

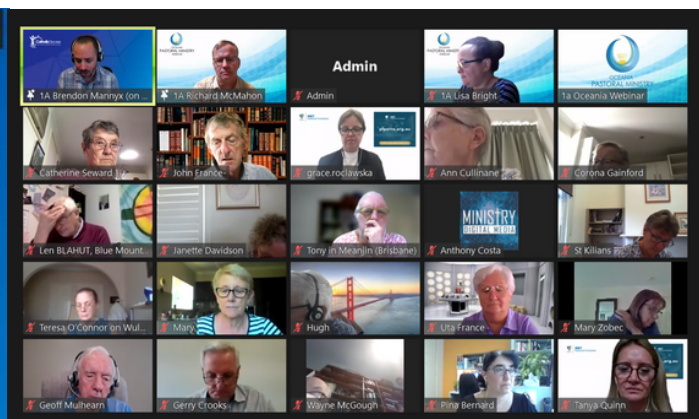
Pastoral Ministry CONNECT

VOL. 3 | APRIL 2022

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

Oceania Pastoral Ministry Webinar 15th March 2022

from *Alive in the Spirit*
Diocese
OF Maitland-NEWCASTLE



OVERVIEW:

- March Webinar available online
- Making the most of PMN resources for your community
- Alive in the Spirit - Registrations Open!
- Australian Pastoral Musicians Network
- Let's Have a Yarn - highlights
- Meet Carolyn

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



OCEANIA
PASTORAL MINISTRY
WEBINAR

It was a great turn out for the first Oceania Pastoral Ministry Webinar for 2022 - Jump Starting our Communities. Keynote speaker Brendon Mannyx shared some inspiring thoughts into how we can lead our communities in a different time of being church that we find ourselves in. Brendon was able to respond to insightful questions from participants and offered practical ways to jump start 2022.

All Pastoral Ministry Network members can watch the webinar recording. Log into your account, click on **insights** in the menu bar and then **videos** and you will see the webinar alongside many other excellent video resources to engage with.

Mark your diaries for the next webinar - Tuesday 14th June. Free to PMN members.

A Word from our Co-Chair

As I write this message, the bloodshed continues in Ukraine and nations not in the news, including civil conflict in nations such as Yemen, Ethiopia and Afghanistan, to name a few, with refugees flooding through the world in their millions. The pandemic still holds sway with vaccines being distributed disproportionately, another symbol of the gross inequalities in our world, and famine and natural disasters overwhelm so many.



The people we minister with experience all this distress within their already strained lives, and the call of Christ to live life to the full seems a distant and far off cry in the midst of the daily grind. Added to this is the familiar mantra of our church, and all that seems not right with our call to be the community Christ calls us to be.

The Pastoral Ministry Network is a true balm on my soul amid this clamour, and a wonderful oasis for our weary people ministering day in and day out. I find it a constant joy to connect – as we did at the recent “Let’s Have a Yarn” – to hear inspirational stories and the passion of people seeking to make a difference.

There is great wisdom, for me, in the concept of [circle of influences versus circle of concern](#). I believe we do well to continue to offer all in prayer to our God, and focus our energies on areas where we can make a difference.

At Pastoral Ministry Network, we bring together many circles of influence, many ways in which we are making a difference for the sake of God’s mission. As Easter approaches, may we be assured that our hope is not in vain, that Christ is truly Risen, and alive among the many good works we witness and engage in through our own service.

Richard McMahon
Co-Chair



As the network grows, we invite you to consider offering some of your time to share the good news about the Pastoral Ministry Network. Consider being part of the **Marketing Team**, meeting about six times a year to help promote the network.

Or you might like to be a **Forum Moderator** of the online forum on the PMN website.

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

Alive in the Spirit

Being The Community Christ Calls Us To Be

Registrations Open!

Excitement is building for the Alive in the Spirit Conference 2022! Held on 26th-28th May 2022, Alive in the Spirit is a way for communities and individuals to grow and share resources and faith in the areas of Faith & Spirituality, Mission & Evangelisation, Community Engagement Justice and Peace and Ecology.

The scriptural theme we will journey with is Micah 6:8 "To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God."

Key note speakers include:

- **Maeve Heaney** - Director, Xavier Centre for Theological Formation, ACU and Director, Theological Formation for Ministry, Holy Spirit Seminary
- **Luke Tobin** - Mission Formation Educator, Catholic Mission
- **Dan Ebener** - Director of Planning for the Diocese of Davenport and teaches at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa USA



Over 25 workshops will be offered at Alive in the Spirit with new speakers for 2022 and some returning after an enriching 2021 experience. Some include:

- Sr Mel Dwyer FdCC - Spirituality in a Busy World
- Colin MacLeod - Perspectives of Being Community
- Charles Burford & Anne Benjamin -
- Culture and Leadership in a Synodal Church

All workshop information will be available on the Alive in the Spirit Website in coming weeks.

Consider gathering your community as a hub to experience a day or all 3 days of the Conference. If you want to talk through ideas of how this can work, call Lisa on 0419 418 547.

Registration for the Conference allows for one month access to all Conference videos. As a Pastoral Ministry Network member you will have access to Conference workshops plus a variety of other videos and resources for the length of your membership. Register today at www.aliveinthespirit.com.au as we continue to be Alive in the Spirit!

Register Today!

Conference Only

Individual PMN Member \$49 | Non Member \$99
Group (6) PMN Member \$199 | Non- Member \$399

Conference Plus Join Up for 12-Month Membership

Benefits include access to all workshops for 12 months, including existing library of resources, and free access to quarterly webinars.

Individual \$149

Group (6) \$699

Alive in the Spirit is for Lay and clergy, staff, leadership teams, finance teams, pastoral councils, pastoral ministers and volunteers, those in education, counselling, pastoral care, youth ministry, family ministry, aged care and chaplaincies and anyone who wants to be Alive in the Spirit.

MEET THE PMN COMMITTEE

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

Carolyn Tumminello



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

Since 2018 I have been the Parish Pastoral Associate for Mary Help of Christians parish in Sawtell. My responsibilities including organising and supporting the celebration of the sacraments, Mass and liturgy and running a youth group for primary students.

Why are you passionate about Pastoral Ministry?

I love being able to connect with people and having opportunities to share my faith and learn from others.

What's your idea of a perfect day?

A perfect day for me is being out in nature and enjoying the elements with family and /or friends. Sunshine or rain. Bush, Beach or Desert. I love them all.

The Spirit is Alive in South Australia!

If we can glean anything from the challenges from the past two years, it has been the creativity that has flourished enabling new ways of connecting to share life and faith.

There were many groups who registered for Alive in the Spirit 2021. Whilst not all groups could gather physically because of restrictions, some used their initiative to engage others in their community in the many offerings of Alive in the Spirit.

Eileen from a parish in South Australia was one such person who saw the value in sharing Alive in the Spirit with her Parish Pastoral Council.

During the conference, Eileen sent updates about the Conference encouraging them to engage with the keynotes and different workshops. Eileen attended the live event and some of the gatherings offered throughout the Conference.

Eileen went one step further than just watching the workshops and sent a summary to the Parish Pastoral Council of a few sessions that resonated. What a helpful step to start a conversation and break open a workshop further!

In particular, Eileen highlighted the talk presented by Richard McMahon, "Seven Qualities of Effective Parish Pastoral Councils" which focussed on having good processes for Parish Pastoral Councils and the slides were distributed and discussed at the next meeting.

Eileen is now focussing on Alpha and will be watching out for Alive in the Spirit 2022.

It is great to see individuals and communities engaging in ways to grow community. All these steps, whether we consider them big or little steps, are a great inspiration for others. Thanks Eileen for sharing the Spirit in your community.

Let's have a yarn ...

Our recent Let's Have a Yarn was a great opportunity for people to gather. Participants connected from across Australia to meet each other and share what they would like to see in the network. It was clear that a mix of learning and sharing was desired about the pastoral space we found ourselves in. The opportunity to get to know each other in a less formal setting was also strong. Some of the suggestions that will be discussed at the next PMN committee meeting are:

- Every two months focus on a particular topic in the Pastoral Ministry Space
- Online Social night every other month to get to know each other
- Suggested Topics for discussion included
 - Culture and social media
 - Values in our Community
 - Looking at the challenges of balancing pastoral concern and institutional concern
 - PMN as an advocacy body

Our next Let's Have a Yarn is on Wednesday 4th May at 7.30pm AEST. Mark this date in your diary. An invitation will be sent to PMN members shortly ... and if you are not a PMN member and would like to attend, go to the **Join Us** page at www.pastoralministrynetwork.org to become a member of the Pastoral Ministry Network.

Let's Have a Yarn: 4th May, 7.30pm AEST



The Pastoral Ministry Website hosts a variety of great video resources and books for communities to use to support ministry and leadership.

For example, your community might be thinking about how to focus more on the encyclical *Laudato Si'*. You could bring together those who are interested and watch the workshop "Bringing your Parish to life through *Laudato Si'*" which offers practical examples of what parishes are already doing in this space.

Making the most of PMN resources

There are a number of workshops that look at using digital ministry and social media to create community. You might invite people interested in this ministry to watch a workshop or two and share their thoughts on how to apply some of the ideas into your community.

If there is an area you would like information on, but it is missing, let us know. This is your network and our resource library will continue to grow to meet the needs of members.

Sharing Faith ...

australian pastoral
musicians network



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1
MARCH 2022

Our Church is bursting with gifted people who wish to share the joy of our faith and support each other along the journey.

"The Australian Pastoral Musicians Network aims to support dioceses and Christian worshipping communities through promoting excellence in liturgical, catechetical and religious music, with a special focus on supporting the use of Australian composers."
www.apmn.org.au

APMN have made their recent newsletter available to everyone to read sharing the work and information APMN offers. Have a read of their newsletter at
<https://tinyurl.com/APMNnewsletterMarch22>



A resource from the Australian Catholic Bishops' National Centre for Evangelisation

THE BRIDGE



The National Centre for Evangelisation have released their April edition of the newsletter 'The Bridge' highlighting news from around Australia. It "seeks to serve those who are striving to share their Catholic faith. Published electronically every two months, it will provide stories of inspiration and faith formation."

This month, there is an article promoting the Pastoral Ministry Network! Have a read of it here, <https://nce.catholic.org.au/the-bridge/the-bridge/pastoral-ministry-network> as well as the other great articles in the newsletter.

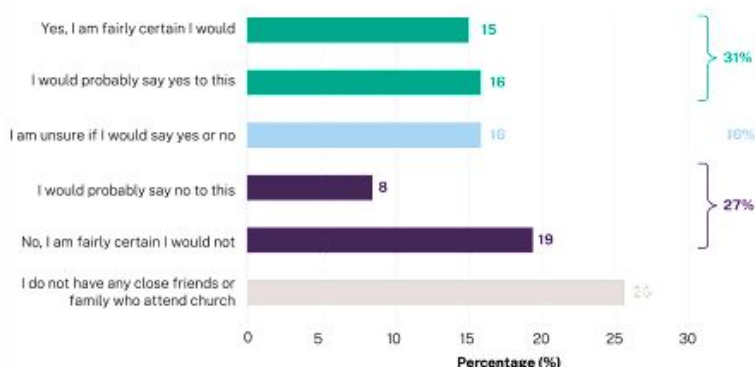
The Pastoral Ministry Network Committee thank the National Centre for Evangelisation for their support.

NCLS
research



Three in ten Australians would go to church if invited by close friends or family

Q. Apart from such special occasions as weddings, funerals, etc., would you go to a Christian church service if invited by close friends or family?



Source: 2021 Australian Community Survey by NCLS Research (n=1,286)
© NCLS Research ncls.org.au



Some parishes may have recently taken part in the National Church Life Survey. It's a survey that is conducted every 5 years and is usually held at the same time as the national census across many churches of different faiths across Australia.

The NCLS data is valuable for our parish communities as "the survey results provide a credible evidence-base for churches to strengthen their vitality, develop effective leadership and inform their ministry and mission, in the Australian context." www.ncls.org.au

Connect with NCLS via social media and you will see some very interesting results to help build community.



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.

Start a conversation via the PMN Online Forum

The Pastoral Ministry Network is your network. The online forum has been created as a space where members can share ideas and questions, to enrich our network.

Contribute to the topics already started or begin your own discussion thread on an area of pastoral life not discussed elsewhere.

Be sure to introduce yourself in the "introduce yourself" thread, and read the forum guidelines to ensure a safe and welcoming experience for all.

As well as the online forum, visit the [insights](#) page where you will find a plethora of video and book resources to use within your communities or for your own journey.

www.pastoralministrynetwork.org.

Your contribution to Pastoral Ministry Connect is very welcome!

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 to network and support each other.

This newsletter is sent monthly to all PMN members. Please add info@pastoralministrynetwork.org to your address book or add us to your safe senders list. Contents of this electronic newsletter are copyright © 2022 Pastoral Ministry Network.

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



Pastoral MINISTRY network

Join Us

INDIVIDUAL

AU \$100

12 month membership
One login

SMALL GROUP

AU \$500

12 month membership
6 logins

CORPORATE

AU \$1000

12 month membership
15 logins

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

Alive in the Spirit

Being The Community Christ
Calls Us To Be



Pastoral Ministry Virtual Conference
26th - 28th May 2022

aliveinthepirit.com.au

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