardo, 14 people began the course at St Peter's Clayton, over the weekend of 22-23 July. Nan Deakin was taking the role of facilitator with usual efficiency. The numbers reduced to 10 on Sunday but the quality of participants was excellent and feedback was great. In spite of the numbers the participants were still able to fulfil the various roles of the Old Testament prophets, leading figures and wise men. Some had to fill more than one role.

Our hope is that Clayton may eventually be one of the parishes where the full Parish Program will be able to be implemented. A very multicultural parish, with large numbers of students associated with Monash University, it is a great harvest field, if people can be raised up and trained to evangelise this diverse community.

Previous courses held in St Peter's have been New Life, Formation of Disciples and Formation of Evangelisers, but so far no permanent team has been able to be established. May it come to pass soon.

Adrian Commadeur.

INITIAL SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION, Cape Town, Sth. Africa.

Holy Spirit Evangelisation Centre, 4th July - 16th July

Having planned our initial School of Evangelisation over a period of ten months, we started on 4 July 2006 with the Phillip Course. The Archbishop opened the school with Mass, thanking us for taking our task of evangelisation seriously and encouraging us to persevere.

Thirty eight parishioners from 15 different parishes in the archdiocese attended. They eagerly participated in the different activities and tackled especially the door to door visitations enthusiastically. Even the rejections they suffered at many doors did not dent their enthusiasm. They started off as strangers to one another and completed the course as friends on fire with the vision to work in the Lord's vineyard.

The visit to the prison was indeed a rare but wonderful experience.

Three courses were presented namely the Philip Course (New life), the Emmaus Course (Scripture Reflection) and Paul Course (Evangelisation) and the course content and dynamics were splendidly presented by Joe O' Callaghan, Director of the Irish School of Evangelisation and Theresa Kehoe.

All the participants worked together in a dynamic way to gain as much from the courses. The outreaches especially taught us a lot on how to apply the theory.

A report of the Initial School was handed to the Archbishop Lawrence Henry for his perusal and discernment and as soon as he gives us the go-ahead, we aim to launch the four basic courses of the Cape Town School of Evangelisation in our parishes at the beginning of 2007. We are confident that the experience we gained in Melbourne and Sydney coupled with that of the initial school will be invaluable to kick start our own SOE here in Cape Town.

Deacons Piet Philander and Basil Sampson

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Mission is Possible



In April this year the Melbourne School delivered a New Life course to over 19 parishioners at St Peter's & Paul, East Doncaster.

Initial meetings with Fr Bill recognised that a planned Parish Mission in August might benefit from having a New Life course. As anticipated many of the New Life participants have gone on to help form a "Mission Committee" who's main objective is to help ensure as many Parishioners attend the Parish Mission as possible.

The Melbourne School offered itself as a facilitator helping the Mission Committee to prepare for the coming August mission. On the 22nd of July, Gary Stephens, Trish Spiteri (St Francis Parish School Coordinator) and Angela Moda (St Francis Team Leader) worked with a team of 18 people covering the following subjects: Kerygma of Today, Personal Testimony and the "Does and Don'ts of Evangelisation.

At the end of this session the 18 participants were broken into 9 teams of two people, given a section of the Parish (a map and a list of known Catholic houses) and were sent out to share the "Kerygma of today" with an invitation to the August Mission.

It was also recognised that this "killed two birds with one stone" – St Peter's received practical outreach training and St Francis Parish School received ongoing formation training/ experience.

It is hoped that after the Parish Mission the Melbourne School can offer further formation training and perhaps even the full formation program in time.

Gary Stephens, Melbourne School Co-ordinator.

The enthusiasm, joy and faith of Gary and the team had an effect on the 18 participants, half of whom have been out doorknocking to evangelise and to tell people about our coming Parish Mission. I recommend Gary and his team and the New Life weekend.

Fr. Bill Gill

The Wheel Keeps Turning



In September 2005 as part of the formation training at Mill Park the participants delivered the "Your Child's Life – The Bread of Life" drama. This outreach event targeted parents of children receiving their First Eucharist. The drama presented two scenarios: 1) A Family that attends the Eucharist and, 2) A family that does not. The drama followed the life of both children (10 year old to 16 year old and to adulthood) and revealed the potential consequences for both families. To the parents this presented a challenge that required a response. This was a very successful event, which was a great foundation for further outreaches.

The outreach event is again planned for September this year. The Melbourne School ran through its first practice (re-training) session on the 3rd August. The outreach event has been changed based on what we learnt last time.

The preparation for the events will consist of making flyers, personal invitation to all parents which includes reminders via the children.

The outreach events will take place in the Church and the evening will follow the following structure:

Welcoming – Each of the evangelisation team would stand at the back of church welcoming par-

ents who attend. They will act as ushers...

Introduction – Fr Brendan Lane

Reading (John 6:25-70) – 15 people each dynamically reading a verse from different parts of the Church. Specific verses are repeated and re-emphasised.

Drama – "Your Child's Life – the bread of Life" drama is presented.

Teaching – An active Kerygmatic teaching extracting the key points of the drama is delivered.

Testimony – One of the Parish Evangelisation team will present their own personal testimony. It

is hope that this will be a teenager who gives witness to how the Eucharist has influenced his life and the decisions he has made.

Invitation – The first Parish School "New Life" course, delivered by the Parish itself is scheduled for November. Each of the Parents will be invited to this course.

Each of the five teams (5 teams of 5 people) has outreach events planned throughout the year. The wheel of Evangelisation Outreach therefore keeps turning and targeted non-practising Catholics are continually re-invited back into the community.

Gary Stephens
Melbourne School
Co-ordinator.



Filipino Youth Experience Discipleship Course

The Holy Redeemer Servant Community youth were blessed to have an invitation to study at the School of Evangelisation held at St. Dominic's hall in Broadmeadows on 29th—30th July and 5th—6th August. The following are a few comments from participants:

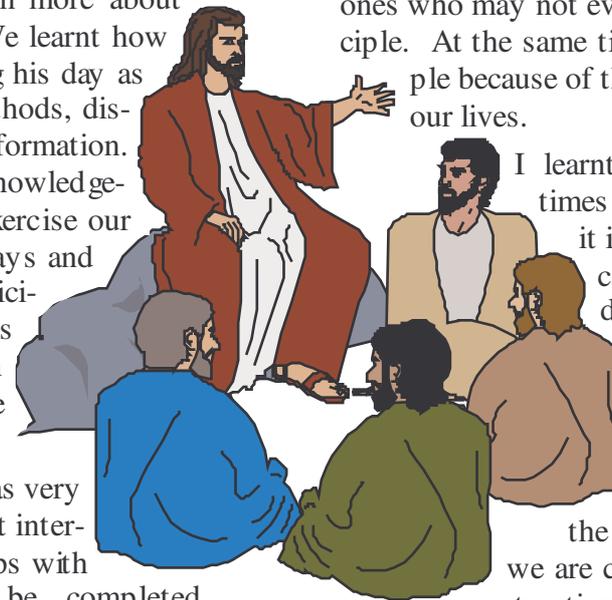
We have all been blessed by God. Our gracious God has given not only me but the youth an experience we all will never forget. The evangelisation school we attended opened our eyes, our minds, and our hearts as we humbled ourselves in order to really understand what God is to us, and why He loves us so much. I personally felt that this course would be beneficial for me to further expand my knowledge about our Lord and His Word.

The youth were able to learn more about Jesus on a personal level. We learnt how Jesus placed priorities during his day as well as His master plan, methods, discipleship, and His pastoral formation. The course was not only knowledgeable; we also were able to exercise our drama skills through mini plays and 'dynamics' which we participated in. These dynamics were various exercises which helped to put into practice what we have learnt.

The evangelisation course was very interactive. I myself found it interesting, as we sat in our groups with certain tasks needed to be completed through the cooperation of each team member in the community. This helped us to realise that Jesus' work cannot be done by one person alone.

The course also encouraged us to reflect on certain aspects in our lives. During those times I reflected on my lifestyle. It was a spiritual journey where I could be honest to God for my actions in my life and seek forgiveness for any wrong doing I have caused Him and others.

The idea of discipleship and helping others to live a life of one, is what I have taken with me at the completion of this course. My spiritual life has had a boost from being a participant in the school of Evangelisation. My eyes have been opened to see what it really means to do God's work and why it is important to continue His work in our lives.



“If you want to be a DISCIPLE of JESUS... you don't just follow Him, but instead be with Him ALWAYS”. - - -

These are the very first words I learnt from the teachers of the School of Evangelisation. This was repeated to us throughout the four days as we listened to the teachings of how to become a disciple of Jesus. This made me reflect on my relationship with Him and how I'm living my Christian life.

However, throughout the course, some of my thoughts and views have changed as I began to realise that being a disciple is so easy but yet so hard. So what do I mean by this? It means that it's so easy to be a disciple because Jesus is the one who chooses His disciples (John 15:16). He chooses the rich and the poor, the sick and the dying or the ones who may not even know the meaning of a disciple. At the same time, it is so hard to be a disciple because of the many challenges we face in our lives.

I learnt that no matter how many times Jesus calls us to be a disciple; it is really up to us to answer His call. So do you want to be a disciple? I myself want to be a disciple of Jesus. I want to be more like Him and I want to follow His footsteps. However, it takes time to be a disciple just as the teachers said at the school - we are called “Christians Under Construction”, as the Lord is always re-

moulding us to the person He wants us to be. I praise and thank God that He is always remoulding me to the person that He wants me to be, as I am not a perfect human being. Now I know why it's easy to be a disciple and yet so hard, but with the grace from the Lord I will be a true disciple of Jesus; and so will you.

Dear Lord,

We praise and thank you for giving the H.R.S.C. Youth the opportunity to feel your presence at the school of evangelisation. Mould us to be the people you want us to be so that we may be more like you. We ask for you to always send the Holy Spirit to be with us and guide in every decisions that we make to be able to overcome the obstacles we may face in life. Remind us that you are always there. Amen.

Arvin Reyes

Sheena Carpio

Continued P.9

MALTESE SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION

On the weekend of 9th & 10th July, 2006, the Maltese School of Evangelisation was inaugurated by presenting for the first time the 'New Life' course in Maltese, with the blessing of Bishop Joe Grech.

Thirty two participants attended the course full time and a few more attended only on Sunday because of previous family commitments on the Monday, second day of the course. It was quite a successful venture as all the participants expressed their joy and appreciation that such a course was available in their language.

The dynamics were a great surprise for them especially the surrendering of the 'crowns' in front of the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Some were in tears and most witnessed they felt a sense of joy and peace as never before.

The Lord truly blessed Lucy and I, and the three



other presenters, Fr. Benedict Sant MSSP, John Cassar, Charlie Cortis and helper, Pauline Camilleri, who are active members of the Emmanuel Maltese Prayer Community and who previously attended the New Life Course in English.

We anticipate presenting 'Emmaus' some time this year or early next, as this course has also been translated into Maltese. Both Lucy and I are doing our best to translate other courses with the help of people we know can help in this field.

We thank God for the task he entrusted to us, to spiritually feed in their own language the Maltese Community through the School of Evangelisation. We pray that the Lord will bless the School and multiply the labourers in the field of evangelisation. May His Name always be praised.

Eddie Grasso
Coordinator (MSOE)

From page 3.... **PENTECOST POWER** by Bishop Joe Grech

It is like being in love. When people meet their beloved something happens to them. Their heart beats faster, and their cheeks become redder. People can easily discern when a person is in love. The same thing occurs when we are touched by the Spirit of God. We lose our inhibitions, and we become more at ease in praising God aloud and in song. We become more committed to our various responsibilities. We start to speak about our relationship with God in positive manner and it becomes evident to those around us. Moreover, people come to ask us about our new manner of living our daily lives. This is the moment when we can witness powerfully to them how important and necessary God is for every human person.

Fourthly, "*And if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ*". (Rom 8:17)

What does it mean to be an heir? According to human language and usage, if my father has two sons, when he dies I inherit half of the assets left by my father. Both my brother and myself get an equal part of the inheritance. However God does not act in this manner.

As His sons and daughters and through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, God does not give a part of Himself to each one of us. He gives everything that He has to each one of us. Each of us is equipped with everything that God can provide in order to reach our full potential as human beings and to be of service to others.

"Lord Jesus, here I am before you at this moment. Renew me with the power of your Spirit. Touch me with your presence. Melt me, mould me, fill me, heal me, use me. Make me a powerful witness of your resurrection."

From P.8 **Filipino Youth - Discipleship Course.**

When I was informed about the School of Evangelisation course months before, I already had a feeling that God was calling me to take part in it. What I didn't know is that I was being called to be one of His disciples.

Taking part in the School of Evangelisation course helped to deeper my understand of the role of Jesus' disciples in bringing others closer to God. As other people have been a disciple in my life, bringing me closer to God, I too, as Jesus' disciple desire to bring others closer to Him.

In the past two weeks I can testify boldly that attending the School of Evangelisation course has made a dramatic impact in my life. I am now building a stronger, deeper relationship with my Saviour Jesus Christ. I have found a greater purpose in life - to serve God and to serve others.

Carmeli Reyes



New Life - Shellharbour City Parish

What a wonderful God we serve. How great His love. How unfailing His desire to draw each of us into that life giving relationship with Him through His beloved Son Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour.

All of this became abundantly clear to us as we journeyed and shared the course - "New Life".

As one graduate concluded: "What a great title - NEW LIFE - so, so true!!"

Under the warm presence of the Loving Spirit of God, we shared the same overwhelming experience the early believers encountered during the early gatherings of the Church.

A course graduate, Percy Cartwright, described the course: "Truly a Spiritual occurrence," "The Holy Spirit is really at work here. I gained so much. Let us pray that we will give much and even more to others."

What a beautiful expression of the Holy Spirit's presence and activity among His people!

With eyes openly focused on Jesus, ears tuned into what God is offering through His Word, our hearts were inspired to receive the wonderful renewing love of our Living God through His Holy Spirit.

"I have been given a new insight into God's love and friendship," writes Pat Steyns, "Very, very inspiring."

New Life? - Indeed!!! Praise God always.



We, the Wollongong School of Evangelisation team were very privileged to share this renewing experience with 15 members of the Shellharbour City Parish under the blessings of Bishop Peter Ingham and the ongoing support of Fr. Bryan Jones & Fr. Tony Daly.

Sincere gratitude to all that have upheld us in prayer and to all the participants that have walked this journey with us.

God's blessings & guidance be with you always.

Paul Farrugia for the WSOE team.

BE A SOLDIER FOR GOD !

Would you consider becoming a new member of the Gideon's Army appeal? **\$100 annual subscription. New soldiers urgently needed!**

All new Gideon's Army members will receive:

- † A monthly Mass offered for you by Bishop Joe Grech
- † A membership certificate
- † A bi-annual Gideon's Army newsletter
- † A beautiful prayer card with six points of the Kerygma
- † We're working on more benefits!



Thank you to all existing members - May God bless you abundantly!

GIDEON'S ARMY

Please enrol me/us in Gideon's Army:

NAME (or NAME OF GROUP).....

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

Please find my annual contribution of \$100 enclosed

OR Please forward National Bank deposit slip for one off annual contribution

OR I wish to contribute by _____ deposits of \$ _____ each, please forward deposit slips.

Thank you for filling out this form!

Please return it to the following address:

**GIDEON'S ARMY
School of Evangelisation
P.O. Box 168
Wonthaggi, Vic. 3995**

**Enquiries: Jacinta Gunn
ph. (03) 5998 7859**

SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION PROGRAM 2006

Date	Course Name	Location	Contact Details
Sept. 6 th —Oct. 4 th (5 evenings)	NEW LIFE	PYMBLE N.S.W.	Jill: 02 9449 8098
8 th —10 th Sept.	MARY	Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.	Kay: 02 6933 1444
9 th —10 th & 16 th —17 th Sept.	FORMATION OF DISCIPLES	Bairnsdale, Vic.	Cathy: 03 8711 4690
Sept. 30 th —Oct. 1 st	SHARE YOUR FAITH	Brisbane, Qld.	Elmer: 07 3345 8430
26 th —29 th Oct.	MARY	New Zealand	Adrian: 03 9337 2051
2 nd —5 th Nov. 06	MOSES	New Zealand	Adrian: 03 9337 2051
4 th —7 th Nov. & 11 th —12 th Nov. ?	FORMATION OF EVANGELISERS	Narre Warren, Vic	Cathy: 03 8711 4690
Nov. 4 th —5 th	NEW LIFE	Wallsend N.S.W.	Lucy: 02 9670 4440
Nov. 11 th —12 th	NEW LIFE	Mill Park, Vic	Trish: 03 9436 1834
Nov. 12 th —13 th	NEW LIFE (Spanish)	Brisbane, Qld.	Elmer: 07 3345 8430
Nov. 20 th —24 th	FORMATION IN CREATIVE EVANGELISATION	East Brunswick, Vic.	Gary: 03 8711 4690
Dec. 9 th —10 th	EMMAUS	Gladstone, Qld.	Colleen: 07 4972 3409

From P.2.....**FROM OSTRICHES TO EAGLES**

The second is the approach shared with us by Damien Staynes at the CCR Leadership training course in Canberra in June. **We need signs and wonders to accompany our proclamation of the Gospel.** Doctrine alone is not enough, after all many world religions have fine teaching. Why should anyone accept Christianity rather than Buddhism, or Islam or whatever? The experience of Community is not enough, after all people can experience wonderful community at the bowling club or Rotary. What make Christian community different?



People today are looking for an experience of God, they want to know if God is real. We need to be able to help people to encounter Jesus. Not only to learn about him, or experience him only in the love of others but to have a personal encounter, **to come face to face with the living Risen Lord.**

Our evangelisation testimony needs to be confirmed by the witness of the Holy Spirit as he works healings and miracles and gives words of knowledge and generally ministers with supernatural power. **We have to be prepared to step out in faith and take a risk to pray for miracles.**

“help your servants to proclaim your message with all fearlessness, by stretching out your hand to heal and to work miracles and marvels through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”
Acts 4:29-30

Ministry is ...

Giving when you feel like weeping.

Praying for others when you need prayer.

Feeding others, when your soul is hungry.

Living truth before people, when you can't see results.

Hurting with other people, when your heart is hurting.

Keeping your word, when it's not convenient.

It is being faithful, when you want to run away.

That is Ministry!

School of Catholic Evangelisation
P.O. Box 168
Wonthaggi 3995
Phone 03 5672 2772

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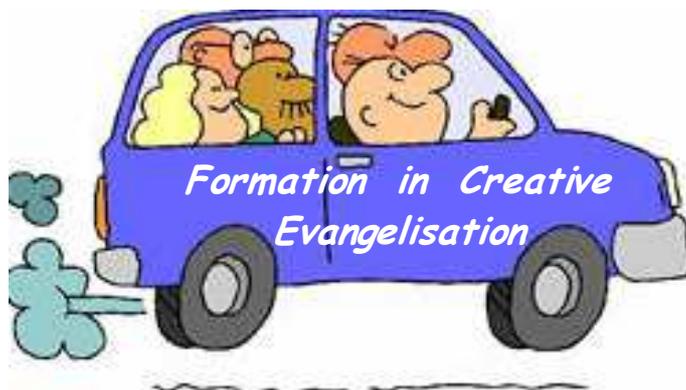
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Come and join in the fun

and get on board the vehicle of expression
when the Melbourne S.O.E. hosts

Monica McArdle,
Sion Community U.K.

who will present



**Our Lady Help of Christians, 49 Nicholson St. East Brunswick.
Monday 20th November—Friday 24th November, 06**

9.00 am—5.30 pm each day

Cost: \$100 or \$25 a day. Lack of finance need not prevent participation. Deposit \$20. B.Y.O. Lunch.

Participants will be challenged to learn how to use Music, Mime, Art, Dance, Power Point
and even Australian Sign-Language as expressive tools of evangelisation.

There will be two distinct themes: ► **Outreach to children and families**
► **Outreach to Youth.**

Application Form

Formation in Creative Evangelisation

To avoid disappointment please register as soon as possible.

Name.....

Address

City/Town..... State..... P/code

Phone No

Please make cheques
payable to:
School of Evangelisation,
P.O. Box 168,
Wanthaggi, Vic. 3995.

Enquiries:
Pat, 03 5672 2772
Gary, 03 8711 4690