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# PROCLAIM

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

*A regular newsletter to help keep parish leadership teams informed and inspired as they proclaim and live out the joy of the Gospel.*



## Inviting others into a life in Christ.

Our parishes and communities have walked the Lenten journey these past few weeks, reaching out and inviting others to turn towards the Lord. This is a privileged time for us to encounter Jesus Christ and deepen our friendship.

Seeds of hope and grace have been sown throughout our Archdiocese these last few weeks. Our communities are supporting hundreds of catechumens and candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. University students have connected with our campus ministries. Parishes have been working together to help young people encounter the Lord or to discover how census data can deepen their understanding of themselves and their mission. And that does not even scratch the surface!

- anew.



## So that our catechumens and candidates are 'surrounded in prayer'

Around 240 catechumens and candidates recently participated in the Rite of Election last month. As their preparations to receive the Sacraments as Easter grows deeper and more intense, you are invited to pray for them in the weeks leading up to Easter. As Archbishop Comensoli told our Elect at the Rite, 'In faith, you are not alone.' You may wish to download this prayer below for personal and communal use.

[Download prayer](#)

## How to understand your parish social profile for mission

Have you downloaded your [Parish Social Profile](#) yet? Using data from the 2021 national census, it is a helpful tool to understand the Catholics (and non-Catholics) living within your parish boundaries. Read this article to discover how a number of parishes in the Eastern region worked together to plan and deliver a workshop to unpack their profiles and brainstorm how this will inform their mission and outreach.

[Read article](#)







## promotional resources

The new academic year is in full swing and thousands of students have connected with our network of campus ministries throughout our Archdiocese. While O-Week may be over, parish promotional resources including a poster, prayer cards and a sample parish bulletin notice can still be downloaded through our UDisciple website - the place to find out what is happening for Catholics on and around campus.

[Download parish resources](#)

## Forming and inspiring our parish youth leaders for discipleship

At our *Proclaim* team's recent youth ministry leaders training day, we broke open what it meant for leaders to be disciples who accompany young people sharing life in Jesus Christ. In this article, we asked some of these emerging - and inspiring - youth leaders what their hopes are and why they are in youth ministry.

[Read article](#)



## New series of evenings for youth to encounter Jesus

Our *Proclaim* team's first *Encounter* evening for 2024 took place at St Christopher's Syndal last month. These evenings are designed for high school aged youth to gather in fellowship and to



meet Jesus anew. There will be a series of evenings throughout the year hosted

by different parishes around the Archdiocese. Read this article and discover how Syndal's youth group, *Elevate*, led this evening.

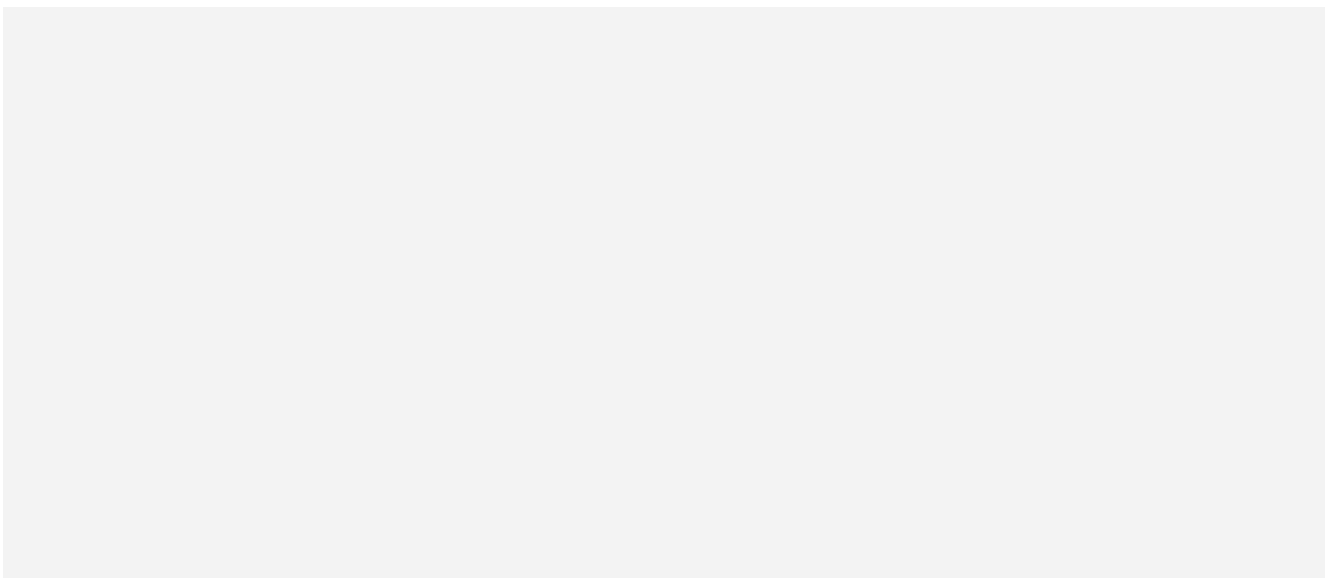
[Read article](#)

## Prayer for women

As 8 March marks International Women's Day, we give thanks and praise for the women who have shaped our lives and the life of the Church and those who continue to do so. The *National Centre of Evangelisation* have provided a prayer and video reflections that all are invited to use individually and communally.

[Download prayer](#)

## Upcoming events





## Encounter

**Sunday 24 March 2024, 5pm - 8pm**

St Peter Apostle Mission Parish

38 Guinane Avenue, Hoppers Crossing Vic  
3029

An unforgettable evening for high school aged youth, offering a unique opportunity to encounter Jesus with prayer, fellowship, food and, of course, a whole lot of fun.

**Free entry, dinner is provided.**

Register today



## Synod Diocesan Consultation Sessions

As the universal Church prepares for the Second Session of the Synodal Assembly in October 2024, local Churches are invited to contribute by deepening aspects of the Synthesis Report that are fundamental to the Synod's theme.

Parish clergy and leaders will be sent further details about these sessions.

## Join our team!

We are currently recruiting for the following positions in our team. Please click on the links for further details and application closing dates.

- [Executive Support Officer](#)
- [Coordinator - Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria](#)
- [Animation Consultant](#)

## How can we support you?

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