Campus Ministry with International Students

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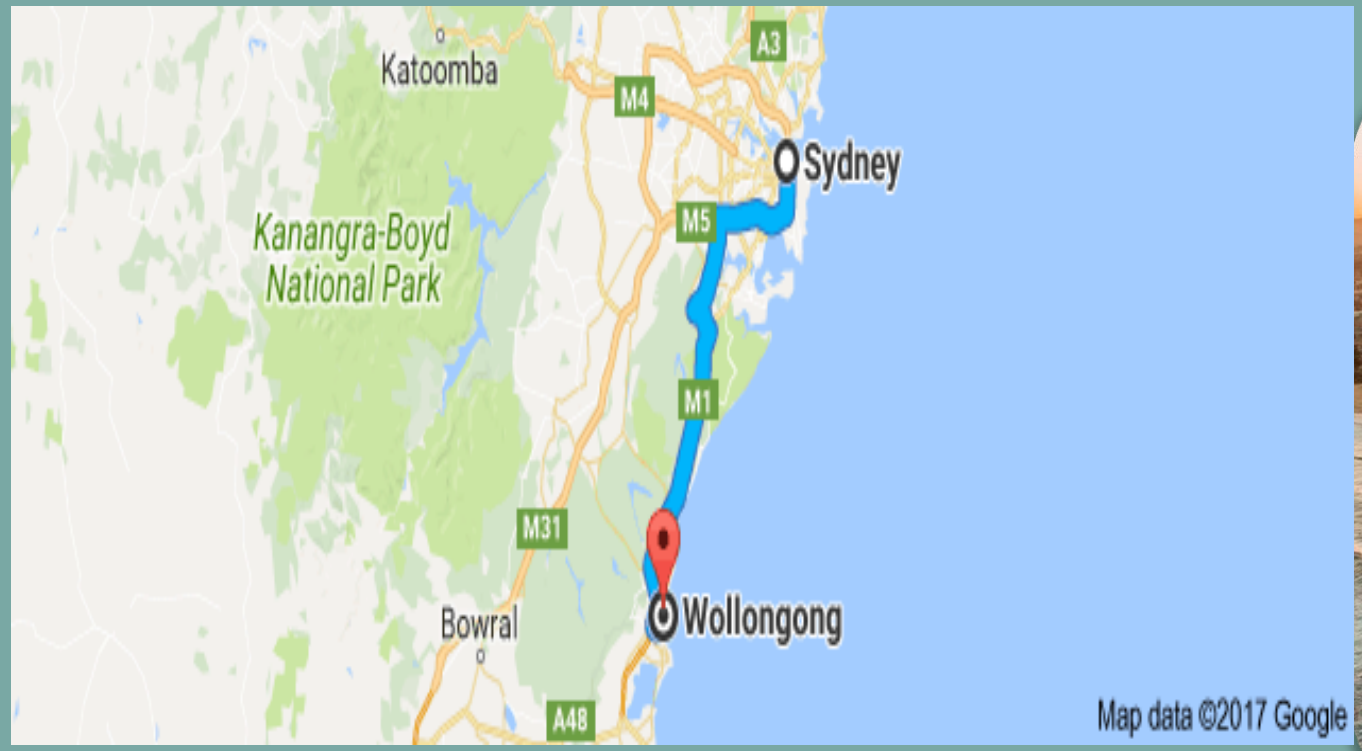
UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

In Australia, UOW Wollongong brings together 30,554 students in total – international students 12,360 from over 160 nationalities.

Where is Wollongong?



International students from…

- India
- Costa Rica
- Mexico
- Philippines
- Korea
- Pakistan
- Iraqi
- Solomon Islands
- Spain
- Papua Guinea
- Fiji
- Hong Kong
- Iran
- Singapore
- Brazil
- Vietnam
- New Zealand
- Malaysia
- Africa
- Indonesia……

WHAT DO WE DO?

- Weekly Mass on Campus
- Weekly prayer with the Word of God
- Spiritual accompaniment
- Retreats
- Social activities
- Pastoral care/ support
- Support the Catholic Society

Orientation Week

&

Clubs Day

meeting new students

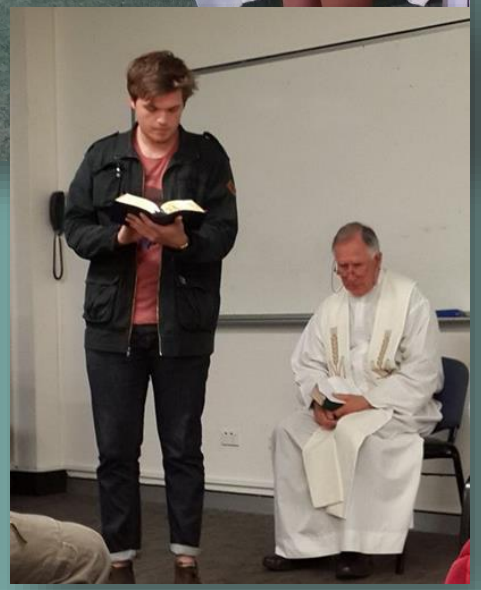
Catholic Society
WOLLONGONG UNIVERSITY
UOW Student Life
CSE
UniCentre

CLUBS DAY WED 8 MAR

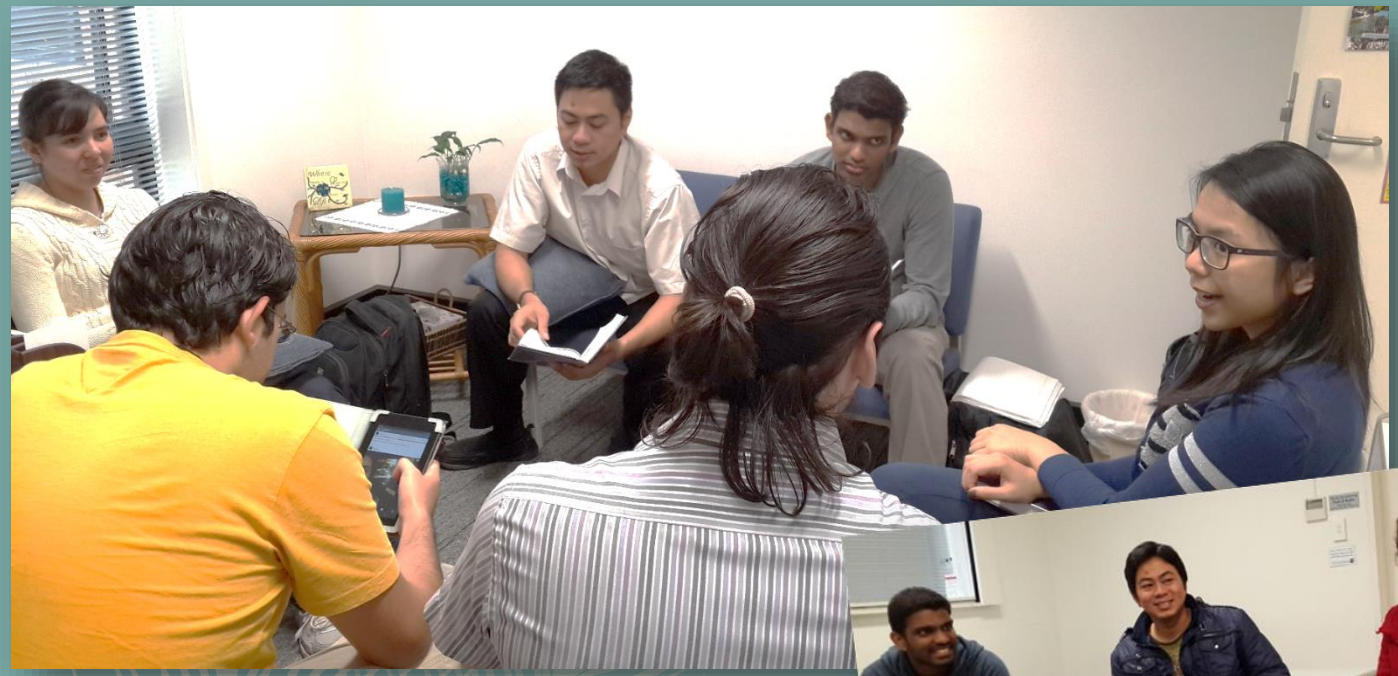
Weekly Mass on Campus

FORTY
YOUR
GOD

ONE DAY AT A TIME

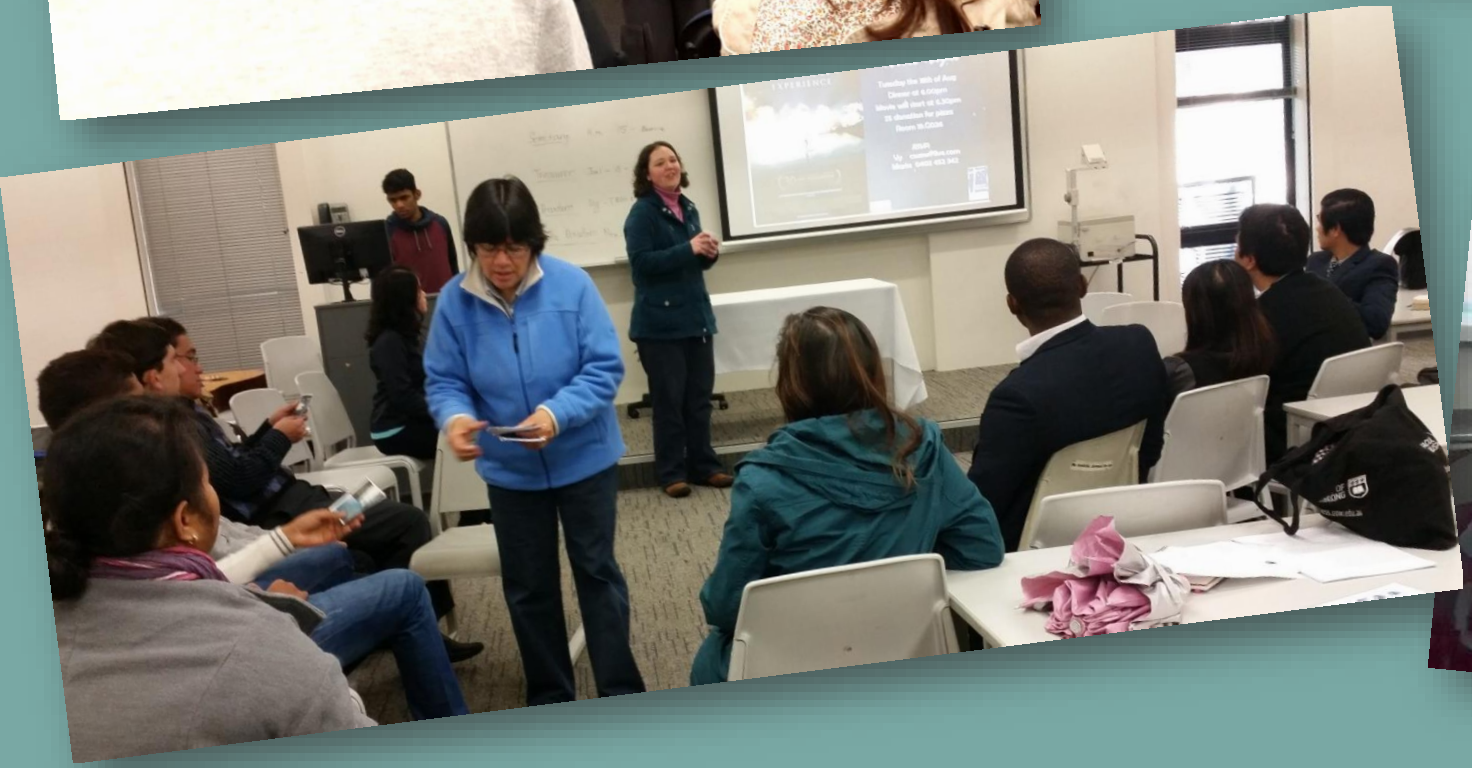


Weekly Prayer with the Word



Faith Formation

CATHOLICISM
EPISODES 9 & 10



Social Activities

Sports

Music

Outing to Sydney

Annual UOW Awards Night

Movie and Pizza Night

Weekly Lunch Together

Uni Retreats

Who is the Holy Spirit
HEARTS
on
FIRE

HEARTS ON FIRE

BE STILL
and
KNOW
I AM
GOD

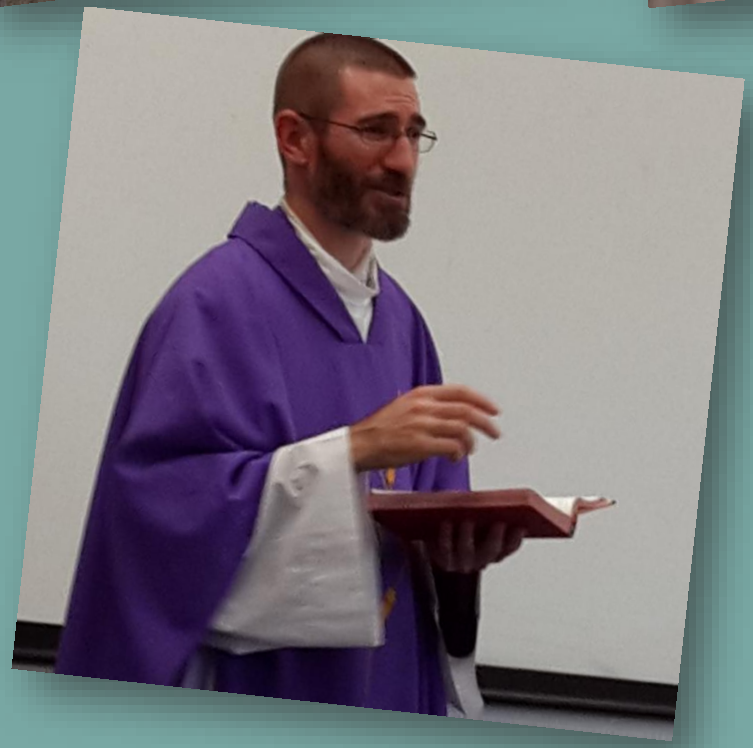
Diocesan Multicultural Mass

Mission trip to the Philippines

Vocations

DAD'S
Center
OF ATTENTION

Richness in teamwork



WELCO
to our Eucharistic celeb
Our celebrant tod

Challenges faced by international students particularly in belonging to a parish community

MY QUESTION IS:

How do we consider university chaplaincy and the pastoral work we do as already creating “church”?

There are two sides to this question….

The challenge for the **international students**

and

The challenge for the **parish community**

- interview to international students:
  their challenges: (first time away)

  -- English is not their main language
  -- language limits their
     involvement in uni life and off campus
  -- missing home, need a sense of belonging
  -- on campus, the limitation of coinciding to
     spend time together with friends
  --- Inculturation

The challenge for the international students

- Helping the students find a parish community in the area that they live. Where to go? Who to go with?

-- providing leaflets with all mass times / parish locations
--- first Sunday of the month, Mass at the Cathedral

- Encourage students to offer themselves and their gifts and talents to the parish community.

-- catechists
-- parish choirs
-- playing piano, guitar
-- volunteering for diocesan events

- Feeling welcome by the parish community.
- Importance of fostering a sense of belonging in the parishes they choose to attend.
- Personal connection

- Having connections with parish priests in order to connect students to different parishes.

balmain
commerce
CALVIN
KLEIN
AUSTRALIA