

Pastoral Landscape

Where are we and where we can go

- Percy Pamo Lawrence

Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care
Evangelisation Brisbane | Archdiocese of Brisbane

*Multicultural
pastoral care*
**Archdiocese
of Brisbane**



My brief presentation this afternoon will give you a glimpse multicultural pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Archdiocese of Brisbane

Where we are



“We stand at a moment in the church when we are crossing a great historic threshold....

“...What you see in the world you see in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. A great deal of the true spiritual and human energy of this diocese is to be found in the communities that are represented in the Cathedral today.”

Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Multicultural Mass 2015)

Our Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge perfectly articulates ‘where we are now’ in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

This is what he said at our Multicultural Mass in the Cathedral two years ago:

Multicultural pastoral care - Archdiocese of Brisbane

Where we were



Immigration Sunday 1981
Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane



To know where we are, we look at where we were. These are photos taken at Immigration Sunday at the Cathedral of St Stephen in 1981. You must have noticed something?

Multicultural pastoral care - Archdiocese of Brisbane

Where we are



*Multicultural Mass
Cathedral of St Stephen
Post World Youth Day 2008*

Now these are photos taken at our Multicultural Mass in the Cathedral in 2008, just after World Youth Day in Sydney, almost 10 years ago. Again, do you notice anything? These photos show how much has changed in the population composition of the Brisbane archdiocese in the last 30 years – from a predominantly Anglo-Celtic to a culturally diverse church.

Australia:
24,385,600

2016 statistics - Australia

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Australia

Top 10 countries of birth - 30 June 2016

Country of birth	Persons no.	% of Australian population
United Kingdom	1 198 000	5.0
New Zealand	607 200	2.5
China	526 000	2.2
India	468 800	1.9
Philippines	246 400	1.0
Vietnam	236 700	1.0
Italy	194 900	0.8
South Africa	181 400	0.8
Malaysia	166 200	0.7
Germany	124 300	0.5

Let's take a quick look at the population composition of Australia.

Based on the 2016 Census (these are preliminary estimates) there are 24,385,600 people living in Australia.

United Kingdom continues to be the largest group of overseas-born residents, followed by New Zealand, China, India, the Philippines, Vietnam, Italy and so on.

Statistics – Pastoral Research Office (courtesy of Mr Stephen Reid)

Catholics in Queensland 2016

Queensland:
4,703,193

Catholics by Country of Birth				
Country	Greater Brisbane	Rest of Queensland	Other areas	Total Queensland
	488,563	532,254	1,697	1,022,518
1. Australia	371,537	440,701	1,199	813,439
2. Philippines *	15,168	14,058	32	29,261
3. New Zealand	14,221	12,069	65	26,353
4. England	11,042	9,185	66	20,292
5. Italy	5,060	5,281	40	10,383
6. Ireland	4,999	3,003	27	8,026
7. India	3,941	2,129	0	6,073
8. Vietnam	3,784	585	3	4,372
9. Papua New Guinea	3,033	2,294	11	5,341
10. South Africa	2,792	1,916	6	4,716

This slide shows the number of Catholics in Queensland. Of the 4.7 million Queenslanders, about 1 million are Catholics. The top 10 Catholics (by country of birth) in Queensland are the following: Those born in Australia, Philippines, New Zealand, England, Italy, Ireland, India, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea and South Africa. Looking at this table, you will find that the largest non-English speaking group of Catholics in Queensland and in Brisbane are the Filipino-Australians.

Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care

Adaptable, nimble and proactive

- CMPC Under Evangelisation Brisbane
- Archives (history preserved; story continues)
- Information and Communication
- Multicultural Mass
- Parish Migrant/Refugee Support (coordination)
- Note: Marian Valley

In 1994, after 45 years, the Catholic Immigration Office became the Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care. From 1994 to the present, CMPC operated, in succession, under 3 umbrella agencies. Currently, it operates under Evangelisation Brisbane. In 23 years, CMPC has moved on from being a direct service-delivery agency to being a conduit, a link and wealth of information on migrant and refugee matters. We move with the times, and we have our blessings.

What's working
CMPC under EB



Operating under Evangelisation Brisbane means working alongside quite a number specialty areas – which means, there is a ton of information that we can access for the Chaplains and their ethnic and multicultural communities. Likewise, there is much information that we can provide to parishes, archdiocesan agencies and the wider community.

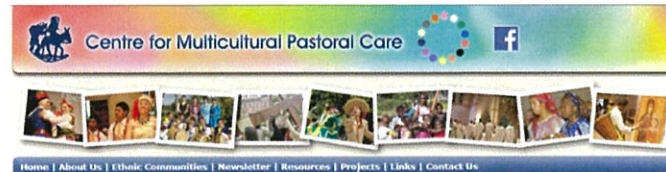
What's working

Preserving history; story continues



Our history is intact and this is a blessing. One volunteer comes in once a week and continues to go through thousands of files and records of 60 years of Catholic Immigration in the archdiocese.

What's working Information and communication

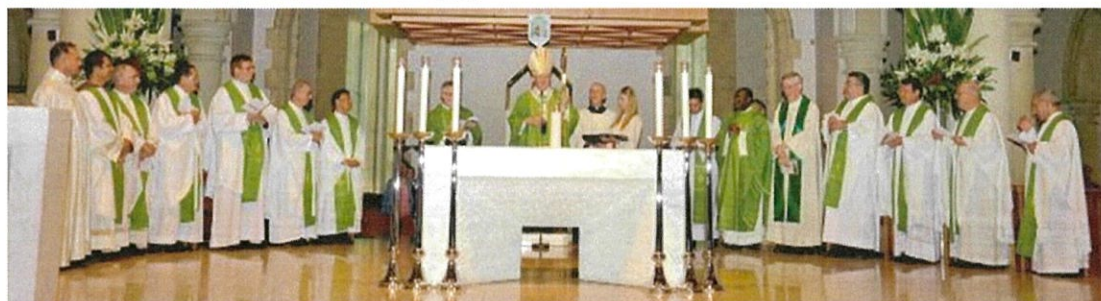


Centre for
Multicultural
Pastoral Care
@multiculturalpastoralcar



We continue to be the source of information and contact for anything that relates to multicultural pastoral care in the archdiocese. We have a newsletter that has been in circulation for 19 years, a website for easy access of information and resources, and a social media presence through Facebook.

What's working
Multicultural Mass

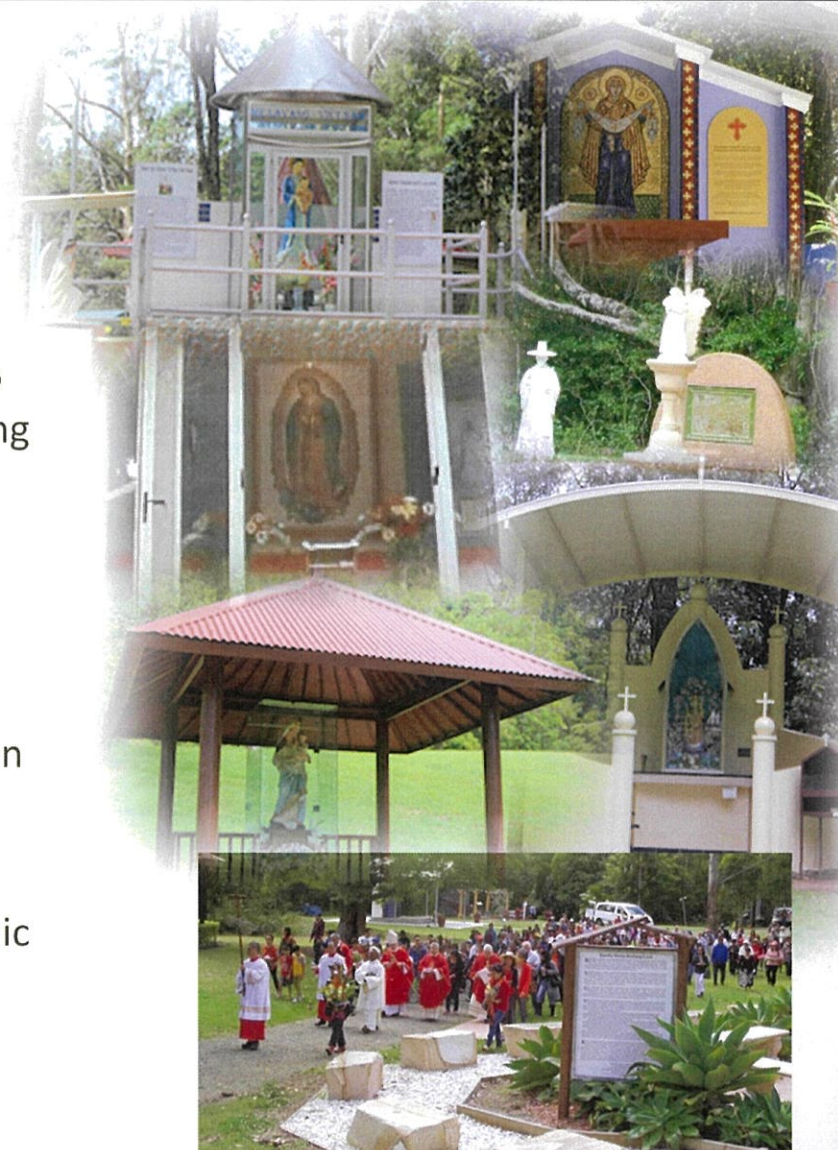


Multicultural Mass has been going on in the archdiocese for 45 years. I have witnessed and was involved in 22 of these annual celebrations at the Cathedral.

Note

Marian Valley

- provides the space and atmosphere for pilgrims to express their faith according to their culture.
- many chapels and shrines regular schedule of Mass, reconciliation, eucharistic adoration and procession, rosary, devotions, reflection and retreats
- special feasts
- annual pilgrimages of ethnic communities.



This may be a little off-track but I would like to mention the significant impact the Marian Valley makes on the life of migrants (including tourists) and ethnic communities in Brisbane. The Marian Valley Shrine in Canungra (about an hour's drive from Brisbane) is a favourite pilgrimage site for our Catholic ethnic communities because it provides them the space and atmosphere for expressing their faith according to their culture, which is a more devotional form of worship.

Response to refugee arrivals

Parish Migrant/Refugee Support

Croatian Settlement Worker
(Gov't funded)



Former Yugoslavia – from 1995

CRSS

Community Refugee Settlement Scheme
(In partnership with DIMIA)



Sudan – from 1998

Romero Centre

(In partnership with Sisters of Mercy)
(Part Gov't funds)



Afghanistan/Iraq – 2000

Year of Mercy 2016

**Archdiocesan response to
Syrian/Iraqi refugees**



Syria/Middle East - recent

CMPC has been proactive in responding to the needs arising from waves of various refugee arrivals since 1995, partnering with immigration and government settlement agencies and tapping on parish and catholic education support and resources. Last year, our Archbishop made an appeal to parishes to respond to the needs of newly arrived refugees coming from the troubled areas of the Middle East.

Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care

Positive Undertakings

- *We Are One Body* (1998); revised (2017)
- **Introduction to Cultural Studies** - Banyo Seminary (1998-99)
- **Confronting Racism in Communities** (2010)
- **Deanery Grants** (2009 – 2013) – ‘seed funding’ to assist projects

These are some of the CMPC projects that have been successful; I'll briefly explain in the next four slides...

Positive Undertakings

We Are One Body (1998); 2017

- provides a framework for pastoral action for all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Brisbane in light of the multicultural reality of our local Church.
- Update in 2017



We are one body was released in 1998. It provides guidelines for multicultural pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

This resource is currently being updated and close to being finalised to reflect new archdiocesan priorities.

Positive Undertakings
Cultural Studies – Banyo Seminary

- **Introduction to Cultural Studies (1998-2003)**
- **Discipleship in a Multicultural Context (2002-2003)**

BRISBANE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY
A Consortium of Theological Schools which, directly or through affiliates, offers
undergraduate and postgraduate programs in theology and ministry...

1999

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

**INTRODUCTION
TO
CULTURAL
STUDIES**

SECOND SEMESTER - NEW UNIT

-E51B-

-E83B-

DISCIPLESHIP IN A MULTICULTURAL CONTEX PROGRAM

Duration of the program: 7 hours and a half lectures and reflections.
14 hours Ethnic Communities Immersion

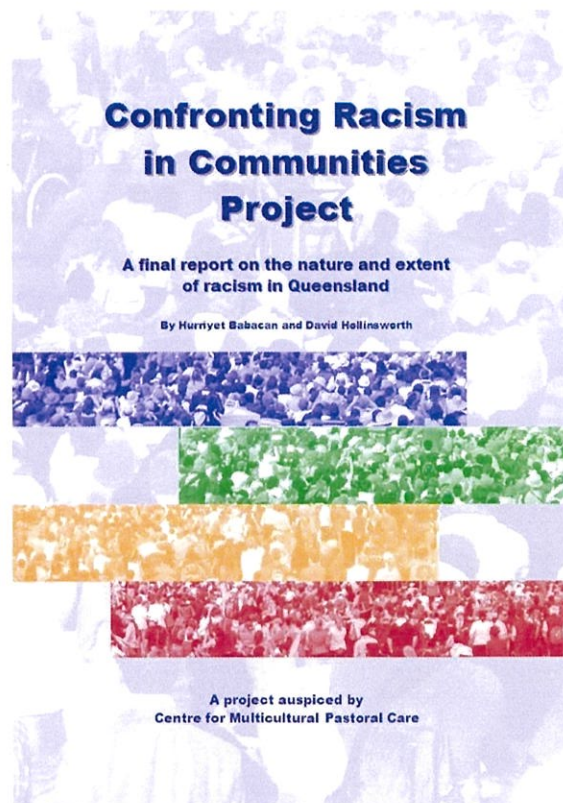
Commences: Monday 22 July 2002
Finishes: Monday 28 October 2002

Venue: Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care (Lectures and reflections)

CMPC has offered two courses at Banyo Seminary from 1998 to 2003. Discipleship in a Multicultural Context provides opportunities for seminarians to have an immersion experience with Catholic ethno-specific and multicultural communities.

Positive Undertakings

Confronting Racism in Communities (2010)



A report on the nature and extent of racism in Queensland was released in September 2010.

The Queensland State-funded Confronting Racism in Communities Report brings to a conclusion the three-year pilot project managed by the Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care, working in partnership with multicultural, mainstream and government agencies.

Positive Undertakings Deanery Grants (2009 – 2013)

1. CATHOLIC ETHNIC COMMUNITIES

- a. Training and formation
- b. Retreats / Seminars / Workshops
- c. Resources

2. ETHNIC MINISTERS GROUP

- a. Ongoing Formation
- b. Care and concern for Ethnic Ministers

3. ETHNIC YOUTH MINISTRY COUNCIL

- a. Ongoing Formation for youth project and resources
- b. Retreats, training and evangelization project



Deanery Grants 2009 – 2013. This positive ‘seed funding’, initially only accessible to parishes through the Deaneries, were eventually made available to ethnic communities. The grants were a tremendous boost to the ethnic communities, particularly the young people.

Trends

Migrant Chaplains
Ethnic Communities

Chaplains of Multicultural Communities

Trends

Migrant Chaplains are taking on two or more roles:

- ✓ Migrant Chaplain | Parish Priest or Associate Pastor
- ✓ Parish Priest (Eastern Rite) | Hospital Chaplain *OR* Air Force Chaplain | Supply Priest
- ✓ Parish Priest | Mass Celebrant for particular community/ies
- ✓ Religious Priest (from another diocese) | Mass Celebrant for particular community/ies
- ✓ Religious Sister – specific small communities in a multicultural parish
- ✓ ~~Migrant Chaplain~~ | Parish Priest | Tertiary Chaplain

Ethnic Communities/Parishes – adjusting, accommodating

- Largest non-English speaking Catholic Community in the AoB **lost a Chaplain**; Mass Celebrants for a reduced number of monthly Masses across the archdiocese
- Small active Communities with no Chaplain - *guided by a Chaplain* from another State or a Mass Celebrant
- Some parishes have included in their parish timetable religious celebrations that are particular to a certain culture (eg. Misa de Gallo)
- More parishes are celebrating their own Multicultural Mass

Here, I've listed down what I've observed in the last few years --

Migrant Chaplains Name | Identity

Meeting of Migrant Chaplains (name used up to 1994) **Catholic Immigration Office**

Meeting of Migrant Chaplains and **Priests** Ministering to Ethnic Communities **Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care**

Meeting of Migrant Chaplains, **Priests and Pastoral Associates** Ministering to
Ethnic Communities

Ethnic Communities **Deanery** (2001 – 2003)

Meeting of Chaplains, **Priests and Religious** Ministering to Ethnic Communities

Ethnic Ministers Group*

Meeting of **Community Chaplains** (2016 suggested by Archbishop)

Meeting of **Chaplains of Multicultural Communities** (NEW NAME)

The Chaplains, priests and religious ministering to ethnic communities have been meeting every second month for the last 22 years that I've worked at CMPC. They have been meeting long before I started work at CMPC. On the slide, you will see from top to bottom the changes in the way the Chaplains have identified themselves and their group. The changes in their name somehow reflect the Chaplains' desire to be inclusive and to adapt and reflect the continuously changing

shape of cultural diversity in the Archdiocese.

Some **Challenges**

Common thread in challenges faced by ethnic communities

- **Language** (elderly and newly arrived)
prayer books and resources in different languages; interpreters (church language)
- **Parish Priest changeover** – relocation/dislocation of a previously settled ethnic community
- **Varying stages in parish welcome**
- **EC - varying stages of belonging**
- **Discord and divisions in large settled communities**
- **Loss of Chaplain** - large ethnic community presumed 'integrated in parishes' (fragmentation, loss of official representation etc.)
- (Presence of) **inter-generational conflict; domestic violence**
- **Operational/Administrative challenges** (eg. not part of the GST Catholic Religious Group; no access to archdiocesan Intranet, no Public Liability Insurance)

Some challenges are specific to a particular community. I've listed here the common thread in challenges faced by ethnic communities.

Progress

Communication in the Archdiocese (observed over 22 years)

- **culturally inclusive** design/photos of promotional materials, websites, etc
- Catholic Leader – more culturally diverse **stories**, more ‘*colourful*’ photos
- **automatic inclusion** of Chaplains/EC in archdiocesan mail-outs, etc
- Mass in **languages other than English** on Archdiocese website

Some positives reported

- Ethnic communities ‘**hold**’ migrants together
- **Good relationship** with parish, welcoming parish; parish support
- Chaplains encourage **integration** into parishes **without losing** their cultural values
- **Very involved and integrated** in their local parishes (pastoral and finance councils, choir, altar servers, communion ministers, hospitality etc.)
- **Well trained catechetical groups** in Brisbane that are also called upon to assist communities in other states
- Communities as a whole are **vibrant and brimming with activities** (captured in our newsletter, Facebook, and The Catholic Leader)

Partly through our work at CMPC over the years, we managed to influence a change in the various operations of the Archdiocese:

Multicultural pastoral care - Archdiocese of Brisbane

Where we can go

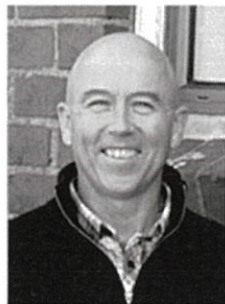
Where we can go

Fr Norton on taking up the challenge of spreading the Good News:

“What makes us think that only those with the finest English and the firmest egos are the best to serve God’s mission through parishes? Certainly they have a place, but not at the exclusion of others.”

New paths for mission – the migrant experience

THE
FRANCIS
EFFECT



Australian Multi-Cultural

Parishes
and Our Mission

Fr Tim Norton SVD
Provincial, Australia Province
Society of the Divine Word Missionaries

Fr Tim Norton wrote an excellent article that was included in a publication called 'The Francis Effect', published in 2014 by Catholic Missions.

In his article titled 'Australian Multicultural Parishes and Our Mission', Fr Tim outlines recent trends in parish life and suggests new paths for mission.

Where we can go

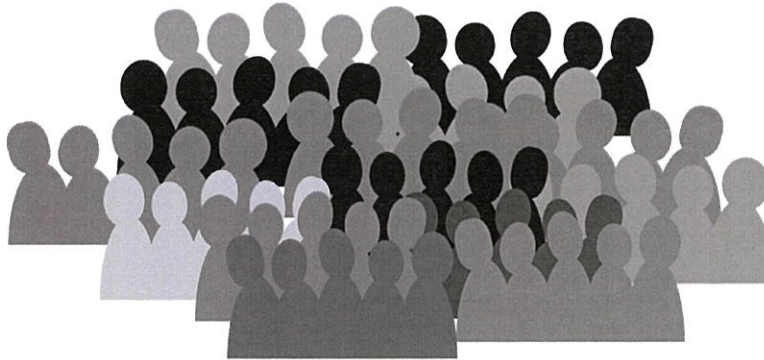
Multicultural to Intercultural

Pastoral care does not come in one size

Integration does not happen overnight

'Pain-free integration' – how?

Forced integration (subtle assimilation?)



Parishes are in transition

Ethnic communities are in transition



There is no other way to go but towards integration; from multicultural to intercultural.

The ethnic and multicultural communities in the Archdiocese of Brisbane are in different stages of integration; pastoral care is not a 'one-size fits all'. And we must be cognizant of the fact that integration cannot be done by force.

Where we can go – Archdiocese of Brisbane

My **Wish list**

- ✓ **Culturally inclusive liturgy**
- ✓ **Archdiocesan liturgical calendar**
- ✓ **Inter/Cultural Studies – seminarians**
- ✓ **Training / Cultural orientation - overseas priests**
- ✓ **Inter/Cultural training – ethnic community and parish lay leadership**

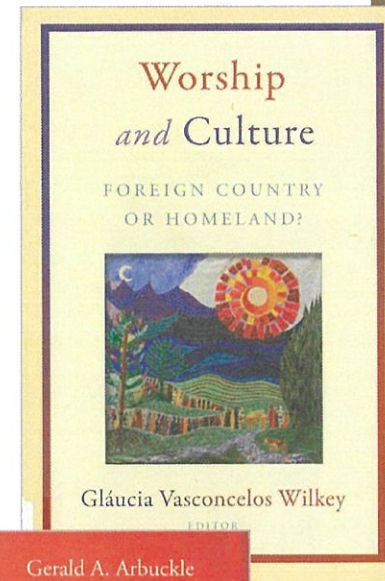
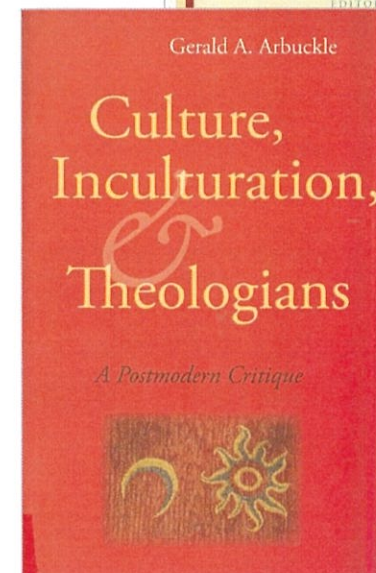
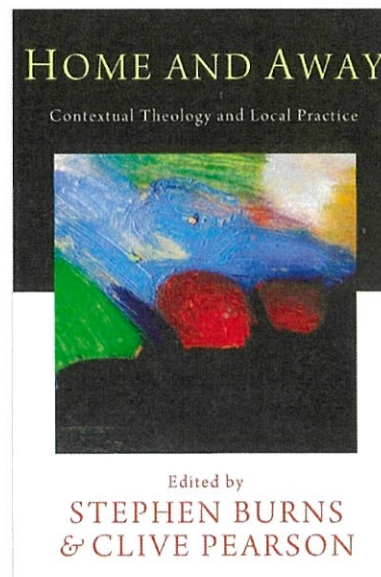
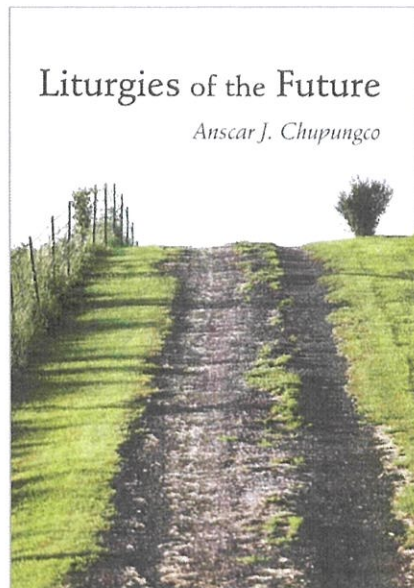
Where to from here....

I have five on my personal wish list --

Where we can go – Archdiocese of Brisbane

culturally inclusive liturgy

We look around.... read up.... be open... get creative



I would like to see some kind of Multicultural Mass incorporated into every normal Sunday Mass – a vibrant richness that is effortlessly weaved into the ordinary daily rhythm of parish life, a regular Sunday celebration that is effortlessly prepared and without fuss. We must continue to look around and see what the rest of the world is doing; we must read up, be open and be creative.

Where we can go – Archdiocese of Brisbane

Archdiocesan liturgical calendar

Days of Religious Significance - Catholic Ethnic Communities

COMMUNITY	Feast / Event	Date
Ukrainian	The Three Holy Hierarchs (St. Basil, St. Gregory, St. John Chrysostom)	30 Jan
Croatian	Saint Blaise/Sv Vlaho (Dubrovnik)	3 Feb
Sudanese	Saint Josephine Bakhita	8 Feb
Maronite	Saint Maroun	
French	Our Lady of Lourdes	
Irish	St Patrick	
Italian	San Giuseppe (Saint Joseph's Day)	
Melkite	Holy and Glorious Pascha - Fesakh - Hajmeh (on the first ecclesiastical full moon on or after the 1st of Nisan)	
Maronite	Saint Rafqa	
Filipino	San Pedro Calungsod (Philippines' second saint)	
Italian	Three Saints – Alfio, Filadelfo & Cirino (Brisbane)	3 May
Chinese	Our Lady of China	May, 2nd Sunday
Portuguese	Our Lady of Fatima	13 May
Italian	Giovanni Battista Scalabrini (Father to the Migrants)	1 Jun
Indian	Saint Thomas, Apostle of India	3 Jul
Colombian	Our Lady of Chiquinquirá (patroness)	6 Jul
Chinese	The 120 Martyrs of China	9 Jul
Chilean	Santa Teresa de los Andes	13 Jul
Paraguayan	Our Lady of Caacupe (patroness)	13 Jul
Maronite	Saint Charbel	July, 3rd Sunday
Indian	Saint Alphonsa (first saint from India)	28 Jul
El Salvadoran	The Divine Saviour of the World and Our Lady of Peace (patrons)	3 Aug
Australian	Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop	8 Aug

The Australian liturgical calendar
could better reflect the celebration
days of our ethnic communities.

13 Jul
July, 3rd Sunday
28 Jul
3 Aug
8 Aug
13 Aug
18 Aug
23 Aug
28 Aug
3 Sep
8 Sep
13 Sep
18 Sep
23 Sep
27 Sep
1 Oct
5 Oct
12 Oct
21 Oct
26 Oct
9 Nov
24 Nov
1 Dec
6 Dec
7 Dec
7 Dec

Archdiocesan Liturgical Calendar

Theologian and author Fr Anthony Paganoni, who once spoke at a conference like this about 10 years ago, presented a paper titled *Immigrants, the Liturgy and Popular Religion*. To me, this paper articulates where we are in Australia in multicultural pastoral care, and what

he believes is the way to go.

In his paper he said, “Immigrants bring Pentecostal gifts needing to be accommodated, perhaps not without some change, into their new local context. Some of these outward faith expressions are the *Misa de Gallo for the Filipinos*, the celebration of saint days by the Italians, Our Lady of Guadalupe for the Mexicans and Our Lady of the Aparecida for the Portuguese.

What Fr Anthony is trying to point out is that, the Australian liturgical calendar could better reflect the celebration days of our ethnic communities.

Where we can go – Archdiocese of Brisbane

My **Wish list**

- ✓ Culturally inclusive liturgy
- ✓ Archdiocesan liturgical calendar
- ✓ Inter/Cultural Studies – seminarians
- ✓ Training/Cultural orientation - overseas priests
- ✓ Inter/Cultural training – ethnic community and parish lay leadership

Three more on my wish list relate to some kind of diocesan-based intercultural studies or training opportunities for seminarians, overseas priests and lay leaders (in parish and ethnic communities)

Archdiocese of Brisbane

What's working

- **Multicultural Mass**
- **Marian Valley**
- **Communication**

Summing up, I'd like to emphasise the three things that are definitely working for us in Brisbane.

- Multicultural Mass is certainly happening annually, both on diocesan and parish level

- The Marian Valley continues to be a drawcard in the faith and life of ethnic and multicultural communities
- Communication in archdiocesan agencies and parishes has definitely improved and this encourages a sense of belonging in ethnic and multicultural communities.

Multicultural pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Brisbane

God leads us into the future

"... In the past the communities represented in this cathedral were treated as exotic satellites.

...

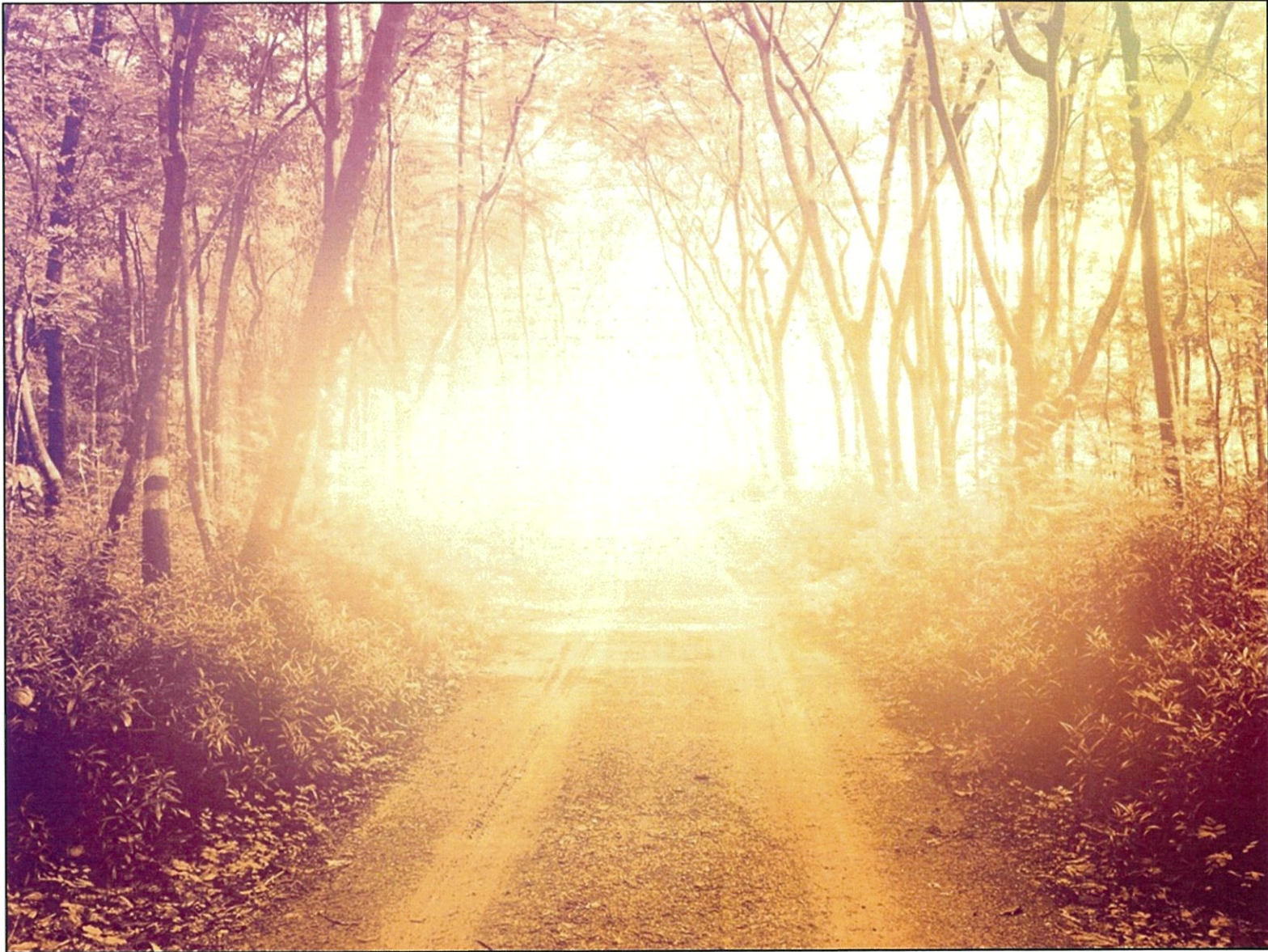
*"Well let me be clear that you are **no longer satellites**. You are **right at the heart** of what the church is and does in this part of the world.*

...

*"... **I'm not sure where we're going but I know we are going somewhere different and that God is leading us into that future. Uncertain it may be but in many ways exciting and exhilarating as well.**"*

Archbishop Mark Coleridge
Multicultural Mass 2015

In closing, I would like us to reflect on the words of Archbishop Mark Coleridge as he addressed a culturally diverse congregation a couple of years ago:



Like the Archbishop, I'm not particularly sure where we're going, but I hope to use this exciting uncertainty as an opportunity to courageously move forward.

