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Go out to the whole world; proclaim the gospel to all creation. Mark 16:15

Resources for Lent and Easter 2022

Welcome to Proclaim, a regular newsletter to help keep parish leadership teams informed and inspired as they proclaim and live out the joy of the Gospel.

Happy new year from the Proclaim team!

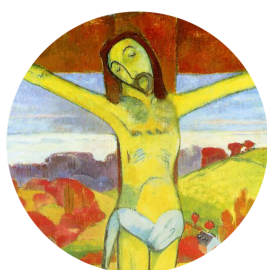
As the late summer sunshine lifts our spirits and as pandemic restrictions ease once more, many of us find ourselves returning to work and parish commitments after a summer that—thanks to Omicron—was not quite what we were expecting. After more than two years of disruption, and as we approach our third Lent and Easter in the shadow of COVID, our capacity for perseverance and hope has been severely tested.

And yet hope we do. Because as the people of God—refined in the Lenten wilderness and transformed by the paschal mystery—hope is in our DNA. Life keeps reminding us how incapable we are of charting a path forward, of how blind we are when it comes to

predicting the future. But it is our recognition of this very incapacity and blindness that, strangely, reinforces our hope in the One who sees truly, the One who is the Way.

This is certainly true for Liam, a young Catholic university student and a participant in the [recent SEEK conference](#), who tells us in this issue of Proclaim about how the challenges and isolation of lockdown turned out to be the unlikely catalyst for a renewed faith in Jesus. We also [meet the new Discipleship on Campus team](#) and hear about how campus ministry in Melbourne is being transformed. Looking forward to the [Synod of Bishops](#) in 2023, we announce that the deadline for parish submissions has been extended to 13 March 2022. And as we prepare to embark again on our Lenten journey together, we give a run-down on some [useful and inspiring Lenten and Easter resources](#) from around the web.

As St Paul observes, 'faith is the substance of things hoped for, the conviction of realities that are unseen' (Hebrews 11:1). Inspired by such a faith, may we keep launching out in hope—into a new year, new ministries, new life.



Resources for Lent and Easter

Lent is almost upon us once again. Each year, the Church makes its pilgrimage to the cross and beyond—through the refining trials of the wilderness, to the heart-rending breakthrough of Calvary and into the expansive Easter hope that motivates and animates all that we do. The latest in *The Summit Online's* series of 'useful links' libraries provides a selection of useful and engaging Lenten and Easter resources and articles from around the web to help parishes, groups and individuals (young and old) to enter more deeply into these inspiring seasons.

[Read here](#)



Submissions for Synod extended to 13 March

At the request of dioceses, the period for local submissions for the global Synod of Bishops process has been extended by two weeks, with responses now being received until 13 March. Hundreds of submissions from across the country have been made through the online Synod of Bishops portal, along with responses that have also been sent directly to dioceses. Don't miss out on this chance to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church.

[Read here](#)



Meet the Discipleship on Campus team

After two years of online learning, university students return to campuses across Melbourne this week. The beginning of the academic year also marks the launching of our Archdiocese's new Discipleship on Campus team—an extension of the work of the Discipleship team at Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal. Meet the team who will be ministering to our uni students and building a culture of discipleship on campus.

[Meet the team](#)



University students seek to share Jesus on campus

Uni students from across Melbourne gathered for the 2022 SEEK conference earlier in February in order to dive deeper into the Gospel and to discover how they might answer Jesus' call to relationship and discipleship. One student, Liam, shares his story of experiencing God's love in lockdown and his hope that 'people across all university campuses will feel the love of God' too.

[Read here](#)

Reminder: Rite of Election (6 March)

The Rite of Election has always been a joy-filled occasion in the life of our Archdiocese, as the local Church celebrates those who have responded to God's call to friendship and new life by preparing to enter the Church and receive the sacraments of initiation at Easter. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal are looking forward to welcoming catechumens (those who will be baptised) and candidates (those who have already been baptised), their godparents and sponsors, loved ones and parish RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) teams to St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 6 March 2022 at 3.30pm.

If your parish has not yet registered, please contact our office to ensure your parish doesn't miss out.

Please pray for those taking this significant step in their RCIA journey!

Lay ecclesial ministers' supervision groups— registrations now open

Registrations for the ministry supervision groups offered and subsidised by the Archdiocese in 2022 are now open. These sessions are open to accredited lay ecclesial ministers currently working in the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. Supervision is a vital ingredient for professional growth and a flourishing ministry. The cost of registration in 2022 is \$180.

To register for group supervision, visit www.trybooking.com/BXNIZ.
For further assistance, please contact Adrian Agpasa on 9926 5709 or adrian.agpasa@cam.org.au.

Our lay ecclesial ministers have our continued gratitude, admiration and support for their care, leadership and accompaniment of our local communities, particularly at this time.

Save the date: Patrick Oration 2022

Join us on the feast of St Patrick (17 March), patron saint of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, for the third annual Patrick Oration, to be delivered by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli. This year's Oration is of special significance as 2022 marks 125 years since the consecration of the iconic St Patrick's Cathedral, the spiritual home

of the people of God in Melbourne. This year also marks 175 years since the establishment of the Diocese of Melbourne.

Due to current pandemic regulations, this event is by invitation only but will be broadcast to Community TV Channel C31 (channel 44 on digital TV) and livestreamed on the Archdiocesan YouTube Channel (www.youtube.com/archmelb).



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