

Pastoral Ministry CONNECT

VOL. 1 | FEBRUARY 2022

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we minister and all who have contributed to our story.



OVERVIEW:

New Year, New Network!

The Pastoral Ministry Network (PMN) is thrilled to welcome you to the Pastoral Ministry Newsletter - CONNECT. Each month, we are updated on the latest in Catholic ministry both in the Oceania region and internationally. We share the joys and challenges from communities and inform you of the latest offerings from PMN and other networks. Enjoy and be sure to CONNECT with your own stories!

- New Website and Resource Library
- Oceania Webinar
- Alive in the Spirit Conference
- Meet the Executive

Welcome to the Pastoral Ministry Network - your network that accompanies you, sharing fresh homegrown resources and exploring together new ways of living and growing our faith in Jesus Christ.

Contact Us

info@pastoralministrynetwork.org

www.pastoralministrynetwork.org



A Word from our Co-Chair

Welcome!

What a time of excitement and possibilities as we step into 2022!

Pastoral Ministry Network is about all of us in ministry, and so I look forward to engaging with you, learning from you, and discovering together what the Spirit has in store for us this year.

Ministry is a privileged space and sometimes an isolated space. Through this Network we are offered the opportunity to connect with others and share our wisdom. You might even start a discussion forum or offer an online special interest topic.

As this newsletter highlights, there is much to look forward to in 2022, including a delicious selection of webinars and conferences.

Now, you might be a member of the network, or you may be curious. Either way, you are welcome, and we hope we can entice non-members to join up – recognising how much is on offer.

Explore the Website!

Please explore the website. Begin by introducing yourself to your fellow members and starting a conversation. From main menu select **Insights -> Forums**. Our forums are just getting going, and a great place to connect on a variety of topics.

Next, we encourage you to register for our upcoming webinar – at zero cost for members. You will also be able to access a variety of videos (as a member) and consider borrowing a book on a topic of interest.



Our upcoming conference is for you, so please start thinking about what workshops you would like to experience, and we will see what we can arrange. Maybe you would like to offer a workshop! Let us know.

Finally, the Pastoral Ministry Network is here for everyone in the Oceania region. The more people we encourage to join, the stronger our network becomes. So, please, spread the word. We are interested in individuals, communities, organisations and those who wish to support the important work of Catholic ministry in the Oceania.

I am grateful to my fellow committee members for their vision and dedication to pastoral ministry and hope you will have an opportunity to connect with them either through our website or an upcoming event.

Ministry is birthed from our shared mission in Jesus Christ. Let us keep our gaze fixed firmly on our Lord in 2022 as we endeavour to offer the yeast of our lives to further God's dream that all will be one.

Richard McMahon
Co-chair

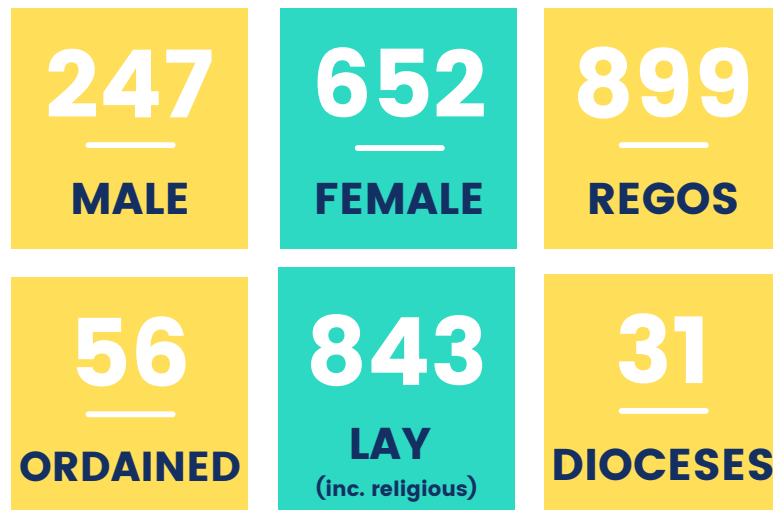
Mark the date for the Alive in the Spirit Conference!



Alive in the Spirit is born of the desire to offer new vision, new energy and new life to the Catholic Church in the Oceania region. Our Conferences offer a next-level experience as we strive to be in step with the Holy Spirit, and respond to the signs of the times. After a successful 2021 Conference, the Pastoral Ministry Network is excited to host the Alive in the Spirit Virtual Conference on 26th - 28th May 2022.

We anticipate over 1000 attendees, 30 national and international presenters, and exhibition opportunities for sponsors and partners.

Let us know what you would like to hear about. Email us at info@aliveinthepirit.com.au to suggest workshop topics and other elements you would like to see at the Alive in the Spirit Conference.



If you know of someone who would like to be a sponsor or exhibitor at the Alive in the Spirit Conference, email Lisa at info@aliveinthepirit.com.au for a Sponsorship & Virtual Exhibitor Prospectus.

Get ready to be engaged and enlivened as we are Alive in the Spirit!

Above: Attendance figures from the 2021 Conference

MEET THE PMN COMMITTEE

Each month we will introduce a member of the Committee and share some of their story.

CARMEL FENTON



Carmel, please share what areas of Pastoral Ministry you are engaged in?

I am the Regional Co-Ordinator of the Nepean Region with the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). In my role I support Special Religious Educators (SREs) who teach in State Schools in their parishes. I am also a Minister of the Word for my local parish.

Why are you passionate about Pastoral Ministry?

I feel that all baptised should be enabled and encouraged to fulfil their baptismal call to be 'priest, prophet and king' using their individual gifts. I hope in some way I help to make this happen.

What's your idea of a perfect day?

A perfect day for me is spending time with my husband, children and sisters and their families sharing a meal, having a good laugh and just being together.

NEW WEBSITE & RESOURCE LIBRARY

www.pastoralministrynetwork.org

Membership to the Pastoral Ministry Network provides you access to an expanding resource library of formational videos, books and forums to use with your communities.

VIDEO LIBRARY

Access a growing range of videos from previous Conferences, Symposiums and Webinars for formation and pastoral renewal within your communities. Log in using the details you set up when you registered, then click INSIGHTS to see what is on offer. The videos go over many pages so be sure to click over to the next page to see the full catalogue.

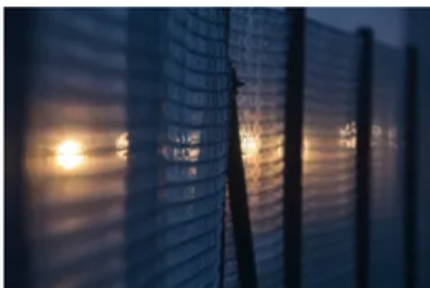


Digital Ministry: The DESPERATE need to transform our church NOW

December 21, 2021 | No Comments

We need to grow our Catholic communities, not just service them. We need to transform our Church now because in this digital world people connect

[Read More »](#)



Engaging Parishes in Supporting Refugee Families

December 21, 2021 | No Comments

Many Australians want to be more personally involved in welcoming and supporting refugees, but have few meaningful avenues through which to help. A new model

[Read More »](#)



Conversations about Catholics – A Programme for Connecting People with the Catholic Faith

December 21, 2021 | No Comments

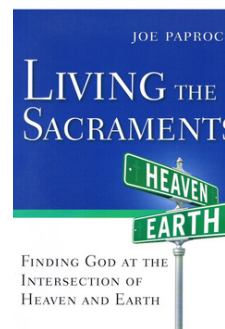
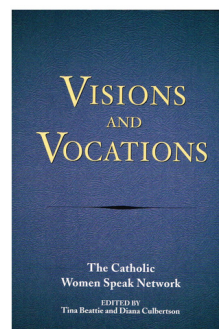
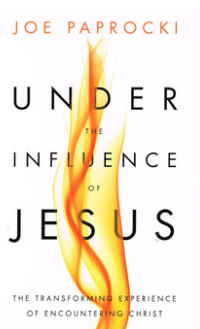
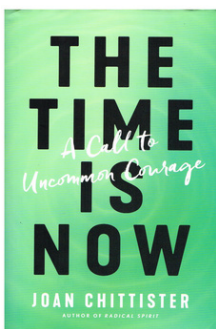
The "Conversations about Catholics" programme was set up in St Mary's Parish in Mudgee NSW in 1998 to provide a link with the communities of

[Read More »](#)

BOOKS

There are over 50 books available for borrowing in the growing PMN resource library. Books cover topics such as leadership, sacraments, family ministry, prayer, spirituality and parish renewal. Each book contains a description and image, so click on it to find out more about it. To borrow a book, email Lisa at info@pastoralministrynetwork.org with your name, postal address and contact phone number. It will be posted out to you to enjoy. When finished, return it using the address label provided.

If you have books that you would like to lend to others in PMN by adding them to the library, contact info@pastoralministrynetwork.org and we offer information on how this can happen.



FORUMS

| Forum | Topics | Posts | Last Post |
|--|--------|-------|--|
| New Member Welcome Forum Welcome to our new members! Please introduce yourself! | 2 | 2 | 2 days, 2 hours ago  Richard McMahon |
| Parish - General Discussion Create a topic here for an area of parish life not discussed elsewhere. | 0 | 0 | No Topics |
| Pastoral Councils, Finance Committees, Leadership Teams | 0 | 0 | No Topics |
| Plenary and Synod Discussion | 0 | 0 | No Topics |
| Sacramental Preparation | 0 | 0 | No Topics |

The Pastoral Ministry Network forum allows you to engage in conversations about topics of interest with other PMN members. We are just getting started so it is a good time to jump on board. Engage in one of the topics already listed or suggest a new topic thread to add. When visiting the forum for the first time, be sure to read the **Community Rules and Guidelines** which detail how we can all ensure a safe and nurturing environment when engaging with others in this space. Threads will be moderated to ensure everyone enjoys an enriching experience. The PMN Forum allows the space for sharing ministry ideas, seeking support from others working in ministry and general fellowship in the area of pastoral ministry.

Have a look on page 6 of this newsletter if you are interested in becoming a forum moderator.

50 cents of your membership fee goes towards a charity addressing climate change. The Pastoral Ministry Network believes in supporting others as we are supported by the generous donations of members and benefactors.



If you are in an organisation or know of an organisation who would like to advertise in our monthly Pastoral Ministry Connect newsletter, please contact Lisa at info@pastoralministrynetwork.org for pricing and terms. Your support enables the Pastoral Ministry Network to carry out its mission within the Church.

JOIN THE TEAM

Volunteer positions available for people who are passionate about pastoral ministry



Marketing Team Members

If you have marketing experience and a passion for pastoral ministry, consider becoming a member of the PMN Marketing group. This group meets approximately six times per year to monitor marketing plans and ensure the Pastoral Ministry Network reaches as many hearts and hands as we can.



Forum Moderators

One of the features of PMN Membership is participation in the many forums via our Insights tab. If you enjoy connecting with others in conversation, then this role is for you. PMN is inviting you to be a forum moderator, contributing to and monitoring forums ensuring all posts are aligned with the forum guidelines.



Spread the Conference Spirit!

With the Alive in the Spirit Conference fast approaching, we would love as many people to hear about the Conference as possible. If you have some time to assist the working committee to make phone calls and assist in general promotion then please contact us to help share the spirit!

Email info@pastoralministrynetwork.org to express your interest for any of the above positions. It would be great to have you involved.



OCEANIA PASTORAL MINISTRY WEBINAR

Jump Starting our Communities

- Are you feeling stifled, or down after 2021? How do we grow from the past and jump start our ministries into the new year?
- Hear some practical examples of what communities have been doing and plan to do for a mission focused 2022!

**Open to everyone
who seeks to live
God's mission.**

\$20 Non-Members | Members Free

Tuesday, 15th March 2022, 11am – 12.30pm (AEDT)

Register at <https://pastoralministrynetwork.org/events/>

You will receive a confirmation email upon registration and further information closer to the event.



Mission Planners
Network of Oceania



Engaging with local pastoral experiences as we Jump Start our Communities for 2022!

Everyone who seeks continual renewal for 2022 is invited to be part of the upcoming Oceania Pastoral Ministry Webinar.

The webinar is held on Tuesday 15 March at 11am AEDT and 1pm NZST. Join with others in pastoral ministry through this online gathering. Share and explore ways in which our communities are bringing to life God's mission and engaging with local experiences from parishes across the Oceania.

If you are feeling stifled, or seeking inspiration after 2021, then register to hear how communities learnt from the past and have jump started their ministries into the new year.

You will also hear practical examples of what communities have been doing and plan to do for a mission-focused 2022.

The Oceania Pastoral Ministry Webinar continues to be a great way to keep connected as Church, offering ways to animate and renew our faith communities.

Sophy Morley, Diocesan Coordinator for Liturgy & Pastoral Ministry and the Plenary Council in the Diocese of Sale shares her experience of the webinar:

"It is a very user-friendly platform for people to access. Participants appreciated the ease of connection made with people from other parishes, dioceses, states and even from other countries to hear and share experiences of community."

Register at

<https://pastoralministrynetwork.org/events/>

If you are a PMN member, please log into PMN and go to the Events Page to receive your discount code for the webinar. Please enter this code at the checkout before entering any credit card details. Event Login information will be sent the day before the webinar.



Our Network is growing, as new people share the rich resources with others in Pastoral Ministry.

Who do you know whom you can share this newsletter with? Send them a copy or invite them to visit www.pastoralministrynetwork.org to see what is on offer.

You might like to offer the gift of membership to a colleague in Pastoral Ministry. Contact us and we can arrange that for you.

Let's share the good news of the PMN so that together we can live God's good news!

To submit or suggest an article for Pastoral Ministry Connect or to share a story of your community, please contact us via the details below. We're always looking for good news stories to share from those working in pastoral ministry.

The collective wisdom of people working in the area is what makes the Pastoral Ministry Network a great place network and support each other.

PMN Executive

Co-chair: Fr Michael Alcock

Co-chair: Richard McMahon

Secretary: Carmel Fenton

Treasurer: Carole Gan

Executive Officer: Lisa Bright

Contact Us

info@pastoralministrynetwork.org

www.pastoralministrynetwork.org

Invite others to join the



Join Us

INDIVIDUAL

AU \$100
per year

SMALL GROUP

AU \$500
per year

Visit www.pastoralministrynetwork.org and click [Join Us](#) to become a member.