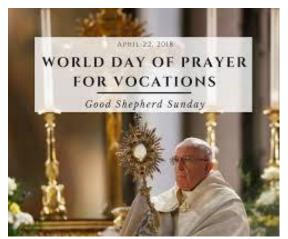


22nd April 2018

This Year marks the 10th Anniversary of World Youth Day in Sydney. To commemorate this event, the Bishops of Australia have declared this year as a 'Year for Youth and Vocational Discernment'.

The Synod on Youth and Vocations will take place in Rome in October this year. The Universal and Australian Churches have chosen to highlight the place of youth and vocations this year.

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.



In a practical way, it's good to buy presents that are religious and devotional. If ever travelling into Sydney, two retail stores near to each other are most certainly worth a visit (1) Church Stores, Level 2, Dymocks Building 428 George Street Sydney, Ph: 9233 2268 or (2) Pauline Books and Media, 150 Castlereagh Street Sydney, Ph: 9264 8630. These shops are not open on weekends.

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## Parish Mission Support

Various cards will be available for purchase after Masses on the weekend of  $5^{th}/6^{th}$  May which is the weekend before Mothers' Day. These Mothers' Day Cards, as well as others, are hand-made and all rather beautiful ~ some at just \$5, others at \$3. Please try to be supportive.

The funds raised will go towards paying for a bore for the Leper colony in India which Anne and Richard Stomber visit most years.

Anne and Richard would be most grateful if some parishioners might be able to assist by selling the cards in the chapel for about 15 minutes after Mass. Please ring Richard 0425 331371 if able to assist

## Mount Carmel Retreat Centre

## 247 Mount Carmel Retreat Centre Varroville

Parishioners across the Macarthur and beyond are invited to two retreats:

The first is entitled **"Faith Without Works is Dead (James 2:17)"** and has been scheduled for Saturday 5 May from 10 AM to 4:30 PM. The truth of this statement will be traced to the lives and work of three extraordinary women: Mary McKillop, Edith Stein and Eileen O'Connor.

The cost is just \$30 but those attending need to bring their own lunch. The presenter is Deacon Peter Presdee who has been working as a prison chaplain for quite a few years. Pick-ups are available from Minto Railway Station from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM.

The second retreat will be conducted from 18-20 May and entitled **"St Theresa of Avila speaks to us today".** The presenter is Father Aloysius Rego OCD. The cost is \$250 per person although concessions are available. The cost includes meals and accommodation. Bookings are essential. Further inquiries on 8795 3400 or <u>www.carmelites.com</u>