

XIV World Day of the Sick held in Adelaide

focuses on global mental health problems

More than 1000 people flocked to an historic Catholic service marking the fourteenth World Day of the Sick – an international Vatican event hosted by the Adelaide Archdiocese – held in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on February 11th.

Papal emissary Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan, president of the Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care, led the Mass attended by about 1200 people in Adelaide, South Australia.

More than 25 Bishops from Italy, Australia, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea were in attendance, including Archbishop of Hanoi, Archbishop Joseph Quang Kiet Ngo; Bishop Francesco Sarego, Bishop Douglas Young and Bishop J. Paul Marx from Papua New Guinea; Sydney Archbishop Cardinal George Pell and Australian Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Ambrose De Paoli. It was the first time such a global gathering had taken place in the Cathedral, on Wakefield St.

A highlight of the Adelaide Mass was the Sacrament of the Blessing of the Sick, in which about 30 sick people chosen from across Adelaide were blessed with holy oil by Cardinal Lozano Barragan and Archbishop Wilson.

Cardinal Lozano Barragan said it was important to ensure the dignity of the mentally ill was maintained.

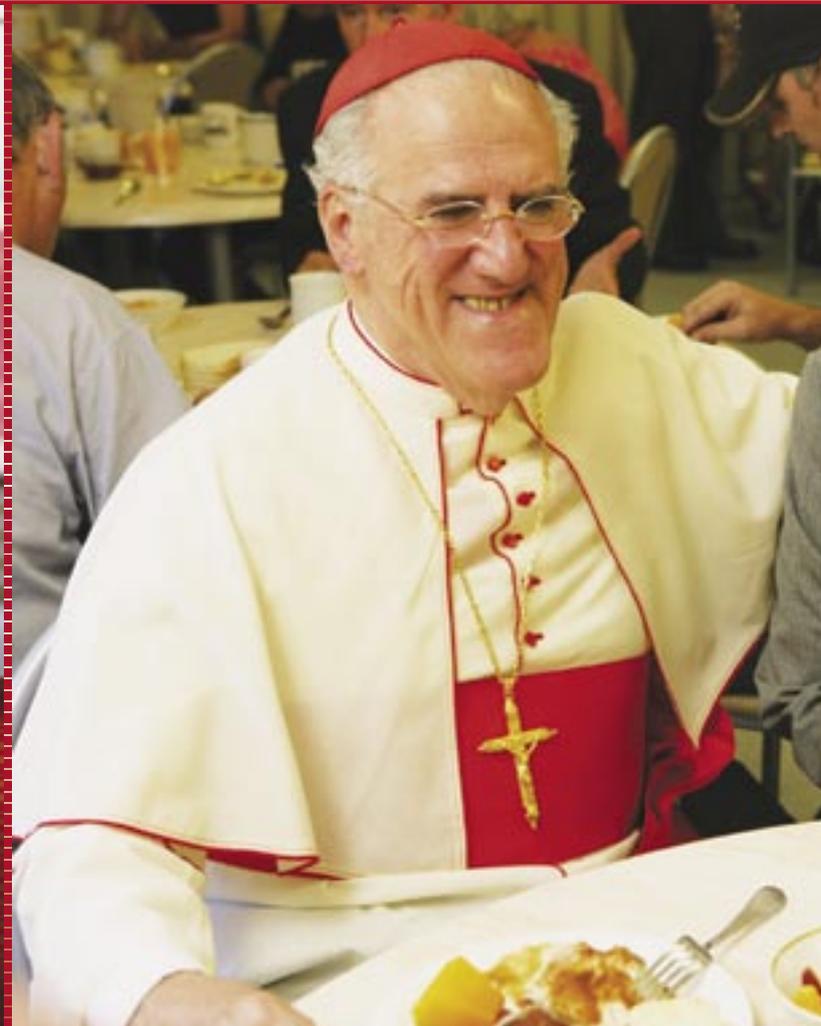
"The Pope says I must underline the dignity of the mentally ill people in order to take care of them all over the world and not only in Australia because this is an issue for all the world," he said.

Pope Benedict chose Adelaide to host for the first time the fourteenth World Day of the Sick, which he themed "mental health and human dignity". The Holy Father described mental health as "a real and authentic social-health care emergency".

World Day of the Sick was inaugurated by Pope John Paul II in 1992 to focus attention on human suffering and the vital role of carers of the sick and elderly. It is held each year on a different continent on February 11 – the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, whose shrine in France has become a temple of human suffering.



Cardinal Lozano Barragan meets Calvary patient Kevin.



The Cardinal lunches with Hutt Street Centre regular Robert.

World's Catholics called

to aid the **mentally ill** *By Joan Atkinson*

Adelaide's World Day of the Sick events will spur the Catholic Church to continue its work world-wide for the mentally ill and foster dialogue and co-operation within institutions, according to Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan.

The President of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers said in his address to a special conference in Adelaide last month attended by more than 300 mental health professionals and Catholic clergy from across the world, that the mentally ill patient "never ceases to be an image of God" and deserved respect.

He warned mentally ill patients must be treated with loving care, tenderness and kindness so they could cope with the world "in which they often drown".

Cardinal Lozano Barragan called for national and international legislative change to safeguard the rights of mentally ill patients and urged religious orders and congregations not to waiver in their commitment to the mentally ill.

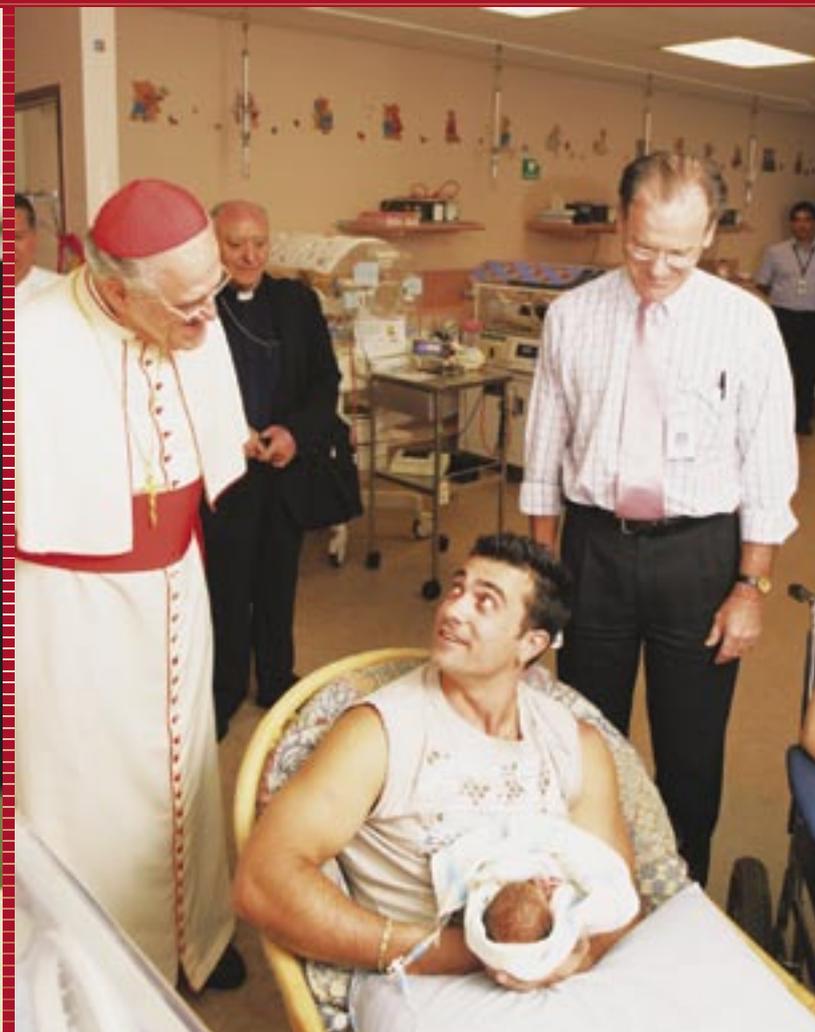
"We need to understand that science alone is not enough to treat a mental disorder; there is a need for a holistic approach including all its religious, philosophical and scientific aspects," he said.

Cardinal Lozano Barragan said World Health Organisation figures showed that 450 million people world-wide were affected by neurological or behavioural mental disorders and of these, 873,000 committed suicide annually.

He said mental illness was a "true health and social emergency" but that for 70 per cent of the world population there was less than one psychiatrist for every 100,000 people.

Despite assertions that great strides had been made in the past 50 years in dealing with the problem, the lack of funding and understanding, as well as the social stigma of mental illness, meant assistance to mentally ill patients was deficient, he said.

"It is alarming to see how serious mental health disorders are simply dealt with using bureaucratic and juridical or legal solutions without in the least taking into consideration the daily needs and the quality of life of patients and their families," he said. "Considering how widespread this illness is, the Bishops of Oceania have certainly made a timely decision to have the mentally ill



James Disibio and baby Jamie with Cardinal Lozano Barragan, Bishop Jose Redrado and neonatal ICU chief Associate Professor Ross Haslam.

person as the key issue for the discussions on this World Day of the Sick.
"This will undoubtedly spur the Catholic Church to continue the work undertaken and it shall foster dialogue and co-operation with the institutions in charge of such duties in modern societies." Cardinal Lozano Barragan said that some Christian thought had referred to those with severe mental as "a deformed image of God."

"Yet apart from that deformation, or rather due to it, the mentally ill person resembles our Lord on the cross; and since the cross is the only way to the resurrection, the mentally ill person is worthier and reaches such a level of excellence because of the magnitude of his love and the suffering he endures," he said. "The mentally ill person is not a deformed image of God but, rather, a faith image of God, our Lord."

Cardinal's Mass Raises

the Spirits of the Sick by Bridget Sheridan

Spiritually enriched and uplifted is how those who received a special anointing of the sick and blessing described the feeling inside.

Thirty parishioners from the Adelaide Archdiocese received the special anointing at the Mass held to celebrate the fourteenth World Day of the Sick held in Adelaide.

The Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan who was joined by at least 20 other Bishops and priests from around the world, including Cardinal George Pell from Sydney and Adelaide Archbishop Philip Wilson.

Salisbury parishioner Paul Guerin, 74, suffers from a neurological disease and heart failure but said he felt better spiritually after the blessing and anointing.

"It will just give me that spiritual uplifting, which will help me on the journey," he said.

"I don't expect it will help me with the disease, but in my mind, and spiritually, I do feel better."

Multiple sclerosis sufferer Jesse Frick, 18, said he found it a very spiritual occasion.

"I found it enriching," he added.

Jesse was diagnosed with MS in October last year. He suffers with bad co-ordination, bad vision and his walking is impaired but he believes the support of his family and friends had helped him overcome the daily challenges.

"I have got a fantastic family and they have been brilliant," he said.

"And my friends as well have been sensational and they have been great support for me."

"Your family and friends give you support but this is strength of the soul."

During his homily at the Mass Cardinal Lozano Barragan said:

"The protection of the dignity of the mentally sick person should have its cradle in the family itself," he said.

"At the centre of prevention and care of the mentally ill person there is love."

"Only with the loving understanding of the Holy Spirit that 'heals who is sick', can we prevent any mental disequilibrium and heal it when it presents itself."



The Offertory Procession at the Mass in St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral Adelaide celebrating World Day of the Sick



Pope Benedict XVI talks with members of a Muslim delegation during his open-air weekly general audience in St Peter's Square at the Vatican, 1st March 2006. At this general audience the Pope called for religious tolerance and respect for all cultures in order to create universal peace

and dignity for all. The Pontiff has dropped the title of "Patriarch of the Occident," one of the many he holds as leader of the Roman Catholic Church, the *Corriere della Sera* reported, saying it could herald a clash with the Russian Orthodox Church.

(AFP PHOTO/Arturo MARI/OSSERVATORE ROMANO)

Altar Servers Convention in Lismore

by Trish Wooldridge

It all began on the 12th January 2006 when 100 participants arrived at Woodlawn College for the 18th National Guild of St Stephen Conference. At 5.30pm Bishop Jarrett celebrated the Welcoming Liturgy in the Woodlawn Chapel.

Welcoming activities were held that night with everyone having the chance to meet with others in a relaxed fun environment. All participants were placed in groups that included servers from each Diocese. The groups in rotation all had the opportunity to prepare Morning Prayer, Mass or Night Prayer.

The theme for this year's conference was "Called to Serve", and so the Friday session began with Sr Margaret Mary Cogan (a local Presentation Sister) speaking about "Jesus as Servant". This produced a lot of discussion among participants.

Saturday, the participants were taken to local aged care facilities; Caroon, Ozanam Villa, St Joseph's and Marian Court. They were welcomed with much enthusiasm by the staff and residents and the feeling was reciprocated by the servers. They enjoyed the time immensely and we often heard the comment "I was really enjoying the visit" and "that the visitation was not long enough".

Further talks on Saturday included other areas of "service"; Graeme Davis spoke on being an acolyte and his role as a Pastoral Care Person at the hospital. Greg Loadsman spoke on his role at World Youth Day and altar serving. Joe Guinea spoke about being a Seminarian and Fr Charles Kakumanu spoke on being a Missionary.



Jan & John Loadsman, Fr Michael Alcock, Trish Wooldridge, Peggy Predebon, Wendy Dardengo and at the back, Mark Predebon. Gary Dardengo was also a member of the committee but was not present. The final group get together after breakfast on the last day. After six days and five nights they were still smiling.

Sunday was a day of rest and after celebrating Mass at St Carthage's Cathedral with Bishop Jarrett, Fr John Murphy (National Guild Director), Fr Greg Pritchard (Melbourne), Fr Dennis Carroll, Fr Peter Padsungay and Fr Michael Alcock from Lismore Parish, the Servers went to Byron Bay for kayaking, swimming, surfing and lighthouse walking.

Monday morning began with the session "Altar Serving - Your Story". This was lead by Fr Michael with input from Brad Rowswell from Melbourne.

This enabled the participants to have a general discussion about serving in their own parish and they were very enthusiastic. Next was the computer session where the participants were able to create their own powerpoint presentation about the Guild and the Conference to take back to their own Parish



The new National Committee of the Guild formed from the representatives of each attending Diocese.



All the Lismore Delegates in 2006

“Called to Serve”: Guild of St Stephen National Conference

12-17 January 2006 at Lismore by Rev Monsignor John Murphy, General Director, Guild of St Stephen

In January this year (2006) I participated in the XVIII Conference of the Guild of St Stephen for Altar Servers and all those involved with serving at the altar. The Conference was held from 12th to 17th January at St John's College, Woodlawn NSW (in the Diocese of Lismore). Any servers who could have been there and did not take up the opportunity, missed a wonderful experience. I wish to thank the members of the Conference Committee for their work of preparation over nearly two years and to congratulate them for the extremely successful outcome. The Committee was headed by Fr Michael Alcock, Director of the Guild of St Stephen in the Diocese of Lismore and Trish Wooldridge, Secretary. I also wish to thank the servers who attended for their spirit of reverence at prayer, attention at lectures, co-operation, enthusiasm, respect for the leaders and for one another... the list of good things could go on and on. Overall it was an excellent Conference and an experience long to be remembered.

In the beautiful College chapel each day, we had Morning Prayer at 7.30am, Mass at Midday and Night Prayer at 9.30pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (2nd Rite) was also held on Saturday afternoon.

On the Friday, Saturday and Monday of the Conference there were presentations/activities in the morning and afternoon followed by discussion. The theme on Friday was “Jesus as

and show to other servers, to let them know more about the Guild of St Stephen.

There were also many social activities held over the five day conference such as the sports night, movie night, trivia night and there was also plenty of time to use Woodlawn's facilities such as the sports centre and the pool.

The National Guild AGM was held while at the Conference and the new committee formed. Joe Guinea and Bing Montegudo will represent the Diocese of Lismore. Finally the quote of the conference heard many times as the groups departed “See you in Melbourne 2008”.



Servers assemble outside St. Carthage's Cathedral

Servant”, on Saturday “Christian Service” (which included visits to local nursing homes) and on Monday “Altar Serving”. In the evenings of these days recreational activities were organised: a Movie Night on Friday, Indoor Sports Night on Saturday and Disco on Monday.

Fittingly, Sunday was a day with a difference. We began the day with Mass in St Carthage's Cathedral. Bishop Jarrett was Principal Celebrant and Preacher. He captivated the servers' attention by speaking of the boy Samuel being called to do God's will (1st Reading for the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time) and applying that message to their lives in the way that God calls each one of us to a particular vocation – whether that vocation be to the Priesthood or Religious Life or to married or single life.

After Mass on Sunday, the servers and leaders went to Byron Bay where some braved the surf while others went on a beach walk. The day concluded with night prayer back at St John's College preceded by a Trivia Night.

During the Conference we held a General Meeting of the Guild of St Stephen. A new executive was elected for the next two years, which included Fr Michael Alcock, Bing Montegudo and Joseph Guinea from Lismore. The Executive will meet in Canberra on June 12th (Queens Birthday holiday) to progress the work of the Guild and to begin planning for the next National Conference in January 2008.



Servers and Concelebrants with Bishop Jarrett at the conclusion of Mass

St John's College Woodlawn

Woodlawn Celebrates it's 75th Year by Denny Thornborough

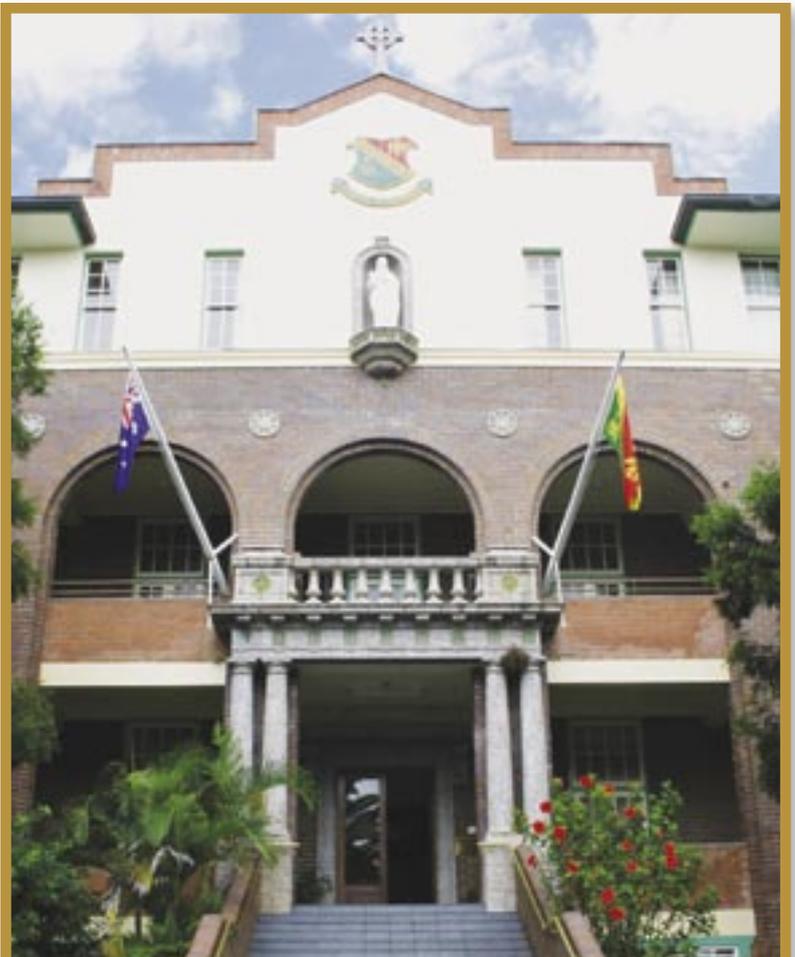
When it comes to milestones, St John's College, Woodlawn, has a history of celebrating in style. In 1981, when Woodlawn marked its 50th year, the College compiled a remarkable and still popular publication titled "WOODLAWN'S FIRST FIFTY YEARS". At Woodlawn's 60th year celebrations, Woodlawn marked the occasion with the opening of the renowned 'Colin Centre' which changed the nature of the already flourishing sporting facilities offered at the College.

Many readers of "Catholic Life" will be familiar with the story of Woodlawn Boys' Agricultural Boarding School. Others would be aware of the new face of Woodlawn as a modern co-educational day-college of excellence, proud to continue its tradition of placing primary importance on challenging students to achieve their potential and on providing pastoral care.

This year we celebrate the College's 75th Anniversary with flair beginning with the eagerly anticipated Inaugural WOODLAWN CUP Race

Day, held on the 25th March. In the Marist tradition and in special reverence to Woodlawn's 75th anniversary, the day assists the following charities: Yodiffee House, a Marist Mission for handicapped youth in Cambodia, Caritas supporting the needy and a fund to support families struggling to meet the cost of schooling. In addition students will be busking for Red Cross.

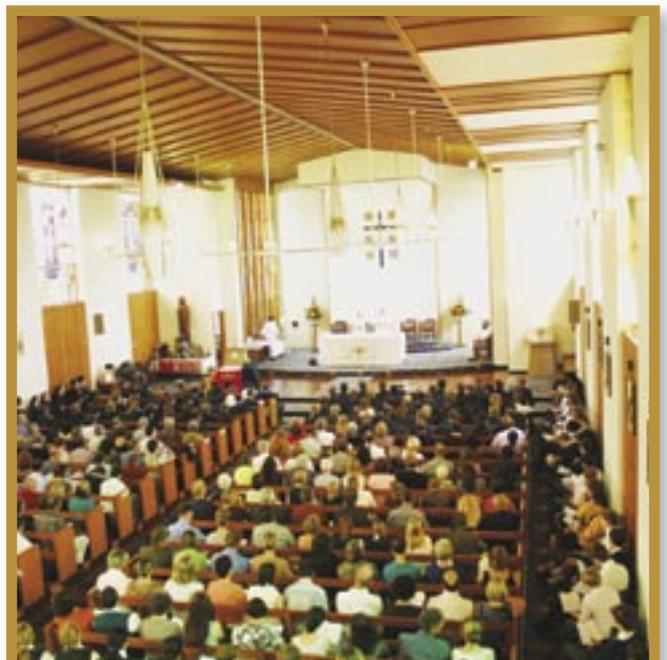
The well sponsored Inaugural Woodlawn Cup is only the beginning of a full year of celebration which includes St John's "Youth" Day on 26th May and the June long weekend when ex-students gather at St John's College. The pinnacle of celebrations will be centred on the weekend of 2nd and 3rd September. Culminating in a Mass to praise God on this landmark occasion, the College will take time to reflect on and rejoice in the



Woodlawn College



Students on the sporting fields



*Woodlawn Chapel
at Year 12 Graduation*

massive changes which it has embraced in the last 75 years. Apart from the obvious cultural change, the College has seen multi-million dollar refurbishments to its buildings from classrooms to specialist rooms to guest rooms, whilst retaining its sense of architectural history and unique ambience.

Tenete Traditions!



Bishop Geoffrey Jarrett carries the Blessed Sacrament in procession through the commercial district of Brisbane. This was a highlight of the celebration.

Over 1000 Catholic young people show the way in a mass demonstration of faith on Brisbane's main streets

Over 1000 Catholic young people and hundreds more converged on the city of Brisbane on the Saturday night of 21st January 2006 in a public demonstration of their Catholic faith. The one and a half hour walk took place through the streets of Brisbane, beginning at City Hall and concluding at St Stephen's Cathedral.

Coordinator Ben Bulaong said, "This was the largest public demonstration of the Catholic faith that has hit the streets of Brisbane in decades. It was truly beautiful, peaceful and inspiring. It was energising to see the faith and prayer of so many people. The enthusiasm and vitality of these young people was stronger than the noise coming from many city

pubs and clubs, as young people showed the way in a public demonstration for their faith."

"Over 650 young people participated over the four day festival celebrating the Catholic faith. The energy and commitment of these young people was a message to the world that the Church in Brisbane and in Australia is not dead."

The festival – ADORE 2006 – was a celebration of faith, culture and life, of prayer, action, vibrant

and uplifting music, beautiful liturgies – led and organised for youth. ADORE was organised by The Alliance of the Holy Family International with the support of the Catholic Archbishop of Brisbane, Archbishop Bathersby and the participation



of prominent clergy Bishop Oudeman (Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane), Bishop Julian Porteous (Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney), Bishop Geoffrey Jarrett (Bishop of Lismore) and various youth groups including The Australian Catholic Students Association.

ADORE 2006 focused on a back to basics approach to encourage and deepen the faith of young people, focussing on a core element of the Church's teaching on the Body and Blood of Christ. "I am happy to



endorse Adore 2006 Congress in Brisbane... I'm sure the Congress will help participants to understand this mystery of God even more deeply." Archbishop Bathersby said in a letter to the youth gathered for the festival.

ADORE 2006 follows ADORE 2004 in Melbourne and ADORE 2005 in Sydney.

We welcome two columnists to "Catholic Life".

Father Brian Gleeson, a Doctor of Theology and a Passionist Priest. He lectures on Liturgy, Church and Sacraments at the Yarra Theological Union, Box Hill, Victoria. He writes our Liturgy article, featured on page 12.

Mr David Barrington is a parishioner of St Patrick's Smithtown and teacher of History and Languages at Melville High School Kempsey. He studied Medieval History and Languages at Sydney University. His interests include Australian Catholic Church history, church architecture, international politics and philosophy. He is now the author of Our Country Churches page showcased on page 15.



Dear brother priests and all the faithful of the Diocese:

On this first Sunday as Lent commences, I wish to address to you some words of teaching for the observance of this holy season.

In the directions which the Church gives to her Bishops about these Forty Days, she states: "the annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter." The image of the upward march is reminiscent of Our Lord's own words of prophecy concerning His suffering and death: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes

supernatural charge that energises the whole of the Church's year of grace.

This year, as Lent commences, I appeal to every parish to review afresh how the local church community celebrates these chosen days. Priests report in many places that it is a struggle to celebrate the Sacred Triduum with due solemnity because so many parishioners go away for an Easter break and leave the parish short of people to do the ceremonies well. Your parish needs you and you need your parish at this high point of its year. What



Pope Benedict XVI Receives Ashes On Ash Wednesday 2006

Cardinal Josef Tonko symbolically sprinkles ashes onto Pope Benedict's head in the Saint Sabina Church in Rome on Wednesday 01 March 2006. Celebrating his first Ash Wednesday since becoming Pope, Benedict said Christians should use the 40-day Lenten season to reflect on their "unending fight against evil which is done using the weapons of prayer, fasting and penance" EPA/DANILO SCHIAVELLA

and they will condemn him to death and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him and spit upon him and scourge him and kill him; and after three days he will rise." (St Mark 10:33-4).

The high point of our upward journey this Lent is the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection in the sacred liturgies of Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday afternoon and the Easter Vigil of Holy Saturday night. They are three 'acts' successively unfolding the great drama of our redemption. From them radiates the

Christ did for us was no holiday, but was the cause that gave us these holy days to celebrate with a gratitude that calls forth some sacrifice on our part.

Secondly, the effectiveness of these distinctive liturgies depends very much on a careful following of the rites as set out in the Church's books for everyone to follow. Every detail has a reason and a history, spanning right back to the first Holy Week. For example, the Mandatum or footwashing on Holy Thursday must be done in accordance with its proper signification clearly

continued on page 27

given in the gospel narrative and upheld in the Church's instructions. A lesser number than the customary twelve men may be chosen. Washing hands instead of feet misses the whole point of the rite and surely has an unfortunate connotation in the context of Holy Week. The Mandatum is not obligatory and may be omitted if it cannot be done as specified.

The nature of the Easter Vigil demands that it be celebrated at night. It is quite different from an ordinary Saturday evening Mass and its later timing reflects its uniqueness. We have no difficulty with night-time Masses at Christmas; far less should we on this most holy night when the darkness of the tomb was shattered by the glory of the Lord's rising. Nor should we cut back too much on the vigil readings: let's not be bound

to the hands of the clock just when time stood still, all mankind was delivered from death and eternity in its timeless beauty opened up before us.

Finally, I pray that everyone in our Diocese, our priests and all our brothers and sisters in consecrated Religious Life in the Church, our seminarians, our families and young people, our parents and teachers will benefit deeply from the rich graces offered during these Forty Days, especially of mercy and reconciliation. As I send you my love and blessing, please pray for me.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

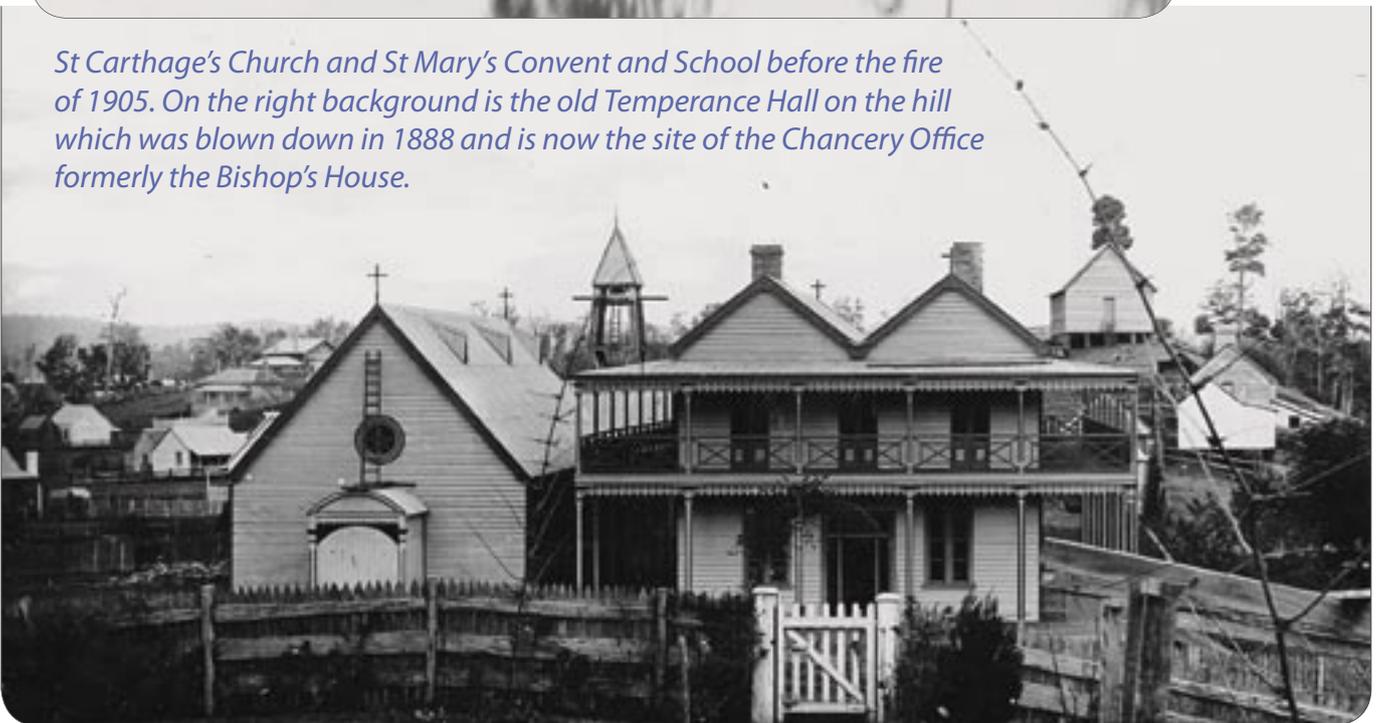
✠ *Geoffrey Jarrett,*
Bishop of Lismore.

As It Was 1890 - 1905



Lismore St Mary's Convent and School and St Carthage's Church. Photo taken between 1890 and 1894 from the Bexhill Road. The Richmond River is in the foreground. The two storey building near the Convent is the Bishop's Residence. The home of Thomas Borton with the bamboo trees is on the left.

St Carthage's Church and St Mary's Convent and School before the fire of 1905. On the right background is the old Temperance Hall on the hill which was blown down in 1888 and is now the site of the Chancery Office formerly the Bishop's House.



Ruins of St Carthage's Church and St Mary's Convent after the fire of 2nd January 1905.

All photos in this issue of "As It Was" by courtesy of the Richmond River Historical Society.