

upcoming events

the vocation centre runs or supports the following events

Sunday 18 March	Fuel 7:00-9:00pm at St Patrick's Church, Fortitude Valley Praise and worship, prayer, teaching & Reconciliation. Run by Emmanuel Youth Outreach (EYO).
Friday 23 March	Leaven Hour 5:10-6:30pm at St Stephen's Chapel Eucharist and Eucharistic Adoration for young adults
Saturday 31 March	WYD Training Day & Fr Stan Fortuna free concert 10am-5pm Training Day, 6-8pm Free Concert at Clairvaux MacKillop College, Upper Mt Gravatt Get ready for WYD08! See details on page 3.
Sunday 1 April	Young Adult Mass 7:30pm at St Stephen's Cathedral Celebrated on the 1st Sunday of each month.
14-15 April	Lifewalks with God 5pm Saturday to 4pm Sunday at Canossa, Oxley Retreat weekend for young adults 18-35.
Sunday 15 April	Fuel (see above)
Friday 27 April	Leaven Hour (see above)
Sunday 29 April	World Day of Prayer for Vocations (WDPV)
26-27 May	Lifewalks with God (see above)
Friday 1 June	Archbishops Vocations Dinner Annual dinner for men considering a call to the Priesthood.
29 June-1 July	Quo Vadis Weekend (Young Adults) A weekend for men discerning a vocation to the Priesthood.
Saturday 28 July	Quo Vadis Retreat (Year 11+12) A day retreat for young men discerning God's call.
Friday 3 August	Evening at Holy Spirit Seminary Meet the current seminarians and staff. Details tba.
5-12 August	National Vocations Awareness Week (NVAW)
17-29 August	Brisbane Pilgrimage of the WYD Cross & Icon
18 August	Mini-WYD Event with WYD Cross & Icon
19 August	Y-Walk with WYD Cross & Icon

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SIX NEW SEMINARIANS FOR 2007

Holy Spirit Seminary has started the year with its biggest intake of seminarians in a decade. Six young men have entered the seminary as the next step in their discernment towards the Diocesan Priesthood.

Four of the new seminarians - Edward, John, Augustine and Anthony - are from Nigeria, in response to an arrangement between the Archdiocese of Brisbane and the Diocese of Umuahia in Nigeria. The other two seminarians are Luke (from Queensland) and Nigel (originally from Kuwait).

The new guys range in age from 25 - 40, and give us a total of 11 seminarians for Queensland.

They have begun their studies at St Paul's Theological College and Brisbane College of Theology.



A Brief Note...

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2007! It's back with more news about what's happening in the area of vocations to the Priesthood, and articles to help you in your ongoing discernment of your own call.

This year we will begin a new feature 'Meet a Seminarian'. Find out who they are and why they feel called to become a Priest - and most of all, pray for them in their ongoing journey of discernment.

Luke Plant

Field Officer, Brisbane Vocation Centre

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The Call to Serve

Mark 10:42-45

Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you.

Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Reflection:

The call to follow Christ is a radical call, and it is a counter cultural call. Where else in our society do those in authority openly SERVE those they lead in the model of Jesus' leadership?

This is a model of leadership where the 'first' takes last place, so that those who are 'last' can be first; where the leader would get down on his knees over dinner to wash the dirt and grime from his followers' feet; and where the leader would ultimately open himself to suffering and death for those he would lead... and even for those who don't wish to follow his leadership!

This is the model that Jesus demands of all who would seek to follow him with their whole lives, and particularly those called to lead His people as priests.

A few years back there was a slogan used in Christian circles and on T-shirts, stickers, etc that said "Go against the flow". This slogan puts succinctly the call for every Christian. There is a 'flow' in society that tells us to live for ourselves and not worry about anyone else. But what Christ says to us goes directly against the current of society and its model of leadership. He calls us to put others first and yourself last. That is the counter-cultural call of Priesthood.

MEET A SEMINARIAN



Peter Gablonski

32 years old

6th Year Seminarian

Before entering the seminary in 2002, I studied Information Technology and Japanese Language at Griffith University. I worked teaching English in Japan, and also spent time in the IT sector in Australia.

I believe God has called me to priesthood as it is a way I can use all my life experiences to joyfully serve God and God's people.

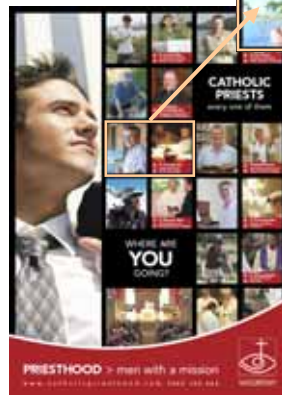
As a seminarian for Brisbane Archdiocese, I strive to enter fully into the process of formation and discernment so that I may become the best priest I can be for the people of Brisbane.

I'm currently on a pastoral year in St Agatha's Parish, Clayfield.

NEW POSTER FOR PRIESTHOOD!

A new poster has been printed featuring 8 Brisbane priests, including Archbishop Bathersby.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



Discover that becoming a Priest doesn't have to mean letting go of the things you love to do!

ARCHBISHOP LAUNCHES LEAVEN HOUR

After its success last year, Leaven Hour has returned for 2007! Archbishop John Bathersby celebrated the first Leaven Hour in St Stephen's Cathedral on Friday 23 February. While it is usually held in St Stephen's chapel, it is held in the Cathedral during Lent.

Leaven Hour is an opportunity for us to gather as young adults and reflect both individually and together about how God is working in our lives, and in particular the way in which He is calling each of us to follow Him.

As was the case last year, up to 80 young people are expected to attend each month, with most of this group also going to The Coffee Club at Eagle St Pier afterwards for some social time.

Leaven Hour is an excellent opportunity to touch base on a regular basis with where God might be calling you. Put the next one in your diary for 23 March, and then the fourth Friday of each month! You can find the full list of dates for 2007 at www.catholicpriesthood.com.



QUO VADIS RETREATS

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

29 June - 1 July 2007: Young Adults 18-35

28 July 2007: Year 11+12

It's time to ask, "Quo Vadis" - "where are you going?"

These retreats are for young men at any stage of considering the Priesthood. They are a chance to reflect on the call of Priesthood in the world today, and to reflect on God's call in YOUR life today.

UPCOMING WYD08 EVENTS

SATURDAY 31 MARCH 2007:

Clairvaux MacKillop College, Klumpp Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt



WYD08 TRAINING DAY - 10am-5pm

A training day for anyone appointed as or interested in taking an active WYD08 role in their parish, school or community group.

WYD08 FREE CONCERT - Fr Stan Fortuna - 6-8pm

Fr Stan Fortuna is a Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, an international preacher and a 'rapping priest'! Don't miss this awesome show!

For information or to register, contact the Brisbane WYD08 Secretariat: ph 3336 9341 email wyd08@bne.catholic.net.au web www.wydbrisbane.org.au

Y-WALK

with WYD Cross & Icon

Sunday 19 August 2007



Walk It!